



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.

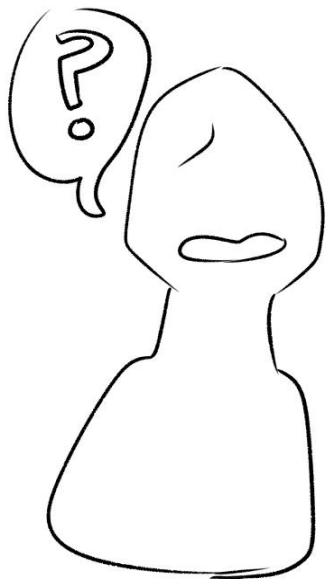
AND THEY SAID THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH THE DEAF COMMUNITY HAD BEEN PRETTY BAD, PRETTY INSULAR; THAT THEY KIND OF GOT THE VIBE THAT "DEAF PEOPLE SEEM TO HATE HEARING PEOPLE JUST FOR HEARING, AND THINK THEY'RE BAD, ESPECIALLY HEARING PARENTS."

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

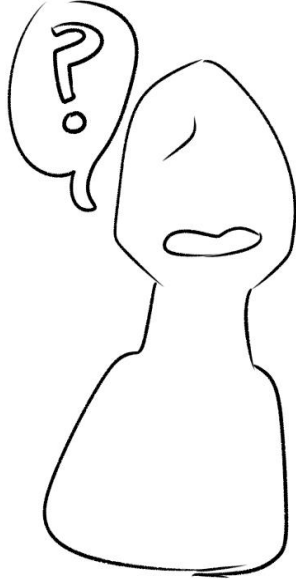
IT'S HARD BECAUSE OF LACK OF ACCOMMODATIONS
FROM OTHER PEOPLE (MOSTLY HEARING)

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).

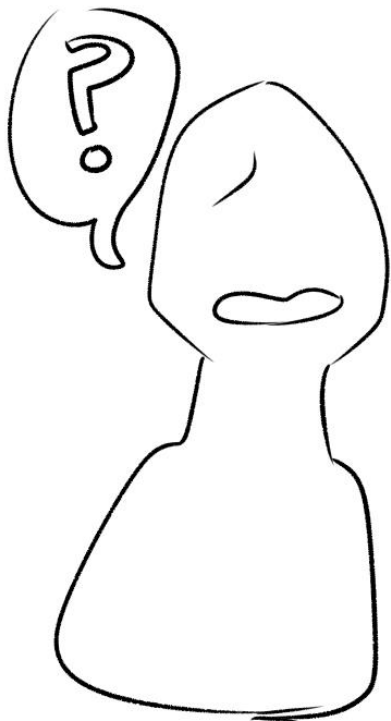


YOU HAVE A BIT OF AN FOCUS ON
"HEARING PEOPLE WANTING TO BE
ACCOMMODATED, RATHER THAN
"ACCOMMODATING THE DEAF";
WHY'S THAT?

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!

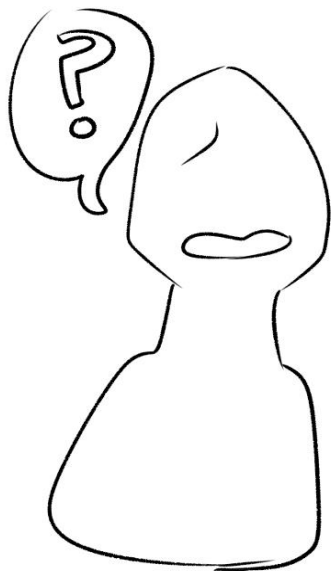
YEAH; SUBTITLES OFTEN GET CALLED
"DUMB" AND HONESTLY, A BIG
PET PEEVE OF MINE IS RATHER INFAMOUS:

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



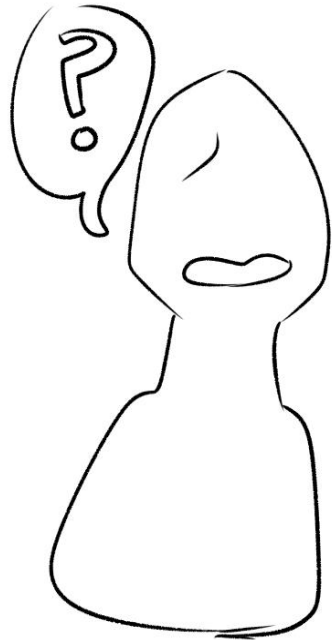
OKAY, WHAT ABOUT THEATERS?
THEY'RE REQUIRED BY LAW TO DO STUFF
LIKE THAT, RIGHT?

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





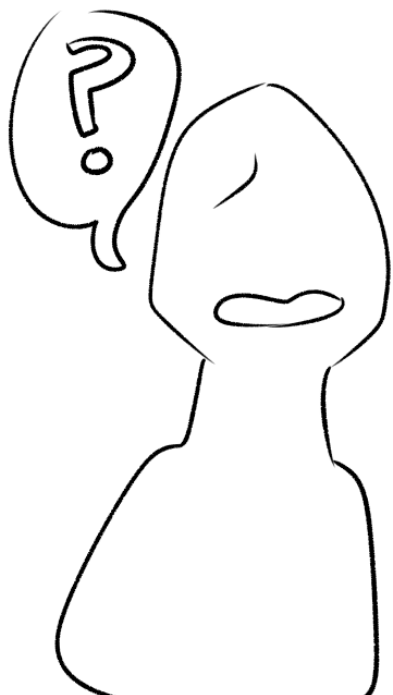
CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT
THIS CAPTIVIEW, THEN?

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)!