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# A Psychotic (Sexual) Psychopath: "I just had a violent thought . . ."

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The case of a 33-year-old White male with a history of sexual assault is presented. His Rorschach is analyzed and interpreted using both psychostructural (Exner, 1986) and psychodynamic (Cooper & Arnow, 1986; Kwawer, 1980; Meloy & Gacono, in press-b) methodologies. Findings are used to understand the presence and interaction of both psychopathic character and psychotic personality organization in this mentally ill, sadistic, and sexually predatory young man.

The ways in which level of personality organization and character formation are interdependent have been theoretically advanced by Kernberg's (1984) work. Empirical research to test such theory, however, has been virtually absent. Specific character pathologies and their relationship to psychotic personality organization have likewise received little attention (Frosch, 1983; Meloy, 1988). In fact, it was not until the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (3rd ed., rev. [DSM–III–R]; American Psychiatric Association, 1987) that the diagnoses of schizophrenia and antisocial personality disorder, for instance, could be applied to the same patient at the same time.

In this study, we present a case of a young man who is organized at a psychotic level of personality and is also a psychopathic character. Rorschach findings are used empirically to understand the nature of the relationship between these two dimensions of personality and to provide concurrent validity for the psychopathology suggested by his overt behavior. Our approach to the Rorschach data is both psychostructural and psychodynamic.

# CASE STUDY

Huntley is a 33-year-old White male, born and raised in an intact family with one older sister. His father is an electrician, and his mother is a homemaker. He and others describe him as a loner while growing up. His mother confirms a history of enuresis, multiple runaways from home, stealing money from his parents, and lying: behaviors that are consistent with a diagnosis of conduct disorder. He also had marked developmental delays in such activities as shoe tying, telling time, bike riding, and knot tying. There is no evidence of cruelty toward animals or firesetting and truancy or vandalism. His classmates, however, nicknamed him "blondie the animal."

His sexual history is significant; at the age of 5, he remembers "falling in love with Olive Oyl" while watching a Popeye cartoon on television. He was attracted to her because of her brightly polished toenails and probably because she was the love object of two strong and powerful men. He also remembers being sexually aroused while rubbing his mother's feet. His foot fetish has been consistently present throughout his childhood, adolescence, and adulthood.

Huntley was first diagnosed with a grand mal seizure disorder by a neurologist when he was 14. It was well controlled with primidone. He was 16 when he first visited a psychiatrist. His major complaint was intense fears of losing control of his sexual and aggressive impulses due to constant rejections by girls. He also began to think about rape fantasies after viewing the television movie, "A Case of Rape," starring Elizabeth Montgomery.

Self-report indicates that he assaulted two acquaintances in late adolescence. These incidents were never reported to the police. The first involved a 17-yearold girl that refused to let him kiss her. He stated that he heard a voice at the time telling him, "Hey, look at her. Wouldn't you like her?" He also grabbed a male friend by the collar and said, "You know who I am?" He delusionally believed at the time that he was possessed by Satan and he "had no control over it." He reported auditory hallucinations of "both God and Satan. God gives me directions. Satan probes into my head telling me about killing people." He continued to seek psychiatric help, but refused medications. He dropped out of military school at age 17.

By the age of 20, Huntley was spending most of his time away from home, riding buses around the city as, in his own words, "a weird pervert," seeking opportunities to run his hands across the exposed feet of women. If he "was lucky," he would slide his fingers between their toes and "grab one if I could." He reported this compulsion as ego dystonic at the time.

In fantasy, these encounters went further. "I would move my hand as far as I can. I would feel under their blouses and go all the way." These fantasies would consistently involve carrying a knife to frighten the female into submission and then kill her "so that she couldn't tell anybody, and no one would know." Actual

heterosexual experience was completely absent in Huntley's life. He also described in detail plunging a knife into a pillow at home, rape fantasies during masturbation, and a sadistic homicidal fantasy: He would nail a person to a wall in a crucified position, severely cut the individual, gather the blood, mix it with gasoline, pour it over the victim, set it on fire, and then paint a sign on the wall, "Love is Death." The gender of this victim was unclear.

Five months before his criminal offense, a psychiatrist wrote, "he is bordering on a psychotic regression which would be imminent without therapeutic intervention." Several days before Huntley's crime, he contacted his fourth psychiatrist and reported he was having "horrible problems" coping with his frustrations and impulses. He also felt he might need hospitalization. The psychiatrist requested that his mother drive him to the local mental health hospital, which she did. He refused to go in.

