

Anneke (V.O.)

MY NAME IS ANNEKE OSKAM. I LIVE IN VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA.

Anneke (O.S.)

APPARENTLY TO MY MOM, I'M AN OFFICIAL HOCKEY STAR.

Anneke (V.O.)

BUT I LIKE TO CONSIDER MYSELF AS A PRETTY GOOD HOCKEY PLAYER. I DON'T WANT TO OUTDO MYSELF. BECAUSE SOMETIMES I DON'T HAVE VERY GOOD GAMES.

Anneke (O.S.)

AW, THAT SUCKS!

Anneke (V.O.)

PLAYING HOCKEY IS LIKE MY MAIN SPORT. FAVORITE PLAYER IS ROBERTO LUONGO. OUR TEAM IS AN ALL GIRLS TEAM. BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS ME THERE. SO I'M NOT LIKE, "OH THERE'S THAT GUY THAT'S ON OUR TEAM."

Anneke (O.S.)

I'M NOT THAT GUY. I'M A GIRL.

Nicole (V.O.)

I GUESS I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A VERY SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS PERSON. WHO I AM AS A PERSON...

Nicole (O.S.)

...IS ONE WHO'S FOUGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND FOUGHT FOR ACCEPTANCE IN SOCIETY. AND YOU KNOW, ALWAYS BEEN THE FAT KID THAT GOT PICKED LAST FOR GYM. AND YOU KNOW, LIKE PART OF MY PERSON IS, YOU KNOW, SOMEONE WHO ACCEPTS DIFFERENCES.

Nicole (V.O.)

I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T REALLY GET PARENTS WHO DON'T ACCEPT THEIR KIDS.

Nicole (O.S.)

DO YOU REMEMBER WHO THAT IS?

Anneke (O.S.)

NO.

Nicole (O.S.)

IT'S SAM.

Anneke (O.S.)

SAM?

Nicole (O.S.)

LOOK IT. AND THERE'S YOU NAKED. [LAUGHS] YOU LOVED THAT OUTFIT. YOU JUST TOOK OFF ALL YOUR CLOTHES ALL THE TIME. I THINK CAUSE YOU DIDN'T LIKE YOUR CLOTHES. BUT WHAT DID I KNOW.

Ben (V.O.)

I THINK I NEVER EVER HAD ANY CONCERNS OR PROBLEMS WITH ANNEKE.

Ben (O.S.)

I THINK FROM WHEN SHE WAS VERY YOUNG IT JUST APPEARED THAT SHE WAS NOT THE BARBIE...

Ben (V.O.)

...DRESS KIND OF GIRL. JUST, I THINK, AS SOON AS SHE COULD TALK, WE WOULD SHOW HER A DRESS TO PUT ON...

Ben (O.S.)

...AND SHE WOULD SAY NO.

Nicole (O.S.)

THAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SHIRT, ACTUALLY. IT HAD FRUIT AND VEGETABLES ON IT. IT WAS BLUE. AND YOU WORE IT WITH JEANS.

Nicole (V.O.)

EVEN AT A VERY YOUNG AGE, SHE ALWAYS KNEW WHO SHE WAS...

Nicole (O.S.)

...AND HAD SUCH A STRONG SENSE OF WHO SHE WAS. AND EVEN WHEN SHE WAS REALLY DOWN, I'D GIVE HER THE OPTION OF, YOU KNOW, "WELL, YOU KNOW, YOU COULD FIT IN BETTER WITH THE GIRLS IF YOU GREW YOUR HAIR LONG AND YOU HAD EARRINGS AND DRESSES AND STUFF."

Nicole (V.O.)

AND SHE'D JUST LOOK AT ME AND GO, "NO!" AND THAT MADE HER MORE ISOLATED, MADE HER NOT HAVE AS MANY FRIENDS. BUT SHE WAS SO CERTAIN OF THAT DECISION.

Anneke (V.O.)

THE BOYS IN...

Anneke (O.S.)

...EARLIER GRADES WERE ACCEPTING AND I WOULD PLAY WITH THEM. BUT IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, THREE YEARS, I'VE BEEN EXCLUDED.

