

EPILECTRA

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL SERIES

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Modern Superhero Takes the “Dis” Out of Disability, Turning It into a Superability



She doesn't wear a cape, but Epilectra accomplishes feats never before done by other superheroes. The star of the Sue Seserman's graphic novel series of the same name—

1. Transforms her disability, epilepsy, into a superability to make the world a better place.
2. Creates and leads Team *SEEZ* (Support & Empower Everyone Zealously), a band of superheroes who, like her, have different disabilities from which they draw their superpowers. In addition to epilepsy, in the first six stories the other superheroes manage type 1 diabetes, autism, cerebral palsy, and endometriosis.
3. Establishes a Team *SEEZ* policy that adversaries should not be killed, but instead redirected down a better life path.

Based in New York City, Epilectra and Team *SEEZ* take on a mischievous alien, a claustrophobic man-shark, a brilliant young runaway chemist, a hungry oversized arachnid, and a homesick dragon.

Epilectra's human persona is 5th grade social studies teacher, Eden Rivers. Her origin story begins when Eden and her brother, electrical engineer Logan, travel from New York to visit their parents. During a storm, the two are struck by lightning. This results in Eden's epilepsy and Logan's paralysis. They later discover that their disabilities have come with superabilities – Logan becomes an engineering savant and Eden learns she can channel the seizure-causing electricity in her brain through her fingertips as lightning. With their older, wealthy friend Angel Estoban, they establish Team *SEEZ*, and Eden becomes its first superhero, Epilectra.

Why Epilectra Matters

One in four people are diagnosed with a disability in their life, and too many of these individuals give up on their dreams. Epilectra demonstrates for them that determination and positivity can open the door to possibilities...and dreams realized. After all, if superheroes struggle with disabilities and still manage to interact with the world and face off against adversaries, so can they.

"Epilectra exemplifies people with epilepsy (or any disability). Like the character, they have unlimited potential if they're willing to tap into it. Furthermore, it does take a type of 'superpower' to successfully manage (any) challenging condition," stressed Orrin Devinsky, MD, Director of New York's Comprehensive Epilepsy Center and New York Top Doctor.

Epilectra and the other superheroes also open the door for discussion for those who may have trouble talking about what can be a challenging way of life. "Epilectra (and her team) provide a wonderful bridge to help newly diagnosed youth with epilepsy (and other disabilities) talk about the frustrations they face and what it will take to deal with them since (they're superheroes) who face disability with fear and uncertainty, as well as determination and bravery," stated neuropsychiatrist Scott Hirsch, MD at NYU Langone School of Medicine.

The Author's Authenticity

Sue Seserman, Epilectra Creator, Writer, and Illustrator, has epilepsy and type 1 diabetes. Though Epilectra is her first book, she's always been a writer. Before adopting twins from Romania, She had a successful career in public relations, highlighted by lengthy runs at Edelman Worldwide in Chicago and with George Lucas' gaming company, LucasArts Entertainment, in San Francisco. But what most influenced Sue to create Epilectra was her time volunteering with epilepsy patients at hospitals in Denver and New York. "So many patients had given up their dreams because of epilepsy. They were afraid of having a seizure in public, so they rarely left their homes," said Ms. Seserman. "My hope is that Epilectra—a modern superhero who manages a disability and is unafraid to be out in the world—will allow them to see that they are, in fact, superheroes themselves and capable of anything they set their minds to."

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Epilectra is a modern superhero who transforms her disability into a superability to make the world a better place. She and her creator, Sue Seserman, believe that positivity results in possibility. Epilectra is currently represented online and in a pending graphic novel series, with plans for representation in other media.

Epilectra and Team *SEEZ* are the only existing superheroes who transform their disabilities into superabilities to do good in the world, and the graphic novel is created by a woman who has done the same – turned her diagnoses of epilepsy and type 1 diabetes into motivation for bringing Epilectra’s positive message of empowerment to others with disabilities.

Our Mission

To help people with disabilities and their loved ones believe that, despite real challenges, they can live productive, fulfilling lives, and make their dreams realities.

Our Vision

We are all superheroes and can accomplish the remarkable by interacting in the world with determination and a dream.

Our Values

⚡ Empowerment

The disabled are capable of the amazing, but may need a different way to get there.

