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PHD

LABYRINTH PSYCHOTICA - SIMULATING PSYCHOTIC PHENOMENA

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On the bus - Video Transcript

Narrator: You are about to experience a brief simulation of a psychotic episode in a patient with schizophrenia. The symptoms you will experience represent a compilation of a range of sensory occurrences, as reported by actual patients.

Bus Driver (BD): What's that? You need to go to that pharmacy on 7th Avenue and Green? Ya, well, this bus stops right near that pharmacy. Ya, so why don't you just go find yourself a seat and, uh, we'll be there in just a few minutes. Ok? So I haven't seen you in a while. Must have been a few months, huh? What have you been up to?

[Passengers become children singing on the bus]

[Static from bus radio in background]

Radio: Come in number 49, what's your twenty?

BD: Come in dispatch. We're crossing 15th and Johnson. We should keep this one in the wards with the others. What kind of person loses their medication?

Women's Voice (WV): They're all in this together, see? [laughing] The ward's a very good idea for this one.

BD: Sorry about that. They like to keep track of where I am all the time. So how you been?

WV: They want to keep track of you.

BD: You used to, uh, you used to take this bus to work didn't you?

Man's Voice (MV): They know you lost your job when you got sick again.

WV: You can't even keep your medication. No you lost your job when you got sick again. They want to keep track of you.

MV: Keep track of you.

[Street sign: What's Wrong With You Anyway?]

BD: Hey are you sure you want to go to that pharmacy on Green Street? You know the one on Maple Avenue is a lot nicer and, uh, and it's closer. My wife Shirley goes there all the time, and, uh, she's a nurse. What was the name of that place?

[Passengers shift and change on bus]

WV: He's taking you back to the FBI. And they've got more pills for you.

Motorcyclist: Hey you! Get off the bus! Get off the bus now!

[enlarges]

BD: What's the name of the pharmacy on Maple Avenue where you can get the stuff for the mental patients? I've got one here, now.

[Passengers change back into children singing "99 Bottles of Pills on the Wall"]

BD: This stop is Afrin and 13th Street. Next stop will be Green and 7th. Hey we'll be coming on board to take control of this situation.

Man: Can you just start the bus again?

BD: When they board, everybody please point to the front of the bus. In case you haven't noticed we have a royal visitor on the bus with us today.

[People screaming on the bus, police sirens in background]

BD: Your highness we will assume what you wish. You are our chosen leader you have God's given rights.

[Mixed voices in background]

BD: Maple Pharmacy that's where Shirley goes. I should have known because it's over there on Maple Avenue.

WV: It's a trap.

MV: What are they trying to do to me?

BD: Are you sure you want to go all the way across town to that other one? I can drop you off at Maple Avenue, it's just a little further.

Nurse: Hey! Can I get some restraints over here?

[walks over]

Nurse: Hi. Welcome back. Are you having a nice ride today your highness? Do you know where you are?

BD: Next stop FBI headquarters. Better watch with this one, he showed a lot of interest. Claims to be royalty.

Background Voices: Driver, stop the bus! Stop the bus!

Nurse: You look like you can't take care of yourself anymore your highness. You really are a mess aren't you?

BD: That pharmacy has everything. My wife loves it. Shirley says they just put in a counter and a selection of medicines to control thugs like you. So where are you working these days? Do you take that other bus?

WV: This guy just leeches off the rest of us. He sleeps all day. Filth! Sleeps all day, eats all day, never leaves the house.

BD: You sure are quiet.

Nurse: Back here! Yes I mean you. Do you even know where you're going?

BD: Did I say something wrong?

Voices: Do you know where you're going?

[Nurse leans over]

[Ambulance siren – bus turns into ambulance]

Radio: Come in number 49 what's your twenty? Are you still on schedule?

BD: Right on schedule dispatch I am now stopping at Green and 7th.

[Passengers return to normal]

Radio: Ten four. See you back at dispatch.

BD: This stop Green and 7th. Exit now for Green and 7th. Hey friend, this is the stop you wanted isn't it? Are you all right? You don't look so good. Maybe you should have gone to that pharmacy sooner, huh?

This experience is intended to heighten your awareness of the conditions affecting patients with schizophrenia. It is not meant to suggest that all of the symptoms depicted here are displayed by all schizophrenics. There is no typical case of schizophrenia.