



Shattered Dolls

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It was a cold night, Annie was in the backseat of her parents' beat up car, the seats are ripped, and the headliner is falling from the interior roof. Annie's mom turned around and said "stay here Annie, mom and dad will be right back." They get out of the vehicle. Annie grabs her blanket and snuggles into her pillow. Annie is afraid, it's dark and she's alone but this happens a lot. Mom and Dad drive to someone's house in the middle of the night and leave her in the car.

Annie's memories are scattered. These events that I'm describing are not in order, but they lead up to the whole point in the end.

Annie is in the living room of their small rundown mobile home. Her mom and dad are in their bedroom with their door closed. Annie is sitting on their couch, her little sister is in a walker in front of her, Annie is holding a bottle in her sister's mouth. Annie is sad. Mom and Dad do this often and sometimes little sister cries a lot and Annie doesn't know what to do.

Annie is in a motel room, mom and dad are asleep in the bed and it's the middle of the day, Annie is hungry. Annie is sitting in front of the motel window, tears running down her face, she sees vehicles pass by on the road and wonders if this is how everyone lives.

Annie wakes up and walks out of her bedroom, there's people asleep on the floor and someone on their couch. Annie doesn't know any of these people. The house is a mess with beer cans and cigarette trays full, with ashes on the floor and coffee table. Annie walks to the refrigerator and opens the door, it's empty.

Annie is in the living room on the floor playing with her doll and little baby sister is on the floor on a blanket next to her. Mom and Dad are at the table. There's white powder on the table, mom and dad have straws in their noses and sniffing the white powder in their nose. This is a normal life for Annie and little sister.

It's late at night, Annie and little sister are trying to sleep. There's loud arguing in the living room. Annie goes out of her room to see what's wrong. Dad and his friend arguing, mom and a female friend are trying to calm them down, but dad's friend has a metal pipe shaking it cursing and he hits dad. Dad grabs the pipe,

punches his friend and throws it out the backdoor. Mom and her friend are crying, Annie runs back to her bedroom and closes the door, crawls into bed next to little sister and cries.

Annie comes home from school one day, Mom is crying, Dad is upset, yelling and cursing. Annie follows their voices to their bedroom; Annie walks inside and Mom's friend is passed out on the floor. Mom screams she's not breathing we have to call the police! Dad grabs the phone, dials 911.

Annie goes to play at her cousin's house, Annie is playing with dolls, with her cousin and her other older male cousin comes in and starts picking on Annie. Annie starts crying, he pushes her, then hits her, punches her nose, Annie is crying and bleeding. Annie runs home bruised and bloody.

Annie is asleep in her bed. It's late, people are over as usual and it's hard to sleep. Someone comes into Annie's room. It's dad's friend, he's been living with them, he crawls in bed with Annie. He moves his body close to hers, wraps his arms around her and whispers in her ear 'you smell so good', he begins to kiss Annie and runs his hands over her body, then he puts his hands inside of Annie's panties. Annie starts crying begging him to stop but he puts his hand over her mouth, he squeezes her in her vagina and pushes his hand tightly around her mouth and says 'If you scream, I'll hurt you and your little sister. Annie has tears silently fall down her cheek. Annie let him do horrible unspeakable things to her, to protect little sister. This went on most every night for two years.

Annie's mom got invited to a church service called a revival. Annie had never gone to church; she didn't know who God was.

The first night Annie sat and listened, she didn't understand a lot the preacher was saying but she felt peaceful, that was something she had never felt.

The second night the preacher did an altar call, Annie's mom got up, so she followed her mom and little sister followed Annie.

Annie was bent down at the altar like she saw everyone else do, a lady came behind Annie put her hands on her back gently and whispered in Annie's ear, "Just thank God, just say I love you God." Annie began to do that, and she felt something inside her break, tears began rolling down her cheeks. Her praises to God began to be in a language she didn't recognize but later learned she was filled with the holy ghost with evidence of speaking in tongues.

Annie felt like God got off his throne at that very moment, wrapped his arms around her and washed away every fear, pain, anxiety, and depression. God became her mother, father, healer, provider, protector, and everything she was missing.

Annie fell in love with God. Annie fell in love with prayer and studying her bible to learn more. Annie, her mom, and sister made church an every week thing. Mom stopped doing drugs.

Dad didn't stop but he stopped bringing drugs in the house and best of all that man or any other of those friends never came back.

Annie grew up and became a pastor's wife and has a women's support group for women who have suffered trauma in their lives.