



## PRINCESSNAPPED,

-SHE/HER  
-S.E.E. KNOWING  
-DEAF PERSON

ALL OF THIS ZINE IS FROM MY PERSONAL  
EXPERIENCES, AND I'M  
THE ONLY AUTHOR AND WRITER AND ARTIST,  
AND I'M NOT AN EXPERT AT STUFF AT ALL,  
BUT

THIS SHOULD STILL BE AN FAIRLY  
GOOD DEBRIEFING SORT OF!

\*WARNING: I TALK A LOT ABOUT  
MYSELF AND MY EXPERIENCES.

YOU MIGHT ALREADY BE WONDERING,  
"WHAT'S SEE?"  
WHY IS IT LISTED AS "YOU'RE KNOWING"?

WHY NOT ASL? OR JUST SIGN LANGUAGE?

S.E.E

SiGN EXACT English

A.S.L

American SiGN Language

A.S.L. AND S.E.E. ARE TWO DIFFERENT SIGN  
LANGUAGES, BOTH TAUGHT HERE IN THE U.S.A-  
AND BOTH HAVE PROS AND CONS.

A.S.L. HAS LESS SIGNS THAN S.E.E. DOES,  
BUT IT ORDERS THINGS DIFFERENTLY THAN  
ENGLISH DOES AND ALSO LACKS SOME WORDS (TO, ETC)  
SO IT CAN MAKE THINGS MORE DIFFICULT  
FOR DEAF/HOH KIDS TO LEARN HOW  
TO READ.

S.E.E. HAS MORE SIGNS SO IT'S MORE  
DIFFICULT FOR OLDER PEOPLE TO LEARN,  
AND IT CAN SOMETIMES FEEL LIKE IT'S  
NOT UNIQUE AS A LANGUAGE  
BECAUSE IT'S BASICALLY "ENGLISH" BUT SIGNED.



# SIGN LANGUAGE: A PRIMER

THIS IS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE I KNOW SEE AND NOT ASL.

I HAVE A HARDER TIME UNDERSTANDING ASL AS SUCH;  
I USE SOMETHING CALLED "PIDGIN" WHEN TALKING TO  
PEOPLE WHO KNOW ASL;  
BUT THE FACT IS THAT PEOPLE MOSTLY LARGELY KNOW  
ASL-

AND UNFORTUNATELY,  
IT'S ALSO PRETTY IRRITATING IN A  
LOT OF OTHER WAYS. I'VE TALKED ABOUT  
THEM A TON ON MY TWITTER AND IN  
STREAMS I HOST, BUT I'M GOING TO COMPILE  
THEM HERE AS WELL.



FIRST OFF, THERE'S A SUPER BIG FOCUS ON ASL;  
I'M SURE IF YOU'VE EVER HAD  
INTEREST IN SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES AT ALL  
THAT ASL WAS THE ONLY ONE AVAILABLE.

A LARGE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE I TALK TO  
OR HAVE TALKED TO  
HAVE THIS IMPRESSION THAT IT'S THE ONLY  
SIGN LANGUAGE IN THE USA, WHICH UH...  
SHOULD TELL YOU A LOT ABOUT THAT.

SO, PEOPLE WHO KNOW SEE ARE ALREADY KIND OF  
AT AN DISADVANTAGE, BECAUSE EVERYTHING-  
AND I DO MEAN EVERYTHING-  
IS ASL-FOCUSED, SO THERE'S:

- NO INTERPRETERS;
- ANY SIGN LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN ANYTHING IS ASL;
- ASL IS THE ONLY SIGN TAUGHT ANYWHERE;
- NO BODY KNOWS ABOUT IT AND OFTEN PUSH ASL
- PEOPLE WHO KNOW SEE AREN'T GOING TO KNOW ASL

SO INTERPRETERS AND WHATNOT AREN'T GOING TO  
WORK BECAUSE THEY'RE ALL ASL  
-THERE'S NO INTEREST IN SEE

UNFORTUNATELY, THAT'S NOT WHERE THE PROBLEMS  
END. EVEN WITHIN THE DEAF COMMUNITY\*,

THERE'S NOT MUCH SEE, AND OFTENTIMES  
THE RESPONSE WHEN I BEMOAN LACK OF SEE  
INTERPRETERS  
IS "JUST LEARN ASL!", BUT IT'S NOT THAT EASY.

