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100 words

100 words on delusions

Abdi Sanati

I once knew a person who believed he was the King of England. He asked others to book a limousine to take him to Buckingham Palace, stopping on the way to collect his benefits. He embodied different theories of delusions: Jasper's total alteration of reality, Bleuler's double bookkeeping and breaking the rules of epistemic, procedural and agential rationalities. Nevertheless, his humanity was a reminder that delusions do not happen in a vacuum. They are not abstraction discussed by professionals. They occur in real people. The delusions were phenomenologically un-understandable, but the person was understandable and a good man to know.

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