He was now having constant fantasies and impulses to rape and murder a 36-year-old mother of two whom he had met during church. He was "impressed with her body, particularly her boobs." He asked her for a ride home from her house one day, and she let him sit in the back seat. He suddenly grabbed her around the neck with a knife to her throat and told her he was going to rape her. She struggled and escaped, but was seriously injured with a stab wound to the neck. Huntley was found guilty for attempted rape and murder, and not guilty by reason of insanity. He was 21 years old.

During the evaluations to determine his sanity he said, "I've got a split personality, some form of schizophrenia. I have a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde complex. Hyde is dirty, perverted, deranged. He makes me think of doing things that I've never considered in my life; all sorts of shit, about pulling a knife on someone in a car where they can't stop because then I have full control." He was subsequently committed to a regional forensic hospital.

Nine years later, Huntley was conditionally released to an involuntary outpatient program (Meloy, Haroun, & Schiller, 1990) with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, paranoid type, chronic; fetishism; mixed personality disorder with borderline and schizorypal traits; a history of grand mal seizures; enuresis; peptic ulcer; and intermittent impotence. He moved into a residential home and remained somewhat stable for 3 years.

When he was 33, however, things began to fall apart. He had a mentally ill girlfriend, but she ended the relationship. He had a pet kitten, with which he masturbated, but another kitten arrived at the residence and played with his. The new animal was found with its neck broken, buried in the back yard several weeks later. Huntley was then observed blocking the passage of a female staff person in the hallway and teasingly putting his hands around the neck of another. He was also harassing his former girlfriend. The day he was brought back into custody as a preventive measure, he told a clinician, "I am suicidal, homicidal, and cannot be responsible for my actions."

Huntley was administered the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-Revised,

Multiphasic Sex Inventory (MSI) and Rorschach within several weeks of his incarceration. His Full-Scale IQ was 84 (Verbal IQ 90, Performance IQ 80). On the MSI, he responded true to Question 296, "I have fantasied about killing someone during sex," and Question 53, "I have used a weapon to scare a person into having sex." He was receiving the following medications at the time of this Rorschach: fluphenazine decanoate, 1 cc every 2 weeks; lithium carbonate, 1500 mg each day; chlorpromazine, 200 mg each day; and imipramine, 100 mg at bedtime.

# RESULTS

Table 1 is the Rorschach protocol. Table 2 is the sequence of scores, and Table 3 is the structural summary, both generated by Rorschach Interpretation Assistance Program: Version 2 (Exner, 1990).

## DISCUSSION

Huntley's Rorschach suggests both psychotic personality organization (Kernberg, 1984) and psychopathic character (Meloy, 1988). An analysis of both the psychostructural (Exner, 1986) and psychodynamic aspects of the protocol underscores ways in which a primitive level of personality and a particular character formation interact with and shape each other.

# Psychostructure

Structural characteristics (Exner, 1986) of severe psychopathy have been identified in various groups of antisocial personality disordered males (Gacono & Meloy, 1991, in press; Gacono, Meloy, & Berg, in press; Gacono, Meloy, & Heaven, 1990; Meloy & Gacono, in press-b). Huntley's protocol is consistent with psychopathic character in his omnipotence and identification with the aggressor (*Personals* = 4); reduced interest in others as whole, real, and meaningful human beings (H = 2; H:Hd = 2:3); unmodulated affect (FC:CF + C = 0:3); emotional constraint while incarcerated (C' = 9); chronic anger (S = 4); perceptual unconventionality (X + % = 42); and severely impaired reality testing (X - % = 21).

A psychotic level of personality organization, however, is suggested by structural aspects that differentiate Huntley from higher developmental level psychopaths and predict global impairments. This individual's stress tolerance and controls, both state and trait, are very poor (D = -4, Adjusted D = -3). Coupled with his unmodulated affect, repetitive loss of impulse control would be expected. He experiences dysphoria to a profound degree (DEPI = 5, eb = 10:11),

TABLE 1 The Rorschach Protocol of a Psychotic (Sexual) Psychopath

I. 1. Looks like a Halloween mask.

The whole thing. They look like horns on top and on the side (?) Idk. Just does. Also it is black. (?) Eyes right where eyes should be on the face. (?) The nose, not exactly a nose, a place to breathe out. Just looks like a Halloween mask. A sinister smile. Divided by a line, still looks like a mouth. Sinister. Grey lines resemble teeth to me. It'll do a.t. it can to get to you. Not going to let it [smiles].

