

## It's 2am and You're Bleeding on my Doorstep

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## It's 2am and You're Bleeding on my Doorstep

by [Fire\\_Cat](#)

### Summary

Bdubs really doesn't appreciate when his eight hours of sleep are disturbed. Not in the slightest. But, sometimes, helping a friend comes first. Even if said friend is a troublesome vampire who showed up on his doorstep at 2am covered in blood.

(Also known as Bdubs is woken in the middle of the night by Etho asking if he can come in. Bdubs would have sent him away, but something doesn't seem quite right.)

### Notes

Yay more vampire fic! I'm not sure why this one was fun to write but it was, and I do quite like it! I don't usually do long/silly titles like this but it was literally the best thing I could think of rip, oh well! This one has been sitting ready to go in my drafts for a while 'cos I wanted to finish up Willing Prey first, it's here now though!

I didn't put it in the tags since I don't think it's *quite* as relevant in this particular fic, but whilst, like the others, this fic isn't written to be romantic, you can read it that way if you like, I don't mind!

Not much else to say about this one, other than a big thank you as always to my friend CJ for building this au with me. And that I hope you enjoy this fic!

See the end of the work for more [notes](#)

Buzzing.

That's what Bdubs woke up to.

An annoying electronic buzzing sound coming from *somewhere* in his apartment. Dragging him out of sleep and leaving him quite grumpy.

His first instinct upon waking was to reach for his phone and switch off his alarm. That had to be what the buzzing was, his usual morning alarm.

But it wasn't that. No, and as he squinted at his phone he saw that it was much too early for his alarm to be going off.

Usually, Bdubs woke at 6am sharp. An early riser and very much a morning person, most days he saw no reason to lie around in bed when he could be up and doing things. Right now though, his phone said that it was 2:31am.

Which was way, way too early to be doing much of anything other than sleeping.

The buzzing noise hadn't stopped.

Bdubs groaned and sat up in bed, waiting for the sleepy fog in his brain to clear so that he could figure out where the sound was coming from.

The sound was familiar. Not usually something that annoyed him. But also not a sound that he wanted to hear in the middle of the night.

It was- that sound it was- it was the intercom. Someone was downstairs trying to reach him from the intercom outside. *Why* was someone at his door at 2:30 in the morning though? Who was up this late!

Okay, so Bdubs could name several people that would be up this late, seeing as how those people were literally nocturnal. But most of them didn't know where he lived, and the ones that did had no reason to be trying to get his attention this early in the morning.

"Ugh, kids..." Bdubs grumbled, deciding that it was probably just teenagers playing a prank as he laid back down. With a bit of luck, whatever idiots thought it was funny to go buzzing random people's apartments in the early morning hours would soon get bored and leave.

One minute passed, the buzzing didn't stop. Bdubs pulled his duvet over his head and waited.

Two minutes, then three. Then four.

The buzzing noise still hadn't stopped.

Bdubs groaned again and stood up, marching down the hallway to the intercom panel by the door and jamming his finger on the 'answer call' button. "Do you idiots know what time it is? Go away!" he all but growled into the microphone, hoping that if he gave these stupid kids what they probably wanted they would leave him alone and let him sleep.

"Bdubs?" came a quiet, but now very familiar voice through the speaker, "Can you let me in?"

"E-Etho?" Bdubs spluttered, he hadn't been expecting that, but it didn't change his line of thought from 'idiot kids pulling a prank', it just turned out that the idiot kid was actually a centuries-old vampire that seemed to find joy in pissing him off. "It's 2am I'm trying to sleep! Go bother someone else!"

"Please can I- ow- can I come in? Please?" Okay, something wasn't right. Etho sounded distressed, which was not something Bdubs had heard before. Even through the slightly tinny speaker, he could hear the tremor in Etho's voice, could hear the unusual softness to his tone, void of his usual liveliness or cheek.

"Etho are you okay?" he asked, annoyance slipping into worry.

