

'Doctor/Patient'  
Adapted Scene from '4:48 PSYCHOSIS'  
by Sarah Kane

DOCTOR: No ifs or buts.

PATIENT: I didn't say if or but, I said 'No'.

DOCTOR: Can't or shan't? Won't. Not today.

PATIENT: Please, don't switch off my brain by attempting to straighten me out. Listen and understand, and when you feel contempt don't express it, at least not verbally, at least not to me.

DOCTOR: I don't feel contempt.

PATIENT: No?

DOCTOR: No. It's not your fault.

PATIENT: It's not your fault, that's all I hear, it's not your fault; it's an illness, it's not your fault; I know it's not my fault. You've told me that so often I'm beginning to think it *is* my fault.

DOCTOR: It's *not* your fault.

PATIENT: I KNOW.

DOCTOR: But you allow it. Don't you.

PATIENT: There's not a drug on earth that can make life meaningful.

DOCTOR: You allow this state of desperate absurdity. You allow it.

PATIENT: I won't be able to think. I won't be able to work.

DOCTOR: Nothing will interfere with your work like suicide.

PATIENT: I dreamt I went to the doctor's and she gave me eight minutes to live. I'd been sitting in the fucking waiting room for half an hour. Ok, come on, let's do it, let's do the drugs, let's do the chemical lobotomy, let's shut down the higher functions of my brain and perhaps I'll be a bit more fucking capable of living.  
Let's do it.