2. I see two people standing together, a man and a woman. Got it backwards, a woman over here, man over here, sorry about that. Doing the best I can. Shape of the head. Looks like she got a good haircut, hairstyle, looks feminine. The shape of the head, outline of the body. Facing each other, looking at each other. Way the head's shaped and body is outlined. Looks ragged. Line here, right by shoulderblades might be a crease in a shirt or muscles, looks like the outdoors type. Idk. In my imagination. See him with a shirt or climbing up mountains.

- 3. This one you're not going to like. Looks like a vagina after a period. Using the whole thing. (Vagina?) Do I have to [laughs] outside of a vagina (?) first thing that came to my mind it is similar. Inside space, looks like a vagina (?) blood stains here and here. I've seen them before. That's what they look like. Big spots, real red.
  - 4. Looks like a cave.

II.

These are rocks, on both rocks. The color, the shape (?) Black. This hole right here. Kind of looks endless. Enter to nowhere yet somewhere. Who knows, maybe entering to a lost tunnel.

III. 5. Two people dancing at a party. A man and a woman. The ted symbolizes the decorations of the party.

All of it. Way they are shaped. Color helps, too. Black. (?) Way they are formed. (Symbolized?) It looks like decorations hanging from a ceiling, and hanging off the wall. 6. Also looks like some dolphins swimming around some rocks.

- All the black Dolphins. Each has got a fin showing, that goes upward like a dolphin swimming. I love dolphins playing around. They are sweet. Next to a dog, man's best friend. Don't hurt them. Rocks are the shape and black.
- IV. 7. I see two things. A big monster approaching.

It looks black and gray. Looks hairy to me. Evil eyes. Big hands. (hairy?) Way black and gray are blended together.(?) The type of thing you'd want to get away from fast. Gives me the creeps. (Approaching?) The way the feet are pointed. Paws actually, no claws. Only two fingers on the whole hand and they are sharp, kind of like pincers on a crab.

8. Also, a giant tree. How am I doing?

Trunk of the tree (?) I've seen alot of trees and it looks like one. Like I said, leaves (?) shape and color. Looks like a tree in autumn. They are dark. Not bright green. Looks like it's ready to fall. Fall is my favorite time of year. (Giant?) I'm about 5'10". This tree looks like it towers over me at least six hundred times. I see myself at the base of the tree and it's towering up, up, up, forever up. I don't want to miss lunch.

V. 9. A bat or a butterfly.

Whole thing. (bat?) The wings, feet, ears here. Coming at me (?) Just, I don't know. (butterfly?) Way it is shaped, the antenna (?) Way shaped. Next to the smallest thing on the drawing (?) I can't explain it.

10. A moth.

Basically the same thing that made it look like a butterfly.

VI	;;	A sky vision to a highway road with mountains on both sides.
¥ 1.	• • •	<ul> <li>(?) Whole thing. Looking down on it. I've seen freeways before. (Highway!) White line going down the middle of it. The blackness of the road. (mountains?) I've gone</li> </ul>
		to mountains before and seen a lot of hills, it reminds me of hills and mountains.
	12.	And two cars on a road going toward each other.
		The shape, the color, makes it look like it's got headlights on.
	13.	Also looks like somebody's rectum [smiles].
		The crack (?) The line that goes down to it, and the opening, the color (?) gray and black.
VII.	14.	One is two girls with ponytails getting ready to kiss each other.
		Facial features, shape. Looks like two girls. Ponytails standing straight up. First
		thing I thought of. Lips puckered up ready to kiss each other slowly but surely (?)
		going in slow motion to get to each other.
	15.	A bunch of raim clouds forming. I found a third one.
		Clouds, the whole thing. Puffy and shape. (?) the color, it's gray. Rain clouds, dark clouds, the color. Coming together from top to bottom.
	16.	A cricket caught in the midst of a bunch of rain clouds.
		It just does! Long, slender. Got its legs tucked in, just reminded me of a cricket. (caught?) Pressed in between the two clouds, coming closer and closer, pressing on the beetle, cricket, rather.
VIIL	17.	Two aardvarks pulling on the sails of an old ship.
		The whole thing. They are long and slender, the nose being the only difference
		between these and the real ones. These have a shorter snout, way the lines are.
		Long. (?) Just pulling on the sails, just looks like old, beat up sails. Raggedy edges,
		torn all to hell. Ragged edges. Rest of the boat is right here. The only solid thing
		here.
IX.	18.	Okay, I see two old men searching for something.
		Here's the eyes, nose, and mouth, the way the lip hangs down. Searching (?) way
		the eyes look, wide open and concentrating on whatever they can see. Ready to zero
v	•0	in on any one thing at any minute. Maybe a couple of old ladies [laughs].
λ.	19.	I see alien life invading a dance. I see all kinds of bugs and insects also invading the
		dance. Scorpions too.
		The top looks like a space ship, the way it is shaped, the color, gray and white. Could write a story about this one. Serpents (?) It's ugly, slimy, mean looking, I
		wouldn't touch them. I have had lizards before. Alien beings from another planet.
		The blue, scorpions, got a lot of legs, on the attack, ready to kill and devour a.t.
		that they get their hands on, or pinchers or whatever you want to call it. The
		dance, pink, things represent two people having a good time at a dance (?) just
		having fun at a dance.
-1		

