

QUESTIONING

Char Bull

"My name is Eilish,

I use she/they pronouns"

9 words

The catalyst for a year & a half of questioning

Gender labels that felt too broad

Hours scrolling webpages filled with microlabels

Hoping the specificity would fit better

A time filled with confusion

Feeling fake because most trans people seem to know by now

If they know by now,

Maybe it's all in my head

Maybe I'm making something out of nothing

She/they, they/she, they/them

Genderfluid (Non-binary, genderqueer, agender)

All seemed to half fit

So why was nothing entirely right

I tried to accept all the reassurances

"You don't need to rush"

"You don't need to find just one label that fits"

But some uncontrollable part of me still needed the answer

Would I ever find it?

A trans cosplayer led me to some of my favourite people

Who just had to live on the other side of the world

As they became the first people who tried my new name & pronouns

A slow shift in the right direction

A school teacher led me to being at OA

Which led me to meet the first trans adult I've ever known

More than in passing

Coming out

Led to me sitting wrapped in their non-binary flag



And finally,
Finally
The questions stopped
And I was left only with a deep sense of relief & understanding

