

LACHESIS (The Surucucu) as a Teacher, Through the Eyes of those With Whom She Works

Comments From Her Students:

- I'll tell you, Mrs. Surucucu is one of the smartest teachers I have, but there's just no pleasing her. Not ever. And I'm not joking about this. Just the other day I was absent because I had to get my braces adjusted. She knows I do that once a month. Still, she accused me of skipping her class. She was so angry I couldn't even reason with her. She's suspicious of all of us. She always thinks we're up to no good.
- At lunch in the cafeteria we were joking among ourselves. We were talking about a movie we had seen. She stormed over to our table and berated us for laughing at her and gossiping. She's just hyper-sensitive.
- I hate it when she gets overheated. She opens all the windows in the classroom. We're freezing to death, there's papers blowing all over the place, and she claims to be burning up.
- I can tell when she gets one of her headaches. She's hyper-hyper-sensitive about everything, and the arteries in her neck and temples pulse visibly. Looks like she's going to keel over when she's like that. I get worried she's going to have a heart attack or something. I don't want to have to be the one to give her CPR.
- Sometimes I can hardly keep up with her. She talks so fast and gets so excited about the subject at times that she's going a mile a minute. And she gets mad at us if we can't keep up or we ask her to repeat herself. It's almost as if she is going so fast that *she* can't even remember what she says!
- She really is sarcastic when she's angry, you could almost say she's mean. She gets some of the more sensitive students crying when she gives them a tongue-lashing. It's like she knows exactly the right thing to say to hurt their feelings. I really don't like her very much.
- She called my parents and told them I wasn't doing my work in class. I can't believe it. I always do my work. I really think she did it because she thought I was talking about her in

the cafeteria. She wanted to know the next day if I had had any “interesting” conversations with my parents lately. She’s a hyper-bitch.

- She has an ego that won’t quit. You’d think she invented history herself, for crying out loud.
- She cracks me up. She seems so intense and so forceful, but one of my classmates was talking on break about his pet snake and showed us a picture of it, and she overheard us. I thought she was going to faint right then and there. She went pale and had to leave the cafeteria after she saw the picture. I never thought she would be afraid of anything – she’s so mean at times that I think snakes should be afraid of her!
- I really like the way she dresses. Her clothes are upscale, fancy and colorful, and very stylish. I really wish I could wear clothes like that. Her husband is *a hunk*. But I think she thinks he’s fooling around on her all the time. She doesn’t always talk very nice about him.

Comments From Her Colleagues:

- Muta is something else. She seems...uh...well, I’m not sure how to describe it. Extreme, maybe. She seems to be really sensitive at times, and really explosive at others. I tend to tiptoe around her – I’m never really sure whether she will fly off the handle, accuse me of sleeping with her husband, or take me into her confidence to gossip about someone else. She seems like a really jealous type, or something like that. Its almost as though she feels the need to make sure she is seen in a good light and to do that, she has to put others down.
- Ah, Muta. A very remarkable lady. My god. If I wasn’t already married, and if she wasn’t married – well – can’t tell you how I would like that chase. Those clothes she wears don’t help. Not really revealing per se, but...well, enticing is a good word. Loose at the neck, flowing and wispy at the waist – almost a tease to imagine what she has underneath. She’s not the best looking woman, but she’s lithe and there’s just something...well...stirring about her...in a dangerous sort of way, I guess. Its intriguing to a guy like me.

- She's very bright. Very smart. Knows a lot. In fact, I am amazed at how much she knows, given she isn't that old and for all intents and purposes has an average education – not like a PhD or anything. But she's got it together intellectually. Sometimes maybe a little absent-minded, but usually very quick, on her toes – hard to keep up with her sometimes.
- We're friends and I worry about her. She gets awful headaches sometimes. She's not very old, but she seems to suffer a lot with her health. I really thought her husband was beating her for all the bruises she gets –they sometimes argue a lot. She insists that she just bruises easily and deeply and that he's never laid a mean hand on her. The bruises are so dark and purple; it seems to me that they are just too big to be accidental. When she has the headaches or the bruises, just a light touch causes her the greatest pain. She says when she hurts that much, she may as well just give up because she feels like she's already dead. She has a *lot* of 'girl' problems, if you know what I mean. She gets really awful sore throats, too.
- I notice when she is giving presentations, the lights of the overhead projector bother her a lot. She rubs her eyes a lot and tries not to look at the light. She keeps half the lights off in her classroom, come to think of it...the students are always talking about "the cave" they have to study in. I think she must have eye trouble, because sometimes it looks like she's just staring.
- Most of the time she's pretty cheerful and seems okay. Some days, though, she is difficult to understand. She talks lightning fast, changes topics all the time, and she sometimes mumbles under her breath, like she's talking to herself or something. And once in a while she just stops, right in the middle of a sentence – as though her train of thought simply stopped dead.

