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| **Dialogue** | **Comments** | **Notes** |
| *Scene: Mark sitting on couch watching TV in the loungeroom. Tracy walks in.*Tracy: Hi Mark. |  |  |
| Mark: Hi. |  |  |
| Tracy: How was your night last night? |  |  |
| Mark: Fine, I guess. |  |  |
| Tracy: What have you been up to so far this morning? |  |  |

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| **Dialogue** | **Comments** | **Notes** |
| *Mark starts crying.*Mark: I’ve been watching television. | Emotional lability or pathological laughing and crying (PLC, also called pseudobulbar affect) can occur with some forms of brain injury. It can be very unsettling, often more for the parent/carer than for the person with brain injury. |  |
| Tracy: What have you been watching? |  |  |
| Mark: The Today Show. I love Karl. |  |  |
| Tracy: Karl’s alright I suppose. |  |  |

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| **Dialogue** | **Comments** | **Notes** |
| Tracy: What will we do today?*Mark stops crying and turns to the television. He starts to laugh.* | It is often best managed in a low-key way, for example by distraction, as it can pass quickly. |  |
| Mark: I need to go to the shops. |  |  |
| Tracy: Ok, but what for?  |  |  |
| *Mark still laughing.*Mark: I want to get a new cord for my computer. |  |  |

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| **Dialogue** | **Comments** | **Notes** |
| Tracy: Okay, we can do that this morning. |  |  |
| *Mark not laughing anymore.*Mark: Can we go to the Apple store? | It is important to still tune into the person’s communication and try to address their wants/needs, without getting to waylaid by the emotional changes. |  |
| Tracy: Sure. |  |  |
| Tracy: Have you had any breakfast yet? |  |  |
| Mark: No, not yet. |  |  |

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| **Dialogue** | **Comments** | **Notes** |
| Tracy: Well, you’ll need to have some breakfast before we go to the store. How about some cereal? |  |  |
| *Mark starts crying.*Mark: Yes…ok. Thank you. | There are a variety of psychological and pharmacological treatments for PLC. Discuss with brain injury physician or psychiatrist. |  |
| Tracy: It’s fine Mark. I’ll get it for you now.  |  |  |
| *Tracy returns to the loungeroom where Mark is still watching TV. She hands Mark the cereal.**Mark’s facial expressions change as he eats the cereal and watches television.*  |  |  |
| Tracy: Had enough?*Mark nods and passes the bowl to Tracy. He sits forward and watches her leave. Mark sighs. He laughs to himself. Scene ends.* |  |  |