

## **Character List and Descriptions – *The Nerd*, By Larry Shue**

### **WILLUM CUBBERT** (*Male-presenting, 30s*)

A polite, earnest architect living in Terre Haute, Indiana. Loyal to a fault and eager to please, Willum's good nature and sense of obligation make him both endearing and exasperating. His journey is one of learning to assert himself.

### **TANSY MCGINNIS** (*Female-presenting, 20s–30s*)

Warm, intelligent, and ambitious. A successful television weather reporter preparing to move to Washington, D.C. for a new job. She shares deep affection for Willum but is frustrated by his passivity.

### **AXEL HAMMOND** (*Male-presenting, 30s–40s*)

Willum's roommate and best friend. A sardonic theatre critic with impeccable timing and a sharp wit. Observant, acerbic, and loyal, Axel provides comic relief and the occasional voice of reason.

### **RICK STEADMAN (THE NERD)** (*Male-presenting, 30s*)

The man who once saved Willum's life in Vietnam—and is now his biggest headache. Oblivious, socially inept, and pathologically well-meaning, Rick's intrusion upends the household and drives the farce.

### **WARNOCK WALDGRAVE** (*Male-presenting, 40s–50s*)

A volatile, overbearing businessman and Willum's client. Loud, quick-tempered, and demanding, but not malicious—just wound too tight.

### **CLELIA WALDGRAVE** (*Female-presenting, 40s*)

Warnock's wife. Polite and high-strung, she channels her frustrations into odd habits (notably breaking things when nervous). A comic foil to her husband's bluster.

### **THOR WALDGRAVE** (*Male-presenting, 8–10*)

Their son. A mischievous, spoiled child who says exactly what he thinks. Often the spark that sets off the adults' chaos.