Interview with Gaussian_blured

This interview was conducted on March 10, 2022. The person being interviewed requested that I use their Reddit name instead of a pseudonym. <u>u/Gaussian-blured</u> is age 27, and is non-binary/genderfluid. They are autistic.

What is Autism spectrum disorder?

ASD includes conditions that were previously considered separate (autism, Asperger's syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder and an unspecified form of pervasive developmental disorder). ASD is related to brain development that impacts how a person perceives and socializes with others, causing problems in social interaction and communication. The disorder also includes limited and repetitive patterns of behaviour. ASD begins in early childhood and causes problems functioning in society (social settings, school, and work), and can impact how a person forms friendships and romantic relationships. ASD is a lifelong disorder which means it cannot be cured. Intensive, early treatment can make a big difference in people's lives. "Spectrum" is used to indicate the wide range of symptoms and their severity.

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1. What is your disability called?

Gaussian_blured: Autism

2. Have you found any GWA content that includes your disability?

Gaussian_blured: As you wrote in your post, only a few, and mostly SFW.

Follow-up question: Do you wish there were NSFW stories about autistic people? Would you ever post a request for this content?

Gaussian_blured: I do wish there were and I considered posting a request, but I felt too self-conscious to do so. Also, I think it is hard to ask for "an NSFW script/audio for autistic people" in general because all autistic people are not the same on the spectrum. I think a VA/writer could write something about my specific autistic traits, but that wouldn't necessarily make that content fit for all autistic people.

Follow-up question: You are the third autistic person I've "met" through GWA. I think...if people requested content, writers would do it, and that in turn leads to audios. It can be embarrassing to make public requests. I do write private requests sometimes for people with medical conditions or disabilities. I could certainly try to write a script for an autistic listener however I have zero experience writing non-binary content. So...I dunno. That said, I am one writer and there are over 17k people on Script Guild.

And whether or not the script is applicable to all autistic or more tailored today is a creative decision, I think. As long as the writer accurately describes and tags the story, I believe that prevents complaints of, "This story doesn't represent me at all!" Other people

who experience autism differently are free to request their own stories.

- 3. If writers made content about characters with your disability, would you want:
 - A) The speaker is nondisabled, the listener has your disability
 - B) The speaker has your disability, the listener is nondisabled
 - C) The speaker and the listener both have your disability
 - D) I do not want GWA content about my disability
 - E) Other (please explain)

Gaussian_blured: A, B, C are fine.

4. Do you refer to your disability by a shortened or different word? For example, many paraplegics call themselves "para", e.g. "I'm John, I'm a para."

Gaussian_blured: "ASD" (autism spectrum disorder) is often used, also "Asperger's" but the term should probably not be used anymore given Hans Asperger association with nazis...

5. Are there any online resources for learning about your disability, including having sex with your disability, that you recommend for writers?

Gaussian_blured: Sorry, I don't know.

6. If sex for you is different or more difficult than for non-disabled people, why is that? Are there things a new partner might not understand about you at first when it comes to sex?

Gaussian_blured: It is different because of hypersensibilities and things that some people find erotic but are stress-inducing. I am talking only for myself, but for example, eye contact/keeping my eyes open is really difficult. Also, I need to have my partner talk to me regularly during sex or I will just zone out and stop feeling anything. Also, hyperfixations regarding specific sexual acts or kinks are a thing, and as with all hyperfixations, they can be overwhelming, and they can also disappear without warning, leading to incomprehension and frustration.

Follow-up question: When you say, "Also, hyperfixations regarding specific sexual acts or kinks are a thing, and as all hyperfixations, they can be overwhelming, and they can also disappear without warning, leading to incomprehension and frustration," I don't understand. Can you give an example?

Gaussian_blured: For example, learning about a new kink, let's say bondage, can lead to me wanting to do that all the time, or only do that during or instead of sex, and/or having a hard time dealing with a partner who (understandably) wants to do something else. Also, as hyperfixations can pass, bondage would suddenly stop having any effect

on me, frustrating me **and** my partner who thought they had finally found something reliable that I like.

7. Do any sex aids exist to help people with your disability?

Gaussian_blured: I don't know. Probably not.

8. People google very specific questions about disabled people: like: "Can paralyzed people have sex?"

"Can autistics feel love?"

With regards to romance and sex, do people make assumptions about what your life is like and what you can and cannot do in bed?

Gaussian_blured: I think people would probably not imagine autistic people being kinky. Not sure about that though.

Follow-up question: Is there any particular reason you assume that? Do you want people to write about kinky autistics? Do you hope or wish that we can normalize writing about autistics having sex, and also having kinky sex?