THAT BESIDE, MY MOTHER MADE THE DELIBERATE  
CHOICE TO TEACH ME SEE,  
BECAUSE SHE WANTED ME TO BE ABLE TO READ  
EASILY, BECAUSE THAT WAS IMPORTANT TO  
HER- AND I'M NOT GOING TO SAY SHE'S WRONG.

BUT ALL OF THIS ALSO PLAYS PRETTY SEVERELY  
INTO MY IMPOSTER SYNDROME.

I ALREADY FEEL LIKE A "FAKE" DEAF PERSON,

(IRONIC, GIVEN I'M MORE DEAF THAN MOST  
DEAF PEOPLE I KNOW! FUN FACTS!)

AND NOT KNOWING ASL OR HAVING  
TO ASK THEM TO SLOW DOWN, OR ASK FOR  
AN TRANSLATION, MAKES THAT FLARE UP BADLY.

WORST YET IS THAT I'VE EXPERIENCED AN  
DEARTH OF THE DEAF COMMUNITY NOT  
WANTING TO TRANSLATE THEIR OWN ASL  
FOR THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW ASL,

AND YET THEY TRY AND SAY THEY'RE  
TRYING TO BE INCLUSIVE.

IT WASN'T.

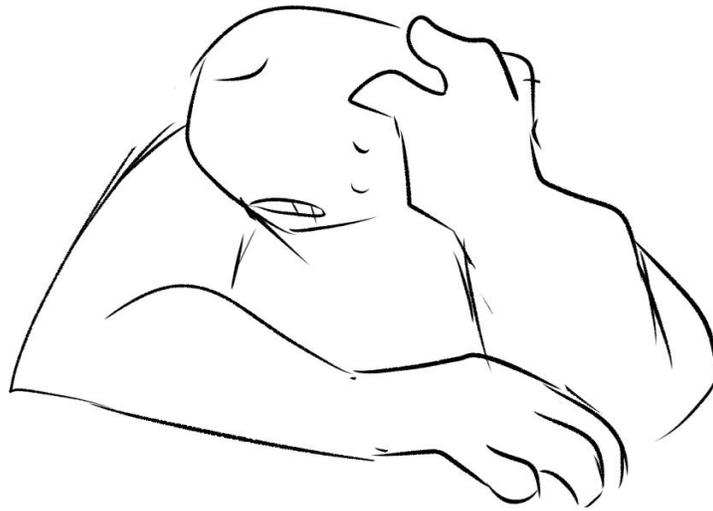


HAHA SEE IS POINTLESS, ASL ALREADY EXISTS!

WHY DON'T YOU JUST LEARN ASL?

SEE WAS MADE UP BY SOME HEARIE!\*

HEARIES WHO RAISE DEAF KIDS ARE BAD PARENTS!



\*IT WASN'T. IT WAS INVENTED BY A DEAF PERSON.

ALL OF THESE ABOVE ARE TRULY, AND  
FREQUENTLY EVEN, SAID BY A LOT OF  
THE DEAF/HOH COMMUNITY\*,

AND IT HONESTLY BREAKS MY HEART TO KNOW THAT  
JUST FOR KNOWING SEE,  
AND MY MOTHER'S DELIBERATE CHOICE TO TRY  
AND GIVE ME A BETTER CHANCE AT  
READING AND WHATNOT,  
I - AND SHE - ARE LUMPED IN AS USELESS,  
OR STUPID, OR BAD PARENTS, OR WHATNOT.

IT'S AN ATTITUDE I RATHER DISLIKE FROM  
THE DEAF COMMUNITY\*, THAT BY NATURE THAT  
HEARING PARENTS ALL SUCK.

# BEING RAISED BY A HEARTIE PARENT

WHEN U WERE A BABY THE GOVERNMENT  
WANTED US TO SEND U OFF

WHAT REALLY?

YA I DUNN WHY.  
BUT WE DIDNT WANT TO,  
WE LOVED YOU.



I WAS, FRANKLY, ONE OF THE "LUCKY"  
DEAF KIDS.

THE ABOVE CONVERSATION IS  
ONE THAT I ACTUALLY, LEGITIMATELY,  
HAD WITH MY (LATE) FATHER

WHEN I WAS ABOUT TEN.

BUT A HUGE AMOUNT OF HEARING PARENTS DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT THEIR KIDS SO MUCH- A LOT STILL DO! AND A LOT TRY THEIR BEST!-

BUT THERE'S DEFINITELY KIND OF A REASON THE DEAF COMMUNITY\* DISLIKES HEARING PEOPLE BY DEFAULT.