and a major mood disorder, perhaps a psychotic one, is probable. Although not suicidal, one would consider aggressive behavior (Ag = 1) in this angry man with a possible loss of reality testing (S - % = 25). These psychotic outbursts would likely occur in the midst of sexual preoccupation (Sx = 2; Responses 3, 13) and feelings of rage.

Cognitive problems, particularly ideation, are most pathognomonic of Huntley's psychotic organization. Formal thought disorder is pervasive and

Psychopath								
No.	Loc.	#	Determinant(s)	(2)	Content(s)	Pop Z	Special Scores	
1	W/So	1	FC'.Mpo		(Hd)	3.5	DR	
2	Dd+	99	Мри		H, Cg	4.0	DR	
3	W/So	1	CF-		An, Sx, Bi	4.5	PER	
4	DS/	6	C'F.FDu		Ls	4.5	DR2	
5	W +	1	Ma.FC'.mp.CFo		H, Art	P 5.5	AB, COP	
6	D+	1	FMa.FC'u	2	A, Ls	3.0	DR2	
7	Do	7	FMa.FTo		(A)		DR	
8	Ddo	99	FY.FDe		Bt		PER, DR	
9	Wo	3	FMao		A	P 1.0	DR	
10	$W_{O}$	Ĩ	Fo		А	I.0		
11	W +	1	FC'.FDu		Ls	2.5	PER, DV	
12	D+	5	ma.FC'u	2	Sc, Ls	2.5		
13	Do	5	FC'-		An, Sx			
14	D+	2	Mp.mpe	2	Hd	P 3.0	COP	
15	W/	1	C'F.mac	2	Cl	2.5		
16	W +	1	ma.FMp-		A, Cİ	2.5	FAB2	
17	W+	1	FMau	2	A, Sc	P 4.5	FAB2, MOR	
18	DS+	;	Мри	2	Hd	2.5	DR	
19	W +	i	Ma.FC'.CF-	2	Sc, (H), A	5.5	FAB2, AG, COP, PER	
			Summar	y of A	pproach			
I:WS.Dd								
S.DS	$\nabla \mathbb{H}: D. W. W.$							
D.	VIII:W							
Dd	IX:DS							
W	X:W							
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 5.Dd 5.Dd 5.Dd 5.Dd 5.Dd 5.Dd 5.Dd 7 7 8 9 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 19 10 11 11 12 13 14 15 16 16 17 18 19 10 10 11 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	1 WSo 2 Dd+ 3 WSo 4 DS/ 5 W+ 6 D+ 7 Do 8 Ddo 9 Wo 10 Wo 11 W+ 12 D+ 13 Do 14 D+ 15 W/ 16 W+ 17 W+ 18 DS+ 19 W+ 19 W+	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	No.         Loc.         #         Determinant(s)           1 $WSo$ 1 $FC:Mpo$ 2 $Dd +$ 99         Mpu           3 $WSo$ 1 $CF-$ 4 $DS/$ 6 $CF-$ 5 $W+$ 1 $Ma,FC'u$ 7 $Dc$ 7 $FMaa$ 8 $Ddo$ 99 $FY,FDo$ 9 $Wo$ 1 $FMao$ 10 $Wc$ 1 $Fo$ 11 $W+$ 1 $FC,FDu$ 12 $D+$ 5 $ma,FC'u$ 13 $Do$ 5 $FC-$ 14 $D+$ 2 $Mp,mpo$ 15 $W/$	No.         Loc.         #         Determinant(s)         (2)           1         WSo         1         FC:Mpo           2         Dd+         99         Mpu           3         WSo         1         CF-           4         DS/         6         CF.FDu           5         W+         1         Ma.FC.mp.CFo           6         D+         1         FMa.FCu         2           7         Do         7         FMa.FTo         8           8         Ddo         99         FY.FDo         9           9         Wo         1         FMao         10           10         W'o         1         Fo         11           11         W+         1         FC.FDu         12           12         D+         5         ma.FCu         2           13         Do         5         FC-         14           14         D+         2         Mp.mpo         2           15         W/         1         CF.mac         2           16         W+         1         ma.FC.CF-         2           Summary of A         SDS         <	No.         Loc.         #         Determinant(s)         (2)         Content(s)           1         WSo         1         FC:Mpo         (Hd)           2 $Dd +$ 99         Mpu         H, Cg           3         WSo         1         CF-         An, Sx, Bl           4         DS/         6         CF.FDu         Ls           5         W +         1         Ma.FC:mp.CFo         H, Art           6         D +         1         FMa.FC'u         2         A, Ls           7         Do         7         FMa.FTo         (A)         Bt           9         Wo         1         FMao         A         11           9         Wo         1         FMao         A         11           10         Wo         1         FO         A         11           11         W +         1         FC:FDu         Ls         12           12         D +         5         ma.FC'u         2         Sc, Ls           13         Do         5         FC'-         An, Sx           14         D +         2         Mp.mpc         2         Hd	No.         Loc.         #         Determinant(s)         (7)         Content(s)         Pop Z           1         WSo         1         FC:Mpo         (Hd)         3.5           2         Dd+         99         Mpu         H, Cg         4.0           3         WSo         1         CF-         An, Sx, Bl         4.5           4         DS/         6         CF.FDu         Ls         4.5           5         W+         1         Ma.FC:mp.CFo         H, Art         P 5.5           6         D+         1         FMa.FCu         2         A, Ls         3.0           7         Do         7         FMa.FTo         (A)         8         Ddo         99         FY.FDo         Bt         9           9         Wo         1         FMao         A         1.0         11         W+         1         FC.FDu         Ls         2.5         12         D+         5         ma.FCu         2         Sc, Ls         2.5         13         Do         5         FC-         An, Sx         14         D+         2         Mp.mpo         2         Hd         P 3.0         15         W/         1	

TABLE 2 Comprehensive System Sequence of Scores From the Rorschach of a Psychotic (Sexual) Psychopath

severe (WSum6 = 52, Level 2 = 5). Although formal thought disorder is expected in psychopathy, Level 2 special scores are not. Huntley's cognitive processing deficits, coupled with his affective disorder, would warrant consideration of a schizoaffective diagnosis despite the clinical absence of overt delusions and hallucinations at the time of testing, probably due to aggressive pharmacotherapy. Other ideational concerns are apparent (M - = 1, S - = 1). Abuse of fantasy is likely (Ma:Mp = 2:4), and in the context of sexual aggression, may indicate rehearsal fantasy in the planning of predatory violence (Meloy, 1988; Prentky et al., 1989). Although no Mp- responses are evident, suggesting delusion, two Mpu responses (2, 18) linked to formal thought disorder, DR, probably indicate overvalued ideas and Huntley's vulnerability to delusion when not medicated (Meloy & Singer, 1991).

