

Drama

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The Nicest Worst Club

By Tara Meddaugh

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Julie, a married woman with children, speaks to her friend, Jan, about not wanting to be part of a club of very nice women (who have all lost a husband).

JULIE

I think you're awesome, Jan. Like, you're so sweet, and understanding, and, like, you're always there if I call or email you these ten page epics on how I'm feeling, and...I mean, I'm so lucky, because everyone's nice. Everyone in this—I don't know, this—club or something. I guess, I guess it's a kind of club. And, I don't know if this is chance or just the people I know, or what, but none of you are bitter. Like, you're still nice, and caring, and open, and happy. You're all, like, the best group of women I could be part of.

(pause)

And...I so...I so wish I was not a part of this club...

(pause)

Like...I don't want to have this in common with you. I'm sorry. I just—I want to push you and Maddie and Adele—I want to push you all away...and pretend I don't deserve to be in this...really terrible club...of really nice women.

(pause)

I want to be a spectator. I don't want to be on this side of things. I want to comfort you. I want to be, I don't know, I want to be there for you when you're hurting, and, I want to order food from that sushi restaurant you like and have them surprise you and deliver it because you're just so emotionally exhausted at the end of the day. I want to take you to the sauna and have a girls' day out so you can, you know, replenish.

(pause)

But then, after the sauna, I wanna go home and eat mint chocolate chip ice cream, and cuddle with Brandon and the kids, and leave it all at the spa, and be so grateful that I'm just a spectator.

(pause)

But now you're dropping off meals at my place.

(pause)

And I love that you do that for me, Jan. I really do.

(pause)

But I don't want to have to need it.

(pause)

I know Brandon is dying.

(pause)

And I know you know what that's like. And...there's comfort in that. But...

(pause)

I don't want to be in this club.

(pause)

The nicest club.

(pause)

The worst club.

For more information about Tara's work, visit her website at www.tarameddaugh.com.

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