"Uh... Been- been better." Bdubs heard him take a shaky breath, which was odd too, Etho being a vampire and all, he didn't usually breathe. It was followed by a whimper, which was a sound he didn't think he'd ever heard Etho make. "Please can you let me in?"

Part of him said this was a trick, that Etho was up to mischief as he often was. But the rest of him, even in his still sleepy state, reminded him that whilst Etho was a nuisance, he wasn't a liar. He was annoying sure but he wasn't cruel.

Something was genuinely wrong and Etho had come to him for help. That was the impression Bdubs was getting right now anyway.

He sighed before he spoke, "Okay, okay you stay there I'll come down."

Etho gave a quiet thank you and Bdubs took his finger off the button, letting out another sigh as he ran his hands over his face. He really would rather not deal with this right now.

Maybe he should never have told Etho where he lived, should never have brought him back here a few weeks ago, then this wouldn't be happening! He wouldn't have a vampire at his door at 2am and he could be sleeping soundly like he did every other night.

Hindsight, as they say, is a wonderful thing.

Bdubs pulled a hoodie over his pajamas and slipped his sneakers on. He was not walking around this building barefoot and it was cold outside, even if he wouldn't be out there long he didn't want to get cold if he could avoid it.

Phone and keys in hand, Bdubs left his apartment and made his way downstairs. Taking the elevator since it was quicker, and he didn't want to walk down four flights of stairs right now.

Despite something not being quite right with Etho, Bdubs was still fully expecting the irritating man to be standing outside grinning as he waited for him.

Instead, what he saw as he opened the main door took him by surprise.

Etho was there, as expected, but he definitely wasn't okay. Leant back against the brick wall, hunched over with his arms wrapped tightly around his stomach. He was shaking, looking like his knees could buckle at any moment. He looked at Bdubs as he stepped outside, red eyes dull and tired. The mask that usually covered his mouth and nose had been pulled down and there was blood on his face, on his fangs. Dripping down his chin and into the fur that lined his hood.

Bdubs pulled his eyes away from Etho's face as he stepped closer. There was blood on his hands too, soaked into his coat where he was bleeding. Droplets of red had fallen onto the pavement, and there were splatters on his trousers and boots.

"Dude what the *hell* happened to you?!" Bdubs said a little louder than he'd planned as he stood in front of Etho, looking him up and down again before meeting the taller man's eyes.

A pained smile tugged at Etho's lips, "Jerk had a knife."

"A- a knife? Who had- you know what I don't want to know right now." Bdubs shook his head, stopping his questions before they had a chance to leave his mouth, he'd ask later. "You're bleeding everywhere."

"Yeah, sorry, kinda got stabbed a little bit."

"Just a little." Bdubs paused and sighed, "Can you walk?"

"Uh- well, I barely- ow- I barely made it here without falling over so, not really?" Etho said, his voice still trembling and stopping mid-sentence to wince. He was in pain. He was hurt and distressed and Bdubs didn't entirely know how to respond.

He knew how to deal with injuries, spending nearly ten years as a werewolf he'd gotten very good at patching up cuts and bruises. But how to deal with an injured vampire? He didn't even know where to start with that.

"Okay, okay, put your arm around my shoulders I'll help you," Bdubs said as he stepped to Etho's side, letting him lean against him and trying not to care about the blood on Etho's hands that was now staining his hoodie.

It was a little awkward, Etho being so much taller made it tricky to support him as they walked, but the pair managed, and Bdubs lead him to the elevator.

"Why did you come here? Wouldn't the court of been better? Or your place?" Bdubs asked as he hit the button for the fourth floor.

"Here- here was closer," said Etho, still quiet, still *breathing*. A soft panting that Bdubs would expect from someone who was injured. But Etho was a vampire and hearing him breathe was just *weird*. Was it an automatic thing? Was it soothing for him? Bdubs had no idea.

He also had no idea what to make of Etho coming here when he was hurt simply because it was closer. The vampire court was an infinitely better place for an injured vampire to go, and it wasn't that far away, but Etho had come here. Why?