THE THING IS, A LOT OF DEAF KIDS GET A LOT OF THE TREATMENT IN THE FOLLOWING LIST, NOT ALL OF IT, OR EVEN MOST OF IT, BUT SEVERAL ITEMS ON THE LIST AT LEAST.

- \*FORCED TO LEARN HOW TO SPEAK ORALLY;
- \*FORCED TO LEARN HOW TO READ LIPS;
- \*FORCED NOT TO LEARN SIGN LANGUAGE;
- \*IGNORED BY THEIR PARENTS;
- \*NOT INCLUDED IN ANYTHING THAT GOES ON (FAMILY ONGOINGS, ETC);
- \*SENT OFF TO AN SCHOOL SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH
  - \*SEVERELY BULLIED;
  - \*THOUGHT OF AS, OR CALLED, STUPID;
- \*FORCING THE COCHLEAR IMPLANT ON THEIR KIDS WITHOUT CONSENT (NO MATTER THE AGE)

HOWEVER, THAT SAID, I THINK THE DEAF COMMUNITY NEEDS TO BE MUCH MORE OPEN AND WILLING TO WORK WITH HEARING PARENTS.

\*WHY DO YOU KEEP BRINGING UP DEAF/HOH COMMUNITY?

WHEN I WAS YOUNGER (ABOUT 12, BEFORE MY FATHER DIED),

BOTH MY PARENTS CAME TOGETHER TO TALK WITH ME BECAUSE THEY WERE ASKING ME IF I WANTED THE COCHLEAR IMPLANT.

I SAID NO, AND THEY UNDERSTOOD.

TO THIS DATE (OVER A DECADE LATER) THEY HAVE NEVER, EVER, BOUGHT IT UP AGAIN OR ASKED AGAIN.

BUT IN THIS SAME CONVERSATION, THEY ALSO TALKED ABOUT HOW THEY HAD TRIED TO REACH OUT AND GET SOME ADVICE, AND HELP, WITH RAISING ME AS A DEAF CHILD.

AND THEY SAID THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH THE DEAF COMMUNITY HAD BEEN PRETTY BAD, PRETTY INSULAR; THAT THEY KIND OF GOT THE VIBE THAT "DEAF PEOPLE SEEM TO HATE HEARING PEOPLE JUST FOR HEARING, AND THINK THEY'RE BAD, ESPECIALLY HEARING PARENTS."

AND, HONESTLY, UNTIL LATE LAST YEAR - 2018 - I DIDN'T KNOW IF THAT WAS TRUE, BUT NOW?

IT HONESTLY PAINS ME TO SAY, BUT I SEE WHAT MY PARENTS MEANT.

THE COMMUNITY NEEDS A LOT OF WORK.

# Q&A SECTION



BUT LIFE IS HARD FOR DEAF/HOH  
PEOPLE, RIGHT?

WOULDN'T FIXING IT  
MAKE IT EASIER?

\*("FIXING" IT HERE MEANING  
FIXING IT SO THEY CAN HEAR)

LIFE ISN'T HARD BECAUSE OF BEING DEAF;  
THAT'S AN MISTAKEN IMPRESSION

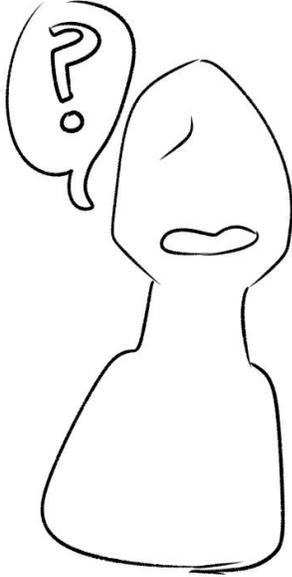
IT'S HARD BECAUSE OF LACK OF ACCOMMODATIONS  
FROM OTHER PEOPLE (MOSTLY HEARING)

MOST PEOPLE, WHEN ENCOUNTERED WITH  
DEAF/HOH (OR OTHER DISABILITIES)  
WONDER WHY THEY HAVE TO  
ACCOMMODATE THAT PERSON,  
RATHER THAN THAT PERSON  
"FIXING THEMSELVES"



LIFE IS HARD AS A DEAF INDIVIDUAL, BUT NOT BECAUSE OF  
**\*BEING DEAF\*.**

IT'S HARD BECAUSE OF OTHER PEOPLE NOT  
ACCOMMODATING US ENOUGH, OR THINKING, SOMEHOW,  
THAT "WE" SHOULD ACCOMMODATE THEM INSTEAD  
(OFTEN BY JUST NOT BEING INCLUDED).

