



**NONSPEAKING**

**O R**

**NONVERBAL**



NONSPEAKING DOESN'T MEAN I HAVE  
NO IDEAS OR NO WAY TO COMMUNICATE  
THEM. NONSPEAKING DOESN'T MEAN I  
CAN'T LEARN TO READ OR WRITE LIKE  
EVERYONE ELSE. BUT I CAN'T IF YOU  
DON'T TEACH ME HOW. AND CALLING  
ME NONVERBAL IS LIKE SAYING I  
CAN'T LEARN TO READ AND WRITE.

~DJ SAVARESE

@NEUROCLASTIC



I PREFER TO BE CALLED NON-RELIABLY  
SPEAKING. I AM PERFECTLY CAPABLE  
OF THINKING AND MAKING INTELLIGENT  
CHOICES REGARDING MY LIFE IF I HAVE  
THE FACTS TO ANALYZE. HOWEVER, MY  
SPEECH IS NOT ALWAYS RELIABLE, SO I  
HAVE TO SLOW DOWN, THINK ABOUT THE  
PLACEMENT OF MY MOUTH AND MY  
ARTICULATION, AND SPELL OUT A WORD,  
LETTER BY LETTER.

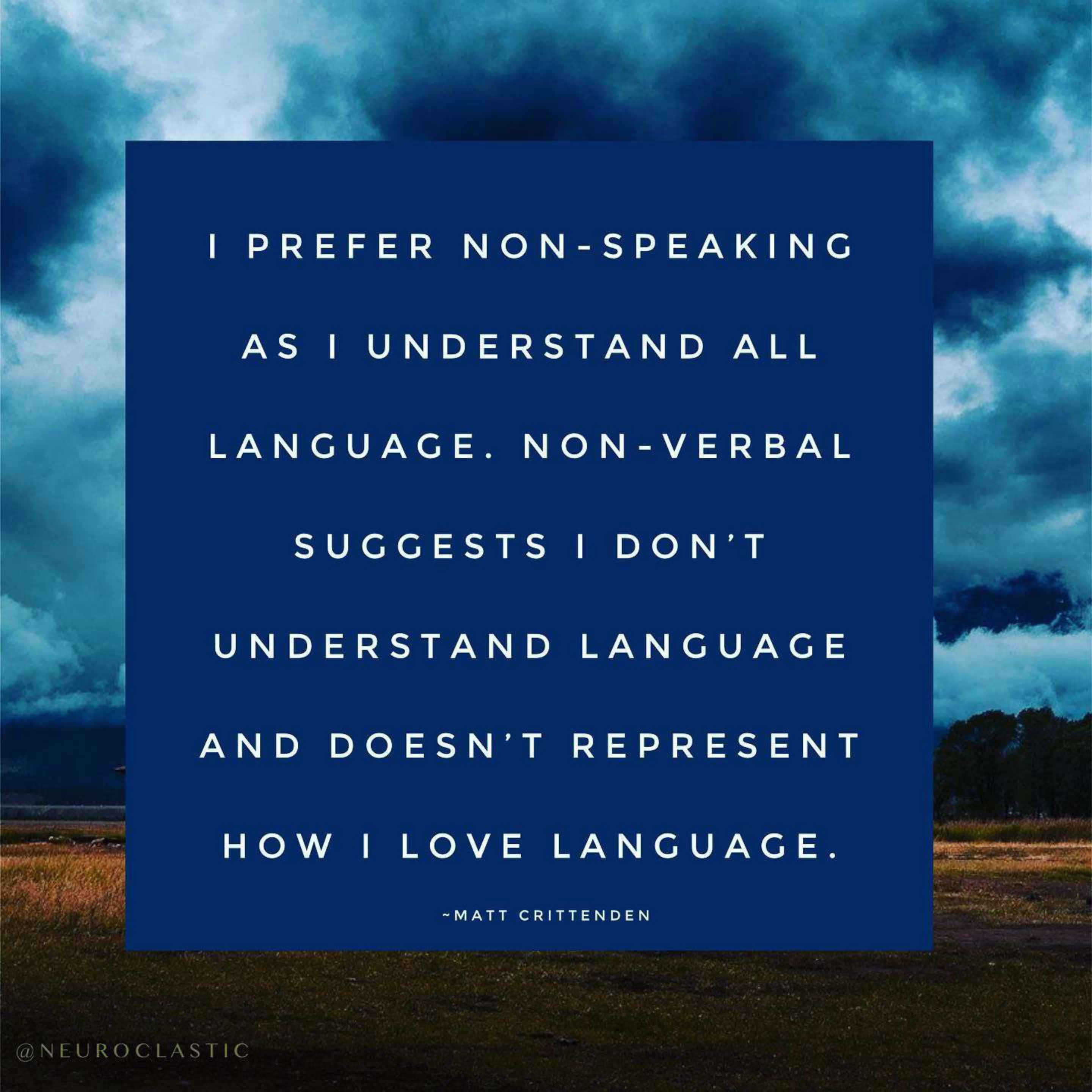
~RISHI JENA



I PREFER NONSPEAKING.  
MUCH OF WHAT COMES  
OUT OF MY MOUTH IS  
UNINTENTIONAL. I AM  
NONSPEAKING BECAUSE  
SPEECH IS NOT HOW  
I COMMUNICATE.

~WYATT DUTTON





I PREFER NON-SPEAKING  
AS I UNDERSTAND ALL  
LANGUAGE. NON-VERBAL  
SUGGESTS I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND LANGUAGE  
AND DOESN'T REPRESENT  
HOW I LOVE LANGUAGE.

~MATT CRITTENDEN





I THINK THAT NON-SPEAKER TELLS  
A MORE ACCURATE STORY ABOUT  
THE PERSON BECAUSE THAT PERSON  
SIMPLY USES A DIFFERENT WAY  
TO COMMUNICATE. OTHER NON-  
SPEAKERS MIGHT THINK DIFFERENTLY.

