

## Explain

“I never had a crush on you,” I tell her  
And she says “No, no, I did not think you did”  
Yet she turns away to change her shirt  
When we have changed in front of each other for years  
“I never meant to disappoint you,” I tell them  
And they say “No, no, you have not disappointed us”  
Yet they look at me with a shame in their eyes  
When they looked at me with love and pride for decades  
I never wanted to have to explain myself  
And everyone says “No, no, you do not have to explain anything”  
Yet every time I arrive with my girlfriend  
They ask me   when I knew I liked girls  
                  when I knew I was gay  
                  when I knew I was different

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That is all I am allowed to do.