

PARENTS TALK BACK

# What it's like to hear again

Water makes sound. It crashes, it swishes, it drips, it cascades, it pours.



AISHA SULTAN  
Parents Talk Back

Amanda Eshelman, a typical 13-year-old in many ways, had had no idea.

The first time she flushed the toilet after getting a hearing aid in her right ear a year ago, she jumped back, startled by the sound. The hearing aid brought back sounds that had been getting softer for years.

She was deaf in her left ear. She had been born with some hearing in that ear, maybe enough to hear a lawnmower right next to her, but it gradually faded away almost a decade ago. Her right ear started deteriorating when she started middle school two years ago.

Amanda, a bubbly teenager, found ways to cope with the gradual hearing loss. She sat in the front in her classrooms. She asked her friends to repeat themselves often. She focused on watching people's mouths when they talked, so she could read their lips.

When she got a hearing aid in seventh grade, she picked a hot pink one. Suddenly, it was like everyone was talking into a microphone. She could hear the dishwasher, the water when she turned the shower on and that crazy sound the toilet made when it flushes.

It was easier for Amanda to hear her teachers at school, but she still couldn't understand anyone when there was a crowd, like in the cafeteria or in the hallways. She couldn't tell where sounds were coming from, either. And every few months, the sounds became fainter. The hearing aid had to be cranked up as her hearing declined.

Her mother, Betsy, worried about what would happen if the hearing in Amanda's right ear kept worsening. Would her child's world become completely silent?

Amanda had already started preparing for that. She joined a club at school to learn sign language, and taught herself even more by watching YouTube videos of popular songs being signed. She, her twin sister and three friends performed Fall Out Boy's "My Songs Know What You Did in the Dark" in sign language for the talent show.

Looking for options, her parents took her to see a specialist at St. Louis Children's Hospital, who suggested she might be a candidate for a cochlear implant, which can restore hearing in a different way than a hearing aid. It requires surgery to implant an electrode inside the inner ear, which attaches magnetically to a sound processor worn outside the head.

But there was a risk the implant wouldn't improve Amanda's hearing at all because her left ear had been "dead" for so long.

"It's your choice," her father said.

In typical Amanda fashion, she wanted to go

for it. "What else am I supposed to do?" she said. "Sit in my room and cry all day? I can't do that."

In mid-November, she had surgery to get the Cochlear company's newest implant and sound processor, called Kanso. Two weeks

later was activation day, when audiologist Amy Carlson would turn the system on to see how much sound her auditory nerve and brain could pick up. Whereas people with normal hearing hear sounds acoustically, the implant transmits electronic pulses, which can be difficult to adjust to for patients who have had hearing before.

Amanda had picked out a hot pink cover for the sound processor that magnetically attaches to her head.

"Are you sure you want pink?" her father had asked. She was very sure.

I spoke with Amanda prior to activation, and asked what she might want to hear if it worked.

She thought about the question and remembered a pair of socks she wears on Christmas Day. They have little bells on them, and her mom can hear her wherever she walks around the house.

"I can't hear the jingle bells," she said. "I don't remember ever hearing it."

When she walked into the hospital room where Carlson would turn on the device, Amanda was nervous and excited.

While the audiologist began the testing, Betsy's gaze, full of worries and hopes, was fixed on her child's face. She remembered holding Amanda in her lap during hearing tests as a young child. Betsy could hear the beeps through the headphones her daughter wore for those tests, but Amanda wouldn't respond. She had wanted to poke her daughter to get to raise her hand and show she could hear. But she couldn't.

This time, it was different. Carlson turned it on.

Amanda's hands flew to her mouth. Her laugh mixed with her tears, which mixed with her mother's laughter and tears.

"Hi, baby," her mother said, grabbing her in a tight embrace.

"I like it," Amanda said, through her tears. "It's a lot better than I thought it was going to be."

She heard the sounds of the fan and the heating system in the room; even the overhead lights made a slight buzzing sound. Her own voice sounded so strange to her. Carlson explained that there was a long road ahead of gradually increasing the sound levels, and retraining the brain to focus on new sounds and block out background noises.

Amanda could hardly wait to start. The next week, she was sitting in the living room, surrounded by her siblings with the television on, like she had on countless afternoons before. There was so much sound all around her. She turned to her mom and said, "I didn't realize how quiet my world had become."

# Facebook gets serious about fighting fake news

NEW YORK (AP) — Facebook is taking new measures to curb the spread of fake news on its huge and influential social network. It will focus on the "worst of the worst" offenders and partner with outside fact-checkers and news organizations to sort honest news reports from made-up stories that play to people's passions and preconceived notions.

