Narcissists And Cars

Narcissists will use anything at their disposal to abuse & control their victims, & that even includes cars.

If a victim has hurt a narcissist somehow or even simply set boundaries with the narcissist, the narcissist may drive like a maniac in an attempt to scare the victim to regain control. After I broke off the engagement with my now ex husband, we went somewhere together & he was driving very erratically. It terrified me & I asked him to stop it. He said it was my fault he drove that way, because after I broke up with him, he didn't care if he lived or died. That instilled a LOT of guilt in me for breaking up with him.

Cars are also an excellent place for a narcissist to have complete control over their victims. The victim has no means of escaping the narcissist's car, so there is no choice but to tolerate whatever is done in that car. In my late teens when my narcissistic mother's abuse was at its worst, she refused to let me get my license & a car. Naturally, this meant she took me to & from school & work. Each ride was sheer hell for me because she screamed & raged at me the entire ride almost every single time. I had no way of escaping the abuse either, since I needed to get to my destinations. I had no choice but to tolerate it.

Narcissists also often want to be the driver when they go somewhere with another person, because this means their victim/passenger only can go where the narcissist wants to go & on her time schedule, not the victim's. If they want to go somewhere with their victim, they will tell the victim what time they will pick him or her up, or tell the victim to come to the narcissist's home so the narcissist can drive them to their destination. It's all about control, & all victims know, narcissists love to have control over their victim in every possible way.

As a side note here, obviously not every person who prefers to drive is a narcissist, by the way. Some folks are just more comfortable driving. They won't be demanding or controlling about where they go & when they go to their destination.

There are also some narcissists who don't drive. This is most prevalent with covert narcissists rather than overt. They may play the naive & innocent role, claiming it is just too hard to drive. Since overt narcissists usually avoid appearing in a way that can look weak somehow, they usually drive. Again, this is all about control. If a narcissist can't or won't drive, this forces the narcissist's victims to take care of her by either taking her places or doing things for her.

I'm certainly not saying that everyone who is a bad driver, who prefers to be the one driving or doesn't drive is a narcissist, of course. Some people are simply more daring behind the wheel than others. There are also many people who develop serious anxiety behind the wheel, & they realize they shouldn't drive. There are others who love driving or who feel safest when they are driving. These people obviously aren't

narcissists, & you can tell they aren't narcissists by their behavior. The daring driver is daring all of the time, not only after someone has upset him somehow. The anxious person asks for rides &/or offers gas money rather than expects others to help. The person who prefers being the driver never gets upset when someone says they want to drive or meet them somewhere.

If you have recently met someone, & think the person may be a narcissist, this is one way to help you to figure it out. Watch how the person is when it comes to driving.