



SCENE STUDIO

The Last Lesson

Look at me.

A private dance lesson after the studio closes. The instructor has one rule: don't look at your feet. Look at me.

SOMEWHERE ELSE, WITHOUT GOING ANYWHERE

The Idea

Tonight, your living room becomes a small dance studio after closing time.

You are the instructor. Your partner is the last student of the night.

No one needs to know how to dance. Tonight's lesson is three songs: a slow dance, a turn, and a dip.

You fix their posture. You set the frame. You count out loud.

And one step at a time, the space between you disappears...

The lesson ends in the dip. A breath from a kiss.

Before the lesson: the new student card is your agreement. The student ticks how close the instructor may hold them, and the instructor sticks to it. **"Take five"** pauses; **"Lights up"** stops.

The Studio

- **The floor:** push the coffee table and chairs to the walls. A smooth floor and socks, or bare feet on a rug.
- **The mirror:** dance in front of a mirror or a dark window, so the student can see the two of you
- One lamp in a corner, main lights off
- A chair by the wall with a towel, two glasses of water, and the new student card
- Phones away, except to play the music

Props

- **Three songs, queued in this order:** one slow, one with a steady beat, one slower than the first. Anything you can sway to.
- **The new student card** (print it, or copy it onto an index card) and a pen
- **A towel** over the chair and **water** in two glasses
- **The instructor's look:** something black and fitted, hair up or back, sleeves pushed up. The student wears what they'd wear to a first lesson.

Optional: a scarf or long skirt for the student, because turns look better with something that moves.

Roles

- **The instructor:** patient, a little strict, very sure of themselves. Counts out loud. Corrects with hands, not words, whenever possible. Leads.
- **The student:** here to learn, slightly nervous, slightly hopeless at first. Follows, and gets better fast.

The New Student Card

The student fills it in at the door; the instructor reads it before the lesson. It's also your agreement: the instructor sticks to what the student ticks.

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Private lesson · New student · After closing

Student: _____ Time: 9 pm

Have you danced before?

☐ Never ☐ Swayed at a wedding ☐ Took a class in college ☐ I'm actually great, I'm just pretending

Why are you here?

☐ A wedding is coming up ☐ To impress someone ☐ A friend dragged me ☐ I heard the instructor is cute

What worries you most?

☐ Stepping on your feet ☐ Laughing ☐ Blushing ☐ Being held too close

Tonight I want to feel

☐ Elegant ☐ A little breathless ☐ Like I lost track of time

The instructor may hold me ☐ In a proper frame ☐ Close ☐ Closer than that

Anything the instructor should know? _____

The instructor's three rules

1. Don't look at your feet. Look at me.
2. Let me lead.
3. No apologizing for stepped-on toes.

Signature: _____

The Script

How to play. Dance teachers count out loud and repeat themselves all night, so reading your lines is perfectly in character. If you blush, keep counting. The student's lines are optional: they can walk in knowing nothing but the new student card.

ARRIVAL

The instructor is stretching when the student comes in. No music yet. Hand over the card and a pen.

"You must be my nine o'clock. My last lesson tonight, so we have the studio until the lights go out."

"Fill this in first. I'll wait."

Read it slowly, line by line. Raise an eyebrow. Say nothing until the end: *"Hm. Noted."*

"Shoes off. Stand here, facing the mirror."

A hand between the shoulder blades: *"Up. Proud."* Fingertips under the chin: *"Eyes forward."*

MORE LINES React to what they ticked: "Great, just pretending? We'll see." · "Heard the instructor is cute? ... Focus." · "Worried about being held too close? Then we'll go slowly." · "A little breathless? You came to the right place."

THE FRAME AND THE STEPS

Face to face: their right hand in your left, your right hand on their back. Start song one. Teach the box step: forward, side, together; back, side, together.

"Everything I want to tell you, I'll tell you through this hand."

"One, two, three. One, two, three."

Gently lifting the chin: "Rule one. Don't look at your feet. Look at me."

"That was my foot. It forgives you."

MORE LINES "Don't hold me like a stranger at a wedding." · "You're thinking. Stop thinking." · "There. Did you feel that?"

CLOSER

Song two. If the card says *Close* or *Closer than that*, let go of the formal frame and bring them in.

| *"In this dance, there's no space between partners. Closer."*

If they ticked *Closer than that*: *"Closer than that."* Wait. *"You ticked the box."*

| *"Do you teach everyone like this?" / "Only the ones who stay for the last lesson."*

MORE LINES Forehead almost to forehead, swaying: "Breathe with me. In. Out."

THE TURN AND THE DIP

Song three, the slowest.

| *"When I lift your hand, you turn under it. Don't rush."*

| *"Last thing. The dip. Rule two: let me lead. I won't drop you."*

Lean them back slowly, their weight in your arm. Stop halfway. Hold it.

A kiss, or almost one. Then pull them up, slowly.

LIGHTS UP

Step back, a little out of breath.

| *"That's the end of the lesson. Same time next week?"*

| *"Next week, you lead."*

Next lesson: the student leads.

Your Own Card

Make the card yours: your own questions for the student, your own answers to tick, your own rules.

✕ PRINT THIS PAGE

Private lesson · New student · Your edition

Student: _____ Time: _____

Question: _____

☐ _____ ☐ _____ ☐ _____

Question: _____

☐ _____ ☐ _____ ☐ _____

Question: _____

☐ _____ ☐ _____ ☐ _____

The instructor may hold me ☐ In a proper frame ☐ Close ☐ Closer than that

The instructor's rules

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



SCENE STUDIO

Somewhere else,
without going anywhere.

A new identity, a room transformed, a few simple props.
New scenes every month.

myscenestudio.com

This scene was made for the two of you. Please keep it that way.