The three FD responses are unexpected (4, 8, 11). This determinant can be considered a subset of M (P. Erdberg, personal communication, November 11,

(Sexual) Psychopath									
LOCATION	DETERMINA	ANTS	CONTENTS	S-CONSTELLATION					
FEATURES	BLENDS	SINGLE		YESFV + VF + V + FD > 2					
. Diff Of De	222.000	0.1000	H = 2.0	YES. Col-Shd $Bi > 0$					
Zf = 16	FC.M	$M_1 = 2$	(H) = 0, 1	NOEgo < .31, > .44					
ZSum = 52.5	CF.FD	FM = 2	Hd = 2, 0	NO.MOR>3					
25um = 52.5 2Est = 52.5	M.FC'.m.CF	m = 0	(Hd) = 1, 0	NOZd > $\pm 3.5$					
DESt - 52.5	FM.FC	FC = 0	Hx = 0, 0	YESes>EA					
W = 10	FM.FT	CF = I	A = 5, 3	YES.CF+C>FC					
$(W_V = 0)$	FY.FD	$C_1 = 0$	(A) = 1, 0	YES $X + \% < .70$					
D = 7	FC.FD	C = 0 Cn = 0	(A) = 1.0 Ad = 0.0	YESS>3					
D = 7 Dd = 2	m.FC	FC = 1	(Ad) = 0.0	NOP<3 or >8					
S = 4	M.m.	CF = 0	An = 2.0	NOPure H <2					
3 = 1	CF.m	Cr = 0 C = 0	An = 2, 0 $An = 0, 1$	NOR<17					
DO	m.FM	C = 0 FT = 0		6TOTAL					
DQ	M.FC.CF	FI = 0 TF = 0	Ay = 0, 0 Bl = 0, 1	0101AL					
(FQ-)	M.FC.CF	T = 0	· · ·	OPECIAL COOPINICS					
+ = 10(2)			Bt = 1, 0	SPECIAL SCORINGS					
o = 7(2)			Cg = 0, 1	Ev1 Ev2					
v/+ = 2(0)		VF = 0	C! = 1, 1	DV = IxI = 0x2					
$v = \partial \langle 0 \rangle$		$V = \partial$	$Ex = \partial, \partial$	$INC = \partial x^2 - \partial x^4$					
		FY = 0	Fd = 0, 0	$DR = 6x^3 2x^6$					
		YF = 0	Fi = 0, 0	FAB = 0x4  3x7					
FORM	01111 mil	Y = 0	Ge = 0, 0	ALOG = 0x5					
FORM	QUALITY	Fr = 0	Hh = 0, 0	CON = 0x7					
		F = 0	Ls = 2, 2	SUM6 = 12					
	f MQual SQx	FD = 0	Na = $0, 0$	WSUM6 = $52$					
+ = 0  0	0 0 3 1	F = i	Sc = $2, 1$						
o = 8 1			Sx = 0, 2	AB = 1 $CP = 0$					
u = 7  0	2 2		$X_{y} = 0, 0$	AG = 1 $MOR = 1$					
- = 4 0	1 1	(2) 7	Id = 0, 0	CFB = 0 $PER = 4$					
none = $0$ –	0 0	(2) = 7		COP = 3 PSV = 0					
	RATIOS, PE	RCENTAGE	S, AND DERIV	ATIONS					
R = 19	L = 0.06			: 3  COP = 3  AG = 1					
			Pure $C = 0$						
EB = 6: 3.0	EA = 9.0 EBPer =	: 2.0	Afr = 0						
eb = 10:11		: -4	S = 4						
	j es = 17 Adj $D =$			2:19 (HHd):(AAd) = 2:1					
			CP = 0						
FM = 5 + C'	=9 T=1								
m = 5 : V = 5									
= J . V ·		P = 4	Zf = I	$6 \qquad 3r + (2)/R = 0.37$					
a:p =	= 9:7 Sum6 = 12								
$2AB + Art + Ay = 3  WSum5 = 52  X - 9c = 0.21  WM = 10:6 \qquad An + Xy = 2 \\ M - = 1  Mnone = 0  S - 9c = 0.25  DO + = 10 \qquad MOR = 1$									
M- =	= 1 winone $= 0$		~						
		$\chi_{u} \ll = 0.$	$\frac{37  DQv = 0}{2}$						
SC2I = 3	DEPI = 5*	CDI = 3	S-CON = 6	HVI = Nc OBS = $Nc$					

 TABLE 3

 Comprehensive System Structural Summary From the Rorschach of a Psychotic (Sexual) Psychopath

1991) and in normals is considered a positive and balanced capacity to think about the self. In this case, however, Huntley used his insight into himself to create discomfort in others, usually clinicians, by verbalizing his most bizarre and sadistic thoughts in an unexpected and quiet manner. On one occasion, he said to his psychotherapist, "I'm just imagining what you'd look like with a noose around your neck." He would use introspection in an interpersonally sadistic manner.

Huntley's interpersonal and affective world is isolative (Isolate/R = .47) and avoidant (Afr = .19). Despite this, and unlike most severe psychopaths, he normatively seeks affectional bonds (T = 1, COP = 3) but is highly ambivalent about them. Part objects, rather than whole objects (H:Hd = 2:3) provide the structural templates for his internal representations. Huntley's self-perception of not being damaged (MOR = 1) is surprising in light of his mental illness and may suggest pathological narcissism, a characteristic expected in psychopaths.

#### Psychodynamics

Impulses. Libidinal and aggressive drive derivatives (Kernberg, 1984) are ubiquitous in Huntley's Rorschach. Sexual responses, rare in normals but expected in antisocial personality disordered males (Gacono & Meloy, in press), are verbalized by Huntley in a devalued and sadistic manner (3, 13; Meloy & Gacono, in press-a). Characterological sadism (Kernberg, 1982) has been associated with sexual homicide (Gacono, 1992; Meloy, 1988) and is consistent with his sexually sadistic fantasies. Sudden psychotic regression in the midst of sadistic sexual arousal is suggested by his loss of reality testing on Responses 3 and 13. Sadomasochistic responses (Gacono, 1990; Meloy, 1988; Meloy & Gacono, in press-a) are prevalent (1, 3, 13, 18) and are linked with gender confusion (1), sex organs (3, 13), or predation (18).

Aggression is manifested in his aggressive potential responses (1, 7, 18, 19), aggressive content of an oral and phallic nature (1, 7, 19), and present aggression (19; Exner, 1986). What is notable about these responses is their pervasiveness, their link with sadism (1, 18), and their separation from Huntley's sexual responses (3, 13). The mediating factor that links his aggression and sexuality, however, is sadism (3, 13), which implies pleasure through the infliction of pain or suffering on another and, by necessity, requires a certain amount of aggression against the object. The complete absence of aggressive past responses in Huntley's protocol suggests a predominantly sadistic, rather than masochistic, orientation to the object (Meloy & Gacono, in press-a). The presence of unmodulated sexual and aggressive drives in this protocol, mediated by sadism, provides some concurrent validity for his real-world sexual assault risk.

The softer libidinal aspects of Huntley's impulses are found in his desire for attachment. Unfortunately, objects of attachment are perceived as threatening, suffused with aggression (7), or unpleasant and negated (19). The reptilian nature of this "negated T" response (19) is particularly intriguing ("It's ugly, slimy, mean looking, I wouldn't touch them. I have had lizards before") and is clinically consistent with certain theoretical aspects of the reptilian cerebrotype (MacLean, 1976) in psychopathy (Meloy, 1988). In this case, however, Huntley experiences this part of himself in a projected form.

Defenses. Kernberg (1984) noted that psychotic defenses are generally the same as borderline defenses, but serve a different purpose. Borderline defenses prevent conflict; psychotic defenses prevent disintegration. Prominent defenses (Cooper & Arnow, 1986; Gacono, 1990) in Huntley's protocol include devaluation (3, 13, 17, 18, 19), projective identification (1, 7, 9, 19), and dissociation (1, 5. 19). Idealization is predictably absent (Gacono, 1990). The fluidity of defensive operations and the failure of higher level defenses are vividly displayed in Response 19: "I see alien life (devaluation, distancing) invading a dance. I see all kinds of bugs and insects also invading the dance. Scorpions too (projective identification)." Inquiry: "The top looks like a space ship (intellectualization), the way it is shaped, the color, gray and white. Could write a story about this one (omnipotence). Serpents (projective identification). It's ugly, slimy (devaluation), mean looking (projection), I wouldn't touch them (attempted reaction formation). I have had lizards before (attempted repression). Alien bugs from another planet (devaluation, distancing). The blue, scorpions (projective identification). got a lot of legs, on the attack, ready to kill and devour anything (projection) that they can get their hands on, or pinchers, or whatever you want to call it (rationalization). The dance, pink things represent (dissociation) two people having a good time at a dance (prestage splitting). Just having fun at a dance (pollyannish denial)." The rapid and sequential shifting of defenses in this one Rorschach response captures a moment of time in Huntley's intrapsychic life.