⚡ Education

The more we educate about disability, the less taboo it will become.

⚡ Positivity

Be open and satisfied with who you are.

⚡ Vision

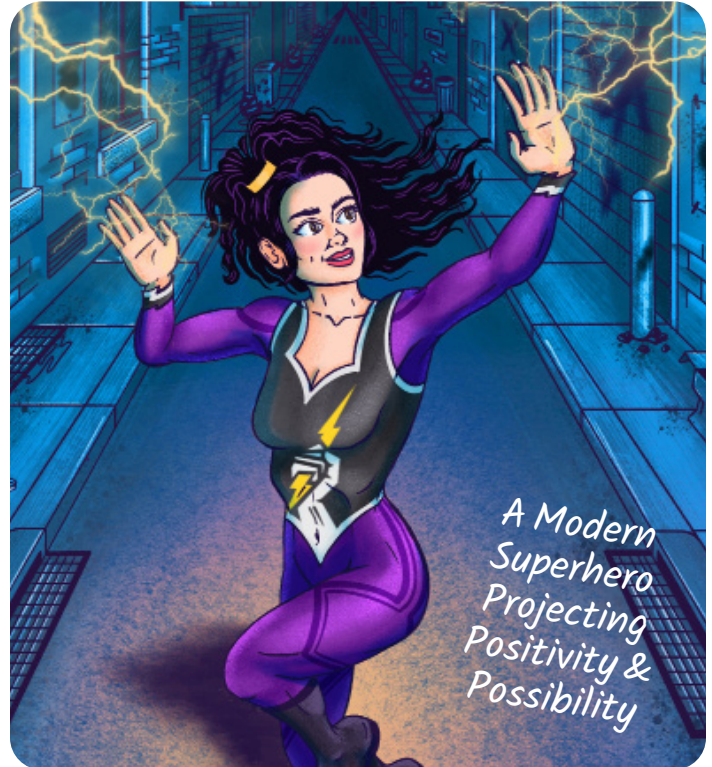
Everyone’s “different” in a way. Having a disability is part of what makes you “you.”

⚡ Gratitude

We’re thankful for what we’re capable of and for our loved ones and caretakers.

⚡ Kindness

It takes a small effort and can mean so much. Giving of oneself is truly medicinal.



“Epilectra exemplifies people with epilepsy. Like this character, they have unlimited potential if they are willing to tap into it. Furthermore, it takes a type of ‘superpower’ to successfully manage this challenging condition.”

Warren Devinsky, MD, Director New York Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, New York Magazine Top Doctor

“Epilectra provides a wonderful bridge to help newly diagnosed youth with epilepsy talk about the frustrations they face and what it will take to deal with them since she’s a superhero who faces this disability with fear and uncertainty, as well as determination and bravery.”

Scott Hirsch, MD, Dept. of Adolescent and Child Psychiatry, NYU School of Medicine

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Sue Seserman

Creator & Author of Epilectra

Ms. Seserman has been creative and a writer virtually her entire life. When she transitioned from a full-time career in public relations to raise adopted twins and then was diagnosed with epilepsy and type 1 diabetes, bringing Epilectra into the world became her destiny.

Sue has two degrees from Northwestern University—a BS in Communications and a MS in Journalism. This was followed by a series of jobs in public relations, the highlights of which are five years as a senior account executive on the sports marketing team at Edelman Worldwide in Chicago and six years as director of public relations for George Lucas' computer gaming company, LucasArts Entertainment in San Francisco.

Life events brought Sue, her husband, and their twins to Denver. She began a freelance writing and communications consulting business called WordPrints, focusing on ghost, speech, and public relations writing, as well as editing. Its tagline was, Your Writing Should be as Original as Your Fingerprints. While in Denver, she also spent time volunteering in the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit at University of Denver Hospital. Though she didn't know it at the time, interacting with epilepsy patients gave her the foundation and motivation for Epilectra.

Twenty years later, another move relocated Sue and her husband to New York City. She picked up her epilepsy volunteer work at New York Presbyterian Hospital and put together a manual for patients providing them with transportation, educational, shopping, service animal, and other resources designed to help them interact with the world. She didn't want epilepsy to prevent patients from pursuing their dreams. Epilectra began to tickle her brain.