It was slow-going, but eventually, Bdubs had Etho in his apartment, sitting him down on his couch and watching as the vampire laid down and curled up on his side.

"No Etho don't- don't do that you're gonna get blood on my couch," Bdubs said.

"I just... I just need to rest..." Etho muttered, eyes closed and expression pained.

"I know but- at least let me bandage you up or something." Bdubs didn't know that much about how injuries worked with vampires. He knew that it took a lot more to kill one than it did a human, that they healed a lot quicker too. But he didn't know if vampires injuries needed to be tended to in the same manner as anyone else. If they were at risk of infections or simply bleeding out if wounds weren't treated.

He could ask, but he wasn't sure that Etho would give a usable answer right now.

Etho murmured something that Bdubs didn't quite catch, before slowly, painfully, pushing himself

upright again, leaving bloody handprints on the couch cushions as he moved.

"Better. Now, take your coat off, and your shirt or whatever you've got on underneath. I'll be back in a sec, alright?" Bdubs said as he took a few steps across the room towards the kitchen.

"You tryin' to make me strip for you, Bubs?" Etho smiled, a hint of his usual cheek popping to the surface for a moment. That didn't seem to go anywhere even when he was hurt.

Bdubs glared at him, "Keep your pants on!" he called back at him as he slipped into the kitchen in search of his first aid kit. He heard Etho chuckle in the living room, though the sound was punctured by another whimper.

A stab wound probably required more than basic first aid, but taking a vampire to a hospital wasn't an option, and Bdubs knew that Etho should be fine and healed within a few days anyway. He mostly just wanted to avoid getting blood all over the furniture.

That, and not doing something about injuries like this just didn't sit well with him. Even if it wasn't something that could kill Etho, trying to make him more comfortable couldn't hurt.

Bdubs returned to the living room with his first aid kit and a towel in hand, flicking on the light so that he could see what he was doing. Etho had taken off his coat, shirt, gloves and mask, now discarded by his feet, leaving him sat there shirtless and still covered in blood.

Bdubs knew that Etho was strong, impossibly strong. But you wouldn't know it from looking at him. The man was tall and too damn skinny, enough so that Bdubs was certain he could see the outline of his ribs against his skin. There was a leanness to him though, somewhat stopping him from looking too bony with how thin he was.

Etho had scars on his face, Bdubs had seen those before, the claw-like slashes across his left eye were particularly notable, but far from the only ones on him. Marks from teeth, claws, knives, burns, all sorts scattered his skin, streaked across his shoulders, his arms, his chest. Etho was two hundred years old, him ending up with scars was perfectly understandable. But there were a lot, and as much as Bdubs knew he shouldn't pay them any attention- he wasn't exactly fond of people eyeing the wolf-bite scar on his shoulder after all- it was oddly difficult.

He supposed the stab wound in his abdomen was going to add another scar to Etho's collection.

And that injury was what Bdubs should be focusing on, not the rest of what was going on in front of him.

Bdubs walked over to Etho and knelt in front of him, rummaging through his first aid box on the coffee table to pull out a few things.

"Oh- ow that hurts too, okay," said Etho, and Bdubs looked up to see him staring at his hand. He realized he was being watched and showed Bdubs what he was looking at. There was a large gash across his palm too, blood still seeping from it.

Bdubs sighed, "Dude did you try to catch the knife or something?"

"Well, either I did that, or he stabbed me in the throat too, so, yeah," Etho replied, looking at his hand again and frowning as he flexed his fingers.

"Goodness sakes..." Bdubs muttered, "I thought you knew how to fight." he added, picking the towel up and pressing it against the wound in Etho's stomach, trying to ignore how he whimpered and complained.

"Ow ow ow, that hurts."

*Of course it hurts, idiot, you got stabbed!* Bdubs wants to say but doesn't. "Just hold that there okay, trying to stop you bleeding all over my furniture here." was what came out of his mouth instead.

