

## THE AUTHORISED KATE BANE

Ella Hickson

KATE:

I don't know when it became so difficult. When I was little I used to be so excited about coming back at the end of the school day, we'd put the fire on and have dinner and snuggle on the sofa and in holidays we'd spend days and days in our pyjamas - just me and Dad, just reading or watching films or eating crumpets and it was cosy and - great - and - home. And then - then - something happens and suddenly one time you come back and it looks different, really different, because you - you changed and suddenly you find yourself... judging. It's like you put on these glasses and suddenly a snack isn't a snack because you're hungry, it's a ridiculous parmesan puff that Dad buys to look smart. And you realise that your family - the people you come from, are actually the 'kind of people' that eat parmesan puffs - but you've become the kind of person that thinks the kind of people that eat parmesan puffs are pretentious - but they're still Mum and Dad, right? But you have to laugh at the parmesan-puff people - because if you don't - it's like you don't realise that the parmesan puff actually means wealth and snobbery and social exclusion and weird aspiration - and if you don't see that then you're condoning it, you're accepting all that - and I do see - and so I should laugh. But it's still Dad - and - it's what I grew up with so you're actually laughing at your - self - but worse, your own home - you're laughing at your dad - and that's awful and heartbreaking and -

I'm at home and I feel homesick.