The social network will make it easier for users to report fake news when they see it, which they'll be able to do in two steps, not three. If enough people report a story as fake, Facebook will pass it to third-party fact-checking organizations that are part of the nonprofit Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking Network.

Five fact-checking and news organizations are working with Facebook on this: ABC News, The Associated Press, FactCheck.

org, Politifact and Snopes. Facebook says this group is likely to expand.

Stories that flunk the fact check won't be removed from Facebook. But they'll be publicly flagged as "disputed," which will force them to appear lower down in people's news feed. Users can click on a link to learn why that is. And if people decide they want to share the story with friends anyway, they can — but they'll get another warning.

"We do believe that we have an obligation to combat the spread of fake news," said John Hegeman, vice president of product management on news feed, in an interview. But he added that Facebook also takes its role to provide people an open platform seriously, and that it is not the company's place to decide what is true or false.

Fake news stories touch on a broad range of subjects,

from unproven cancer cures to celebrity hoaxes and backyard Bigfoot sightings. But fake political stories have drawn outsized attention because of the possibility that they influenced public perceptions and could have swayed the U.S. presidential election.

There have been dangerous real-world consequences. A fake story about a child sex ring at a Washington, D.C., pizza joint prompted a man to fire an assault rifle inside the restaurant.

By partnering with respected outside organizations and flagging, rather than removing, fake stories, Facebook is sidestepping some of the biggest concerns experts had raised about it exercising its considerable power in this area. For instance, some worried that Facebook might act as a censor — and not a skillful one, either, being an engineer-led company with little

experience making complex media ethics decisions.

"They definitely don't have the expertise," said Robyn Caplan, researcher at Data & Society, a nonprofit research institute funded in part by Microsoft and the National Science Foundation. In an interview before Facebook's announcement, she urged the company to "engage media professionals and organizations that are working on these issues."

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has said that fake news constitutes less than 1 percent of what's on Facebook, but critics say that's wildly misleading. For a site with nearly 2 billion users tapping out posts by the millisecond, even 1 percent is a huge number, especially since the total includes everything that's posted on Facebook — photos, videos and daily updates in addition to news articles.

Friday Morning

STATION	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 AgDay	Hot In	Good Day Spokane			Paid	DogTown	Steve Harvey		Crime Watch Daily	
FOX	KPTV	3 Good Day Oregon		Good Day Oregon			Good Day		The 700 Club		Rachael Ray (N)	
CBS	19 KEPR	2 News	News	CBS This Morning (N)			Harry		The Price Is Right		Young & Restless	
CBS	KOIN	19 KOIN 6 News at 6		CBS This Morning (N)			Let's Make a Deal		The Price Is Right		Young & Restless	
NBC	25 KNDU	6 WakeUp North		Today Show Matthew McConaughey			Today Show II (N)		Today Show III (N)		Million? Million?	
NBC	KGW	8 KGW News		Today Show Matthew McConaughey			Today Show II (N)		Today Show III (N)		Portland Today	
ABC	42 KVEW	4 News	News	Good Morning America (N)			Live! With Kelly (N)		The View		Paid	Middle
ABC	KATU	5 KATU News		Good Morning America (N)			AM Northwest		The View		Live! With Kelly (N)	
PBS	31 KTNW	Stretch	Yoga	SplashB.	Jet Gol	Cat	Curious Georg...	Thomas	Sesame	DinoT	SplashB.	Sit Fit
PBS	59 OPB	13 Stretch	Jet Gol	Cat	Curious Georg...	D.Tiger	SplashB.	Sesame	DinoT	Peg Cat	SuperWI	Thomas

December 16, 2016

AFTERNOON

STATION	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 Paid	P. Court	Divorce	Divorce	Judge Mathis	The People's Court	2 1/2 Men	Mike&M.		Last Man	Last Man
FOX	KPTV	3 12 O'Clock News		Wendy Williams		The Dr. Oz Show	TMZ Live!		Judy	Judy	5 O'Clock News	
CBS	19 KEPR	2 NameG.	Bold & B.	The Talk (N)		Let's Make a Deal	Dr. Phil		Judy	Judy	News	News
CBS	KOIN	19 News	Bold & B.	The Talk (N)		The Doctors	Dr. Phil		KOIN 6 News at 4		News	News
NBC	25 KNDU	6 TMZ	Paid	Days of Our Lives		HotBench	HotBench		Wendy Williams		E.DeGeneres (N)	News
NBC	KGW	8 News	Paid	Days of Our Lives		T.D. Jakes (N)	E.DeGeneres (N)		KGW News		News	News
ABC	42 KVEW	4 The Chew		General Hospital		The Doctors	Rachael Ray (N)		Minute	Minute	News	News
ABC	KATU	5 The Chew		General Hospital		Harry	Afternoon Live		KATU News @ 4		News	News
PBS	31 KTNW	Charlie Rose		Ming	Quilt Day	Stretch	Curious Georg...	WordGirl	Arthur	O. Squad	Wild K.	Business
PBS	59 OPB	13 Paint	Mexican	Charlie Rose (N)		Cat	Curious Georg...	Jet Gol	Speaks	WordGirl	O. Squad	Wild K.

