

PLASTIC FIGURINES

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ROSE: Sometimes I ...
I was nine when they told us there was something wrong.
Nearly nine.
Mum and Dad didn't really talk about it in front of me.
Mum told me he was different from other kids.
They didn't really say much in front of me but when I think about it now
Maybe they didn't say anything to each other at all.
When I was small I used to wake up in the night, probably about ten o'clock 'cause I
could hear them laughing
I'd never cry 'cause it was nice, you know.
It was nice to hear my mum and dad laughing together.
Mum told me that there was something in his brain that was different, she said that
he liked to put his toys in lines and that was something that they said was like, you
know, a symptom or whatever.
I used to go in his room and see all his stuffed animals in a line and I'd,
I'd mess them up.
I'd mess the line up.
Like that would make him ...
After they told us there was something wrong,
The house got dead quiet.
They didn't laugh.
He couldn't handle it. Dad couldn't handle ...
The embarrassment I think.
Idiot.
She just,
she was
a really
good
mum.
Too good.
People would look.
You know how people look at kids when they misbehave
When you know there's something, wrong, different.
They'd look at him like 'ahh, he can't help it'.
That look of pity.
And I'd smile.
I'd smile at them
That smile where you tilt your head as if you're on the same page as them.
I'd smile that smile when I was ten!
I'd learnt that apologetic, awkward smile by the time I was ten!

| a n | t h o | l o | g y |

I was ashamed
Embarrassed of him, when I was ten!
I love him
I love him so much but
Sometimes I ...
She can't bring herself to say it).