



Roses: Parents Gift to Therapist as Indicator of Client's Psychogenesis

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Poem

I treated once
a twenty-year-old boy
who committed himself soon after.
No connection, I like to think,
unless he learned there
what he should have known.
But the point is, six months later,
his parents, who thanked me often
but who hadn't paid,
sent me, on no particular occasion,
two-hundred and forty roses.
Amazed, I counted them twice.
I spent hours
finding and filling glasses, jugs
and vases to hold them,
looking for their phone number,
to thank them,
but I'd thrown it out
or never had it.
The next morning,
every one of them was dead.
I gathered
it was the way they loved.