

NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

This is not working

2 actors
(Woman/Man)

Drama

Offered for free by Armando Di
Lillo Acting Studio

EDWARD and SUSAN, both in their 30s, are walking.

SUSAN

You have to realize that this is not working.

EDWARD

Su -

SUSAN

We are not working -

EDWARD

Susan -

SUSAN

- we are too different. We are not right for each other.

EDWARD

Susan. Stop. We are right for each other -

SUSAN

No, we are not right for each other -

EDWARD

- what are you talking about? We are perfect for each other.

SUSAN

No, we are not perfect for each other, Edward. We may be perfect for each other if we didn't live in the real world but I live in the real world and I need a life that is more structured. I need a future that is more structured -

EDWARD

Hey -

SUSAN

- I want to be the person that you want me to be but I just can't.

EDWARD

You are. You are.

SUSAN

I can't be that.

EDWARD

No, stop.

SUSAN

I - I really wanted to be this person that you thought I was. I really did but I am just not that person. I'm - I'm cynical and -

EDWARD

No, you are not that -

SUSAN

No, I am!

EDWARD

No, you are afraid.

SUSAN

I'm a realist. No, I'm not afraid.

EDWARD

We have been through this so many times before.

SUSAN

I'm not scared, Edward. I'm not. I'm not happy.

Beat.

SUSAN

I'm just really really unhappy.

Beat.

SUSAN

You are so... you really are so wonderful and you're just so... sensitive and romantic and -

EDWARD

Weak.

SUSAN

What?

EDWARD

Yeah.

SUSAN

No, I did not -

EDWARD

You said it. You said it so many times before.

SUSAN

I did not call you weak.

EDWARD

You said it before so I am just gonna say it again. Weak!

SUSAN

I did not say you were weak. I did not say you were weak.

EDWARD

Do you love me?

SUSAN

That's not the point.

EDWARD

No, that is the point.

SUSAN

No, it is not.

EDWARD

That is the point!

SUSAN

It's not the point!

EDWARD

You didn't answer me.

Beat.

SUSAN

Yes, I love you.

EDWARD

And when you love someone, you work it out. You don't just throw it away. You have to be careful with it. You might never get it again.

SUSAN

I can't do this with you anymore, Edward. I just can't keep doing this.

SUSAN

Susan.

SUSAN walks away.

EDWARD

You can't just walk away from
things all the time.