

(PRINCE ERIC)

(ARIEL grins. PRINCE ERIC stares at her a moment. Then he holds his throat and asks:)

So if you don't mind my asking... what was it? An accident, when you were small?

(ARIEL turns away in shame.)

Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't mean— Who needs words anyway? A smile says just as much sometimes.

(ARIEL smiles again and flexes up and down on her toes. #30 ONE STEP CLOSER.)

You're nimble on your feet, aren't you? Well, dancing beats small talk any day. It's the way your legs smile... or laugh. It lets you say so many things.

# One Step Closer

Flowing, easy intro Steady 4

4 2 (PRINCE ERIC:)

Danc-ing is a lang-uage that is

(PRINCE ERIC does a little jig.)

8

felt in-stead of heard. You can

11

whis-per, sing or shout with-out so much as a word.

(PRINCE ERIC repeats the step. ARIEL imitates him.)

13

Try it, go on, like so

17

Just let your e - mo-tions tell your bo-dy what to do.

(PRINCE ERIC does another step. ARIEL imitates him.)

19

See how much a sin-gle ges-ture can re -

22

veal! And ev'-ry lit-tle step, ev'-ry sin-gle step is

25

one step clos-er ——— to say-ing what you feel.

END

(PRINCE ERIC patiently teaches ARIEL a few more dance steps. She's a quick study. They become in tune with one another, moving as one, poetry in motion... Suddenly, wafting through the night breeze are the magical strains of Ariel's VOICE.)

28

(PRINCE ERIC stops abruptly.)

**PRINCE ERIC:** Did you hear something?

(ARIEL's eyes open wide but she shakes her head "no.")

PRINCE ERIC becomes distracted.)

**VOICE:**

36

Ah ——— Ah ———