

# A Portrait Of The Autist

Dan Bull

I'm awkward, can't talk to anyone  
I fall at the first hurdle, it hurts to get it wrong  
My mind's wired a different way to everyone else  
So I might seem strange, and be left on the shelf begging for help  
placed in a position in which I'm desperate now  
Ashamed of my condition when I'm meant be be proud  
It'd be great to fit in and blend with the crowd  
without a red face, a sense of dread; I'm trembling now  
I like things a certain way, a pre-determined order  
and it disturbs my thoughts if the certain order's changed  
Uncertainty unnerves me, close the curtains over the windows  
It's a curse, Asperger Syndrome

We ought to stick around  
Be autistic and proud  
We ought to stick around  
We ought to stick

I don't notice faces in open places  
my focus phases out and goes to blazes.  
and an overloaded brain is no way to be social and say hello to mates, is it  
?  
It's made me feel alone for ages  
because I know there's no hope to change it  
to most a face is an open page -to me it's closed, the prose erased  
and how am I supposed to behave  
when nobody's taken a moment to show me the way? But it's OK  
I still hope and pray the status quo can change  
and I still scope the skies waiting for blokes in capes  
and I'll fly when I know how I'm supposed to behave  
so won't you take a moment to show me the way

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Autism assisted me in becoming a poet  
Because I feel deeply but I just struggle to show it  
I care for those around me though I don't know how I'm supposed to tell people  
so I wrote it down, prepared my vocal sound  
then shared my opus on open ground  
Those with this syndrome are endowed with a determination to succeed  
That the non-Asperger brain often fails to achieve  
and yet we go off the rails easily, but believe me  
I've seen what we can be when we've got dreams to reach that no-one else can  
and piece by piece the diagnosed'll find the folks to help them  
to aspire to the heights their sights are focused on  
I know it's a long fight but we're the type to go the whole hog

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