Projective identification can function as either a borderline or psychotic defense (Goldstein, 1991; Meloy, 1991). Goldstein (1991) theorized that the projection of self-representations may necessitate the psychotic use of projective identification. Likewise, the projection of object representations may signal the borderline use of projective identification. Clinical distinction, however, remains elusive. The four projective identification responses in this protocol may suggest the difference. Responses 1 and 19 appear to involve the projective identification of a self representation. They contain aggression or aggressive potential (Ag or AgPot) and human movement (M): all characteristics that are ego syntonic for Huntley and convey a sense of himself from the case history. Other data suggest that projective identification and dissociation may indicate a psychotic process in sexual homicide (Gacono, 1992). Responses 7 and 9, on the other hand, appear to involve the projective identification of an object representation. None of the content and determinants in the "self" responses are present here, suggesting an ego dystonic quality. The sole content are animal figures, alien to the human form. If these inferences are accurate, Huntley

defensively shifts between a psychotic and borderline use of projective identification in the service of intrapsychic self-cohesion and conflict reduction, respectively.

*Object relations.* Psychotic personality organization implicates a loss of reality testing, preoedipal defenses, and identity diffusion (Kernberg, 1984). A psychotic Rorschach should likewise manifest object relations that are rooted in the autistic or symbiotic developmental stages, rather than the more progressed stage of separation-individuation (Mahler, Pine, & Bergman, 1975). Although controversy abounds concerning the time frames of infant development, there is some consensus that a "symbiotic dual unity" (p. 46) exists between mother and infant prior to the autonomous strivings of the toddler:

the infant begins dimly to perceive need satisfaction as coming from some need satisfying part-object—albeit still from within the orbit of the omnipotent symbiotic dual unity—and he turns libidinally toward that mothering source or agency. The need gradually becomes a wish and later the specific "object-bound" affect of longing. (Mahler et al., 1975, p. 46)

Huntley's object relations suggest fixation and conflict during the symbiotic stage of development. Primitive object relations (Kwawer, 1980) include engulfment (16); violent symbiosis, separation, and reunion (17); and womb imagery (4). Affectional striving (7) encounters a threatening and penetrating object or an object unpleasant to the touch and "cold blooded" (19). These are not conflicts around mirroring, resulting in the expected narcissistic pathology of borderline psychopaths, but are primitive fears of merging with a penetrating ("claws . . . they are sharp") and devouring ("ready to kill and devour") maternal object. This is the basic annihilatory fear of the psychotic (Frosch, 1983). How does Huntley defend against this atavistic emotion? He uses sadism to hurt and control the maternal object so that it will not be destroyed by his own hatred. In this case, sadism and psychosis walk hand in hand (Gabbard, 1989; MacCullough, Snowden, Wood, & Mills, 1983; Shapiro, 1981).

## CONCLUSION

We think there is a high probability that Huntley will commit a sexual homicide in the future if left to his own devices. It would be impulsive and marked by dyscontrol (Ressler, Burgess, & Douglas, 1988), but also a product of years of rehearsal fantasy (Prentky et al., 1989). The victim would most likely be a female acquaintance or girlfriend who unwittingly stimulated his annihilatory fear and defensive, sadistic rage.

Clinical Signs of an Underlying Compulsive Syndrome for Violence

- 1. A history of mistreatment of women or fantasies of assaulting women.
- 2. Breaking and entering committed alone and under bizarre circumstances.
- 3. Fetishism for female underclothing and destruction of female clothes.
- 4. Expression of hatred, contempt, or fear of women.
- 5. Dislike for cats or actual violence against cats or other animals.
- 6. Violent and primitive fantasy life.
- 7. Confusion of sexual identity on projective tests.
- 8. Sexual inhibitions and moral preoccupation with sexual conduct.
- 9. Feelings of isolation and poor reality testing.

Note. Cited in Litwack and Schlesinger (1987).

Table 4 summarizes the clinical signs for an underlying compulsive syndrome for violence, the typical motivation for serial sexual murder (Litwack & Schlesinger, 1987; Revitch & Schlesinger, 1981). Huntley is positive for seven of these nine signs. Overprediction of violence is always expected, but in this case we think the intrapsychic characteristics of Huntley, inferred from his Rorschach, are deeply endogenous and will overshadow both psychiatric and psychological efforts to attenuate his future violence. Time and the nature of his clinical management will tell.

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