



## Theatre Home Delivery

# LUNA - a play about the Moon

## Scene 11: Kevin (and Lianne): It's Just A Phase

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 challenge of this scene is finding ways to move your body to help illustrate the language.

### What happens?

This scene is a first date between overenthusiastic science teacher, Kevin, and the wide-eyed Lianne, who also loves science but isn't quite as clued up as Kevin. The date quickly develops into an explanation of the phases of the moon's cycle from full moon, to new moon and back to full moon. Following the dialogue you must physicalise the explanation of the luna cycle using each other and the space around you.

### 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. Most importantly you need a little bit of room for the physical explanation!

### Lighting and Costumes

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

Top Tip: Try using a light on stage right to help show the direction of light from the sun (or the 'kitchen' in this case.)

### Music

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



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### Scene 11: Kevin (and Lianne): It's Just A Phase.

*Kevin and Lianne are on a first date. It seems to be going well.*

**Lianne** This is lovely.

**Kevin** Yes.

**Lianne** And you're into science?

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

**Lianne** I love science too.

**Kevin** You love science too? Wow!

**Lianne** Do you wear one of those white lab coat things?

**Kevin** White lab coat things?

**Lianne** Yes, white lab coat things. What do you call them... those white lab coat things?

**Kevin** White lab coats?

**Lianne** That's it!

**Kevin** Yes, sometimes I do.

*Beat.*

Wait. Do you love proper science? Not science fiction. Not Star Wars.

**Lianne** Silly. Star Wars is just a story. Speaking of which, I saw this documentary that said it's fifty years since Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin first landed on the Moon.

**Kevin** I know – amazing. Just think of the extraordinary advances in science and technology that enabled that to happen.

**Lianne** And the luck as well.

**Kevin** The luck?



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**Lianne** Yeah, for a start they were lucky that it was a full moon when they got there.

*Kevin looks puzzled.*

They must have calculated it before they set off.

*Kevin cannot believe what he is hearing.*

Maths.

*Kevin is too shocked for words.*

**Lianne** Otherwise they might have missed.

**Kevin** Missed?!

**Lianne** Yeah, missed. If it's a new moon there's less to land on.

**Kevin** Less to land on?

**Lianne** Yeah, less to land on. Smaller target. Full moon, half moon, new moon. See? Less to land on.

**Kevin** You know that the Moon is always spherical, even when it looks like it isn't?

**Lianne** How so?

**Kevin** Well, you know that the Earth goes around the Sun –

**Lianne** I'm not stupid.

**Kevin** – and the Earth spins on its axis every twenty-four hours?

**Lianne** Yes.

**Kevin** Which is how we get day and night?

**Lianne** Yes. The Sun goes round to Australia.

**Kevin** Not quite. Stand up. You're the Earth, and the kitchen is the Sun.



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*Lianne turns to face the kitchen, off-stage right.*

**Lianne** That pizza oven's a bit like the Sun.

**Kevin** The Sun's hotter.

**Lianne** They'd burn the pizzas.

**Kevin** They would. Yes, well, when you're facing the Sun, it's day time.

**Lianne** Ok.

**Kevin** Now, rotate on your axis.

**Lianne** What?

**Kevin** Turn around.

*Lianne turns around 180 degrees.*

Now you're facing away from the Sun, you're not lit by the Sun. It's dark. It's night time.

**Lianne** Ok.

**Kevin** Turn around again.

**Lianne** I'll just rotate on my axis.

*She turns around 180 degrees.*

Day time.

**Kevin** And again.

*She turns around 180 degrees.*

**Lianne** *(singing to herself)* Rotating on my axis.

**Kevin** Night time.

**Lianne** Day time. Night time. Day time. Night time. Day time –



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*She is getting dizzy now. She stops, facing away from Kevin.*

But what about the Moon?

*Kevin becomes the Moon.*

**Kevin** Here I am.

**Lianne** I can't see you.

**Kevin** Turn around.

*She turns 180 degrees again, so she is now facing Kevin.*

Hello!

**Lianne** Night time. I can see you now.

**Kevin** And you can see me because I am reflecting light from the Sun.

**Lianne** Woooh.

**Kevin** At the moment the Moon, the side of the Moon that is facing the Earth is all lit up, so you can see the whole of it lit up. A full moon. But the Moon is also going around the Earth. Stay there.

*Kevin starts to move around Lianne, as if he is the Moon and Lianne is the Earth. He does so in order to physically demonstrate what he is saying.*

Now the side of the Moon that is facing the Earth is only half lit. The first quarter. A waxing moon.

*He moves again.*

And now the side of the moon that is lit is facing *away* from the Earth, so you can hardly see it at all. A new moon.

*He moves again.*

Now you can see the other half of it lit up. The third quarter. A waning moon.

*He moves back to his original position.*



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And we're back with a full moon again. Every twenty-eight days. But the Moon is always there, all of it, even if we can't see it all.

**Lianne** Right! That was really interesting.

**Kevin** Good.

**Lianne** I was worried that they might have missed the Moon, but that's silly, isn't it?

**Kevin** Yes.

**Lianne** 'Cause the Moon landing was faked.

*Kevin's face drops.*

Would you like to look at the dessert menu?

**Kevin** Let's just get the bill.

*The End.*