Then the pandemic struck. Sue spent the time at home to fully flesh out Epilectra; what she hoped the character and story might accomplish for people with disabilities and their loved ones. And she began to write...

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—Sue Seserman, Creator & Author of Epilectra

Series Synopsis

Epilectra is a graphic novel series featuring **2 BOOKS** filled with **6 Stories** about a modern superhero, Epilectra, who has a disability, epilepsy, she transforms into a superability to make the world a better place. She leads Team *SEEZ*, a group of superheroes who, like her, have different disabilities they also turn into superpowers. Epilectra and Team *SEEZ* members work together much like Captain America and The Avengers—sometimes together and sometimes independently. An important difference is that Team *SEEZ* redirects its adversaries rather than annihilates them.

Primary Audience

Middle grade & young adult with disabilities and their loved ones.

Secondary Audience

Anyone with a disability & their loved ones.

Tertiary Audience

Lovers of graphic novel adventures filled with unusual characters.

BOOK 1, STORY 1

SEEZation

In Epilectra's origin story, her human persona, 5th grade social studies teacher Eden Rivers, and Eden's younger brother, electrical engineer Logan, leave New York for Thanksgiving with family. During a storm, they're struck by lightning. The result? Eden's epilepsy and Logan's paralysis. The two soon learn their disabilities are not typical: They came with superabilities. Logan is now an engineering savant, and Eden can channel the seizure-causing electricity in her brain through her fingertips as lightning. They form Team *SEEZ* (Support & Empower Everyone Zealously) with help from their friend Angel Estoban, and Eden is *SEEZ*'s initial superhero—Epilectra. Soon, Epilectra confronts her first villain, BlaqOut, an ostracized alien who's darkened the entire city.

BOOK 1, STORY 2

Up On The Roof

Eden's world as a teacher and sister are explored in the second story. She accidentally takes Epilectra's costume to school, which is against *SEEZ* "policy." But she's running late and can't turn back. She's planned an Inuit Adventure for her class. As the day unfolds, class troublemaker Henry is up to no good. Fortunately, Epilectra is able to prevent tragedy.

BOOK 1, STORY 3

River Rager

Half-man/half-shark River Rager is confined in the polluted Hudson River. He circles in frustration, causing the water to rise and meet the East River, flood the city, and make a marvelous playground for him and his sidekick, Crusty the Crustacean. Epilectra gets the water to recede from atop the Empire State Building and directs River Rager and Crusty to the Atlantic where they'll have room to play. She then meets Insulator, who is oddly dry despite the flood. When Epilectra learns why, Insulator becomes *SEEZ*'s next superhero.

BOOK 2, STORY 4

Virulant's Virus

Vanessa is a brilliant, young chemist. She hates her school (except for that cute senior girl, Quinn). So, she runs away to the New York sewers, builds a lab, creates the Green Goo Virus (and its antidote), and becomes Virulant. She doesn't realize fumes from her virus have made thousands sick. The hospital contacts *SEEZ*, and Epilectra and Insulator, armed with a weapon built by Logan, find Virulant and convince her to bring the cure to the hospital. Vanessa's future is forever changed.

BOOK 2, STORY 5

Neuron Navigator

Miles tolerates check-ups, but he won't let doc look in his eyes since that thing might happen. He just wants to get to the park to journal. In the park, Archie (the huge arachnid) is hungry. The nannies aren't watching their charges in the swings. As Miles settles on a bench near the playground, Archie releases silk from his spinnerets to snag an infant. Down goes the silk and up go Miles' eyes. Human and spider eyes meet, and instead of entangling his dinner, Archie's silk ensnares himself. Eden and Jane are jogging nearby and see this feat. They bring Miles to *SEEZ* where he becomes Aupticus.

BOOK 2, STORY 6

The Dragon From Shanghai

Dragons roamed China's bamboo forests until man forced them into extinction or hiding, creating creatures of legend. LongWang, the Dragon King, is hiding. The NY Chinese Museum hires hunters to capture him, a banana reveals his hiding spot, and LongWang is sent to New York. Years later, LongWang is to lead a parade welcoming the Chinese President to the city. The Mayor recruits Animal Rescue & Relocate employee C.P. to handle the dragon. During the parade chaos erupts, C.P. must use his powerful cane, and Endo-Girl offers her amazing abilities to remedy the situation. From a roof nearby, Eden and Jane look at each other and smile. Two new superheroes to recruit!

