YOUR SOUL-UTION (O.S.)

Hey Mary, it's Jude. Just wanted to tell you again how special it was to meet you. So, call me back. Bye.

BEEP. Mary BEAMS.

BRUCE

Amazing. He'll sing to your babies.

Mary basks in the attention. Then, ANOTHER BEEP.

YOUR SOUL-UTION (O.S.)

(SINGING, from speakerphone)

Jeeeeny. Jenny, Jenny, Jenny, Jeeeeny.

All heads whip around at stare at the SPEAKER PHONE.

YOUR SOUL-UTION (CONT'D)

Hey Jenny, it's Jude. Just wanted to -oh shit, - what number did I call?

SOME RUSTLING NOISES, and a HANG UP, followed by a dial tone. Mary stares at the phone - then pushes a BUTTON.

AUTOMATED VOICE

ALL MESSAGES DELETED.

They all head wordlessly back to work.

INT. HOME DEPOT - DAY

CLOSE ON: TWO SEEMINGLY IDENTICAL PLANKS OF WOOD. We pull back to reveal Ben and Janine, in the wide aisle of Home Depot, as Janine really studies the two pieces of wood. Finally, she POINTS to one of them.

**JANINE** 

That one.

BEN

No. That's the laminate.

**JANINE** 

That one isn't real hardwood floor?

BEN

No. But it looks exactly the same - at like one one hundredth of the cost.

Janine considers this.

**JANINE** 

I still wanna go with the real wood.

BEN

But you can't even tell the difference.

JANINE

That's not the point.

BEN

Then what's the point?

**JANINE** 

I just don't like the way it's pretending to be wood. If you're not wood, then don't try to look like wood.

BEN

I don't think it's pretending --

Ben is making light. But Janine is all business.

**JANINE** 

It's a lie. Just be up front - tell people what you really are.

Ben takes this in. His cheeks start to burn.

BEN

You're right. I'm sorry. You're totally right.

JANINE

It's OK. Maybe we should look at the grills and come back.

As she starts to steer their giant cart away, Ben just stands there, fused to the ground. Finally:

BEN

I slept with someone.

Janine stops, doesn't say anything.

BEN (CONT'D)

I --

**JANINE** 

I heard you.

She doesn't turn to face him. Total silence.

JANINE (CONT'D)

You tell me this in Home Depot because you know how I hate a public scene.

REN

That is not why I -

**JANINE** 

I knew it. I KNEW IT. You asshole.

BEN

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

**JANINE** 

And it's you that's been smoking, too, isn't it?

BEN

What? Why does that matter?

Janine turns to Ben. She is IRATE.

JANINE

HAVE - YOU - BEEN - SMOKING?

BEN

No. No. I haven't.

Janine just STARES AT HIM, FUMING.

BEN (CONT'D)

Look, I talked to Neil, and he said I could stay on his boat for a while if --

Now Janine's eyes go wide with disbelief.

**JANINE** 

EXCUSE ME? And now you want to move out? You're like - what - leaving me?

Ben looks confused, but is trying to roll with it.

BEN

No. NO. I just assumed that you wouldn't want me to --

JANINE

We're not going to deal with this? We're not going to figure out a way to work through this?

BEN

I just assumed that once I told you, you would want me -- out.

JANTNE

Is that what you want?

BEN

(almost a whisper)

No.

**JANINE** 

OK.

She heads down the aisle with the cart. Ben follows, confused - that didn't go how he thought it would.

EXT. GRAMERCY MANSION - DAY

The lush grounds surrounding a beautiful turn-of-the-century mansion. The procession of a wedding has just begun. TWO ADORABLE FLOWER GIRLS start things off.

Then Beth's sister, Laura, processes down the aisle with her husband, STEVEN. Beth's sister Catherine and her husband GEORGE are next. Big smiles all around.

Then Beth appears at the end of the aisle with her escort - BUDDY, a 12 year old CHOCOLATE LAB, wearing a coral bow tie. Beth forces a smile as she processes with Buddy - who stops to piss on a chair leg. Beth is not happy.

INT. GRAMERCY MANSION - DAY

A lavish reception. Beth takes her seat next to DAN, 40s. Dan looks over at Beth's place card.

DAN

You must be Beth.

BETH

Yep.

DAN

I've heard a lot about you from Paige.
I'd been lobbying for weeks to be seated next to her single sister.

BETH

Oh, yeah? So you are - (looks at his placecard)

Dan.