

I STILL HAD TO CURTSY

Myriam Thyes

Three versions:

2023–2025, UHD video, 9:16, silent.

2025, video for long LED display, 3:30, silent.

2026, 4K video, 5:25, stereo.

Until the 1970s in Germany, girls had to curtsy and boys had to do a servant; some rarely and on the side, other children under strict observation and in front of all adults. For girls in particular, this was often humiliating. In these videos, women curtsy in memory of their childhood. The texts quote their comments on curtsy-ing. The 2026 version features music: W. A. Mozart's *Minuet in G major* alludes to the aristocratic, courtly origins of the bourgeois custom of having girls curtsy.

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