

Screwed

By Mike Berger

Sean lived in a pabulum world;
an accountant for the cities
water works. His only excitement
came from watching TV. He had
no family or friends; a cipher at
his work. He became increasingly
lonely and morose.

He began to have vivid fantasies
where he was a dashing lothario.
Spacing off into dream like states,
he imagined making love to the
women in his office.

Fearing he would somehow act out
his fantasies, he checked himself
into the emergency room. They
transferred him immediately to the
psych ward and put him on suicide
watch. A shrink saw him for ten
minutes and put him on an anti-
psychotic drug.

They filed papers on him; saying he
was a danger to himself. The papers
were signed by the shrink that saw him
for ten minutes and a doctor who had
never seen him. After two weeks they
let him out on his rubber room. They
put him to work in the kitchen.

Sean grew to hate the place and
everyone there; he changed from being
a cipher to being a patient number. The
smoldering anger inside burst into open
flame. In a session with the shrink, he
took a butcher knife stolen from the kitchen
and stabbed the shrink. He kicked him
repeatedly while he was down.

Sean lives out his days at the funny
farm. He's a cipher on a back ward;
now a zombie on all those medications.
He's too far out of it to realize how he
got screwed...

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