

James sits in the psychiatric clinic's waiting room, patiently expecting the calling of his name. For the past week, James has been dealing with psychotic symptoms, to the point of feeling as if he would be better off dead. As a patient of Dr. Hashmi, James has been dealing with psychosis for over 5 years now. Schizophrenia is the diagnosis given for someone struggling with long term psychosis. The term psychosis means "a mental condition comprising false beliefs, hallucinations, and mood shifts." One of the original psychotic symptoms James manifested was a delusion that the world was ending. He believed he possessed divine knowledge about the world's alleged demise. James developed these thoughts slowly over time, with them becoming more gradual and overtaking. It was not until a girlfriend of James took him to the hospital to be evaluated by a doctor, did he discover he was suffering from a mental illness. Today, James is seeing his psychiatrist for a routine checkup.

To get a better understanding of how James came to be here, we must go back to when the psychotic symptoms started. Just like every other patient that begins to have a psychotic episode, prior to it manifesting, James lived a relatively normal life. James is in his mid-twenties. Has a girlfriend, no kids, and works as a bartender at a local restaurant. James also has a social circle of friends that he spends time with. Additionally, James has an average intelligence, with hopes and aspirations to match. James has no prior history of mental health issues and is happy with his life currently. Despite this, James's mental health will slowly begin to change for the worse.

It is a Friday afternoon, around 4:00pm, and James clocks into work. Due to this day being the start of the weekend, a busy night is anticipated. Unfortunately, James is feeling off. When James woke up this morning, he was not feeling good. He did not have any flu-like symptoms to report. Instead, he felt out of sorts. Withdrawn, with a subtle uneasy feeling. James

tries to shrug it off, play it cool, but it does not go away. He decides to ignore it the best he can and go about his day. James lives with his girlfriend, Ashley. Ashley notices that James is more withdrawn than normal while he gets ready for work. Although abnormal, Ashley believes James is just having a bad day and doesn't think too much about it. James also believes this but does not understand why.