

Catalogue

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LIVING LIBRARY

Asexual

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Lesbian

Woman with autism

Asexual

Most people don't know that it exists, others think it can't exist. There must be something terribly wrong with you, if you are not interested in sex. Maybe you have been abused, or maybe there is something wrong with your hormones. But is that true? Read me, and find out what it is like to live in a sexualized society as an asexual person.

Refugee

This living book came to the Netherlands for political reasons. Actually it was not a choice, because Syria was not safe anymore for her and her husband. She is now in the Netherlands for 7 years. In the beginning it was challenging, because they had to find out how everything works over here. Maybe there is sometimes some bureaucracy, but there is no corruption. She works in IT and likes to share her experiences with you. She is also happy to talk about the current situation in Syria.

Psychosis

This book had to deal with certain delusions at young age. This had a big impact on her life. What happened exactly? She is ready to talk about it with you personally. Not only about those moments itself, but also about the effects and how to deal with it. A lot of people think it is the same as schizophrenia, but that is not exactly the case.

Iranian in exile

This book calls herself a Dutchified Iranian. She's not a refugee, but she cannot return to the country of her birth, namely Iran, as she could be arrested there. Becoming Dutch was also quite a struggle. It is not easy to mix two identities and cultures, accepting who you are and who you become. She has now found her way, but it remains a challenge.

Wheelchair user

Because of a car accident in 2019, I have to use a wheelchair in my daily life. Besides the mental challenges it created, I am experiencing some more difficulties. For example going to the toilet in a public space. Quite often it is not even possible. Public transport is also a challenge: sometimes buses don't even stop. I guess the driver is in a hurry then, because it takes some time to assist me. These days I am using my experiences to help others as well. I am happy to talk with you about challenges, but also about what it has brought me.

Lesbian

“When I was 16, I suddenly fell in love with another girl. I did not know what happened to me. Did I feel adoration, out of friendship? I thought there was maybe something wrong with me, because why I had never felt this with men? It did not occur to me that I could be lesbian. I come from a safe environment, but we'd never speak about relationships and homosexuality. When I started to realize it, I said it to my best friends. They said: “We knew it already!”. That is perhaps because I connect to quite a few lesbian cliches. They could have told me earlier, but it was good to hear. My coming out was relatively easy, but that is not the case

for many people. There are still a lot of prejudices. Would you like to know what challenges I still face? I am happy to talk with you.”

Woman with autism

“Because you can’t see it on me, and because often you also can’t notice it on me, many people don’t believe that I have autism. But I do have it. I taught myself how I can hide it for others. That is not always easy though. Would you like to know what it is like, to live as a woman with autism? Do you think I can live a ‘normal’ life with a partner? How do I participate in our society? Come and ask me, I am ready to talk with you.”