



Locking the Store

by [Tara Meddaugh](#)

Clark: Grace, you're so beautiful. Maybe I should...look, it's almost five. I think maybe I'll just turn that sign over. Turn it over to say we're closed. Lock the door, maybe? Would that be alright with you? If I did that? I mean, just so we could make sure our time wasn't interrupted. You're so beautiful that I just couldn't, I just really wouldn't want it to be interrupted. You know? I mean, if someone walked through that door right now, I just, I just don't know what I'd do. What I'd be able to do. I just...

(moves to door)

I'm going to lock it. To say we're closed. No one will come here anyway. No one should. No one on this island stays out past 4:00. I'm mean, we're out. But that's us. We're different than all of them, aren't we? We're the two people who are different, and I'm going to keep the rest of them out.

(switches sign to say it's closed and locks door)

There. Locked. That feels good. I feel really good now that they're all closed out, and it's just me and you, and our time together, and my gift for you. And I'm just so glad—but you're so beautiful!—I'm so glad that you're not just my customer anymore. I know you want me to just keep wrapping this gift for you, but I think maybe I should

take a break from the wrapping. Just for a little bit, okay? Because you're so...you're so beautiful that it's starting to really hurt me.

For more about Tara and her work, go to tameddaugh.com.