Nicole (V.O.)

FROM A VERY YOUNG AGE, ANNEKE WAS DEPRESSED. SO, I THINK SHE FIRST EXHIBITED...

Nicole (O.S.)

...SERIOUS DEPRESSION AT AGE FOUR. AND EXPRESSED SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AT AGE FOUR AND A HALF, FIVE.

Nicole (O.S.)

SO THEY RECOMMENDED A NUMBER OF INTERVENTIONS, INCLUDING, UM, MELATONIN TO HELP HER SLEEP. OMEGA THREES WHICH ARE, HAVE, MORE AND MORE STUDIES ARE PROVING THEY HELP WITH DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY IN CHILDREN. AND, UH, AND PROZAC.

Dr. Metzger (O.S.)

HI, HOW YOU DOING? GOOD, I'M GOOD. SO HOW'S LIFE TREATING YOU?

Anneke (O.S.)

GOOD.

Dr. Metzger (O.S.)

IT'S ALL OKAY?

Anneke (O.S.)

KIND OF.

Dr. Metzger (O.S.)

YEAH, HOW ARE THE SHOTS GOING?

Nicole (O.S.)

WE JUST RECENTLY STARTED ON A MEDICATION THAT SUPPRESSES THE HORMONES OF ADOLESCENCE. SO IT BUYS ANNEKE TIME WHERE SHE'S AT IN THAT FLUID PLACE. WHETHER IT'S A MALE PLACE OR A FEMALE PLACE THAT SHE'S TRANSITIONING TO.

Dr. Metzger (O.S.)

YOU KNOW, LUPRON IS MADE FOR KIDS WHO GO INTO PUBERTY WHEN THEY'RE TWO OR THREE. THAT'S WHY WE HAVE LUPRON. THAT'S WHAT IT WAS DESIGNED FOR. SO WE CAN SAY, "OH, TWO YEAR OLD, YOU SHOULDN'T BE IN PUBERTY. LET'S TURN YOUR BODY OFF UNTIL, YOU KNOW, THE RIGHT AGE TO GO INTO PUBERTY, TEN OR ELEVEN OR TWELVE, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

YOU'RE OKAY TO CONTINUE THE SHOTS FOR THE MOMENT? YEAH, YEAH. WELL I THINK THAT'S, I THINK THAT'S REASONABLE. THE WHOLE FLUID THING IS FLUID, RIGHT? SO THIS IS... YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO START AND STOP, AND START AND STOP THE MEDICINE.

SO ONE OF THE THINGS WE'RE GOING TO DO TODAY ANNEKE IS THE WHOLE POINT OF YOU'RE GETTING A BLOOD TEST, IS TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING IS TURNED OFF. THAT YOUR ESTROGEN LEVEL IS ZERO AND THAT YOUR BODY,

YOUR BRAIN, YOUR PITUITARY GLAND DOESN'T THINK THAT YOU'RE IN PUBERTY ANYMORE.

Anneke (V.O.)

I WOULD SAY THAT I AM LIKE, IN THE MIDDLE OF THINKING LIKE WHO I AM. [LAUGHTER] JUST KIND OF FIGURING OUT WHAT I SHOULD DO. IF I SHOULD GO AND TRANS OR JUST STAY WHO I AM.

Nicole (O.S.)

YOU ALL RIGHT?

Anneke (O.S.)

YEAH.

Nicole (O.S.)

DON'T WORRY. WON'T HAVE TO DO THIS FOR SIX MONTHS.

Nicole (V.O.)

I THINK YOU HAVE A DESIRE TO, YOU KNOW, IDENTIFY YOUR CHILD A CERTAIN WAY AND FIND THAT BOX AND HELP THEM BE COMFORTABLE IN IT. SO WHEN IT'S NOT A BOX...

Ben (V.O)

IF ANNEKE COMES UP IN A CONVERSATION YOU HAVE WITH SOMEBODY THAT IT'S VERY HARD TO EXPLAIN HOW ANNEKS IS TOO, BECAUSE THEY KIND OF DON'T GET IT.

