

Sara - Dyslexia

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INT. CINEMA. MOVIE THEATER. DAY

You "wake up" in a movie theater with only the chair you are sitting on and some kind of box next to you. The lights fade off and a projection starts. A person appears on screen. SARA, 19 is looking right towards the camera with a nervous smile. She is swaying a bit. Behind her lies the main hall of The University of Applied Sciences of Sankt Pölten.

SARA

Hello, I'm Sara, nice to meet you!
I'm 19 years old and I'm studying
Digital Design at the FH. It's kind
of a big deal for me because I have
dyslexia. Many people don't realize
this and think that it's just a
minor inconvenience, but it's
actually a learning disability and
can be pretty tough depending on
the person.

She stops for a moment before resuming.

SARA

In my case it has always been hard,
this is not an evident disability
and it can take a lot of time to
detect. I was officially diagnosed
only three years ago, but it
affected my life since I started
learning to read. I couldn't
understand what I read, I could
hardly understand what was often
being told to me and I hated
everything related to grasp new
concepts. However, the worst part
was not understanding what was
wrong with me.

She shrugs.

SARA

Fortunately, I ended up developing
some simple techniques to help me
focus on what I read.

She lifts her arm.

SARA

For example, using a guide.

INTERCUT:

INT. FH. CLASSROOM. DAY

Sara is sitting at a table trying to read a book. She takes a deep breath and follows the text with her finger.

SARA(V.0)

It may seem obvious and dumb, but
staying relaxed and using my finger
or anything else as a reference
while I read can be a huge help.

INT. CINEMA. MOVIE THEATER. DAY

Sara keeps calmly talking from the screen.

SARA

However, there's no magic solution,
and dealing with dyslexia is often
tricky.

She exhales.

SARA

And it does in fact not only affect
your performance in school or work,
but it can disturb your daily life
and mess up your routine.

INTERCUT:

EXT. FH'S BUILDING B. ENTRANCE. DAY

Sara is standing right outside the door to the building B of the university.

SARA(V.0)

Take my first time here, for
example. I had arrived to the
entrance and was looking for
building B.

She looks at a sign and reads what it says.

SARA(V.0)

I found a sign and checked on which
building I was, but it looked all
blurry.

The sign's words are blurry, but end up stabilizing and forming "Building D".

(CONTINUES)

SARA(V.0)
It said I was on the wrong
building, so of course, I went to
the other.

Sara heads to the other building.

SARA(V.0)
Of course, I got it wrong and got
late to my first lecture.

INT. CINEMA. MOVIE THEATER. DAY

Sara exhales and laughs convalescently.

SARA
Still, obviously having dyslexia
does not mean that you must be
miserable or that you won't be able
to express yourself. In my case, I
found a way of expressing my
thoughts in art. Drawing is a great
outlet to say what I may not be
great at saying in other ways;
that's exactly why I'm here right
now.

She smiles and looks straight to camera.

SARA
But enough talk for now. Why don't
you try what it is like? Come on,
put on those glasses next to you
and find out!