Team SEEZ*

Support & Empower Everyone Zealously

C.P. (26)

Disability: Cerebral Palsy

Superability:

C.P.'s antique cane can emit muscle freezing gamma rays.

Human persona: Chen Ping

Introduced: Book 2, Story 5

Angel Estoban (52)

Founder & Funder of Team SEEZ

Introduced: Book 1, Story 1

Aupticus (27)

Disability: Autism

Superability: Neuroplasticity (with eye contact, the ability to rearrange neurons to change behavior).

Human persona: Miles

Introduced: Book 2, Story 4



Endo-Girl (16)

Disability: Endometriosis

Superability:

Super strength fueled by excessive blood being channeled to her muscles.

Human persona: Patricia

Introduced: Book 2, Story 6

Logan Rivers (24)

Brother of Eden/Epilectra
Team SEEZ Founder

Disability: Paraplegia

Superability:

Engineering Savant

Introduced: Book 1, Story 1

Epilectra (28)

Team SEEZ Founder and Leader

Disability: Epilepsy

Superability: Harnesses the errant electricity in her brain
Team SEEZ Founder and Leader

Human persona: Eden Rivers

Introduced: Book 1, Story 1

Insulator (23)

Disability: Type 1 Diabetes

Superability: Insulin works with her body's chemistry to insulate her and those she's in contact with from outside threats.

Human persona: Jane

Introduced: Book 1, Story 3

*Team SEEZ is an organization for superheroes with disabilities and associated superabilities.

Adversaries*

LongWang

Chinese for Dragon King

Description: 2000-year-old Dragon King brought to New York from China 25 years ago to be the main exhibit at The Chinese Museum.

Power: Size (600lbs) & strength.

Battled by: C.P.

Introduced: Book 2, Story 6

Crusty the Crustacean

River Rager's smart-alecky sidekick

BlaqOut

Description: Alien sent to Earth by his parents to prove himself.

Power: Controls light and darkness.

Battled By: Epilectra

Introduced: Book 1, Story 1

River Rager

Formerly called River Roamer

Description: Half man/half shark who lives in the Hudson River. He longs for more space and less pollution.

Power: Circling in frustration and anger, he generates a powerful vortex that causes the Hudson to rise and meet the East River, flooding all of New York, and creating an underwater playground for himself and Crusty.

Battled by: Epilectra

Introduced: Book 1, Story 3

Virulant

Description: Angry, young chemist who's built a lab in the sewers of New York and created the Green Goo Virus that ends up sickening thousands of New Yorkers.

Power: Genius, particularly in chemistry.

