



Theatre Home Delivery

LUNA - a play about the Moon

Scene 3: Kevin (and Karen): The laws of attraction.

For two actors | Ages 11 - 16 years (KS3 & KS4)

This scene has been taken from *LUNA - a play about the Moon*, written by Toby Hulse. The main challenge of this scene is speaking and dancing at the same time.

What happens?

This scene is a first date between overenthusiastic science teacher, Kevin, and science fiction fan, Karen. The date quickly develops into an explanation of orbital mechanics, accompanied by the *Orbital Mechanics Bossa Nova*, a dance which you get to make up! The **dance moves should help illustrate the theory being spoken in the dialogue**. For example for the line '*the Moon falls in a continual circle around the earth - an orbit*' you could take each other by the hand and spin around in a circle. The main thing is to keep it simple and keep it fun.

Top Tip: Moments of stillness at points within the dance will help the audience catch up and you catch your breath.

What you'll need beforehand

Something to portray a small cafe style table and two seats. If you don't have a table handy, be creative! In our production we used an old suitcase and two camping stools. More importantly you'll need a bit of room to dance!

Lighting and Costumes

Kevin and Karen are on a date so they've probably made an effort to look nice. Try and balance the lighting state between romantic restaurant lighting and enough light to show off the dance.

Top Tip: Lighting from the side is common for dance pieces.

**Music**

Here's the audio file you will need to underscore the action: [DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

Scene 3: Kevin (and Karen): The laws of attraction.

*A restaurant. **Kevin** and **Karen** are on a first date. It seems to be going well.*

Karen This is lovely.

Kevin Yes, it is.

Karen And you're into science?

Kevin Yes I'm into science. I'm a science teacher. Secondary. I love science. Sorry. I probably shouldn't say that.

Karen I love science too.

Kevin You love science too? Wow.

Karen Fact! And fiction!

Kevin Do you like films?

Karen I do....

(As Yoda) Or do not. There is no try.

Kevin It's Yoda!

Karen *(As Darth Vader)* Come over to the dark side.

Kevin and Karen power up their imaginary lightsabers.

Kevin NEVER!

They have a pretend lightsaber fight.

Karen No. I am your father.

Kevin No. No. That's not true. That's impossible!



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Karen does an impressive move which severs Kevin's hand.

Kevin NOOOOOOOOO!

They laugh hysterically and depower their lightsabers.

Karen Oh I can just imagine our perfect second date. You turn up, and tell me that you've got the Millennium Falcon out in the car park, and then you fly me to the Moon!

Kevin Wouldn't that be something!

Beat.

But we could never fly to the Moon in the Millennium Falcon.

Karen Why not?

Kevin Gravity.

Karen Oh gravity. The force that attracts objects towards each other.

Karen laughs flirtatiously.

Kevin Attracts as in pulls them together.

Would you care to dance?

They dance the Orbital Mechanics Bossa Nova. The actors dance whilst speaking the following lines until the stage direction, 'They sit back down.'

Gravity is a property of mass.

Karen How big a thing is -

Kevin Multiplied by -

Karen How dense a thing is!

Kevin All objects with mass have gravity. The more mass an object has, the greater its force of gravity.



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- Karen** Yes, and an object has to have a very great mass for us to feel that force – its gravitational pull.
- Kevin** An object like the Earth has so much more mass than us that we are attracted towards it.
- Karen** Along with apples.
- Kevin** Apples?
- Karen** Isaac Newton.
- Kevin** Ah, yes.
- Karen** The Moon is, of course, smaller than the Earth, so its gravitational pull is less.
- Kevin** In fact, its mass is about a sixth of that of the Earth, which is why if you were to go to the Moon, you would weigh a sixth of what you do here.
- Karen** Are you talking about my weight?
- Kevin** No!
- Karen** Good!
- Kevin** Actually, yes, I am!
- But the Moon also has momentum - it is constantly travelling forwards. The Earth's gravity pulls it downwards, changing its direction, so the Moon falls in a continual circle around the earth - an orbit.
- Karen** No momentum, and the Moon would crash into us.
- Kevin** No gravity, and it would fly off into space. It's all to do with gravity.
- Karen** So, if we are going to fly to the Moon, the first thing we're going to have to do is escape the Earth's gravitational pull.
- Kevin** And that's not easy. The Saturn V rocket that took Apollo 11 into space was 111 metres tall, but the spacecraft itself was smaller than a family car – the rest was all the engine and fuel that NASA needed to get it into space.



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Now think about the Millennium Falcon; think how small it is. As far as I can tell from looking at it, the engines just aren't big enough.

Karen Let's imagine!

Kevin And where is all the fuel?

Karen Let's imagine!

Kevin Star Wars is science fiction.

Karen We can imagine!

Kevin What's the point of imagining?! It's just not true.

They sit back down. Karen is deflated by Kevin's lack of imagination.

Would you like to look at the dessert menu?

Karen No, let's just get the bill.

Karen walks off leaving Kevin crestfallen.

The End.