

Only the shape

No names on the wall. No "who started it". Only the rungs, what happened at each, and what could have kept it one rung cooler.

A name turns a map into an argument. The shape turns it into a move.

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Warm

Small irritations, unsaid.

Say the small thing before it becomes a stand.

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Heated

Positions harden; tone shifts.

Ask a real question, or take a day before answering.

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Boiling

Public, sharp, sides chosen.

Change the room — take it offline, put the shared cost on the table.

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Point of no return

Actions have been taken that can't be un-taken.

Repair work only — do not pretend a rung-2 move still applies.

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WS
Escalation Map

One degree cooler

At this rung, what cheap move would have kept it one rung lower? Force cheap: a question, a day's delay, one offline hop.

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Vendor spec

63.5 × 88.9 mm · 3 mm bleed · 3.5 mm radius · 300–350 gsm coated · RGB→CMYK (FOGRA39). A4 2 × 3.

WorkshopSkill · Escalation Map

Your own rung

Rename the four rungs to your team's words for getting hot.

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WS
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earliest & cheapest