**INT. BACK LANE BAR OFFICE**

Terese, vance(G)

***TERESE AND VANCE BUTT HEADS***

Terese finds Vance with his feet up in the office.

**1. Terese**

Vance?

He swivels, a charming smile planted on his face.

**2. Terese**

Tell Roxy whatever she needs to hear. Find an excuse. But I want you gone by the end of the day.

**3. Vance**

When's the last time you had a ride?

Terese, wrongfooted.

**4. Terese**

Excuse me?

**5. Vance**

On a horse. And I'm not talking about a merry-go-round.

**6. Terese**

Don't try to side-track me.

**7. Vance**

I'm serious. Not used to seeing you so... pent up. A good gallop does wonders for releasing stress.

**8. Terese**

Any stress I'm experiencing is caused by you being here.

**9. Vance**

Just broke in a beautiful black Friesian. Perfect size for you too. She's a descendent of Pepper.

That pulls Terese up.

**10. Terese**

*My* old horse?

**11. Vance**

(nods)

Remember that night we rode her to the dam?

**12. Terese**

You convinced me to go skinny dipping with you.

**13. Vance**

(laughing)

You didn't take much convincing. Then the old mare bolted - with our clothes in the saddle bag.

There's an undeniable moment of frisson, before Terese refocuses.

**14. Terese**

I promised Roxy's parents I'd get her on the straight and narrow. Away from the bad influences in Darwin.

**15. Vance**

And you think I'm one of those.

**16. Terese**

I know for a fact you are.

Vance turns a little more serious now, realising she needs convincing otherwise.

**17. Vance**

You're info's out of date, T. I'm a reformed man.

Terese is disbelieving.

**18. Terese**

Really? You must have known Roxy was related to me when you got together.

Vance takes a moment - he can't deny that.

**19. VanCE**

I knew it the moment I laid eyes on her. She's so much like you were then. Gorgeous, same as you. Same thirst for fun you've got... or at least you *had*, back in the day.

Terese sidesteps the implication she's not fun anymore.

**20. Terese**

Roxy's her own person. And she's better off without you. Let her down gently, but please - cut her loose.

**21. Vance**

(genuine)

I can't do that. I love the girl.

**22. Terese**

If you loved her, you'd let her go and live a full life with someone more suitable - age appropriate.

**23. Vance**

Been a bit of a cradle-snatcher yourself, I hear. Didn't you have a fling with my new business partner, the Tanaka kid?

Terese, flustered.

**24. Terese**

Yes. We dated for a while. But -(that's none of your business.)

**25. Vance**

(over)

Then you came to your senses. Got with someone more suitable, age appropriate. His old man.

Off her withering look:

**26. Vance**

Hey, no judgement. Bloke has more money than me.

(then, cheeky)

I'm better looking though.

**27. Terese**

Well, you're *both* stubborn.

**28. Vance**

That's one of my better qualities. Always gets me what I want. Got me you.

(beat)

And what I want now is to settle in Erinsborough with Roxy, and work on our new business together.

Terese resigns herself - he's clearly immovable.

**29. Terese**

If you refuse to leave, then I at least want your word that you'll keep our history a secret.

**30. VANCE**

(intrigued)

You scared Robinson'll feel threatened?

**31. TERESE**

It's not him I'm worried about.

**32. Vance**

(intrigued)

You don't still have feelings for me do you?

**33. Terese**

No!

**34. Vance**

Then why are you set on keeping it a secret?

**35. Terese**

Me and you, that life... everything that happened between us... I've spent a long time trying to distance myself from it.

Vance gets it.

**36. VANCE**

You live in a different world now.

**37. TERESE**

And I'd like to keep it that way.

Vance considers this for a beat. Then nods.

**38. Vance**

Wasn't looking forward to that conversation with Roxy in any case.

(beat)

You've got a deal. You and me, all our history... never happened.

Terese is relieved.

But can Vance really be trusted?