Etho did as he was told, moving his uninjured hand to press against the towel, a pained grimace on his face. "And I do know how to fight. But usually- ow- ow- usually prey doesn't fight back. Not with knives anyway."

Ah, so that's what had happened. Etho had been hunting, he'd picked out a target, but when he'd tried to bite them they'd attacked him. Had tried to fight off the hungry vampire with a knife.

Judging by the blood that still clung to Etho's fangs though, Bdubs wasn't so sure that they'd been successful in stopping him from getting what he wanted.

Bdubs took Etho's wrist in his hands and pulled it closer to himself, trying not to think about whether Etho had eaten tonight and putting his focus into checking the gash in his palm. It was a deep clean cut, the knife must have been sharp to do so much damage.

He got up again to get a bowl of water and a cloth from the kitchen, before kneeling back down in front of Etho and getting to work.

Bdubs cleaned the blood off Etho's hand and wrapped bandages around the wound as carefully as he could. Usually, he'd think an injury like that would need stitches, but that wasn't something he had access to and even if he did, he was pretty sure Etho would be fine without them.

Once his hand was patched up, Bdubs moved his attention to the stab wound.

This was the sort of injury that would need stitches and probably other special care too. Or at least it would if Etho wasn't a vampire, so he'd be fine. Bdubs had to keep telling himself that. It would take more than a knife to the stomach to kill Etho or do him any lasting harm, but it still wasn't the nicest thing all the same, and it was still hurting him.

It took a bit longer to get this cleaned and bandaged than he'd of liked, Etho constantly complaining and wriggling as Bdubs tried to help him didn't help matters either.

"I thought you were supposed to be some powerful immortal creature of the night, but you're squirming like a toddler with a scraped knee!" Bdubs grumbled, no actual bite behind his words, just mildly irritated and wanting to get this done so that he could go back to bed.

"Exactly, *immortal*, not *invulnerable*." Etho said, Bdubs could feel his eyes on him but ignored it and didn't look up from what he was doing.

A few more minutes passed before Bdubs finally had Etho all bandaged up and the worst of the blood on him wiped away. He still looked a wreck, but at least there wasn't blood dripping from his chin or onto the couch anymore.

Etho tipped his head back against the sofa, his eyes falling closed. He was still panting softly, the slight furrow to his brow showing that he was still in pain, but there wasn't a lot Bdubs could do about that.

He had plenty of painkillers in his cupboards, they were very useful after a full moon after all. But if alcohol or caffeine did not affect a vampire, then he doubted that ibuprofen would do much either.

Bdubs left Etho where he was for the moment, tidying away all his first aid stuff. He'd throw the dirty towel and Etho's bloodied clothes in the wash in the morning and hope for the best. Bloodstains were a nightmare to get out, but he'd gotten somewhat good at it over the years. Scrubbing the blood off of his hands was a pain as well but thankfully didn't take too long.

He considered grabbing a spare shirt for Etho to wear tonight, but then realized that all of his clothes would probably be too small for him, so he dismissed the thought. He'd survive without one.

Etho peered up at him through half-lidded eyes as Bdubs came back over to him, already looking well on his way to falling asleep.

"Okay, that's all sorted, so you can sleep now," he said, crossing his arms over his chest and biting back a yawn.

"Finally..." Etho mumbled, slowly laying down on the couch, though he was a bit too tall to lay flat, and even with his head on one armrest his feet were propped up on the other.

"Should probably take your boots off too, don't want your mucky feet on my couch," Bdubs said, mostly to himself. Not waiting for Etho to respond before he walked around to where Etho's feet were, loosening the laces and pulling his boots off for him.

Etho shuffled a bit where he was laying, moving seemed to agitate his wounds and hurt him, but it didn't stop him from trying to get comfortable. Bdubs grabbed the blanket that was draped over the back of the couch and unfolded it, laying it over Etho. He may not be a fan of unexpected guests waking him up at 2am covered in blood, but the least he could do was try to be hospitable.

