

“I want to be held and told my name. I want to be valued, in ways that I am not; I want to be more than valuable. I repeat my former name, remind myself of what I once could do, how others saw me.” (108, C17)

“This is a reconstruction. All of it is a reconstruction. It’s a reconstruction now, in my head, as I lie flat on my single bed, rehearsing what I should or shouldn’t have said, what I should or shouldn’t have done, how I should have played it. If I ever get out of here-… When I get out of here….it will be a reconstruction then too, at yet another remove. It’s impossible to say a thing exactly the way it was….you always have to leave something out.” (144, C23)

“I would like to believe this is a story I’m telling. I need to believe it. I must believe it. Those who can believe that such stories are only stories have a better chance. If it’s a story I’m telling, then I have control over the ending. Then there will be an ending, to the story, and real life will come after it. I can pick up where I left off.” pg 49 (c7)

“Myself is a thing I must now compose, as one composes a speech. What I must present is a made thing, not something born.” (pg 76 C12))