Gaussian_blured: I assume that because autistic people often give the impression that they are "shy" or "innocent", but as I said maybe I am wrong to think that's what people assume about autistic people. Also, I do want people to write about autistic people having kinky sex. In my case in fact I am way more comfortable with some kinky activities not

inherently sexual (for example, BDSM stuff) than with actual sex, because there are less "social expectations" (sorry it is hard to explain) than with vanilla sex. I don't know about other autistic people though.

9. What should writers include in order to describe your disability accurately? What is the best way to describe a person like you, in a porn script, ensuring that your disability is **not erased and** the script **is for** people with your disability?

Gaussian_blured: I think fear of eye contact is really a big deal for autistic people, and I know it is important for neurotypical people. I even wrote scripts where the characters were aroused by eye contact, but every time I hear that in an audio it brings me back to that problem that I have.

Follow-up question: Would you enjoy scripts if the writer briefly acknowledged the problem and proposed an alternate position? For example, "Hey, is everything okay? I know you don't like eye contact. Do you want to do it doggy-style instead?"

Gaussian_blured: I'm sorry I cringed really hard at that "doggy-style" example. I think that's something that I would consider rude, I mean it seems like a weird way to say that, it would make me feel like I can only have sex in some specific positions, uhhh... no. I think I would prefer if the speaker said something like "I can blindfold you if it helps you relax during sex," or "I appreciate you trying to make eye contact but

you can close your eyes if it's too much". But definitely acknowledging the issue and being told that it's completely fine would be a great positive representation.

Follow-up comment: Don't be sorry! Thanks for the explanation.

10. What should writers avoid when writing about your disability?

Gaussian_blured: I'm not sure.

11. Tagging is how people find content. For example, for a paraplegic I'd tag it:

[SCI] [paraplegia] [wheelchair] [disabled listener] [interabled relationship]

What tags would you choose for your disability?

Gaussian_blured: In general: [autism], [autistic listener], [autistic speaker]

Then, according to the focus of the script:

[hypersensibility], [hyperfocus], [meltdown], [shutdown], [fear of eye contact]

12. About "person-first language" and "identity-first language", there is a big push in the medical community and schools, and from parents of disabled people, to never say the word "disabled". For example, they tell us to say "he's a man with paralysis" or "she's a woman with autism".

Yet many disabled people say that they do not like this and get annoyed that people treat "disabled" like it's a bad word.

The question is, if we write content for your disability, it needs to be tagged so you can find it. What type of tagging do you prefer?

- A) Person-first like [person with a disability] [person with autism]
- B) Identity-first like [disabled listener] [autistic listener]

Gaussian_blured: I call myself an autistic person, so B for me; [disabled listener] [autistic listener]

13. A common piece of advice from articles about writing for disabled people is, "Ask disabled people what they want, then write that". That leads to a different problem: how does a writer meet disabled people to ask them? Are there any online communities you recommend that welcome questions from non-disabled people?

Gaussian_blured: Sorry I don't know.

14. Please choose a pseudonym to protect your privacy. What shall I call you?

Gaussian_blured: Using my Reddit username is perfectly fine.

15. Optional question: if you want me to include your age (or age range), gender, relationship status, and whether or not you are a parent, provide that information here.

Gaussian_blured: Age 27, gender: non-binary/fluid.

16. Do you have other thoughts you would like to share about this?

Gaussian_blured: I wish there were more content targeted at autistic people that are less focused on comforting the listener and more on incorporating the autistic person's specificities into the romance/sex scene. That being said, I am not good at writing it either, so I understand the lack of content.

Follow-up question: To confirm my understanding, you want content about autistic people, that normalizes sex with autistics, instead of the comfort and reassurance stuff, where the focus might be, "It's okay to have autism, I like you anyway!" type of content. Is that correct?

Gaussian_blured: Yes:) But both are fine:)

Follow-up question: You said, "more on incorporating the autistic person's specificities," so do you mean the story should actively include little things about what sex is like for autistics, like the actual concrete examples you provided earlier? (Hypersensibilities, eye

contact/keeping my eyes open, having your partner talk to you to prevent you from zoning out?)

Gaussian_blured: Yes, that's exactly what I mean!

Continued discussion:

Gaussian_blured: Oh also, I remembered your post about anorgasmia, and I don't know if it has a link to autism but I guess it ties into hypersensibilities/hyposensibilities and medication that autistic people often have to take (antidepressants for example), but I'd say it is (way) more difficult for autistic people to have orgasms. And in most scripts and audios it is assumed that the listener only needs a few touches to have an orgasm, that can be tiring too.

Christina: I'm not sure if there is a link (I don't recall reading anything about it) but I don't go out of my way to read about autism either. There could be. Regardless, many medications reduce/destroy the ability to have an orgasm.

Most content on GWA focuses on the listener's orgasm **and** is very unrealistic: "I'm going to suck your X." 30 seconds later: "Wow, you're cumming!"