

Where Did He Touch You?

By

Santa Claus

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - DAY

The PSYCHIATRIST, DOCTOR BANE, mid forties, overweight, silver hair with a receding hairline, sits in front of his desk.

He picks up a custom bobblehead doll from his desk that resembles himself.

DOCTOR BANE  
Where did he touch you?

TOMMY, 3, bobs his head and shoulders forward and back.

He looks puzzled, and looks back and forth between the Psychiatrist and bobblehead doll.

RICK, 29, looks worried. Sits next to Tommy.

RICK  
Go on son. Touch the doll.

Tommy slowly raises his hand towards the nodding doll.

MANDY, shocked. Stands up and sweeps Tommy up.

She walks towards the exit.

MANDY  
So not appropriate asking our son  
to touch you. I don't care it's a  
replica. It's not right. It's  
fucked up.  
(Stern look at Rick)  
Come on. We're going. I can't  
believe you encouraged me. And  
persuaded me to see this quack.

She shakes her head.

Then exits.

Rick slowly gets to his feet.

RICK  
I'm sorry. She's very  
stressed. She doesn't normally  
talk like this.

DOCTOR BANE  
It's okay Mr Hunter I understand.

INT. HUNTER RESIDENCE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Tommy plays with his toys in front of the television.

Mandy sits watching.

Rick enters from the Kitchen carrying a pint of beer.

MANDY

I can't believe you persuaded me to see that fraud. Why does everything have to jump to that subject? Just because he's not talking doesn't mean anything bad has occurred. Lots of kids go through these spells.

Rick shrugs.

RICK

It was just a thought. An idea. Don't jump on me like I pressured you into this. You went with it because you didn't have anything to say.

MANDY

Well. He's probably even more screwed up in the head seeing that psychiatrist. Who the hell asks a child to touch a miniature version of them self? A smiling nodding twisted doll. It's sick. He's sick. I should report him.

Rick shakes his head.

RICK

You can do that tomorrow. What's our next move?

MANDY

We'll see another psychiatrist. This time, let's not say random thoughts. He's not speaking and that's that.

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - DAY

The PSYCHIATRIST, DOCTOR O'MALLEY, early thirties, slim with black hair, sits behind her desk.

DOCTOR O'MALLEY  
What do you believe is the reason  
why Tommy isn't speaking?

RICK  
It's probably Billy.

MANDY  
Who?

RICK  
His imaginary friend.

MANDY  
When did this happen?

RICK  
I thought I told you? He's had him  
for a few weeks. I gather it's  
normal?

Mandy nudges Rick with her elbow.

MANDY  
(Whispers to Rick)  
You weren't suppose to say  
anything.

RICK  
(Whispers)  
Sorry.

Tommy walks around the room playing with his toy car.

He stops and picks up a bobblehead doll from a shelf.

Mandy gestures to Tommy to return it.

MANDY  
Tommy. Put that back.

RICK  
Oh. You've got one too. A  
bobblehead doll.

DOCTOR O'MALLEY  
One too?

RICK

We saw another psychiatrist last week. He had one. Except, his one was a replica of himself.

DOCTOR O'MALLEY

I see. It's standard issue nowadays. The modern way we do things.

RICK

Yours though is Yoda. His was freaky.

MANDY

Horrific more like.

DOCTOR O'MALLEY

I know who you're talking about. Doctor Bane. He's vein. Loves himself. I'm not surprised people take him the wrong way.

MANDY

Do you have any ideas why our son is not talking?

INT. HUNTER RESIDENCE, TOMMY'S BEDROOM - DAY

FLASHBACK:

Tommy plays with his toys. Bashing toy cars against each other.

DOCTOR O'MALLEY (V.O.)

It could be any number of reasons. Extreme environmental factors. Neglect. Abuse. Not hearing other people or children speak. Or something sinister with his imaginary friend.

MANDY (V.O.)

That's if he has one.

BILLY, 5, dressed as a superhero. Appears from thin air.

Tommy smiles.

TOMMY

Hi Billy.

Billy places his finger over his own mouth.

BILLY

Shush. Remember our game? Don't talk. Your parents cannot know I exist.

Tommy nods.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - DAY

DOCTOR O'MALLEY

Or he could just be slow.

RICK

(Puzzled)

What?

DOCTOR O'MALLEY

Intellectually challenged.

Mandy stands up and walks over to Tommy, then picks him up.

MANDY

Come on Rick. These psychiatrists are all nuts. I'm not staying here to have our son insulted. Bitch.

Mandy exits.

**THE END.**