The Autism Mantra

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Autism Asperger’s spectrum of disorders

Atypical autism PDD (NOS)

Savant autistic

Idiosyncratic eccentric

More than enough labels

To give me a nervous tic!

Rocking flapping tip toeing

Spinning stimming persevering

Echolalia puzzle mania

OCD insomnia

Methinks the world is affected

With acute paranoia!

Selective reaction

Photographic imitation

Hidden emotion

Musical intonation

Boundless imagination

Not hallucination!

Frontal lobes

Who knows

Amygdyla

Phobia

Take a break or you may

Get dyspepsia!

Mindblindedness

Weak central coherence

Executive dysfunction

Auditory processing

Chaotic theories

Think overstimulation?

Sensory integration

Chelation

Facilitative communication

Medication

Without any of these

Am I doomed to damnation?

Casein free gluten free

Allergy mercury

Music therapy horse therapy

Canine therapy dolphin therapy

Leave those poor animals alone

If you ask me!

Brushing Holding TEACCH squeeze machine

PRT REI marijuana megavitamin

Daily Life ABA Floortime Option

Special education General education

(I) understand you mean well

But do think about my avocation

Social skills training

Behavior modification

Speech modulation

Auditory integration

All are nothing but

Fruits of civilization!

MMR

Trigger

Culture

Disaster

What were you thinking?

Leo Kanner? Hans Asperger?

Also see my strengths

Not only my weaknesses

Leave me alone

If you can’t do that

A curse a blessing

Don’t bemoan!

Autos means self, yeah! sure

Oblivious to your world

(You) think I need a cure

Your line of reasoning’s a tad obscure

I prefer to be me

Enigmatic, but secure!

**Rama Cousik** is a 3rd year Doctoral student in Special Education at IU Bloomington. Rama has worked with children with developmental disabilities for 20 years, 6 of which were with children with autism. Rama is doing a minor in Ethnomusicology. Her interests are in the teacher and in children. Rama is exploring the use of creative and performing arts in teaching children with varied learning styles. Rama believes that all children can learn, if only the teacher knows different ways of teaching them. She has adopted the motto, “Label jars, not people.”