

Donald David Elmwoods

**WHEN YOU GET  
A SIGNAL**

(The Secrets of Autism)

Donald Dejvid Elmvuds

**KADA DOBIJETE  
SIGNAL**

(Tajne autizma)

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## *Forgiving*

*We sometimes argue with each other. But we always forgive each other. All I ever wanted was to have freedom, love and happiness. But I never thought it would take so much work and time, especially since I was born with autism and it is hard for us to always agree with each other. I love you so much, Maja.*

*Part one*

**MY LIFE IN SCHOOL**

## **Serbian language**

Would you like me to speak in Serbian language? While I live in Serbia, my native language is not always good due to my speech delays. I have problems with cases and grammatical gender. I do know a few definitions of words in my language, but not so much. Someone in Serbia sometimes tells me to write in Serbian when I write in English. English is easy for me to write. In order to speak Serbian properly, I have to read some books. It would take some time for me to improve my grammar. Life is not always easy for children with autism.

## **I'm autistic\***

*I was born with elements of autism  
My parents wished that  
I could become a normal child  
But it failed*

*As a result  
I didn't communicate  
And didn't have signal  
Until I was 7 years old*

*If I were a normal child  
I would be able to go to normal school  
But since I am an autistic child  
I had to go to school  
Where children had disorders  
Every time I went to school  
I had no friends*

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\* Based on *Raindrops keep falling on my head* by B. J. Thomas

*Children bullied me  
And I felt tortured*

*I have problems with gaining knowledge  
Every time I try to learn I fail  
Every time I try to practice I fail  
Every time I try to explain I fail  
Every time I try to understand I fail  
And my parents get angry because of my autism*

*My parents argue with each other  
And I cannot stand that they argue  
I try to help them but it's not so easy  
I wish that my parents should get along with each other  
But it's not easy, too*

*I cannot go to work  
Because I am not an independent person  
And if commissioners decide  
That I should go to work  
I wouldn't know how to work  
And people would laugh at me  
Because of my autism*

*I was born with elements of autism  
But that doesn't mean that I am angry  
Because of my autism  
I'm never going to stop my autism by complaining  
Because I am free  
Nothing's worrying me.*