

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

HECTOR

So, Tanya, um, you're -- you said you like movies?

TANYA

I did?

HECTOR

Well, your profile.

TANYA

Oh. Yeah. I do.

HECTOR

That's great. That's great. I like movies a lot too. (no reaction) So, uh, what kind of movies do you like?

TANYA

Kinds?

HECTOR

Yeah, like, you know - comedy or drama, or, I don't know (light laugh) -- "chick flicks"?

TANYA

Do you even know what those are?

HECTOR

(nervous laugh)

Well, ha, um - actually I don't. I mean, I guess, what - romance?

She stares at him for a beat.

TANYA

I have no idea. I was asking you.

HECTOR

(tries to laugh it off)

Well, I really enjoy comedies. Do you -- do you like comedies?

TANYA

(deadpan)

I love them.

HECTOR

Ok, or maybe, I don't know - like drama or action --

TANYA  
(deadpan)  
I said I love comedies.

HECTOR  
(brightening)  
Oh. Ha - sorry - I thought maybe you weren't being serious.

TANYA  
Why would you think that?

HECTOR  
Um, I don't know - maybe because you sounded so... serious?

TANYA  
(still deadpan)  
That's hysterical.

HECTOR  
Okay, I'm sorry. I don't even know if you're being serious.

TANYA  
Are you serious?

HECTOR  
What? Yes. I mean - are you? Wait. I'm getting really confused. I'm sorry - are you even having a good time? Cause if you want to just --

TANYA  
I'm having a great time. Isn't it obvious?

HECTOR  
No! No, it's not. You seem so, I don't know -- it's like you don't--

TANYA  
Oh, no.

HECTOR  
What?

TANYA  
I'm sorry. I thought I had gotten better but apparently I haven't.

HECTOR  
Oh, please. It's - it's fine. I didn't mean to push you.  
(MORE)

HECTOR (CONT'D)

Is it, what - an ex-boyfriend or, oh gosh -- are you divorced or separated or something? I didn't mean to --

TANYA

It's RBF!

HECTOR

(beat)

Um... sorry -- it's what?

TANYA

RBF. I thought I had beaten it but...

HECTOR

Okay, um, I'm really sorry to ask this, but is that like a type of cancer or something?

TANYA

It causes cancer?! Who told you that? Oh my god!

HECTOR

No! Wait - I don't know. I don't know if it causes cancer. I don't even know what it is!

TANYA

(incredulous)

You don't -- I have RBF! Resting Bitch Face! I suffer from constantly looking like I'm pissed off. Or at the very least emotionally distant. No one can tell when I find their jokes funny or when I even like something.

HECTOR

Wait - so that's a thing?

TANYA

It's hereditary. I got it from my mother. You know what they used to call her?

HECTOR

Um... I don't know... bitch?

TANYA

What is wrong with you? No! They called her "Poor Sad Valerie."

HECTOR

Okay that makes more sense.

TANYA

She told me how they always said, "Poor Sad Valerie. You will never be able to get a man with your condition."

HECTOR

But - hey! She did! Right? I mean - here you are! So she must have at least...

TANYA

I'm adopted.

HECTOR

Oh, god. I'm so sorry. I mean - I'm not sorry you were adopted. I'm glad you were adopted. Who wants to... I don't know - be stuck in an old orphanage?

TANYA

There's something wrong with orphanages?

HECTOR

(sotto)

Boy I just don't see myself getting out of this one.

(to her)

All I'm saying is that there's no shame in being adopted.

(sotto)

Boy that sounded much better in my head.

(to her)

Wait a minute! You were adopted?!

TANYA

Do you want me to walk the streets wearing a sign? Yes, I was adopted!

HECTOR

And Valerie isn't your birth mother?

TANYA

Do you not understand how adoption works?

HECTOR

Then you couldn't have gotten RBF from her.

TANYA

What do you mean?

HECTOR

Like you said - it's hereditary.

TANYA

Yeah? That means you get it from your parents.

HECTOR

It means you inherit it through your genes. Your DNA, or RNA or... NWA. One of those.

TANYA

Really?

HECTOR

You can't get it from an adopted parent. You've probably just been making this face to, I don't know -- fit in.

TANYA

I have noticed my face hurts by the time I go to bed.

HECTOR

See? You don't have to suffer any more. Go ahead - let the world see the real you.

Tanya looks unsure but Hector gives her a look of support and encouragement. Eventually her face contorts into a very disturbing, freaky smile. Hector is paralyzed with fear.

TANYA

I feel great!

HECTOR

Oh, boy.