

Different

but

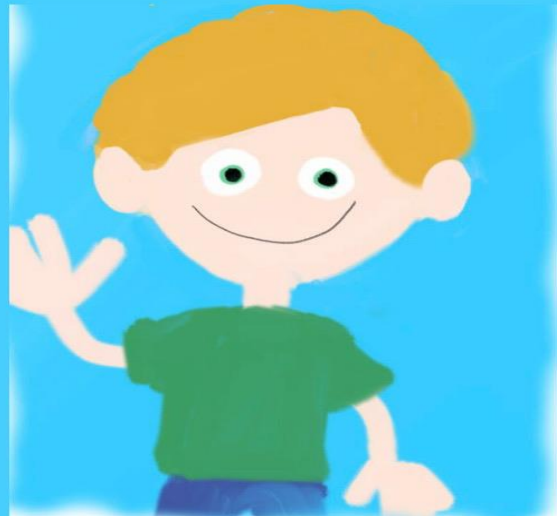
Equal

Written by

Ali Zgheib

illustrations by

Hadi al Haj



Its ME Reda, and not Down!

Yes, I am different with an extra chromosome, but I am just like you.

I have down syndrome, but I also have abilities just like you.

I express differently but I feel just like you.

I have different facial expressions, but I can see, listen, taste, smell, and touch just.

like you

REDA

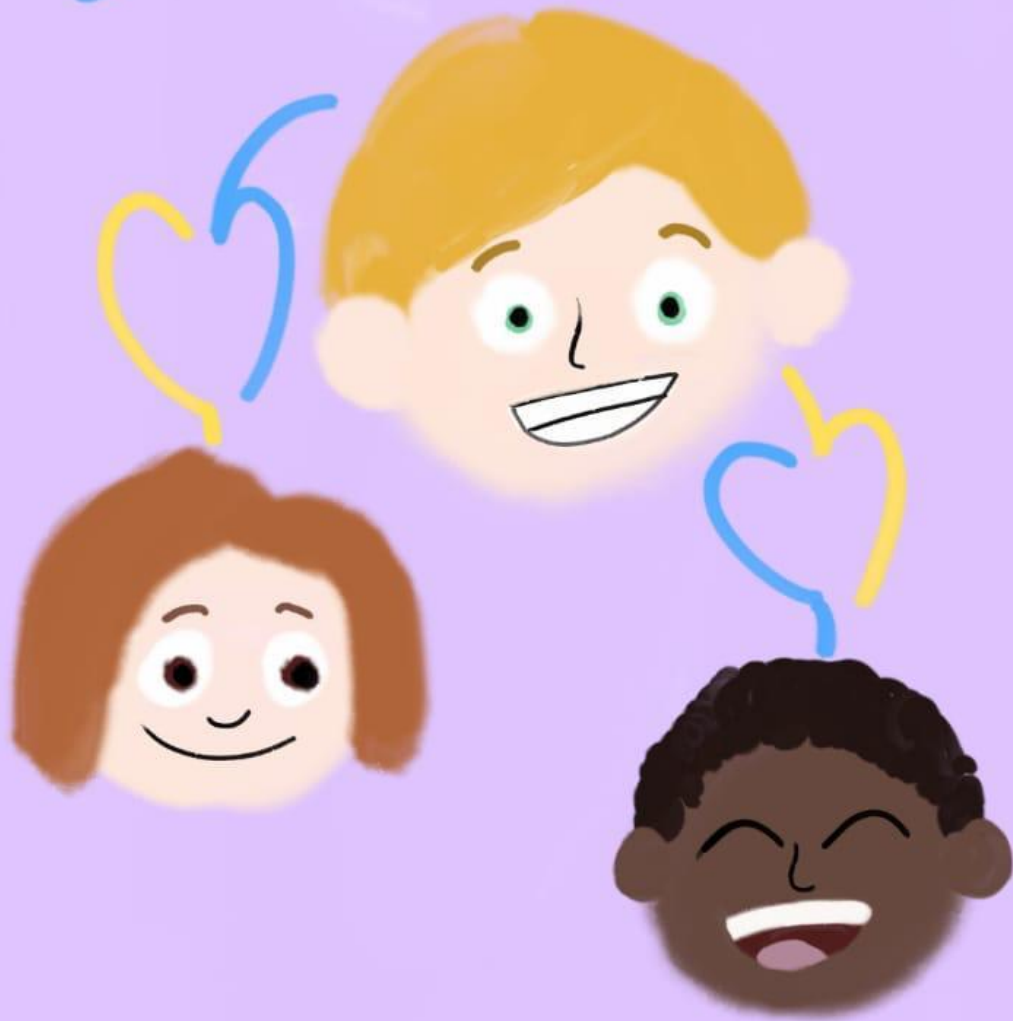


I am not unique; I am born with 6000 children per year with down syndrome.

I live with my dad and mum, sister& brothers I have a caring family who loves me and values me.

I am in a school with syndrome integration program, I am in a class with other students learning, writing, painting, reading, counting with my classmates and my shadow teacher.

