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# The Sari Club

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ERIK CAMPBELL

*The Sari Club*<sup>1</sup>

*Freeport Mine, Papua, Indonesia*

Although my wife, Shari, knows  
that Indonesians often giggle  
  
through grief (chuckles safely  
cupped in their hands, hoping  
  
their faces are safe), she is still upset  
when they confuse their consonants  
  
and laugh consolation that “her club”  
in Bali was bombed. The trouble  
  
with martyrs, Supriadi said, is  
that they always end up too dead  
  
to not be correct. Then Ketut, a Hindu  
who assumes we’re ashes already,  
  
said the problem with so many people  
is that they believe one thing explains  
  
all things. It’s easier for us, he said.  
We get to pick which gods we pay  
  
attention to. Just think. Just try to  
imagine Vishnu choosing you.

<sup>1</sup> On October 12th, 2002, a car bomb weighing approximately 1,000 kg was detonated in front of the Sari Club in Kuta Beach, Bali. The explosion left a one-meter-deep crater and more than 200 dead. The majority of those murdered were Australian tourists.