

**CHRISTMAS CHINA**  
**THAT CAN ONLY BE HANDWASHED**

BY  
TARA MEDDAUGH



**A MONOLOGUE**

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## CHRISTMAS CHINA THAT CAN ONLY BE HANDWASHED

By Tara Meddaugh

*It's Christmas Night. Daphne and her partner, Jamie, have enjoyed a large Christmas dinner with family. Daphne has lovingly spent many hours preparing the meal she knows Jamie will enjoy, on the Christmas China she knows Jamie loves. But now it's time for Daphne to feel a little love... and it just might take the shape of someone else hand-washing all those Christmas plates...*

**DETAILS:**

Genre: Comedy/Christmas

Cast: Female

Age: 20s-50s

Running time: Around 1.5 minutes

Time period: Contemporary

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DAPHNE

(to her partner, Jamie)

You liked the Christmas ham I made, didn't you? I mean, I saw you get a new plate and take seconds, so I hope that means you liked it. You know all I want to do is make you happy. That's why I made the gingerbread cake this year. Your mom said it was your favorite as a kid, and I just wanted to bring back those warm childhood memories. That's why after we opened presents with the dogs this morning, and you were watching Netflix or Hulu or whatever, I was here in the kitchen, for, I don't know, maybe six hours, before your parents and brothers came over, making that sweet and sour sauce you love for the ham, and caramelizing ginger for the cake you love. I wanna, I don't know, make things you love because, Jamie, I just love you so much.

(pause)

And that's also why we got out the good Christmas China. Because you love those old-fashioned sledding scenes on your plates and you really really wanted to use the Christmas China.

(pause)

The China that is now dirty, and all over the kitchen counter. And table. And sink.

(pause)

The Christmas China that can only be handwashed.

(pause)

And Jamie. I know you love me too. So that's why I know you're gonna put that Roku remote back in the living room, and make like an Elf...and handwash the Christmas China.

END OF MONOLOGUE

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For more information about Tara and her plays, visit:  
[www.tameddaugh.com](http://www.tameddaugh.com)

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT



Tara's work has been presented by theater companies such as Fusion Theatre, Mosaic Theater Company of DC, The Directors Company, Le Petit Theatre de Terrebbonne, Theatre One, Westchester Collaborative Theater, Possibilities Theater, Tagragg Productions, One Armed Man, Oracle Theatre, Inc, The Acme Theatre Company, The Harlequin Players, Woman Seeking..., and numerous schools, universities and colleges including Gardner-Webb, Prince Williams, and Colgate. Her work has also showcased at festivals such as the Artists of Tomorrow Festival in NYC, The Bangkok Community Theatre Fringe Festival, the Pittsburgh New Works Series and the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Alaska. Tara's work has been published by YouthPLAYS, Oxford Press South Africa, the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA), Limelight Editions/Applause Acting Series, The Hunger Journal, Meriweather Publishing, Applause Theatre & Cinema, Performer Stuff and Ace-Your-Audition. Tens of thousands of teachers, actors and students world-wide have utilized her monologues for competitions, course material, auditions, performances, and showcases. Serial monologues she wrote were performed for two years by the internationally recognized receptionist-robot, Valerie. She has taught Playwriting and Screenwriting at Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and for The Westport Country Playhouse, and she has taught Creative Dramatics Workshops for children throughout New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Additionally, she toured in a Children's Theatre Troupe, which she wrote for, co-directed, and performed in. She has won writing awards such as the Shubert Fellowship in Dramatic Writing, the Sloan Screenwriting Fellowship, the New Works for Young Women [Actors] Award, and The Write Stuff Award. Tara is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University's MFA program in Dramatic Writing and is a member of the Dramatists Guild. She lives near New York City, with her husband and two creative kids. At Christmastime, you might find her sipping (okay, guzzling) eggnog, watching Elf or organizing an outdoor candy cane hunt.

For more information about Tara Meddaugh and her work, visit:

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