EXT. FOREST CLEARING - NIGHT

Helen and Edward are sitting close together near the campfire. The forest is getting chilly as night falls.

HELEN
Why do you think they took off like that?

EDWARD
(slightly drunk)
Probably late for a dentist appointment. Have you ever seen their teeth?

Helen giggles.

The sound of moving foliage and branches cracking. Helen and Edward turn around, startled. They are relieved to see James emerge from the bushes.

JAMES
It looks like the German expedition is having some trouble of their own. All their porters have disappeared too.

HELEN
Don’t tell me... The curse.

JAMES
The curse.

HELEN
I can’t believe it, you are grown human beings! How can you believe in some bloody superstition?

JAMES
Doesn’t it strike you as odd that everybody who’s seen the statue is dead?

EDWARD
(drunken interruption)
Except us.

JAMES
I’m very aware of that fact.
HELEN
Maybe they just tripped and fell.
Look, it’s the same with the people who uncovered the Pharao’s grave.
There’s always a perfectly sensible explanation.

James gives her a look while he gets some large bullets and begins loading his rifle.

EDWARD
(sarcastic)
Woohoo! Look, I am big ugly statue of some guy who’s been dead for 10,000 years.

Helen giggles.

EDWARD (cont’d)
Fear my wrath!

JAMES
Shhh!

EDWARD
What?

They hear intense wood-cracking from above. Louder and louder. Suddenly, a massive log of rotten wood whoooshes down and SLAMS into the ground, scattering the campfire. It becomes darker.

EDWARD (cont’d)
(leaps back)
Aaaaaa! Holy crap!

James looks intently to Helen.

HELEN
What? Oh, come on, branches break all the time.

JAMES
Edward I told you not to harrass the Gods.

EDWARD
Sorry.

HELEN
What, you can’t seriously believe this is caused by a curse?
(MORE)
HELEN (cont'd)
For Christ’s sake Jim, you are a civilized man.

James cocks his rifle.

JAMES
Not so civilized I’ve lost my instincts.

James suddenly turns around. A beat. Then gunfire is heard coming from the German camp.

JAMES (cont’d)
Stay here!

He disappears into the bushes. Helen stands for a moment, then runs after him.

EDWARD
Helen, come back here. Didn’t you hear what he just said?

Edward realizes how dark it is, then runs after them, scared.

CUT TO: