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SURFING THE WAVES OF POPULAR CULTURE
BY MICHAEL GILTZ & FRIENDS

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"Gilmore Girls" On The Brink...

...of losing me. I watched Tuesday night's episode and was aghast. [But first, that recent NYT diatribe on the show.](#) They're right that the show sucks now, but they get it all wrong. Virginia Heffernan says,

"That was the charm of the old show: women, fundamentally women without men, were compelled to talk as fast as they could to keep their loneliness at bay."

And this,

"Lorelai's internal life — her desperate loneliness (come on, have any of these forgettable guys even come close to matching her?) coupled with her untenable reliance on her daughter as the one true thing in her existence — is clear to longtime viewers."

Huh? The witty, sparkling, screwball comedy-worthy banter from the show's glory years was merely a front to keep loneliness at bay? What were Rosalind Russell and Katharine Hepburn? Manic depressives?

Lorelai was desperately lonely and had a freakish dependence on her daughter? I don't know what show Heffernan was watching, but it wasn't "Gilmore Girls." I didn't see a woman who was desperately lonely because she didn't have a man. I saw a smart, intelligent, funny woman who had raised a terrific kid as a single mom and excelled in business. She was open to the possibility of romance but she wasn't sitting around waiting for a knight in shining armor.

And who says she was lonely? Both Lorelai and Rory were part of a warm, vibrant community -- surrounded by friends and coworkers and indeed an entire town that loved and respected them. Lorelai had issues with her mother and the show (initially, at least) slowly drew them back together. And her relationship with her daughter wasn't co-dependant; it was delightful. If you described a man who was supremely witty and fun and sexy, who raised a kid on his own (and a

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