

The Asylum

Psychiatric Clinic
for Abused Cuddlytoys

To:

Subject: Referral of the patient Lilo.

Dear colleague,

I am grateful to send you Lilo and hereby assign to you the further treatment of the patient. Please examine him carefully after the exhausting transport to find out whether he has suffered from the journey. Any disorders should be treated immediately.

The patient has already spent some time in our clinic. However, you will be forced to continue the psychological treatment. Therefore I would like to introduce you to the diagnostic details.

The anamnesis:

Information on the patient's social background is scarce. The ultimate owner, a young lady, couldn't pinpoint an event that might have triggered the patient's abnormal behaviour. Her statements have to be taken with a pinch of salt. However, as the patient has not come to terms with the past and still refuses to speak, his version of his personal background is still unknown.

Pathology and preliminary diagnosis:

Beside the patient's refusal to speak, another significant symptom is his compulsive urge to solve an ordinary jigsaw puzzle. He is so absorbed in this repetitive activity that he is unaware of his surroundings most of the time. A connection between the inability to speak and the compulsive urge to solve jigsaw puzzles seems likely.

When trying to engage the patient in conversation, it is most risky to separate him from his jigsaw puzzle. He is completely doomed without this puzzle. For this reason, as a precaution, we have attached the two puzzle elements to his feet. Communication could possibly be realized by other, puzzle-like occupations. The patient has passed intelligence tests with results above average, he solved all tasks except those containing elements akin to the two pieces of his jigsaw puzzle. This points out that the key to his problems is to feel out the symbolic mean of these puzzle elements.

A solution might be occupational therapy with puzzle-like games. However, if you try occupational therapy, you will have to accept the risk that the patient may drift even further into an autistic, abstract world.

I am sure that Lilo will benefit from your professional treatment. I would also like to thank you for your aid on behalf of the whole clinic.

Yours faithfully



Dr. Kindermann
(Head physician of the Psychiatry for Abused Cuddly Toys)