Rachel Barezinsky

# An Interrupted Life

This is a series of video links that will take you through the general story of Rachel Barezinsky, a high school senior who was shot through the head with a .22 bullet resulting in cross-hemispherical damage. As you watch the videos, take note of the symptoms displayed by Rachel following the shooting and try to isolate the affected parts of the brain.

The videos below will take you through Rachael’s story in a sequence spanning months. Note the role of youth in neural plasticity as she works to recover lost abilities and adapt to the new life of TBI.

[Video #1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SiyOazljIvc): Rachel before the shooting: a senior photo montage. (The music was composed by her uncle on the day that she was shot.)

[Video #2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bChgSaX2gx8): Rachel shortly after the shooting participating in Homecoming ceremonies at Worthington High School.

[Video #3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBHTjgQ05og): Rachel walks across the football field to receive athletic recognition during senior night awards. Take note of the manner of her gate as she slowly makes her way.

[Video #4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gaT2dHXRjGA): Rachel’s progress as she enters rehab. Take note of the three types of therapy: physical, to deal with large motor movements; occupational to deal with fine motor movements; and speech to deal with cognition.

[Video #5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtI_aqTaEa4): Rachel’s ongoing therapy in the months following the incident and initial therapy.

[Video #6:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zmj2x2kyVdA) Rachel now – public speaking; thoughts on the gunman, Alan Davis; future plans.