~MITCHELL ROBINS

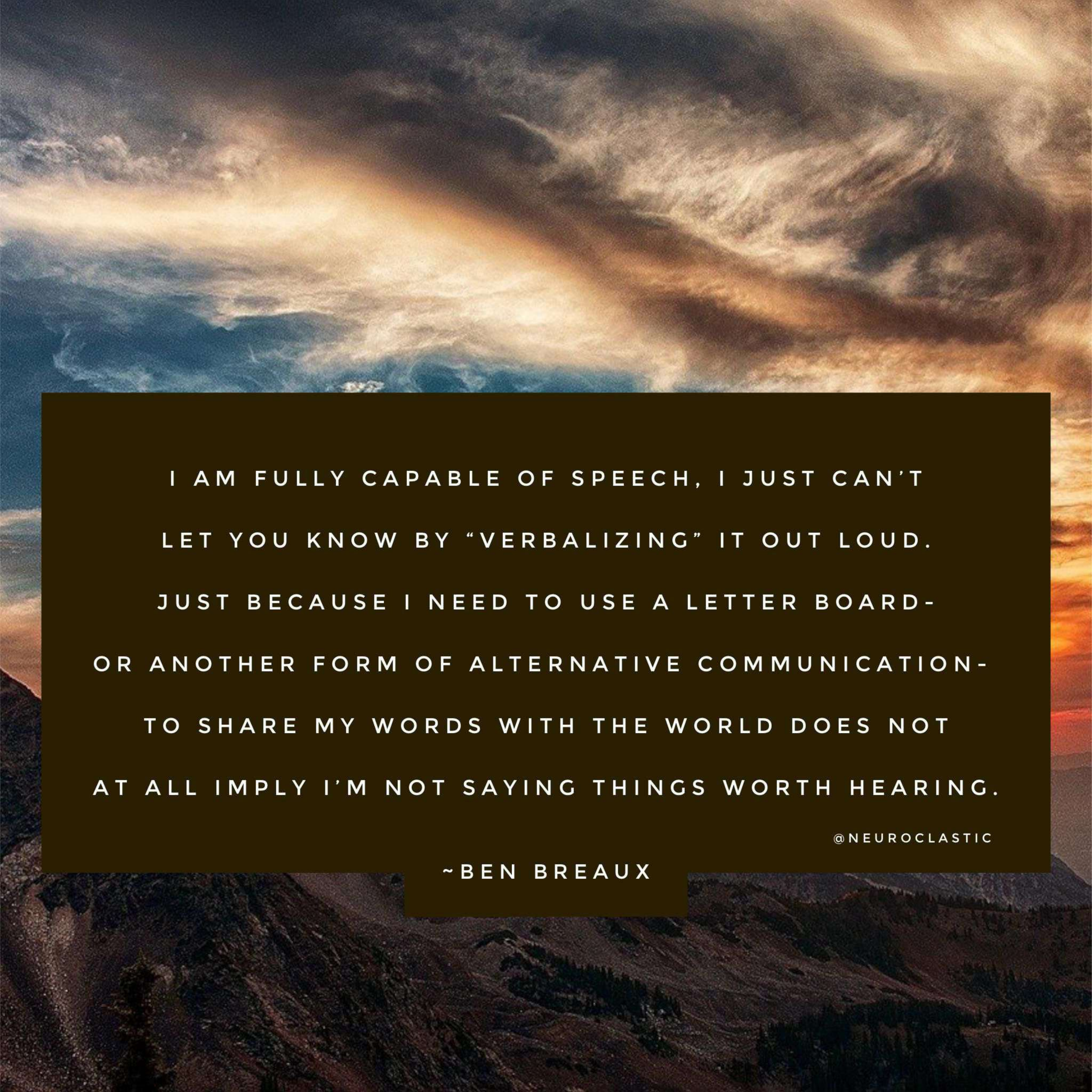


I LIKE TO CALL MYSELF NONSPEAKING  
BECAUSE I CAN COMMUNICATE BY  
SPELLING WORDS INSTEAD OF SPEAKING.  
NONVERBAL IMPLIES I DO NOT UNDERSTAND  
WORDS. HOW CAN I COMMUNICATE  
WITH WORDS IF I AM NONVERBAL?

~PHILIP REYES

@NEUROCLASTIC



A dramatic landscape featuring a sunset sky with vibrant orange, yellow, and blue clouds. Below the sky, a mountain valley is visible, with dark, rocky terrain and patches of green vegetation. The overall scene is captured in a cinematic style, with a focus on the interplay of light and shadow.

I AM FULLY CAPABLE OF SPEECH, I JUST CAN'T  
LET YOU KNOW BY "VERBALIZING" IT OUT LOUD.  
JUST BECAUSE I NEED TO USE A LETTER BOARD-  
OR ANOTHER FORM OF ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION-  
TO SHARE MY WORDS WITH THE WORLD DOES NOT  
AT ALL IMPLY I'M NOT SAYING THINGS WORTH HEARING.

@NEUROCLASTIC

~ BEN BREAU X



NON-VERBAL BRINGS FORTH A SLEW OF  
ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT ME THAT ARE  
ENTIRELY INACCURATE--INCLUDING LACK  
OF UNDERSTANDING LANGUAGE,  
AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR, LACK OF  
EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, AND COGNITIVE  
IMPAIRMENT. I PREFER NON-SPEAKING  
AS IT IS A SHORT DESCRIPTION THAT  
ENCAPSULATES WHO I AM MORE  
ACCURATELY. IT ALSO MAKES PEOPLE  
STOP AND THINK INSTEAD OF RELYING  
ON WHAT THEY KNOW ABOUT ME  
BASED ON WHAT THEY OBSERVE.