EVENING

STATION	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
FOX	11 KFFX	11 Modern Family "Las Vegas"	Modern "A Hard Jay's Night"	2 Broke Girls	Seahawks All Access	Hell's Kitchen The remaining chefs tackle sliders for their next challenge.	Exorcist The demon was denied its prize now it will stop at nothing to destroy the Rance family.		FOX News First at Ten	:35 Law:Cl	The witness in a well-known rape case involving a football team is found dead.	:35 Anger Management
FOX	KPTV	3 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	Kitchen "Dancing in the Grotto" (N)	The Exorcist (N)		10 O'Clock News		News	2 Broke Girls
CBS	19 KEPR	2 Action News at 6 p.m.	Inside Edition	BigBang "The Peanut Reaction"	Simpsons "Steal This Episode"	MacGyver With only a microwave & a power strip, MacGyver & Jack search for Riley.	Hawaii 5-0 Five-0 races to Mexico where Chin puts his life on the line after his niece is kidnapped.		BlueB. Frank & Danny work together to help a rehabilitated ex-con Frank put away years ago.		Action News at 11:00 p.m.	:35 Stephen Colbert
CBS	KOIN	19 KOIN 6 News	Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	MacGyver "Scissors" (N)	Hawaii Five-0 "Kailii aku" (N)		Blue Bloods "Town Without Pity"		KOIN 6 News/ 11	:35 S. Colbert
NBC	25 KNDU	6 Local News	Family Feud	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	Camera Intense car rescues, out of control road rage & videos of life on the road.	Dateline NBC The news magazine presents investigative features and breaking news coverage.		Dateline NBC The news magazine presents investigative features & breaking news coverage.		Local News	:35 The Tonight Show
NBC	KGW	8 KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at 7	Inside Edition	Camera "Rough Commute" (N)	Dateline The news magazine presents investigative features & breaking news coverage.		Dateline The news magazine presents investigative features & breaking news coverage.		KGW News	:35 Tonight
ABC	42 KVEW	4 Extra	Local News at 6:30	Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	Last Man St. "My Name Is Rob" (N)	Dr. Ken (N)	Shark Tank A father/son team pitches a high-tech fish catching device.	20/20 A combination of interviews, feature stories & hard-hitting investigative reports.		News /:05 Kimmel This distinctive late-night talk show features celebrity guests, bands & comedy.	:35 J. Kimmel
ABC	KATU	5 KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Last Man St. (N)	Dr. Ken (N)	Shark Tank	20/20		KATU News	:35 J. Kimmel
PBS	31 KTNW		PBS NewsHour	World News	Natural Health	Wash. Week (N)	Charlie Rose (N)	Live From Lincoln Center (N)	Lidia Cel. America "Holiday for Heroes"		Charlie Rose (N)	
PBS	59 OPB	13 Travel-scope	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		Wash. Week (N)	Stevie's Europe	Hinterland :50 Hinterland "Penwyllt, Part Two"	:35 M'piece "Inspector Lewis: Down Among the Fearful"			

