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According [to the Guardian](#) Theresa May will in her speech on Brexit today say:

We must bring our country back together, taking into account the views of everyone who cares about this issue, from both sides of the debate

According to the FT the speech [will set out five criteria](#) for the UK's negotiation:

- * a commitment to taking back control of money, laws and borders,
- * the need for an enduring solution,
- * the protection of jobs,
- * the creation of an “outward looking” Britain, and
- * a strengthening of the UK.

I have to say if this is what this speech is really going to be about my heart sinks.

First, the whole of the referendum and the whole of the issue to which it related was about dividing the country and its neighbours. That was its whole purpose. It makes no sense to appeal for unity in that case: that is the polar opposite of what Brexit was meant to deliver. Can't May see that?

And then to now say that, belatedly, she's found that there are five objectives for Brexit, when they should have been decided upon before June 23 2016 is absurd: the EU will, of course, be wholly unimpressed.

If this is as good as it's going to get, God help us. And if you don't believe there is a God, or one who helps, despair at the poverty of May's thinking, which is staggering.

The words 'creek' and 'paddle' were invented for occasions like this, but are hopelessly inadequate for the scale of the issue that we are, by choice, facing.