"You make a good nurse," said Etho, his voice quiet and eyes closed as he pulled the blanket over his shoulders and curled up a bit, wincing a little but settling again a second later.

"I'm not a nurse." Bdubs replied, "Hell, you're lucky I didn't just leave you out there, you know what time it is right?"

"Yeah, it's late. 'm sorry." Bdubs hadn't quite expected an apology from Etho, but there it was, "You were closest, didn't want to walk far... Trusted you to look after me..." Etho added, his eyes flickering open and looking up at Bdubs. He looked so- so- human... Red eyes and sharp teeth be damned, he looked so oddly human like this. Tired and hurt, Bdubs had never seen him like that before.

He tried not to think about Etho coming to him after being injured because he trusted him, he didn't quite know what to do with that information and he was too tired to dwell on it now.

"Yeah yeah, just sleep okay. I'll keep the room dark once the sun comes up." he sighed, breaking into a yawn before he continued. "I'm going back to bed, don't wake me up again alright?" he added, turning to walk towards the door.

Etho hummed, "I won't." he yawned too, putting those sharp fangs on display for a few seconds, "It's contagious." he smiled, closing his eyes again. He wasn't breathing anymore, Bdubs wasn't sure why that seemed more normal than when he had been breathing.

Bdubs smiled a little, walking over to the door and reaching for the light switch, "Get some sleep, I'll see you- whenever you wake up I guess."

Etho was quiet for long enough that Bdubs thought he'd fallen asleep, but just as he was about to leave he heard a quiet, "Thank you, Bubs."

"Don't mention it, g'night Etho," he replied, ignoring the nickname and flicking the lights off as he left the room.

Bdubs yawned again as he sat on his bed, looking at his phone to check the time again. It was 3:13am. Still way too early to be doing anything.

And yet he'd just spent over half an hour tending to an injured vampire who was now sleeping on his couch.

That wasn't how he'd expected to spend his night.

Being woken up early made him grumpy, and he did not appreciate his eight hours of sleep being disturbed, not at all. But he didn't quite have it in him to be angry at Etho about it though. Annoyed, yes, definitely. But angry? No. Or at least not right now, anyway. Maybe he'd be angry when he wasn't so tired.

Bdubs put his phone down on the side table and crawled back under the covers, more than ready to fall asleep again. He'd leave the 'being awake at stupid hours of the morning' to the vampires and other nocturnal creatures.

Some instinct in the back of his head was telling him not to let his guard down though, that sleeping when there was a vampire in his house was a terrible idea. And under normal circumstances maybe it was. But Etho was his friend- even if it did still feel a little weird calling him that. He didn't think Etho would hurt him whilst he slept, Etho had never even tried to bite him without asking first.

And besides, the idiot vampire was injured and had possibly already fed tonight, so it'd be fine, he wouldn't be hungry again for a while.

Etho would probably sleep through the whole day anyway, or at least Bdubs wouldn't be surprised if he did. Hopefully he didn't have any visitors tomorrow, why he had a vampire on his couch was not something he wanted to explain.

Bdubs shook his head and curled up under his duvet. Just sleep. Right now all he wanted to do was sleep. He'd worry about everything else in the morning when it wasn't 3am.

Because 3am was a stupid time to be awake, and he wasn't a fan of it at all.

## End Notes

Get some sleep Bdubs, I'm sure everything will be fine and make sense in the morning!

Etho will also be fine, takes more than a stab wound to kill him, he's just gonna have a few rather uncomfortable days until he heals. How much of that he spends on Bdubs' sofa though I will leave up to your imagination haha!

Anyway, I hope you enjoyed this! I have one more vampire fic written though that one is- not gonna be part of the series, it'll be separate if I do post it, for reasons that will become clear. I have other ideas for Etho and Bdubs though as well as for some other Hermits, 'bout time I showed off what some of the others are up to don't you think?



In the meantime however, thank you to everyone who leaves kudos/comments on this fic and who has done on the rest of the series, I love you all very much and it makes me so happy seeing people enjoy these stories! <3

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