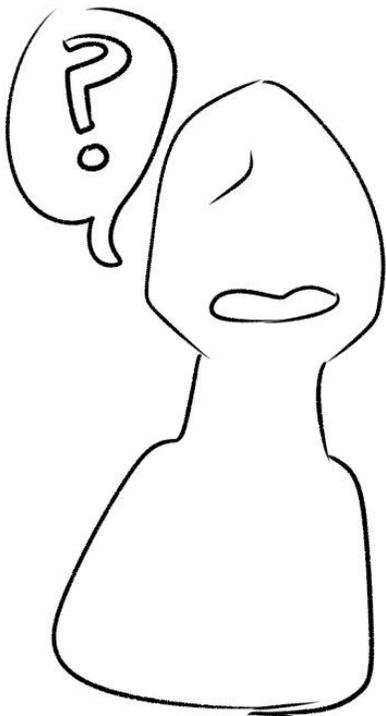


YOU HAVE A BIT OF AN FOCUS ON  
"HEARING PEOPLE WANTING TO BE  
ACCOMMODATED, RATHER THAN  
"ACCOMMDATING THE DEAF";  
WHY'S THAT?

MOST DEAF/HOH KIDS WHO ARE RAISED  
TO SPEAK ORAL OR LIP READ,  
ARE TAUGHT TO DO SO FOR  
CONVINENCE FOR THE PARENTS  
SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO LEARN  
HOW TO SIGN; BECAUSE  
"IT'S HARD" OR ANNOYING

THAT'S JUST ONE EXAMPLE

ANOTHER EXAMPLE IS SUBTITLES.



DO PEOPLE REALLY HAVE  
ISSUES WITH SUBTITLES?

I LIKE THEM!

YEAH; SUBTITLES OFTEN GET CALLED "DUMB" AND HONESTLY, A BIG PET PEEVE OF MINE IS RATHER INFAMOUS:

YOUTUBE'S AUTO SUBTITLES.

PEOPLE RIP ON HOW BAD IT IS, AND USE IT TO MAKE JOKES AND SUCH RATHER THAN WORKING TO IMPROVE IT OR POINTING IT OUT AS "WOW THIS IS NOT HELPFUL"



\*A LOT OF PEOPLE SAY SUBTITLES "OBSTRUCT" THEM FROM ENJOYING A MOVIE



OKAY, WHAT ABOUT THEATERS? THEY'RE REQUIRED BY LAW TO DO STUFF LIKE THAT, RIGHT?

SURE, BUT THEY'RE ACTUALLY RATHER BAD AT KEEPING IT UP.

-THE CAPTIVIEW MACHINE (WHAT WE DEAFIES TEND TO SEE IN RESPONSE TO US COMPLAINING ABOUT THEATERS AS AN DEFENSE) IS PRETTY BAD, AS AN EXAMPLE;

AND THE SERVICE'S PRETTY HORRID ABOUT DEAF/HOH





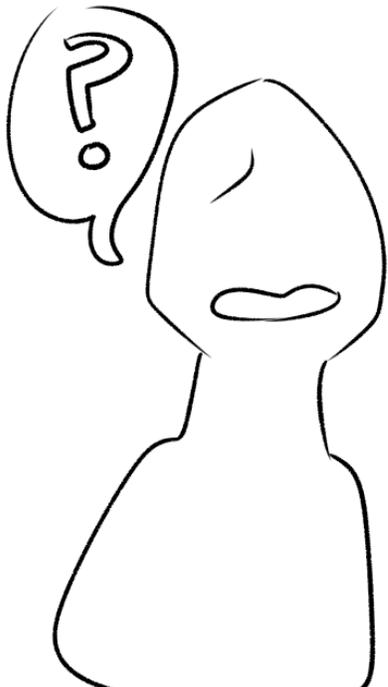
CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS CAPTIVIEW, THEN?

HOW'S IT NOT AS HELPFUL AS PEOPLE ARE THINKING?

That thing.



