

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

A Member of BOSTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

DISCHARGE SUMMARY

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Name RIVA, James

Case No. 585232

Date ADMISSION: 7/31/78

Ward B3

Service PSYCHIATRY

DISCHARGE: 8/3/78

CC: Dr. R. Greenberg
Dr. R. Cooper

HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS: The patient is a 21-year-old white male with a six-year history of psychosis who was admitted with a chief complaint of "my brain has been altered by human hands, and I am here to get it fixed." The patient was admitted to McLea Hospital at age 15 for psychotic behavior; details of this are unspecified at this time. He was followed as an outpatient there for a while but under no psychiatric care for the last three years. The patient has been increasingly withdrawn and neglectful of personal hygiene in the past year. He had been living with his mother and brother, age 19, (his parents are divorced) until last year until his mother arranged to have the patient move to a rooming house. The patient ran away to Florida for six weeks this past winter to "get away" but eventually called for money and returned. Since then, the patient has been engaging in increasingly bizarre behavior such as dissecting a cat, wandering the streets at night, writing on a wall with animal blood. The patient has been concerned about his memory and the function of his mind in general.

PAST MEDICAL HISTORY: The patient's parents separated on and off since the patient was age 13. The divorce was completed two years ago. His brother, age 19, lives with and is in business with the patient's mother. The patient is described by mother as having been a "sensitive child, a loner." The patient is too disorganized at this time to give a reliable past history. The patient left high school just before graduating.

MENTAL STATUS EXAMINATION: The patient was dressed in jeans and polo shirt with long, uncombed hair. He was constantly looking around the room in a suspicious manner. Speech was fluent and coherent. He was reluctant to discuss problems with me but was gradually able to do so. He has delusions about being 700 years old and of being persecuted by a person named ~~_____~~ for hundreds of years. This consists of various tortures including surgery, accusatory voices, and telepathic control. He claims to be able to thought broadcast at times. He also has had visual hallucinations. Mood is suspicious and discouraged. The affect is flat with several episodes of inappropriate laughter. Memory: immediate 5 digits forward and 4 backward with one error; recent memory was intact; remote memory was intact. Serial 7's no error. Proverbs: glass house, "You shouldn't throw rocks or people will break your glass." Rolling stone: "If you keep moving, you won't get anything." Apple and orange: "Both sour and acid fruits." Insight is poor. Judgment poor to fair. He feels that he won't hurt himself but that is because persecutors, "just put me back together."

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION: Unremarkable.

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DISCHARGE SUMMARY

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LABORATORY DATA:

Routine lab studies had not returned to the chart at the time of this dictation.

HOSPITAL COURSE:

During his short hospital stay, the patient was noted to be extremely fearful with intense feelings of persecution. He refused to take medications on a regular basis. He also expressed a desire to "take blood" from someone to replenish himself. He was unable to agree to take medications or to contract not to do violence. Therefore, he was transferred on section 1. to Taunton State Hospital on 8/3/78. Because he was transferred, he was discharged on no particular medications. He had received Haldol 10 mg twice while here on Robinson 3.

DISCHARGE DIAGNOSES:

1. Paranoid schizophrenia.

PROCEDURES:

None.

Richard Cooper, M.D.

RC/ts shm
Tr. 8/8/78

Richard Cooper