~JORDYN PALLETT

@NEUROCLASTIC

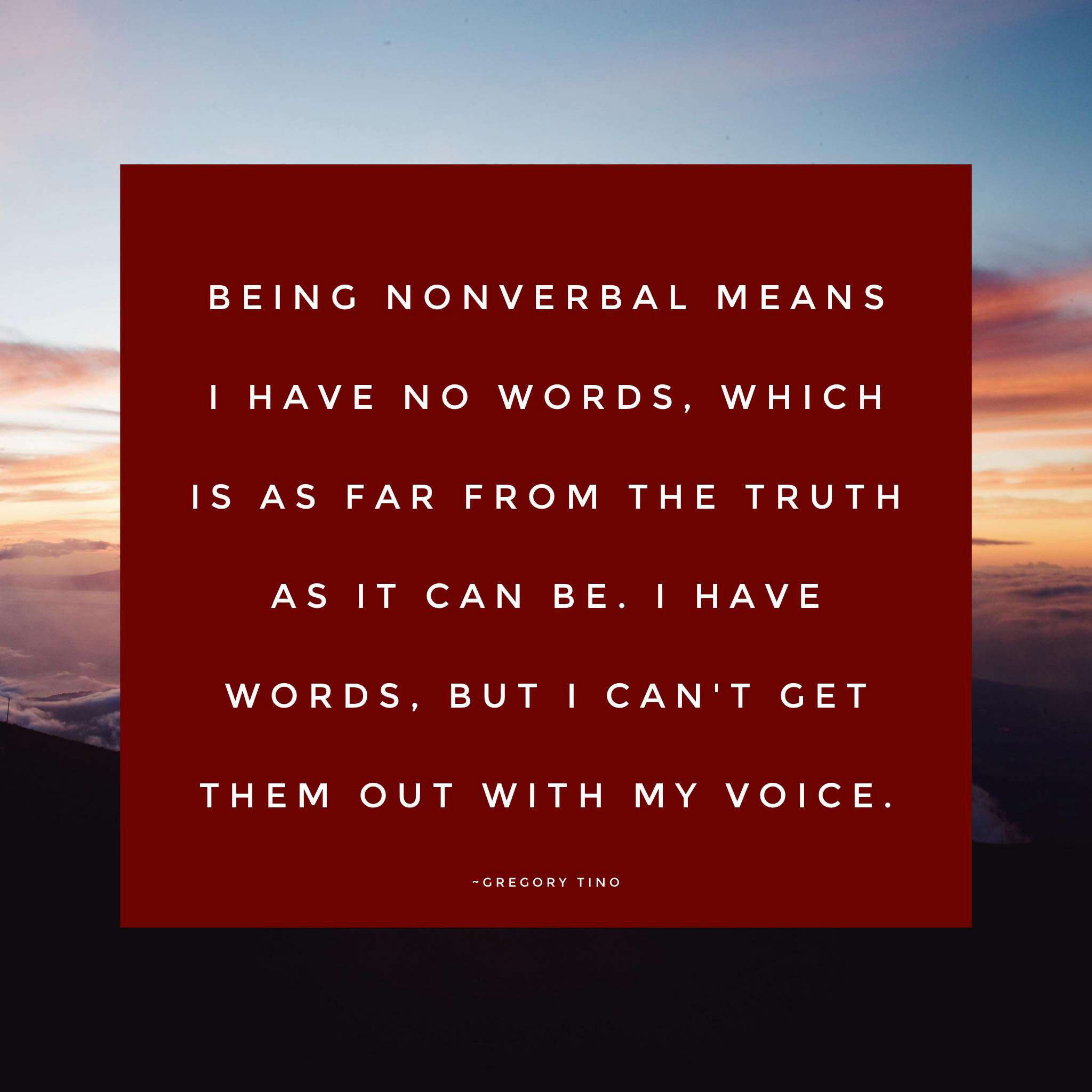


THE TOPIC OF WHAT TO CALL AUTISTICS POWERS  
THE FUTURE MOMENTUM OF OUR LIVES. I HATE  
BEING CALLED NONVERBAL. IT SHUTS US OUT OF  
THE PLACES WE BELONG. IT LOWERS THE PLACES  
WE ARE IN. THE PLACES WE TRY TO GET TO ARE VERY  
LOUD. THEY ARE KEPT FOR THE PEOPLE WITH LOUD  
VOICES. LET US BE NONSPEAKERS. THAT'S THE  
GATEWAY TO WHO WE ARE CAPABLE OF BEING.