- \*CAPTIVIEW:
- HARD TO GET SET UP;
- OFTEN UPKEPT BADLY;
- HOOKED UP TO WRONG MOVIE IF IT ACTUALLY WORKS;
- VERY UNWIELDY;
- WORRY ABOUT IT OBSTRUCTING HEARIES' VIEWS
- HAVE TO GET IT POSITIONED ONE WAY OR YOU CAN'T READ IT AT ALL
- PLUGS INTO CUP HOLDER



WHAT'S SOMETHING IN THEATRES THAT WORKS FOR YOU, RATHER THAN CAPTIVIEWS?

THERE'S TWO THINGS I'M  
RATHER FOND OF THAT WAY!

THE FIRST IS A KIND OF STRIP OF  
PLASTIC ON A POLE KINDA LIKE  
A FLAG; IT REFLECTS  
SUBTITLES FROM THE PROJECTOR  
IN THE BACK OF THE THEATER ROOM

THE SECOND IS JUST SUBTITLES  
ON TH MOVIES THEMSELVES!\*

~~\*-THERE-ARE-THEATERS-THAT DO THIS, BUT-THEY'RE VERY~~  
SPECIFIC SHOW TIMES RATHER THAN 24/7 LIKE HEARIES GET.



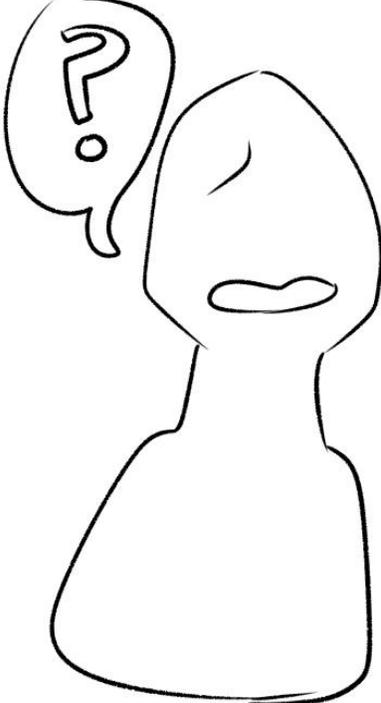
ACCESSIBILITY FOR DEAF/HOH PEOPLE IS DIFFICULT  
EVEN IN AN THEATER SETTING; LIKE I MENTIONED  
ABOVE, THE THEATERS THAT DO SUBTITLES  
ARE ONLY AT SPECIFIC OPEN TIMES  
RATHER THAN 24/7 FOR EVERY DEAF PERSON.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

IT MEANS THAT, IF I WANT TO CATCH A  
MOVIE WITH SUBTITLES,

I HAVE TO HOPE IT'S AT A TIME I CAN MAKE IT,  
BECAUSE THEY HAVE VERY SPECIFIC TIMES AND  
ONLY RARELY, WHEREAS OFTEN FOR HEARIES,  
THEIR MOVIES ARE PLAYING 24/7 BACK TO BACK  
WITHOUT SUBTITLES

IT'S NOT VERY FAIR TO FORCE DEAF/HOH  
PEOPLE TO HAVE TO HAVE A UNWIELDY  
CONTRAPTION (CAPTIVIEW)  
OR TO HAVE TO GO IN AT AN  
VERY SPECIFIC TIME THAT LIKELY WON'T EVEN  
LINE UP, JUST TO ENJOY AN MOVIE.

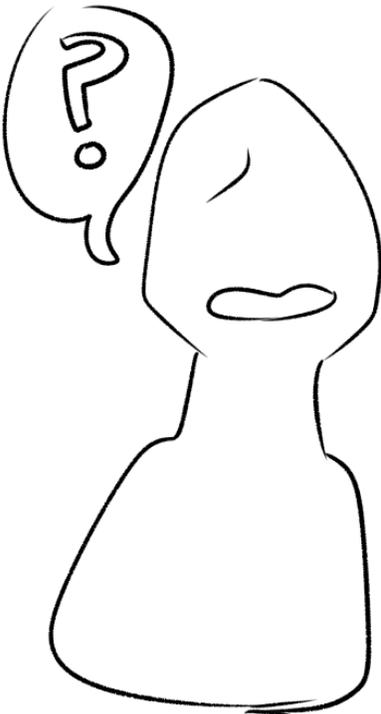


WHY SHOULDN'T ALL DEAF/HOH GET  
THE COCHLEAR IMPLANT OR  
WHATEVER IT IS CALLED?  
  