Comments From Her Supervisor:

- Muta is a bright teacher and very dedicated to her work. She is very intense at times, though, and on a few occasions I've had to speak to her privately about some challenges I think she should work on. She's a bit of a pessimist and sometimes gets a little too personal with her comments in staff meetings and with the students. Most of the time she is very positive and upbeat. But sometimes she just seems to lash out –some days she is very sensitive. Her students all seem to do well under her guidance, but I'm not sure its so much because she is an inspirational teacher as it is that she is a fearsome one!

Comments From Herself:

- I just have these periods of time when I can't remember a thing. I just go blank, like something has snatched my thoughts away. I have trouble concentrating when this happens, and I get easily confused.
- I don't feel good about this, but I have this jealousy – I just can't explain it. My neighbor's husband bought her a new car, and I was beside myself. I have a nice car, I have no reason to feel this way. I should be happy for her, and instead I'm jealous and secretly feel spiteful about it.
- I always feel better as soon as my menses start. Up to that point, I get horrible headaches, and I feel like everything is just too tight. Feels like my eyes will pop right out of my head.
- My dreams? I often have premonitions in my dreams. Sometimes I know when things are going to happen, or I know ahead of time that something will happen. I also have horrible nightmares sometimes. They're *awful*.
- I prefer to live in the country, really. The city is too congested. Too many people. Too much crime. It is simply too oppressive for me. Sometimes people can be so evil to one another.
- What makes me angry? Sometimes *everything* makes me angry. And *everyone*. I got really pissed off at someone at work after they said something to me. Before I even knew it,

I literally destroyed her with my words. I felt like striking out, I couldn't seem to help myself.

After that, I had one of those awful headaches.

Observations:

This patient is already suffering some of the pathology that Lachesis treatment can help: easy bruising, photophobia, horrible headaches, menstrual problems, discomfort around the neck and waist, sore throats, and of course some of the key affections of the mind: jealousy, gossiping, suspicion of her students, loquacity, loss of thought, and what seems to her students and peers as unwarranted attacks and what they describe as "meanness." Reactions to her will differ, of course, depending on the constitutional types of her students and the staff of the school (and her husband, of course!), but there seems to be a general consensus that she is struggling.

Without treatment, we can expect her condition to deepen gradually, and perhaps shift quite dramatically as she reaches menopause, as these patients suffer greatly from suppressed discharges. She will likely develop heart and circulatory problems, difficulty breathing, and a worsening of her eye problems. Lachesis has a strong affect on the blood and circulation, and as this occurs, the headaches will become more and more violent with the disturbances in her blood. She may describe sensations in her chest of constriction, oppression, and a feeling "as if the heart is suspended by a string." This may be accompanied by irregular heartbeat, palpitations, and a heavy heartbeat that is felt throughout the body as a pulsing sensation.

Clothing about the neck and abdomen already appear to trouble her, and this will also worsen as she feels ever more constricted. She may have problems with bloating, difficulty with stool, and ultimately develop bleeding hemorrhoids. Wounds will bleed easily and freely, but with a dark, old looking blood. These will likely heal with difficulty and may even threaten to go septic. She is likely to develop varicosities as well.

She may lose the tendency to loquacity and instead suffer increasing difficulty of thought and inability to find the right words. Her state of mind will increasingly move towards anxiety, imagined fears and suspicions, and increasing sensitivity to all the senses (noise and touch in particular). She may become more introverted, suppressing her emotions and sexuality as she succumbs to deeper symptoms– which will simply cause more and more aggravation of her condition. Left-sided symptoms may move to the right as they worsen.

She could begin to suffer (if she isn't already) from violent, dangerous, or frightening dreams and her imaginations and fear will grow along with this. These can disturb her sleep and her sense of well-being. Symptoms of the mind (such as suspicion, jealousy, anger, fear, difficult memory, religious affections, and so forth) will deepen and can lead to insanity or fear of insanity. As her life progresses, we can expect to see her condition worsen with situations promoting "ailments from" in Lach patients: loss of loved ones, mortification, anger, disappointment, and discord (which, as she worsens, is apt to happen more often in her relations with others).

