

## Terminal Lucidity - Key Documented Cases

### 1. Man with 11-year Post-Stroke Paralysis & Aphasia (Daumer 1865; Nahm 2012)

- Severe stroke → paralyzed and aphasic for 11 years.
- No meaningful cognitive recovery for over a decade.
- One week before death regained normal speech, comprehension, and coherent conversation.
- Then died shortly after.

### 2. Violent Asylum Patient with Profound Memory Loss (Marshall 1815; Nahm 2012)

- Institutionalized >10 years, extremely violent, couldn't remember his own name.
- Became ill, then the day before death became calm, rational, requested clergy, expressed moral reflections.

### 3. Three Modern Alzheimer's Cases (Nahm & Greyson)

- a) Woman unresponsive for years spoke clearly minutes before death.
- b) Grandmother who hadn't recognized relatives for years held normal conversation a week before death.
- c) 81-year-old woman who did not recognize anyone for a year suddenly sat up, spoke clearly, recited a hymn verse, then died within a month.

### 4. Anna Katharina ("Käthe") Ehmer – Lifelong Profound Cognitive Impairment

- Severe lifelong disability; repeated meningitis caused structural cortical damage.
- Never spoke a word in her life.
- During her final hour, sat up and sang a full hymn clearly.
- Multiple witnesses documented the event.

### 5. Batthyány & Greyson 2020 Study – 124 Dementia Patients

- Systematic survey of caregivers documenting 197 lucidity episodes, 124 involving dementia.
- >80% showed complete remission of dementia symptoms: coherent speech, recognition, memory.
- Most episodes occurred within hours to days of death.

### 6. Mashour et al. 2019 – Paradoxical Lucidity in Severe Dementia

- Reports sudden, meaningful communication in advanced Alzheimer's patients.
- Recognized as a real clinical phenomenon with unclear mechanisms.

## Summary:

These cases collectively demonstrate sudden, unexpected restoration of coherent cognition, memory, and communication in patients with severe, long-standing neurological impairment, typically occurring shortly before death.