WOULDN'T IT MAKE LIFE EASIER?

WHY SHOULDN'T ALL HEARING PEOPLE  
BECOME DEAF?  
  
-THE ANSWER IS TRICKY;  
IT'S MOSTLY AN ISSUE OF CONSENT AND  
PRESSURING, AS WELL AS EXTREME  
ABLEISM  
  
(DEAF/HOH AND OTHER DISABLED  
PEOPLE AREN'T IN NEED OF  
FIXING)



\*THIS IDEA OF "FIXING THINGS" IS VERY HARMFUL.  
WE'RE NOT BROKEN. WE AREN'T MISSING THINGS EITHER.  
  
WE NEVER \*HAD\* THAT THING IN THE FIRST PLACE,  
SO PLEASE JUST DON'T CALL IT  
"BUT YOU'RE MISSING THIS".



IS IT OKAY TO TELL MY DEAF/HOH FRIENDS WHEN I SEE/WATCH THINGS THAT HAVE AN DEAF/HOH CHARACTER IN THEM

(EVEN IF THEY'RE NOT ACTUALLY AN DEAF/HOH PERSON ACTING THEM)?

ABSOLUTELY! AT LEAST, I, PERSONALLY, LOVE IT! IT MAKES Y'ALL THINK OF ME!

THE ISSUE JUST ARISES WHEN IT LEADS UP INTO OTHER QUESTIONS, LIKE "OH NO IS DEAF LIFE REALLY THAT HARD"

OR "OH NOOO I'M SO SORRY," STUFF LIKE THAT.

\*IT'S ALSO BAD THEY'RE NOT ACTUALLY HOH/DEAF PLAYING AN HOH/DEAF PERSON, BUT EHHH I'M NOT GETTING INTO THAT.



## \*DO

- ASK IF THEY WOULD LIKE SOUND DESCRIBED FOR SOMETHING THEY'RE WATCHING AT PRESENT; RESPECT IF NO
- ASK FIRST BEFORE TRYING TO HELP;
- FIND SUBTITLE AND TRANSCRIPT PROJECTS (SUCH AS THESE FOR PODCASTS) AND HELP WITH THEM;
- LISTEN TO DEAF/HOH PEOPLE WHEN THEY TALK OF PROBLEMS

## \*DON'T

- ASK WHY THEY DON'T WANT TO HEAR;
- TELL THEM THEY'RE MISSING OUT;
- SAY SUBTITLES ARE DUMB BECAUSE THEY "INCONVIENCE" YOU;
- ASK ABOUT THAT "HEAD VOICE"\*

\*THE HEAD VOICE IS WHAT YOU HEAR WHEN READING;  
A LOT OF DEAF/HOH PEOPLE GET ASKED WHAT THEY "HEAR" WHEN THEY READ  
(SOME DON'T MIND THIS BEING ASKED)

COMMON THINGS WE GET ASKED A LOT:  
(PLEASE DON'T SAY THESE OR ASK THEM)  
(IT'S TIRING)

"WHY DON'T YOU WANT TO HEAR?"

"DOES THAT [BULLYING OR SUCH] REALLY HAPPEN?"

"AWW, SO SAD..."

"I'M SO SORRY YOU'RE DEAF!"

"WOW, ARE YOU REALLY DEAF?"

"WHAT CAN YOU HEAR?"

"DO YOU USE HEARING AIDS?"

"CAN YOU READ LIPS?"

AND LIKE, A TON MORE

# FORCING UNFAIR STANDARDS



THIS IS KIND OF A COMPLICATED SUBJECT, AND A LITTLE MORE PERSONAL FOR ME THAN ALL OF THAT ABOVE WAS (IMAGINE!).

A LOT OF DEAF/HOH PEOPLE CAN'T WORK, OR CAN'T GET A JOB,

SOME CAN - AND QUITE A FEW DO, IN FACT - BUT OFTENTIMES, DEAF/HOH PEOPLE HAVE OTHER THINGS THAT MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT, LIKE ANXIETY OR DEPRESSION; DEAF/HOH TEND TO HAVE AN HIGHER CHANCE FOR THESE.

BUT, A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK "YOU DON'T WORK, YOU DON'T EAT," WHICH KIND OF THROWS PEOPLE LIKE US (DISABLED PEOPLE) UNDER THE BUS.