~TEJAS RAO SANKAR

@NEUROCLASTIC

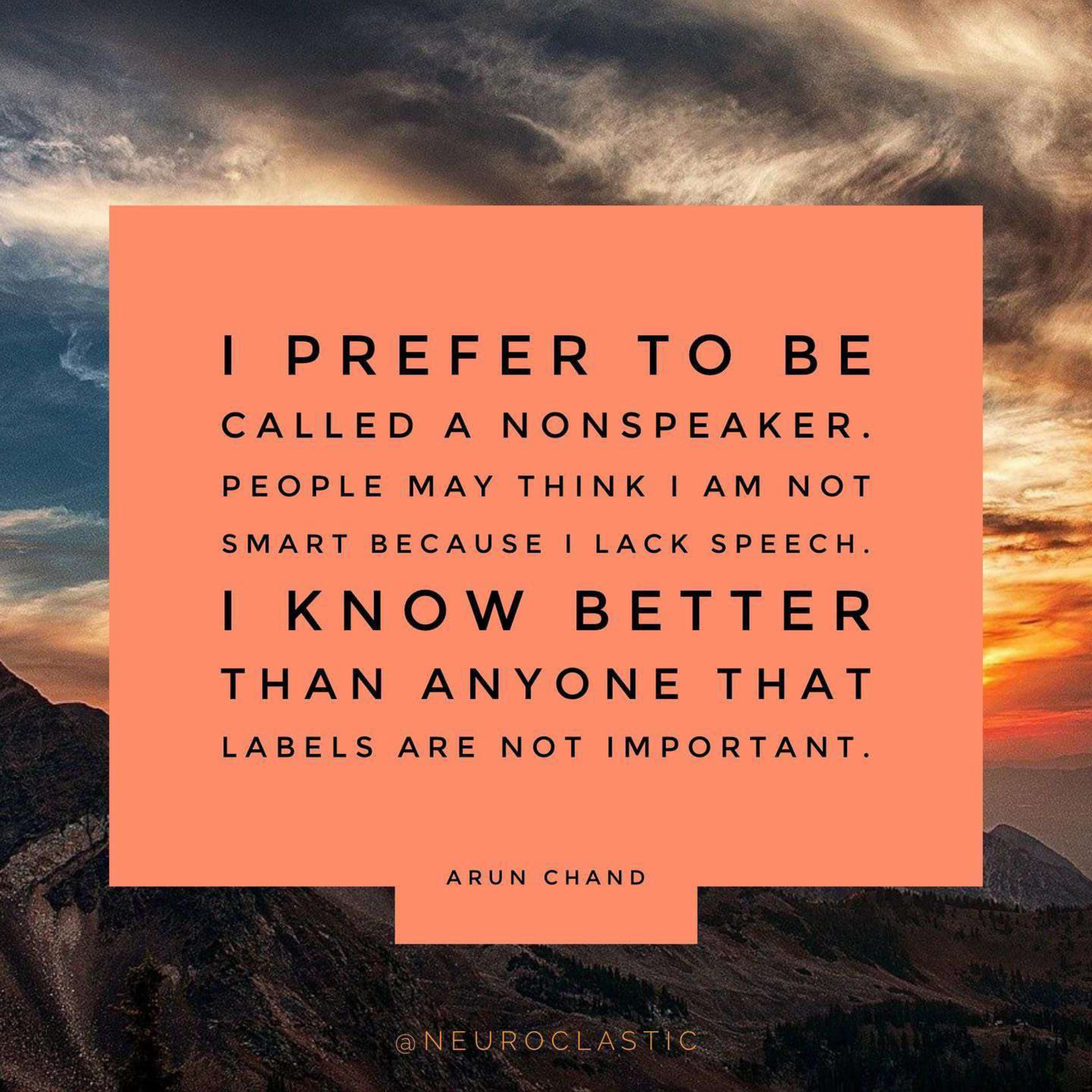




BEING NONVERBAL MEANS  
I HAVE NO WORDS, WHICH  
IS AS FAR FROM THE TRUTH  
AS IT CAN BE. I HAVE  
WORDS, BUT I CAN'T GET  
THEM OUT WITH MY VOICE.

~GREGORY TINO





I PREFER TO BE  
CALLED A NONSPEAKER.  
PEOPLE MAY THINK I AM NOT  
SMART BECAUSE I LACK SPEECH.  
I KNOW BETTER  
THAN ANYONE THAT  
LABELS ARE NOT IMPORTANT.

