



PLAY / Dining / LA Chefs

Restaurant Romance: The Ups and Downs of Being an Industry Couple



By Leslee Komaiko

Forget Match.com, eHarmony or meeting your true love on the next reality show. If you're looking for a serious relationship, get a job, at a restaurant.

At Santa Monica's **Rustic Canyon** alone, three serious relationships have been born, most notably between owner **Josh Loeb** and baker **Zoe Nathan**, who are now married and co-owners of a second spot, the hugely popular Huckleberry. (For the curious, Loeb interviewed Nathan for the position of pastry chef, had her cook for him, was completely wowed, but lost her to Campanile, which was paying her more than he could afford. But he proceeded to, in his words, "hound her" with regular phone calls. And eventually he won and Nathan came on board. Not long after, they started dating.) Loeb and Nathan even got married at Rustic Canyon. And no, they didn't work their own wedding.

Working together in an industry that is famously tough has its advantages. "It definitely helps to have someone there who is also in the conversation with you," says Loeb.

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