STATION	PEN	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
A&E	52	The First 48		The First 48 "Bound and Burned"		The First 48 "The Graveyard Shift"		Live PD (SF) (N)				The First 48 "The Fighter/ Final Ride"	
AMC	60	Miss Congeniality An FBI agent goes undercover in a beauty pageant to prevent a terrorist bombing.		Deck the Halls Two feuding neighbors try to prove to the other that he has more holiday spirit.		Deck the Halls Two feuding neighbors try to prove to the other that he has more holiday spirit.		Deck the Halls Two feuding neighbors try to prove to the other that he has more holiday spirit.		Deck the Halls Two feuding neighbors try to prove to the other that he has more holiday spirit.		Deck the Halls Two feuding neighbors try to prove to the other that he has more holiday spirit.	
ANPL	24	Tanked!		Tanked!		Tanked: Sea-lebrity "Trickster Tanks" (N)		Tanked!		Tanked!		Tanked!	
CMT	43	Invincible		Broken Skull Ch.		Invincible ('06, Dra) Greg Kinnear.		Rose.	Rose.	Rose.		Rose.	
CNBC	72	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Boss "Fatburger"		Undercover Boss		Paid	Paid
CNN	68	A. Cooper 360		CNN Tonight		The Seventies		The Seventies		The Seventies		The Seventies	
DISC	51	Gold Rush		Gold Rush		Gold Rush: Dirt (N)		Gold Rush (N)		Treasure Quest (N)		Gold Rush	
DISN	26	G. Luck	G. Luck	G. Luck		Good Luck Charlie, It's ...		Bizaard.		Bunk'd	Call Style	Friends	Friends
ESPN	33	NBA Basketball L.A. Lakers vs Philadelphia (L)		NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Utah Jazz Site: Vivint Smart Home Arena -- Salt Lake City, Utah (L)				SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	34	NCAA Football		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter		J & J (N)	30 for 30 "Phi Slama Jama"		
FNC	66	The Kelly File		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File		Hannity		On the Record	
FOOD	61	Diners		Diners		Diners		Diners...Dives (N)		Diners		Diners	Diners
FREE	32	Jingle All the Way		:35 National Lampoon's Christmas ...		:45 The Polar Express Tom Hanks.							
FX	65	The Hangover Part III		A Million Ways to Die in the West		A Very Harold & Kumar C...							
GOLF	88	PGA Golf		PGA Golf Barbasol Championship		PGA Golf Canadian Open Site: Glen Abbey Golf Club							
GSN	76	Feud		Feud		Feud		Window		Feud		Tactics	Tactics
HALL	87	The Nine Lives of Christmas		Love You Like Christmas		Ice Sculpture Christmas							
HGTV	62	Renovation		Renovation		Renovation		Renovation		H.Hunt	House	H.Hunt	House
HIST	50	Ancient Aliens "Hidden Pyramids"		Aliens "The Wisdom Keepers"		Aliens "The Mystery of Puma Punku"		Aliens "The Alien Evolution"		Aliens "Pyramids of Antarctica"		:05 Aliens "Aliens, Gods and Heroes"	
LIFE	29	Heaven Sent Christian Kane.		Christmas on the Bayou Markie Post.		A Christmas Wedding Date							
NICK	27	H.Danger	H.Danger	Santa Hunters		Thunder		Lip Sync Shorties		F.House	F.House	Friends	Friends
ROOT	37	NPGL Fitness Los Angeles vs Phoenix		AMA Supercross -- Foxborough, Mass.		Champions Tennis Legends -- New Haven, Conn.							
SPIKE	42	Cops		Cops		Cops		Cops		Bellator MMA Fighters battle for \$100,000 and a shot at the title.		:15 Kickboxing	
SYFY	67	Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull		Z Nation (N)		Incorporated		Z Nation				Z Nation	
TBS	59	Seinfeld		Seinfeld		Seinfeld		Big Bang Theory		Big Bang Theory		Big Bang Theory	Search Party
TCM	56	Broadway Bill Walter Connolly.		The Best Years of Our Lives Three American veterans try to re-adjust to civilian life after the Second World War.		Third Finger, Left Hand ('40, Com) Myrna Loy.						:45 Lucky...	
TLC	49	Paranormal Lock.		Paranormal Lock.		Paranormal Lock.		Paranormal Lock.		Paranormal Lock.		Paranormal Lock.	
TNT	57	Bones		Bones		Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace						:45 Star Wars: Episode II...	
UNI	21	Incluido		Noticiero		Rosa Guadalupe		Despertar contigo		Vino el amor		Color de pasion	Impacto
USA	58	NCIS		NCIS		It's a Wonderful Life ('46, Dra) James Stewart.						Modern	Modern
WE	118	BootCamp (SF) (N)		Boot Camp: Reali		Boot Camp: Reali		Boot Camp: Reali		Boot Camp: Reali		Boot Camp: Reali	
WGN		Apollo 13		Apollo 13 ('95, Doc/Dra) Bill Paxton, Tom Hanks.		Rules		Rules		Rules		Rules	
STZ ENC	644	Movie		A League of Their Own		Wayne's World						:40 Let's Go to Prison	
HBO	518	Spider-Man		News		Pete Holmes		Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice				1stLook	
HBO2	520	Movie		Race ('16, Bio) Stephan James.		The Revenant ('15, Dra) Leonardo DiCaprio.						:40 Sports	
HBO3	521	Movie		The Aviator ('04, Bio) Leonardo DiCaprio.		Self/ Less Ben Kingsley.						The Boy Next ...	
MAX	549	Movie		Under Siege Steven Seagal.		Run All Night Liam Neeson.		The Transporter				Movie	
SHOW	578	Movie		Tears of the Sun Bruce Willis.		The Affair		LawrencePhillipsStor (N)					