

These Sassy #DisabledAndCute Tweets Will Give You Life

"We are more than inspiration porn and people to pity."

By [Elizabeth Narins](#) Feb 15, 2017



Like many women, Keah Brown, a 25-year-old journalist from Lockport, New York, sometimes suffers from body insecurity. That she has cerebral palsy, a condition that can affect a person's movement, muscle tone, coordination, and posture, doesn't help. "There is a common misconception that disabled people are not attractive," she says. "We are often seen as undesirable and broken."

On Feb. 12, Keah was feeling particularly cute and confident. She decided to tweet a selfie using the hashtag #DisabledAndCute, "because you can be both [disabled and cute], it's not like one negates the other," she says.



Keah Brown

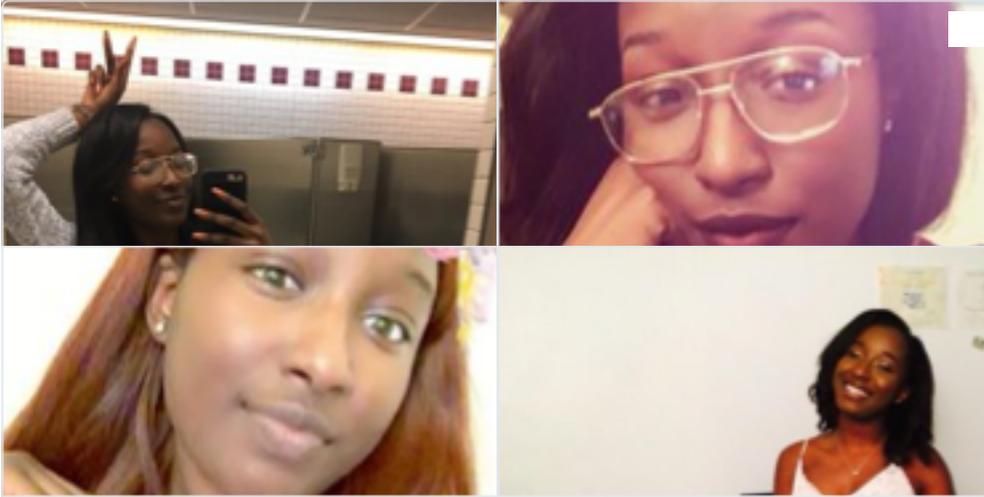
@Keah_Maria

I want to shoutout my Disabled brothers, sisters, & non-binary folks! W/ [#DisabledAndCute](#)

12:48 PM - Feb 12, 2017

1,323 429 people are talking about this

To better prove this point, she called on others to share photos of themselves that made them proud. While Keah wasn't exactly expecting her tweet to start a thing, #DisabledAndCute took off: People with both visible and invisible disabilities, of different races, sexual orientations, and genders, responded by posting their own photos with Keah's hashtag, on Twitter and beyond.



9ine

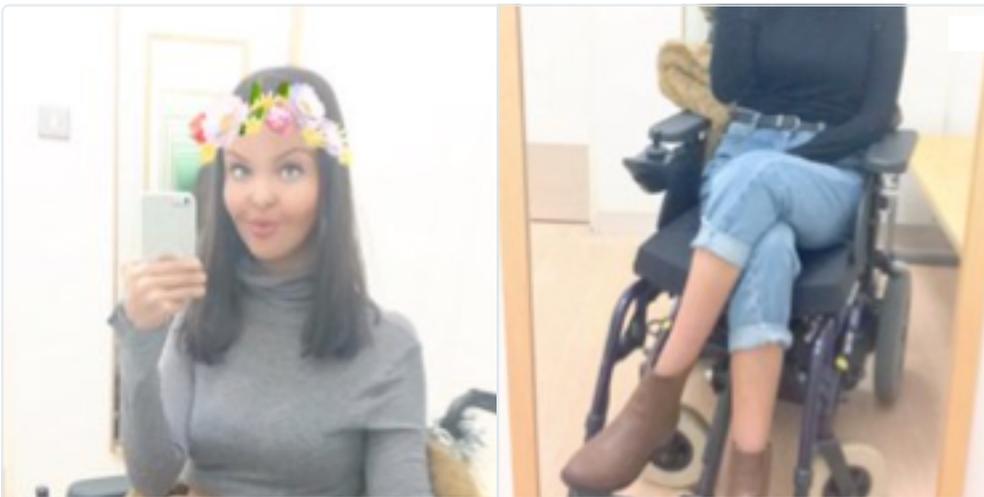
@noshaidah

[#DisabledandCute](#) cutest shawty with RA you'll see (hands don't always work but I keep em up)

12:56 PM - Feb 15, 2017

25

See 9ine's other Tweets



Poppy



@PoppyOA

[#DisabledandCute](#) is an actual hashtag yasss I love it. I only use my chair part-time but always make sure I look sassy in it.

12:28 PM - Feb 13, 2017

15.4K

5,023 people are talking about this



Marina Carlos
@MarinaCpom

[#disabledandcute](#), howbow dah?