I'VE SEEN IT FAR TOO OFTEN IN THINGS THAT  
HAVE SOME SORT OF ANALOGUE TO  
DISABILITY;

THEY THINK, AS A CHARACTER OR WHATNOT,  
"I'M NOT WORTH ANYTHING IF I CAN'T WORK,"  
"I HAVE TO SHOW I CAN WORK,"  
"JUST BECAUSE I'M DISABLED DOESN'T MEAN I  
CAN'T WORK,"

AND IT HONESTLY KIND OF KILLS MY ENJOYMENT  
OF THAT THING, BECAUSE  
WHY IS YOUR WORTH BEING TIED TO WORKING OR  
NOT?

EVEN ABLE-BODIED PEOPLE'S VALUE AND WORTH  
SHOULDN'T BE TIED TO WORK,  
BUT IT'S MUCH WORSE FOR DISABLED PEOPLE.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO WRITE A STORY WITH AN  
ANALOGUE TO A DISABLED PERSON,  
I PLEASE ASK THAT YOU NOT DO THIS.

PLEASE.

# WHY STOP AT MUTE?

ON THAT NOTE;  
IT'S INTERESTING AND NECESSARY TO NOTE  
THAT MOST (NEARLY ALL, IN FACT)  
CHARACTERS  
THAT YOU SEE THAT KNOW "SIGN LANGUAGE"  
LEAVE IT AT MUTENESS.

HEARING PEOPLE CAN LEARN SIGN LANGUAGE,  
AND SO CAN MUTE PEOPLE! THAT'S GREAT!

BUT I HAVE NEVER, EVER, SEEN IT CONSIDERED,  
OUTSIDE OF MY FRIENDS,  
THAT "HEY, IF THEY CAN SIGN, WHY NOT HAVE  
THEM BE DEAF?"

THERE ARE SO MANY HEADCANONS AND  
CHARACTERS OF COMICS AND SHOWS AND ALL OF  
THAT SORT OF THING WHO ARE MUTE, BUT KNOW  
SIGN LANGUAGE, AND THEY LEAVE IT THERE;

IT'S ACTUALLY KIND OF GOTTEN FRUSTRATING  
BECAUSE NOW WHEN I SEE "SIGN LANGUAGE"  
I'M GOING TO GO "OF COURSE IT'S JUST ANOTHER  
MUTE CHARACTER, NOT REALLY A DEAF  
CHARACTER".

IT'S HONESTLY KIND OF DISHEARTENING TO SEE  
MOST PEOPLE \*NOT\* GO THE EXTRA STEP  
OF JUST MAKING THEIR CHARACTER DEAF.

LIKE, SURE, IT CAN BE HARDER, BUT IT CAN ALSO  
MAKE THINGS MORE INTERESTING.

IT WOULD BE NICE TO SEE MORE DEAF  
CHARACTERS.



## PETS ADJUST!

MY CAT, SHADOW (AT THE TIME OF WRITING THIS), IS KIND OF A WEIRD CAT.

HE WASN'T USED TO A DEAF PERSON BEFORE HE MET ME; BUT HE ADJUSTED QUICKLY.

HOW? WELL, FIRST OF ALL, HE USED TO MEOW A LOT BEFORE APPARENTLY (BEFORE WE REHOMED HIM), BUT NOW HE BARELY MEOWS.

HOW DO I KNOW?

I KNOW BECAUSE HE WAITS UNTIL HE KNOWS I CAN SEE HIM TO MEOW AT ME, AND MY FAMILY ALWAYS ASKS ME "WHAT THE HECK, WHY IS HE MEOWING! HE DOESN'T MEOW!!!"

HE ALSO HAS THIS RATHER CURIOUS HABIT OF HAVING MADE HIS "HEY I WANT SOMETHING" MUCH MORE OBVIOUS THAN MEOWS;

FOR INSTANCE, IF HE WANTS ATTENTION, HE DOESN'T JUST HEADBUTT ME, SINCE I'M USUALLY SITTING AT A DESK.

NO, HE PICKED UP THIS ODD HABIT OF MANAGING TO POKE ME IN SUCH A WAY THAT I THINK IT'S ANOTHER LEGITIMATE PERSON (SUCH AS MY MOTHER) TRYING TO GET MY ATTENTION; HIS PAW POKING ME FEELS EXACTLY LIKE A HAND PATTING OR POKING ME.