Down Syndrome



I am learning like you but need extra time in developing my skills.

I have difficulty in speaking, but I have speech therapist and by time I will speak.

much better and clear

I may do same homework as you and other tasks but need extra time.

I am taking piano sessions on weekly base.

I have swimming trainer; I can swim to join my friends later.

I have shadow teachers to help me in my intellectual and behavior.



I can learn and develop until I reach high school and university.

I will graduate and be an engineer, a doctor, or a teacher one day.

I want to help down syndrome association to spread our rights all over the world.

and tell whole world we are just like you.

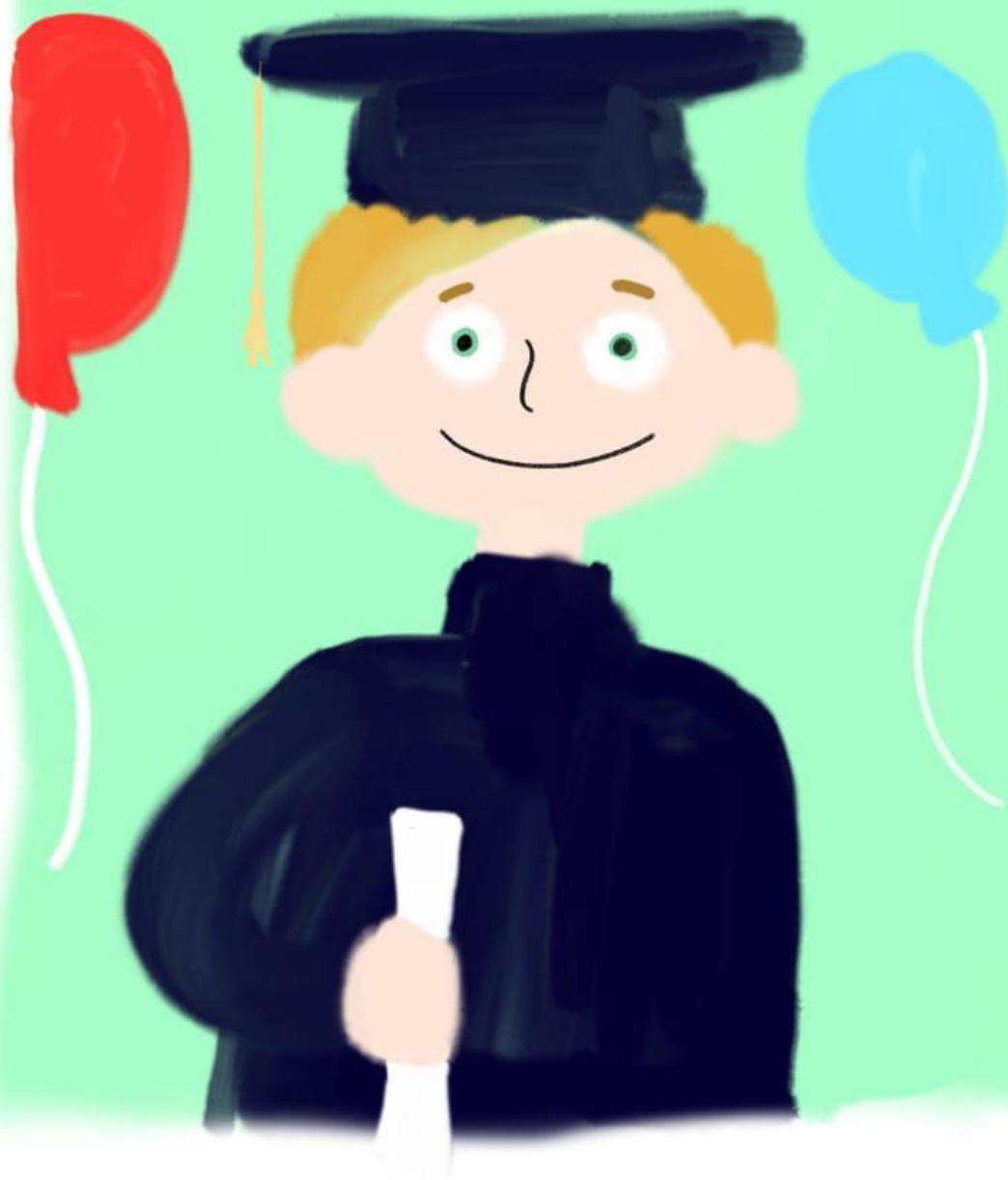
I feel happy, sad, excited, terrified, laugh and cry, I am very emotional, I can never.

hate

I know how to hug, celebrate, have fun with friends.

I have hobbies, I like music, I know how to dance and clap.

Graduation!



I have a family taking care of me just like you.
To live healthy life, learn, develop and graduate.
To marry, have wife and kids.
To be happy and enjoy every minute of life.
I am Reda, with down syndrome by birth and I am
here to tell you that we are all
different but equal
We are the SYNDROME; we are the children who
is a part of God's great big family?
And the truth, you know love is all we need.
We are the ones to make a brighter day.
Just you and I

