

EAST OF NORMAL, WEST OF WEIRD
BRIAN

(Talking to his therapist. It's his first session. He is an over-achiever and wants to get every "right." He is a little unsure of how to make therapy work for him.)

You know what I hate?

When TV characters talk right into the camera. It completely spoils the illusion that I'm spying on them.

I'm doing this all wrong, aren't I? I'm sorry. I just had to say something to break the silence.

You don't have to write about that. Or the part where I said you don't have to write about that.

I was always told that a "discussion" involved two people, you know, talking. Up until now, all we've had is a staring contest.

(beat)

This is my first time in therapy. Can you tell?

I thought I might be pulling it off and you wouldn't know. Earlier you said I was doing fine. What's wrong with me?

I don't have years here. I'm not even sure I'm coming back next week, so if you could for once just give me the answer, I'd appreciate it.