

let me shine

a dementia rhyme to open minds



don't ask me to remember,
i couldn't if i tried,
the plaques and tangles in my brain
caused cells there to be fried

but i don't want your pity
don't look at me as less
i'm still a human being
deserving of respect

i know more than you may think
i see, i hear, i feel
i get the gist of what you say
so keep me in the deal

when you treat me like a ghost
i want to scream and shout
i'm here! i'm here, i say
the words just won't come out

don't make me sit, i want to stand
why are you surprised?
my light's not out, i'm shining on
keep sparkle in my eyes

it's true i need some help to thrive
we all do in this life
who hasn't asked from time to time
when overcome by strife?

if i get mad, i might be sad
in pain or cold or wet
confused by what you're trying to do
for reasons i can't get

seek and find my secret mind
accept what's real for me
explore my world, it can be yours
if you make believe

don't drug me with some crazy pills
i want to stay awake
let's dance a jig, or sing a song
have fun for heaven's sake

today has much to offer
we're not dead 'til we die
open up the coffers
give everything a try

share a smile, touch my heart
i've got stuff to flaunt
let me be the me that's me
instead of who you want

i'm still alive, a gem inside
you'll spot me if you look
take my hand, love me now
before we close the book