*COMPANY, aversion to, desires solitude to indulge her fancy**
*COMPANY, aversion to, desires solitude to indulge her fancy, when pregnant**

DELUSION, that his mother is dead*
 DELUSION, that heart is too large*
 JEALOUSY, as foolish as it is irresistible*

DELIRIUM, changes subjects rapidly*
 DELIRIUM, from fatigue, study, etc*
 DELIRIUM, from mental exertion*
 INDUSTRIOUS, in the evening*
 MANIA, after mental exertion*
 MEMORY Active, from suppressing sexual desire*
 PROSTRATION of mind, after eating*
 STUPEFACTION, amel when feet become warm*
 UNCONSCIOUSNESS, on looking upwards*
 FEAR, of insanity

*WEEPING, from anecdotes**
*WEEPING, at soothing poetry**

*FORGETFUL of everything that had occurred for six years**
 HURRY, as night*
 FEAR, at night
 FEAR, in the evening
 DELUSIONS, that it is always afternoon

FEAR, of death
 DELUSIONS, that he himself is dead
 DELUSIONS, that time has come to die

CRAWLING on the floor*
 Insanity, crawls on the floor*

DELUSIONS, bed were sinking
 DELUSIONS, floating in air
 DELUSIONS, that he is floating in air and not resting in bed
 FEAR, of the bed
 FEAR, to go to sleep
 FEAR, on waking
 DELUSIONS, fancies he was carried into space while lying
 DELUSIONS, that body is lighter than air
 DELUSIONS, sensation of flying

FEAR, when riding in a carriage
 DELUSIONS, thinks that he is on a journey

DELUSIONS, thinks he is away from home

DELUSIONS, converses with absent people
 DELUSIONS, house is full of people

DELUSIONS, is under superhuman control
DELUSIONS, is under a powerful influence

DELUSIONS, of being double
 DELUSIONS, thinks he is some other person
 DELUSIONS, errors of personal identity
 DELUSIONS, errors of personal identity, thinks that she is someone else

DELUSIONS, sees devils
 FEAR, of evil
 THOUGHTS, persistent, of evil*
 DELUSIONS, sees dead persons
DELUSION, imaginations, hallucinations, illusions
DELUSIONS, sees images, phantoms
DELUSIONS, sees images, phantoms, when alone
 DELUSIONS, sees spectres, ghosts, spirits, on closing eyes
 DELUSIONS, sees images, phantoms, frightful

DELUSION, thinks medicine is poison*
 FEAR, of being poisoned
 FEAR, after eating
 DELUSIONS, that is about to receive an injury
 DELUSIONS, that there were conspiracies against him
 DELUSIONS, has suffered wrong
 DELUSIONS, thought he was pursued by enemies
 DELUSIONS, is being injured
 FEAR, of misfortune
 FEAR, of impending disease
 FEAR, of the cholera
 FEAR, of water
 FEAR, of apoplexy
 FEAR, of heart disease
 FEAR, of infection
 DELUSIONS, snakes in and around him
 DELUSIONS, sees thieves in house
 FEAR, of robbers
 FEAR, that someone is behind him

FEAR, of touch
 FEAR, or people
 FEAR, of men
 FEAR, of strangers
 DELUSIONS, sees people, that someone is behind him
 DELUSIONS, is being injured by his surroundings

DELUSIONS, vivid
DELUSIONS, sees visions
DELUSIONS, beautiful
DELUSIONS, beautiful, landscapes
 DELUSIONS, sees beautiful visions
DELUSION, visions, clouds of colors*
 DELUSIONS, sees visions on closing the eyes

DELUSIONS, illusions of fancy
 DELUSIONS, sees images, phantoms, pleasant
 DELUSIONS, sees fantastic visions
 DELUSIONS, sees wonderful visions
 DELUSIONS, hears voices
 DELUSIONS, fancies he hears music
 DELUSIONS, fancies he hears music, delightful music
 DELUSIONS, hears sweetest and sublimest music
 FEAR, of thunderstorms
 AILMENTS, anger
 AILMENTS, anticipation
 AILMENTS, bad news
AILMENTS, death of loved ones
 AILMENTS, death of a child
 AILMENTS, debauchery
 AILMENTS, disappointment
 AILMENTS, discords between chief and subordinates
 AILMENTS, discords with one's friends
 AILMENTS, discords with one's parents
 AILMENTS, egotism
 AILMENTS, emotional excitement
 AILMENTS, emotional excitement, children are ill at certain moments
 AILMENTS, fright
 AILMENTS, fright, during menses
AILMENTS, grief
 AILMENTS, jealousy
 AILMENTS, love, disappointed
 AILMENTS, mental exertion
 AILMENTS, mortification
 AILMENTS, punishment

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