ARUN CHAND

@NEUROCLASTIC



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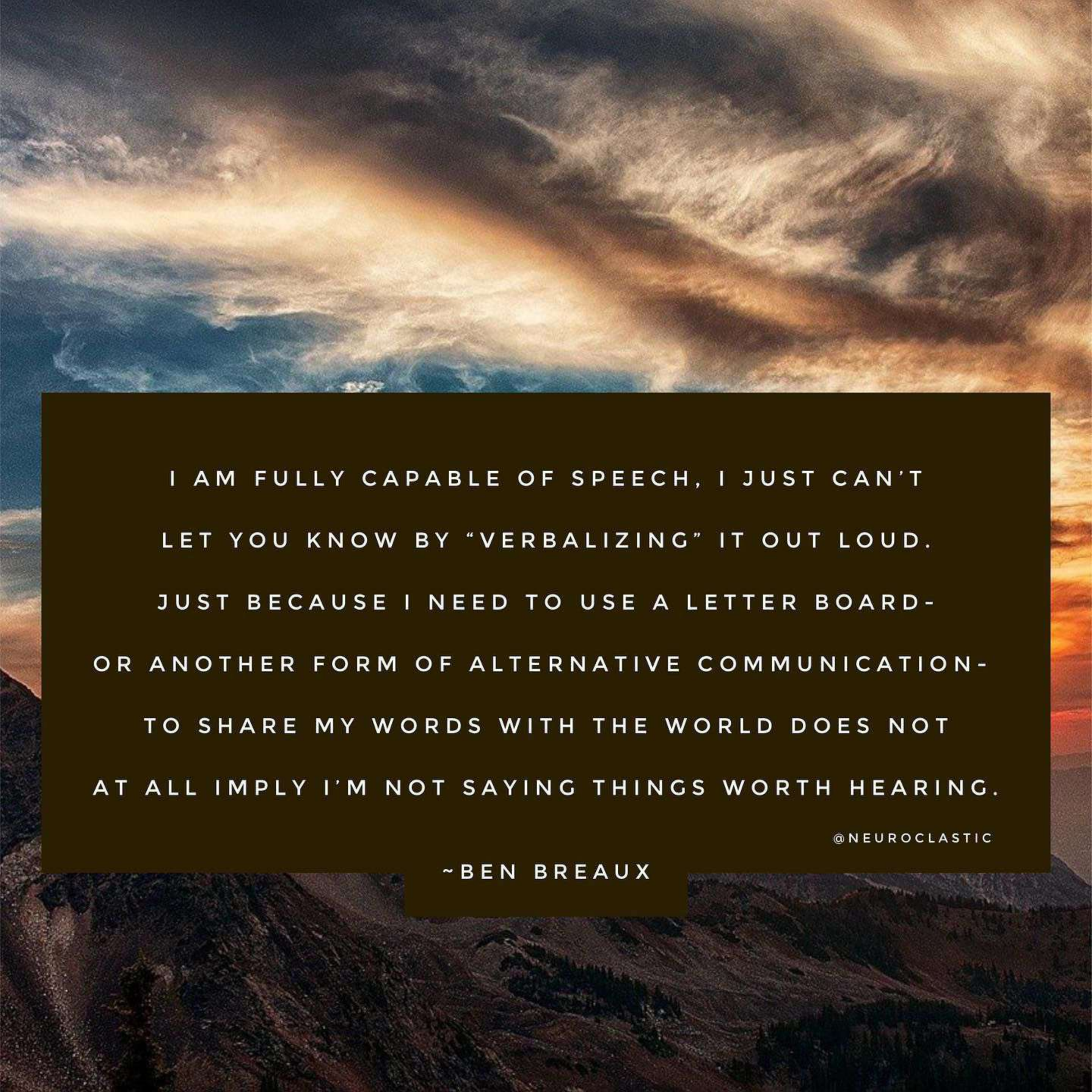


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A dramatic landscape featuring a sunset sky with vibrant orange, yellow, and blue clouds. Below the sky, a mountain valley is visible, with dark, rocky terrain and patches of green vegetation. The overall scene is atmospheric and inspiring.

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@NEUROCLASTIC

~BEN BREAUX



I HAVE WORDS SO NONVERBAL  
DOES NOT DESCRIBE ME.  
I SPEAK BUT MY WORDS DONT  
REFLECT MY THOUGHTS.  
MY IPAD AND KEYBOARD ARE MY VOICE.  
I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE  
A WORD THAT DESCRIBES ME ACCURATELY.

JAKE REISMAN



Writing for Autistics, makes Autistics learn how to use words carefully. Going to Autistics, getting their in-use words, informs the power autistics have over their words. Let us use the word nonspeaking for Autistics who cannot use speech reliably or at all. It best describes the situations we are forever in. Its future is ours. Trusting words to mean the same in our Autistic movement is the way we go further together.

~Tejas Rao Sankar