

## Short Story Plan (Title: Being Charlotte)

- Start: Charlotte is eight years old, being evaluated by a psychologist.
- She is diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome and ADD
- But she is a bit too young, so this doesn't really sink in.
  
- Three years later: Charlotte is eleven years old, doing entrance exams for secondary school
- She has to do her exams in a separate classroom
- She is teased by the others for having autism
- She tries to talk to her classmates in the playground but they all keep taunting her or ignoring her except her best friend, Megan.
- Charlotte begins to understand what having autism and ADD means
  
- Three years later:
- Charlotte is 14 and in secondary school
- She suffers from anxiety and is socially isolated but joins a kayaking club and makes friends - kayaking becomes a hobby and a special interest
- Realised that there are lots of other children just like her
- Starts, little by little, to accept herself for who she is
  
- Two years later:
- Charlotte is 16, more comfortable in herself
- She joins the drama club in school and they rehearse for a school play
- while she is not close friends with many of her classmates, she is on friendly terms with most of them and
- doesn't let any of the snide remarks affect her self-confidence - she recognised that she can either be her own best friend or her own worst enemy.
  
- Two years later:
- Charlotte is 18, has just been accepted into university to study drama.
- She has a small group of close friends who like her and accept her for who she is, and she is happy.
- She knows that it is ok to be different, that it is impossible for anyone to always know what is the right thing to say or the right way to act in any given situation, and is not so hard on herself when she makes mistakes.