IT'S PRETTY DISORIENTING TO LOOK UP AND NOT SEE A PERSON, BUT TO LOOK DOWN AND SEE IT'S JUST HIM WANTING HIS FOOD OR OUT OF THE ROOM!

HE HAS ALSO PICKED UP ON MY FAIRLY UNIQUE "CAT" SOUNDS (AS THEY'RE DUBBED) AND UNDERSTANDS WHAT I WANT FROM THEM TOO.

HE UNDERSTANDS THIS ONE PARTICULAR NOISE I MAKE THAT MEANS "COME HERE, COME HERE". IT'S PRETTY CUTE!

# THE POSTIVITE



MY FRIENDS, THANKFULLY, HAVE BEEN  
RATHER UNDERSTANDING!

SO HAS MY FAMILY!

-MY MOTHER HAS BEEN BETTER  
ABOUT THINGS AS I GOT OLDER;  
WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, SHE DIDN'T  
INCLUDE ME VERY MUCH,  
BUT SHE'S BEEN TRYING A LOT HARDER.

-MY BIG SISTER IS MUCH MORE UNDERSTANDING  
NOW THAT SHE HAS A KID,  
AND NEITHER SHE NOR MY MOTHER MIND  
ME ASKING WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT

-IN MY FRIENDS' STREAMS, THEY TEND TO  
TELL ME WHAT MUSIC OR SUCH IS PLAYING  
IF PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT IT A LOT.  
IT'S QUITE SWEET AND MAKES ME HAPPY.

-RECENTLY THESE DAYS, PEOPLE HAVE  
BEEN MORE THOUGHTFUL ABOUT INCLUDING  
ME WHILE THEY'RE CHATTING ON VOICECHAT  
BY TYPING TO ME AND SUCH.

-MY GRANDMOTHER AND AUNT ROBIN  
TOLD ME QUITE A BIT; THAT  
UNFORTUNATELY  
PEOPLE TEND TO THINK I'M "SLOW" BECAUSE I  
CAN'T HEAR  
(I SPACE OUT A LOT AND LOOK AROUND)

BUT THEY TELL OFF THEM AND THINK THEY'RE  
RUDE AS A RESULT, BLESS THEM

MY FRIENDS ALSO HAVE BEEN  
RATHER GOOD LISTENING TO ME  
AND ENCOURAGING ME TO  
TRY AND HELP THEM LEARN/KNOW BETTER

THEY'VE BEEN VERY OPEN TO LISTENING TO ME  
AND THE SOMEWHAT "UNIQUE" PROBLEMS I  
SOMETIMES FACE

SOME HAVE EVEN ASKED ME FOR ADVICE/IDEAS  
ON HOW TO DO DEAF CHARACTERS, OR TO WORK  
WITH ME,

OR TO TELL ME ABOUT SOMETHING THAT  
REMINDS THEM OF ME BUT WAS DEAF/HOH OR  
MUSIC, OR JUST TO THINK OF ME IN GENERAL  
WHEN IT COMES TO DEAF/HOH THINGS.

IN SHORT, I APPRECIATE EVERY SINGLE ONE  
OF MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY

FOR CONTINUING TO BE SUPPORTIVE

AND FINALLY, A FUN LIL LIST  
OF THINGS THAT'RE KINDA "DEAF" THAT I DO,

IF YOU WANT IDEAS OF HOW TO  
INCORPORATE SOME THINGS LIKE THAT OR SUCH

\*LOOK AROUND A LOT

\*ASK WHAT'S GOING ON A LOT

\*MAKE FACIAL EXPRESSIONS WHEN SIGNING

\*ANIMATEDLY SIGN

\*SOMETIMES HIT YOURSELF WHEN SIGNING, OOPS

\*VERY TEXTURE-BASED (IT'S GOOD TO TOUCH THINGS)

\*VERY LIKELY TO NOTICE VISUAL THINGS OR PATTERNS  
BEFORE OTHER PEOPLE

\*CAN FEEL VIBRATIONS EASIER THAN HEARING PEOPLE

\*TOO MUCH RELIANCE ON FACIAL EXPRESSIONS; CAN OFTEN  
MISREAD, OOPS

\*CLEARLY NOT "PAYING ATTENTION" TO CONVERSATIONS  
BECAUSE... YEAH... CAN'T HEAR....

THAT'S ALL FOLKS

I HOPE YOU ENJOYED READING AND HAVE A NICE  
(INSERT TIME)!