Sex Talks to Girls

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Cone

Harper often told jokes about people who were physically or mentally disabled. One of his favorites was the one about “the retarded boy” who was handed an ice cream cone and smashed it gleefully into his forehead instead of putting it up to his mouth.

Whenever we’d see a challenged child in a park or walking along with his parents, or waiting for a hotdog at a hotdog stand, Harper would make a gurgling sound in the back of his throat as if he were having trouble holding something in, and as soon as we were almost but not quite far enough away, he’d literally explode with laughter. Tears would run down his face and he’d look at me, helplessly.