

Dancing With A Stranger

(Goss V WCS 2020)

We begin in a crushed CP -- hug, snuggle. Dance three side-touches cuddled up like that, and then "anchor apart." That is, make your first back step a little bigger than in a standard anchor. It puts us in a normal WCS dance position, lead hands joined.



Part A starts with a Side Whip, with a man's scoop action that is mainly in the pelvis. He steps back, drawing the lady forward in her slot. He crosses R in front of L, out of the slot and points forward L with pressure. As the lady dances her normal Side Whip, the man slowly "scoops" his hips under his body and forward, rising, and taking full weight on his left. The lady is dancing her 3&4 12 while the man is doing this scoop -- 5 weight changes to his 1 -- and then we both anchor 3&4, man shifting back into the slot. Ladies, you might notice how attractive is your man's scooping pelvic thrust and respond with a little playful flirtation as you pass by.

Follow along on my cue card. A Hook Turn is like a Sailor Shuffle with a half, RF turn. Men, turn your back on your lady, and if you have the shoulder for it, take lead hands over your head, changing hands to a R/R handshake. Take her past your right shoulder for the R Side Pass w/ Sync Tuck & Twirl. A standard Tuck & Twirl (34 123&4) uses a touch-step on beats 1 and 2 (1 weight change there), and that is what the man does in this dance, but the lady dances 3 weight changes, with a timing of &12. She tucks LF on &1 with a little French Cross (side/cross in front), and then steps R and turns RF under right hands to face. We both anchor, now facing LOD again.

We end part A with a Reverse Rock Whip where the lady initially turns left rather than the standard right turn. We have also heard this modification cued as an Inside Whip, but I seem to have adopted Worlock's more straight-forward "lady turn left." So, begin a Whip Turn, tug a bit with your handshake, let go, and lady will turn left, but we'll end the measure in BJO RLOD, which is totally normal. We now dance three rock/recovers. Try hard to adjust the direction of your rocks so the lady can stay in her slot. She will rock back toward LOD, recover turning 1/2, rock back toward RLOD, recover turning 1/2, and then rock back toward LOD, back with no turn, and anchor. The man rocks forward toward LOD sending the lady back. He recovers toward COH, moving across the slot and getting out of the slot, and then his next rock forward is toward RLOD.

Watch for these movements in your video, at right angles, the lady up and down within the slot and the man across the slot from one side to the other.

Part B starts with a sequence of phase II step cues, and we know what a challenge they can be. Again, follow the cue card for the exact words, but we walk 2, kick with the lead foot and step, then Back Hitch with the trail foot. Repeat but with a difference: walk 1, kick with the trail foot and step, Back Hitch with the lead foot. Again, first we kick with the lead and Bk Hitch with the trail. Second we kick with the trail and Bk Hitch with the lead. Be ready for that change. We do this three times in the dance.

From this sequence, the cue is "into Underarm Turn." The cue "into" is always imprecise, but here it means that the last step of the Hitch was the first step of the Underarm. We take one step with the trail foot and then continue normally with the underarm turn (1&2) and the anchor (3&4). Man is facing RLOD. From here, begin a Left Side Pass (1,2) into 4 Voltas, like Hit Me With A Hot Note. The first two are slow (&3, -, &5, -). The second two are fast (&7&8). Now dance "into" an Underarm again, this time leaving off both introductory steps and going directly into the underarm turn (1&2), anchor (3&4), then back 2 to Qk Sd Brks.

We have an Interlude that begins with a modified Whip Turn half, one measure. Start a Whip Turn (1,2). The lady turns on 2 and does her usual back hitch (3&4), but the man has only one more weight change. He dances a ronde with his lead foot, rotating to face partner and RLOD, takes weight on beat 4, and pivots on that step to CP DLC. He steps 1, 2, -, 4; pivoting on 4. The lady is innocently dancing a standard Whip Turn, 1, 2, 3&4. On 4, she is stepping forward R and there is led into a sharp pivot. Surprise! Well, she might have heard the cue and so be prepared, but some women can be quite innocent about these things -- be gentle. Continue to turn during the next measure to face LOD, and repeat the Introduction.



Part C will be familiar to you. Let me just say that it is a Tuck and Twirl End, not a Tuck and Spin End, so keep your handhold. At the end of C there is a Push Break. It is not a Sugar Push, so try to dance it differently. Men, rather than a touch-step (-, 2), dance a back hitch (a Coaster) drawing the lady into you on the 1& (bk/cl) and then gently pushing her away on the forward step of beat 2. It's pushy in a flirtatious way.

