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Mrs. Rutan

A.P. literature and Composition

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**Oedipus' Therapist**

**Patient Log 1- Oedipus**

A strange blind man came into my office today and demanded to talk to me. He came in shouting and bumbling about saying something about having "daddy issues." So my secretary Janice set him up with an appointment for next Tuesday.

**Patient Log 2- Oedipus**

Oedipus came in for his first appointment today. Although he isn't that old, his face looks as though he's lived 1,000 years. Not many of my clients have struck me as being that needy. Most of them are just whiny; however, Oedipus might actually have issues.

I sat with him for a usual two hour session and in that time I haven't learned much about the troubled man. My first question rendered him practically catatonic. All I asked was "tell me about yourself" which I didn't think would have struck such a profound reaction from him. I didn't really gather that much from this session but we scheduled regular visits as soon as he stopped crying like my 4 year old daughter in the fetal position. I've never seen a blind man cry before and I wasn't quite sure how it worked.

**Patient Log 3- Oedipus**

This session my goal is to not make Oedipus cry like Pete Bests did after the Beatles got famous. This may or may not prove to be my toughest case yet.

Today went much better than the last session. Today Oedipus did not cry that much. He answered most of my questions. Between weeps I gathered that his mother tried to murder him as a child and he was taken in by the king of Corinth. At first I thought I cracked his story but then he continued. What was to follow shocked me to my core. He was a king! That's pretty cool. But why does a king need therapy?

**Patient Log 4- King Oedipus**

Its been a week since I've seen Oedipus and thank Zeus I get to see him today. He has sparked a burning interest in me. I need to know the inner most caverns of his mind and psyche.

I spent my every minute listening to Oedipus talk about his life today. Not only was he raised in a palace but he solved the mystery of the sphinx. He is a great man. Unfortunately we ran out of time before I could ask him about why he was blind. Until next time I guess.

**Patient Log 5- King Oedipus**

Out of today's session I would like to ask about his kingdom and how he got those scars.

I've never in all my days had a patient like him. I learned everything, and I mean everything, about his past. About his fathers murder and his mothers new husband. I mean the guy married his own mother. Gross am I right? I should write this down and create a psychological disorder out of this. It'll be famous. I think the Oedipus conundrum might be good. Or maybe I should name it the Oedipus complex! I like that one. Needless to say Oedipus will be seeing me for a very long time. Well not seeing because of the whole gouging out his eyes thing, but he will be coming for a very long time.

**Reflection**

In my writing I thought it'd be good to have a third opinion on the whole situation. And who better to do that than a therapist. When you think about it, the story it's kind of crazy. What are the odds that Oedipus would happen to stumble on his father and accidentally kill him. And what are the odds that after he killed his father, without knowing it, he would marry his mother? That's almost humorous in a way. So that's where I got the idea of more of a satirical version almost. This also gives a look at what Oedipus did after he was exiled from Thebes. I mean if it was me I would probably go see a therapist. Before I read this book I heard the story about the Oedipus complex and how he married his mom. It was a happy coincidence that we just happened to read the book right after. I do still have a couple of questions though. Why did he marry his mom? In that time she was at least 13 or 14 years older than Oedipus. Why wouldn't he try and marry someone younger? And after he was excited what did he do? It would be very hard to get around or go places when you were blind. How would he get food or water? He would need someone to take care of him the rest of his life. Over all I did like the book though. I've always been a fan of Ancient Greek culture.