

My teacher used to say, “Great dancers are great because of their devotion to the craft. Work hard—or be destined for mediocrity.” *(Turns to the dancers...)* Dancing isn’t magic... but it can be magical! Come with the right attitude and you will love what you produce. *(exits)*

Cam: Now move quickly—because you snooze, you lose!

(The dancers laugh softly as they chat exiting the room. As they do...)

Rebecca: *(Talking to Raina, Heather, and Jordan, shooting a glance at Sara)* She won’t last one week. *(They exit, snickering while Sara remains in the studio)*

(Sarah continues to practice the “pirouette into fourtee” with bad balance and bad technique...David enters.)

Sara: *(mid turn)* Oh—David, I didn’t see you. What are you doing here?

David: *(a little awkward)* I, uh... forgot my lucky Durham Bulls cap.

(He pretends to look for it, clearly buying time. Sara starts to leave)

Sara: I’d better get going.

David: Hey... don’t go. What’s wrong? Do you want to talk?

Sara: No. It’s... it’s not important.

David: Sara. Come on. Of course, you are important to me. *(Embarrassed... at the cringy statement)* I mean, let’s talk this out.

Sara: *(hesitating, then giving in)* Okay. I guess you’re right.

David: Well?

Sara: **UGH!** I put my whole heart into this audition. And what happened? I’m an understudy!?! And not just anyone’s—Rebecca’s? The same girl who makes fun of me every chance she gets. The pressure is... a lot. And Rebecca and her crew? Constant mocking and condescending sneers...

David: *(interrupting)* I get it. I really do. All the guys at school think I’m a geek because I dance. Sometimes... I think about quitting. Do you? Want to quit?

Sara: No. I couldn't. I promised my dad I'd never quit dancing. He never quit anything. Not even when he was really sick...I just thought maybe this year, I'd get the chance to shine. I really wanted the part of Clara.

David: *(quietly)* And you would've been a beautiful Clara...

Sara: *(a small smile)* Thanks David...you're a pretty good dancer yourself.

David: You think so?! Thanks, Sara.

Sara: No—thank you. I needed to let out some steam.

David: No thanks needed. You're really... amazing. Like, seriously amazing!

Sara: *(Realizes he really thinks she is amazing)* Thanks.

David: I mean it. I think a lot of you, Sara Clarke.

(There's an awkward beat as Cam and Tyler enter. Tyler notices David looking at Sara—does not like it.)

Cam: Sara? Everything okay?

Sara: Yeah...I'm fine, Cam. David just left something in the studio. *(To David)* I'll talk to you later—I should go.

David: Yeah. Me too. See you later, Sara.

Sara: Bye, David.

(David exits with a little trip -straightens up as the girls hide their laughter).

Cam: I think he likes you.

Sara: Come on. He was just being nice.

Tyler: He doesn't seem that nice to me!