Serge Audition Monologue

*Context: At this point in the play Serge has shown both Marc and Yvan the painting. Marc’s reaction in the end was simply to say, ‘Because it is. It’s shit. I’m sorry’. This is right before the argument that contains the Marc and Serge duologue side. Marc has returned to Serge’s house and they both are trying to be reconciliatory.*

(*To the audience*) As far as I’m concerned, it’s not white.

When I say as far as I’m concerned, I mean objectively.

Objectively speaking, it’s not white.

It has a white background, with a whole range of greys…

There’s even some red in it.

You could say it’s very pale.

I wouldn’t like it if it was white.

Marc thinks it’s white… that’s his limit…

Marc thinks it’s white because he’s got hung up on the idea that it’s white.

Unlike Yvan. Yvan can see it isn’t white.

Marc can think what he likes, what do I care?

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(*To Marc*) All right, listen, it’s just a picture, we don’t have to get bogged down with it, life’s too short… By the way, have you read this? (*He picks up* De Vita Beata *by Seneca and throws it on to the low table just in front of Marc*). Read it, it’s a masterpiece.

Incredibly modern. Read that, you don’t need to read anything else. What with the office, the hospital, Françoise, who’s now decreed that I’m to see the children every weekend - which is something new for Françoise, the notion that children need a father - I don’t have time to read any more, I’m obliged to go straight for the essentials.