

Transcript

Charlie

Child of Our Time: Turning 20

Charlie:

I've been through a lot of, lot of rubbish but at the end of the day if I hadn't gone through it, it wouldn't have made me the person I am today, so I wouldn't be as strong as I am today.

Because I've been through so much when I was little, I've actually got post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety, so it has messed me up in a big sense.

Because it was so traumatic, I literally don't remember anything from when I was little, like I have, I have flashbacks of certain bits.

I've made myself forget so it doesn't hurt me anymore.

I went into care when I was about five.

I've been to 14 different Care Homes and Foster Cares, moved from Wiltshire to Liverpool, from Liverpool to Carlisle, to Kent, to Wales, London, Lancashire, Ramsgate, I'm here now.

I don't agree with Care Homes. I don't agree with the way they treat children.

I used to like, look at other little families. How come I never had the parents with me all the time? And I can't go on family holidays,

I thought that everything was just so unfair that everyone else got everything and I didn't.

I've been missing that family it's like a, it's like a hole in my heart I'm like missing that family bit that I needed and now I've got it so...

I wake up every day and I want to wake up. I don't want to stay in bed. I want to get up.

Looking at him, knowing that I, he is counting on me and he's my responsibility and he needs me, then that keeps me up in the day like, if I know I'm struggling and I feel really rubbish, I just look at him and go, right I need to keep strong.

I'm proud of myself, and I'm proud I'm a better mum than my mum ever was.

When I was pregnant, I literally sat on my phone every single day and read up *everything* to do with babies.

I didn't get that mum bond. So, I literally give him everything. I buy him so many toys. I have my whole sitting room is like full of toys.

I'm looking forward to going on them family holidays and going for walks at the beach, and all the things that I never got to do when I was young. I'm looking forward to doing them things with my son.

I got a future for myself. I'm looking forward to my future.

He is going to be the world's smartest and cutest baby that I think is about to fall asleep.

And he's asleep, oo...

He's asleep.