Anneke (O.S.)

IS IT PRETTY PAINFUL?

Nurse 1 (O.S.)

ONE, TWO, THREE, GENTLY MOVING...

Nurse 2 (O.S.)

DEEP BREATH, DEEP BREATH. GOOD.

Anneke (V.O.)

I THINK I WANT TO STAY LIKE I AM RIGHT NOW. JUST KIND OF A TOMBOY KIND OF THING.

Nicole (V.O.)

IF YOU'RE ALONE WITH YOUR THOUGHTS, IT'S A LOT WORSE. IF YOU'RE BUSY AND SOCIAL, IT'S MANAGEABLE. YOU FORGET ABOUT THINGS. AND SHE DOESN'T HAVE A STRONG NETWORK OF FRIENDS. IT'S BUILDING THIS YEAR AND I'M REALLY EXCITED AND OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THAT. BUT LAST YEAR SHE HAD VERY FEW CLOSE FRIENDS. AND I THINK THAT HAD A LOT TO DO WITH HER GENDER STUFF.

Siena (O.S.)

OKAY, FINE, I'LL HAVE SOME.

Anneke (O.S.)

OH MY GOD, I'VE NEVER HAD THIS BEFORE.

Siena (O.S.)

YOU'VE NEVER HAD NUTELLA?

Friend 2 (O.S.)

WHEN SIENA USED TO COME TO MY HOUSE, SHE USED TO EAT LIKE MORE THAN HALF OF IT.

Siena (O.S.)

I KNOW. THEN I STARTED TO GET FAT. [LAUGHTER]

Nicole (V.O.)

THE MORE WE'VE DEALT WITH, YOU KNOW, IN A POSITIVE WAY THE GENDER STUFF, THE BETTER HER MOOD HAS GOTTEN. IT'S LIKE A CLOUD HAS LIFTED. SHE DOESN'T HAVE HEADACHES ANYMORE. PROBABLY THREE TIMES A WEEK, SHE'D GO TO SLEEP CRYING. SHE DOESN'T DO THAT ANYMORE.

Friend 2 (V.O)

WELL, WHEN I FIRST MET ANNEKE, I THOUGHT SHE WAS A BOY, BUT THEN...

Friend 2 (O.S.)

...THEY TOLD ME SHE WAS A GIRL AND I WAS "OH, OKAY." THEN I MET YOU AND I THOUGHT YOU WERE REALLY COOL AND STUFF. YEAH.

Friend 2 (V.O)

I THINK LIKE ANYBODY CAN BE WHOEVER THEY WANT TO BE. I DON'T REALLY CARE WHAT PEOPLE THINK...

Friend 2 (O.S.)

...OR SAY. [LAUGHTER]

Coach 1 (O.S.)

HALF THE GIRLS IN THIS CORNER AND HALF THE GIRLS IN THAT CORNER.

Player 1 (O.S.)

WE'LL BE AWESOME PEOPLE.

Anneke (O.S.)

NO, WE'RE THE AWESOME PEOPLE.

ARE YOU GOING TO PLAY HOCKEY NEXT YEAR TOO?

MAYBE. Billie (O.S.)

MAYBE? YOU'RE SO GOOD. Anneke (O.S.)

SORRY. Billie (O.S.)

OW! Anneke (O.S.)

I LIKE HARASSING YOU. IT'S FUN. Billie (O.S.)

DON'T DO THAT. Anneke (O.S.)

YOU'RE CAPTURED. Anneke (O.S.)

OH, COME ON. SERIOUSLY. Billie (O.S.)

I'M TIRED. Anneke (O.S.)

GOOD. Billie (O.S.)

OW! Anneke (O.S.)

[Over English Subtitles]

I'LL CALL YOU ON THE WEEKEND AND WE CAN WATCH A GAME TOGETHER.

CAUSE YOUR TV SET'S WAY BIGGER THAN MINE. Anneke (O.S.)

OKAY, SEE YA. Billie (O.S.)