3:39 PM - Feb 12, 2017

2,092 471 people are talking about this



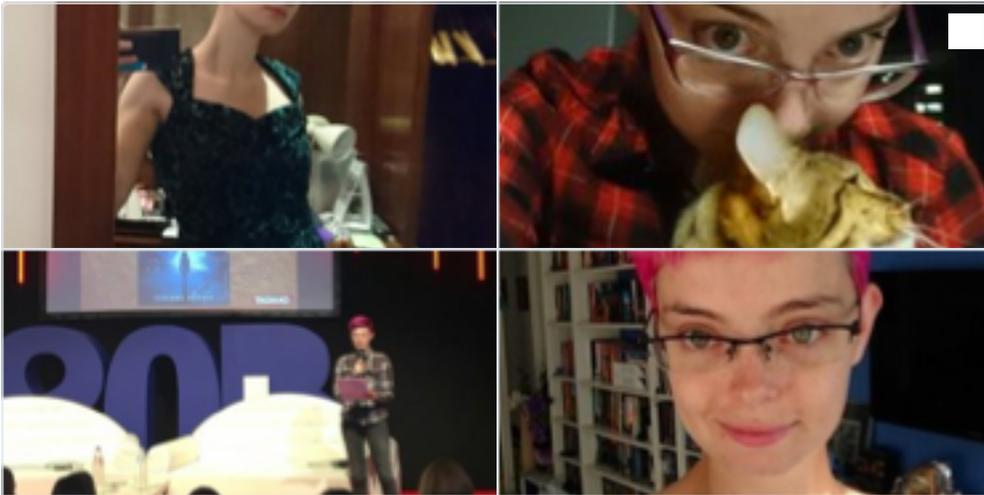
Jasmine Stairs (on hiatus)

@snazel

[#disabledandcute](#) you rang?

2:19 PM - Feb 12, 2017

352 34 people are talking about this



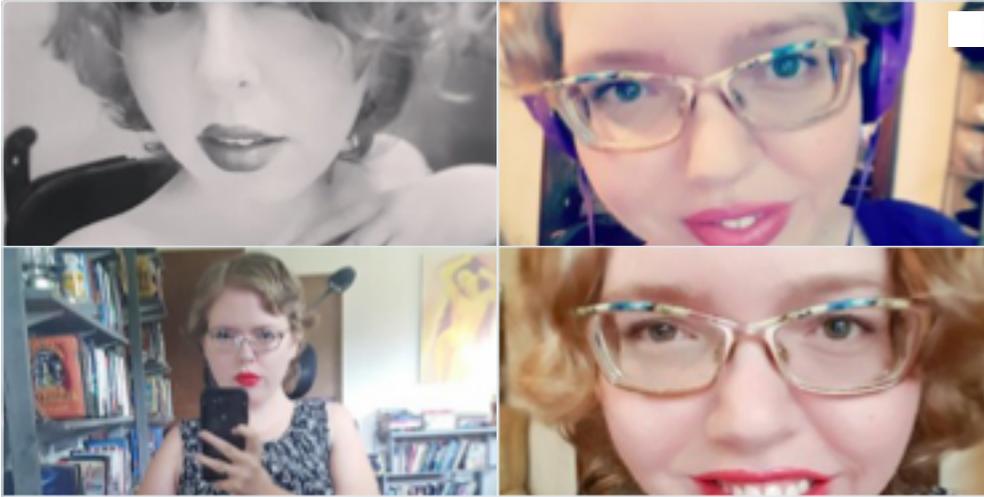
Corinne Duyvis [hiatus-ish]

@corinneduyvis

[#disabledandcute](#) hell yeah I am

2:00 PM - Feb 12, 2017

637 68 people are talking about this



Kayla Whaley
@PunkinOnWheels

Oh hey, did someone (@Keah_Maria) say #DisabledandCute?
Because...

1:33 PM - Feb 12, 2017

1,025 149 people are talking about this

"THE PROOF OF PRIDE IS IN THE PICTURES," SHE SAYS OF HER HASHTAG'S SUCCESS.

People without disabilities even began sharing photos of others, including pictures of their disabled kids and siblings, although Keah did tweet a warning to be mindful of disabled people's privacy by first obtaining their permission. After all, not everyone wants to broadcast their business.



Keah Brown
@Keah_Maria

#disabledandcute i'm so glad to see the tag doing well but a reminder that it's uncool to post people's pictures without their permission.

9:28 AM - Feb 15, 2017

55 19 people are talking about this

For her part, Keah doesn't feel like she has anything to hide. "My disability is not *all* that I am, but it *is* a big part of who I am," she says. "I will never *not* be disabled, and so to [conceal] that part of me would be ridiculous."

Now, Keah hopes the hashtag triggers real conversations. "My hope is that this hashtag helps mainstream media and other able-bodied people see how much disabled people have to offer and understand that we are more than inspiration porn and people to pity," she says. "In fact, we have so much talent we just need the opportunity to showcase what we can do."

The #DisabledAndCute hashtag is just one such opportunity. Here's to hoping it's the first of many.



xx
@robbxx2

Looking through [#DisabledAndCute](#) and loving all these people

8:50 AM - Feb 15, 2017

14 See xx's other Tweets