Battled by: Epilectra & Insulator

Introduced: Book 2, Story 4

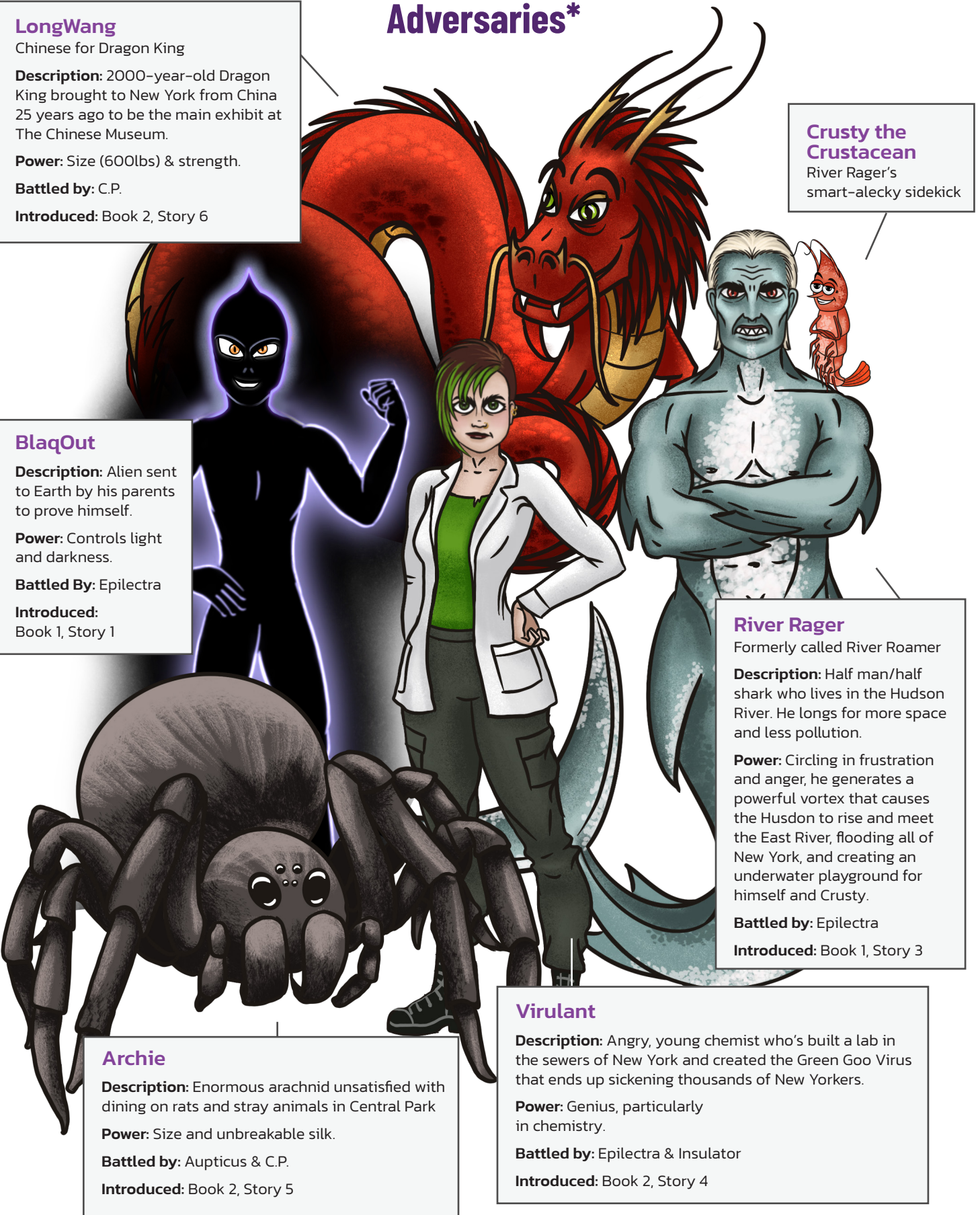
Archie

Description: Enormous arachnid unsatisfied with dining on rats and stray animals in Central Park

Power: Size and unbreakable silk.

Battled by: Aupticus & C.P.

Introduced: Book 2, Story 5



*At the end of Story 4, Virulant's Virus, Team SEEZ establishes "Directive V." The Directive states that adversaries are not born evil but become that way due to negative circumstances, and when those circumstances change for the better, the evil behavior will likely follow suit. Directive V encourages Team SEEZ to establish new positive circumstances for its adversaries.



About the Novels



Books

02



Stories

06



Pages

289*



Words

34k

**Without Illustrations*

About the Disabilities

Any Disability—1 in 4

According to the CDC, 1 in 4 adults in the United States live with a disability.

Epilepsy—1 in 26

Epilepsy is a brain disorder that causes recurring, unprovoked seizures. When someone has a seizure, the electrical activity in their brain goes temporarily haywire.

Type 1 Diabetes—1 in 100

In Type 1 Diabetes, the pancreas does not produce any (or enough) insulin, so insulin needs to be given to the body from an outside source, such as an insulin pump.

Type 2 Diabetes—1 in 10

In Type 2, the pancreas creates insulin but the body doesn't know how to use it well.

Autism—1 in 54

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech, and nonverbal communication.

Cerebral Palsy—1 in 323

affects a person's ability to move and maintain balance and posture. CP's symptoms vary greatly—from not being able to walk at all to being a little awkward.

Endometriosis—1 in 10

Endometriosis is a disorder in which tissue that normally lines the uterus grows outside the uterus. Though not recognized by the CDC as a disability, 1 in 10 women of child-bearing age often suffer debilitating symptoms.



**Sibling
Non-Profit
Organization**

About Epilectra, LLC

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