SEE YOU SUNDAY, OR SOONER. Anneke (O.S.)

[Over English Subtitles]

CAN I SLEEP OVER?

Billie (O.S.)

MAYBE.

Billie's Dad (O.S.)

WHEN?

Anneke (O.S.)  
[Over English Subtitles]

TONIGHT, MAYBE.

Billie (O.S.)

I HAVE TO GO TO MY MOM'S...

Billie's Dad (O.S.)

HUH?

Billie (O.S.)

I HAVE TO GO TO MY MOM'S.

Billie's Dad (O.S.)

WHEN?

Billie (O.S.)

IN THE MORNING CAUSE SHE HAS A HAIR APPOINTMENT.

Nicole (V.O.)

I WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO FIT IN. I WANTED TO LOOK LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, DRESS LIKE EVERYONE ELSE. LISTEN TO THE MUSIC EVERYONE LISTENED TO. IT WAS ALL ABOUT FITTING IN. AND FOR HER...

Nicole (O.S.)

...IT'S NEVER BEEN ABOUT THAT. IT'S BEEN ABOUT BEING TRUE TO WHO SHE...

Nicole (V.O.)

...SEES HERSELF AS BEING. WHICH I JUST FIND AMAZING. AS AN ADULT, I CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE WITH THAT FEELING OF WANTING TO FIT IN AND SHE DOESN'T CARE. SHE KNOWS... SHE LIVES THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT FITTING IN.

Anneke (O.S.)

THIS IS MY SHOT.

Anneke (V.O.)

MY MOM AND DAD ARE REALLY COOL ABOUT MY GENDER STUFF. THEY'RE REALLY ACCEPTING AND LOVING ABOUT IT, ABOUT LIKE BEING DIFFERENT.

Nicole (O.S.)  
HE TOLD ME TO DO IT MORE ON THE SIDE. RIGHT?

Anneke (O.S.)  
EXACTLY. YOU DID IT HERE LAST TIME.

Nicole (O.S.)  
I DID IT THERE, OKAY SO THERE.

Nicole (V.O.)  
IT'S A COMMITMENT TO PROTECT YOUR CHILD. AND I THINK...

Nicole (O.S.)  
...WE'RE IN THE SAME PLACE ABOUT HER BEING GENDER FLUID. LIKE SAYING,  
IT'S WHATEVER. LIKE, IT'S OKAY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A BOY, YOU DON'T  
HAVE TO BE A GIRL.

Nicole (O.S.)  
FLEX YOUR MUSCLE. OH, OKAY NOW RELAX. OKAY, MUSCLES. SO, POKE.

Anneke (O.S.)  
WAIT, WAIT. OW, OKAY, THANKS.

Nicole (O.S.)  
WAIT, WAIT, WAIT DOESN'T WORK. I KNOW HOW TO DO THIS. [LAUGHTER]  
THERE YOU GO, DONE, SEE?

Anneke (O.S.)  
READY FOR MY CLOSE UP. [LAUGHTER]

Ben (V.O.)  
SOMETIMES YOU GET IN CONVERSATION LIKE YOU KNOW, "YOU'VE GOT TWO  
GIRLS AND YOU FEEL LIKE HAVING A SON?" WELL, I GOT A SON. I'VE GOT  
ANNEKE. YOU KNOW MY MAIN CONCERN FOR...

Ben (O.S.)  
...IS FOR ANNEKE TO BE HAPPY. AND TO BE ANNEKE. AND THAT'S ANNEKE.

Nicole (V.O.)  
WHAT WILL BE THE SHOCK, IS IF SHE, YOU KNOW, GROWS UP AND PUTS ON A  
DRESS AND YOU KNOW, GETS MARRIED TO SOME FOOTBALL PLAYER GUY,  
YOU KNOW. THEN WE'LL ALL DROP DEAD OF SHOCK. ANYTHING ELSE IS JUST  
WHO SHE IS. WE KNOW THAT. THAT WILL BE THE REAL, YOU KNOW, MOMENT  
WHERE WE ALL GO, "WHERE DID THAT COME FROM?"

CREDITS