

Transference  
By  
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(Sabina's Final Monologue)

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1941, Moscow. Sabina Spielrein speaks to the Moscow Psychoanalytic Society as the Germans advance on the city. She recalls her troubled personal relationships with Jung and Freud.

(SABINA, throughout the monologue, struggles to retain her composure, almost succeeding.)

SABINA

On this most difficult of mornings, what has prompted me to recount this legend of a woman accorded her will by, of all things, a man? And what, for God's sake, has it to do with the forces of hate consuming our country? I'm as lost now as at the start. I could say it's because today I woke up hearing voices, voices that have been silent many years. I spent a long time consumed in bitterness over such a fantasy, over some one or two whom I thought had failed me, and now I'm afraid I have very little time left. And it is a fantasy-- that someone can magically grant your sovereignty.

(beat)

Did I say consumed? Does a fantasy consume, like a war?

(groping)

Is love a war? We grope through love; it summons us, tests us, stretches us. Betrays us. And

(realizing as she speaks)

it's our betrayals which teach us we have only ourselves to rely on, isn't it? Freud and Jung. Freud found the radius, Jung the circumference. Simple as that. You'd think they might each have taken comfort in it, might have seen with one another's eyes and forgiven. I see through their eyes and stand here today because of them. They say we must all forgive the day before we die. I should very much want that.

(beat)

Thank you for allowing me to serve as president of the Moscow society. We are to be evacuated soon and may not gather again for a long time. So take a look about you and remember that our relations with each other are all we have to unlock what's precious in us. God bless you in the coming time. It's a tribute to our nation's courage that we carry on as long as we can despite our difficulties.