

Death Bites

A 10-Minute Play

By Makena Metz

Makena Metz
818-746-6612
Makena.metz@gmail.com
4913 Biloxi Ave,
Noho CA, 91601

CHARACTERS

Dracula, 30 something, M.

Full cape regalia and pointy teeth. Shooting for scary and dramatic but hitting flustered and annoyed.

Amy, 21, F.

Weak on her deathbed, stubborn, and quick as a whip.

TIME AND PLACE

Setting: *In a Hospital Room.*

Time: *Midnight*

A heart monitor consistently beeps. AMY sits upright in her hospital bed. Next to it, her old dinner on a tray.

AMY

No.

DRACULA

(In an over the top accent)

No?! But you are almost dead, are you not?

AMY

Get out of my room before I call my nurse!

DRACULA

Just a little bite!

AMY

Go lurk in someone else's den of shadows!

AMY weakly throws her juice box at him. She misses. AMY stands, struggling, and arms herself.

DRACULA

Den of shadows?! Do I look like I lurk in den like bear?

AMY

Blood sucking leech! Can't you let me die in peace?!

AMY throws objects at him, missing.

DRACULA

I'll only - ow, drink- ow, a little- ow! Ow! Stop that!

AMY

I don't want you to drink my blood, you child of the night!

DRACULA

But you are dying!

AMY

I know I'm dying! It's all I talk about!

DRACULA

Then what's the harm in letting me have little taste, hmm?

AMY

I need what little blood I have left.

DRACULA

But I am very thirsty and your blood is probably very tasty like soup. Look, I know you're close to death. I can smell in air, like stale Febreze. Don't you want to help poor, starving vampire have teeny tiny snack? You die anyway and I go on my merry way.

AMY

Oh, do you have to ask permission? You can't just kill me anyway? But you crossed the threshold...

DRACULA

No, I can enter your room like anyone else. I just like to ask dying people if it's okay to suck blood. I'm not only vampire who prefers meals to be dying already...helps with the guilt. Usually people say yes, they want me to drain them so they die faster. Is just part of my job, feeding myself to go save world.

AMY

Saving them? You're a murderer! Get out of my room! I *will* start throwing things again. Are these even real?

*SHE tries to poke his teeth.
DRACULA gets her off and
flourishes his cape.*

DRACULA

I just saw dentist, stop that. Amy, am, how you say, confused. Look, your blood is kaput, gone. You have days left, maybe hours. Let me help you. I'm hungry and has been long century.

AMY

I'm not weak.

DRACULA

You're basically falling over, here sit down. Jeez.

*HE gives her a seat. SHE
sits, out of breath.*

AMY

Phew, thanks. I know my body isn't working. I can barely breathe it's working so bad. I've been dealing with this for a long time. Once your body stops making platelets it all goes downhill from there. I wish it had been different. I wanted to go on adventures, see the world. Travel to far away countries and meet people from different cultures and, and now the possibility is just, gone. I didn't really live ya know? My life was hospitals and mom and dad fighting over the bills, and time is precious, and dying is scary, scarier than vampires being real, and I don't know what happens when you die and so, I want to be here for as long as possible.

DRACULA

Look, Amy, I am vampire, like you say. Garlic hating but spaghetti loving and all. I am offering you chance at good death. Better than your current death. Let me help you.

She pushes him towards the exit.

AMY

I think we're done here. Go out, yep that's it, find another person to assuage your murderous guilt, just the way you came in, turn back into a bat, and off you go a happier, nay, *better* Dracula than before!

DRACULA

Oh my, I am very flattered but you have this wrong, I am not Dracula, not the Big D, oh no no no.

AMY

Well sorry for the mix up, okay, bye!

DRACULA

I am A Dracula. It's a very important distinction.

AMY

Yes, yes, and I Am Groot, We Are Groot, We are all Dracula-

DRACULA

Yes, exactly!

He turns her around.

We say, the plural of A Dracula is Dracula. We are all, Dracula. Like Moose.

AMY

So, let me get this straight, every single vampire in the world, is named Dracula?

DRACULA

Yes! Well, at first! It is tradition to honor our first creator for oh, about the first 500 years after one is reborn. And everything we wear, from our devastating capes to our sharp teeth on display, to our glorious accents-

AMY

HA I knew it!

DRACULA

(He subtly loses the accent as he becomes angrier.)

It is an HONOR to have fake accent for 500 years! Ugh! I forgot how annoying tiny, little miserable humans could be!

AMY

HA! If the accent is fake, you probably are too! I bet the whole bat thing was just, like an illusion huh? Where's your partner bro? Or am I just bat-shit (ha bat), you're just a like, manifestation of my, like fear or something right? Like I'm so afraid of you. Well ya know what? I can kill you just as easily as you can kill me! It's not a stake but it'll do!

She brandishes a knitting needle.

DRACULA

Wow, a knitting needle, so scary. You cannot knit me! (Dramatically) I am A Dracula! I am one of many and we have traveled the world, seen things you've never dreamed of! I've seen the powers that be rise and fall, seen mysteries your fragile mind couldn't possibly handle! I've seen wonders and terrors and, and why are you looking at me like that.

AMY stares at him with wonder and awe.

AMY

You could turn me.

DRACULA

Er, what?

AMY

You could turn me into a vampire!

DRACULA

No I could not! What would your parents think?!

AMY

My parents wouldn't care- they're already preparing for my funeral! It's perfect! I can give them the normal life they actually deserve and I can finally go on an adventure! I won't be weak, or out of breath, or low on counts at all! I'd just be, you know, undead! (Is that politically correct?) You said you want to suck my blood!

DRACULA

Your parents would care if you died Amy! My parents did and it tore them apart! And, and you're a human, you have no idea what being a vampire is like!

AMY

My parents deserve a life of their own, not one where all they do is take care of me. And I'd make sure they'd have a good life. I'm already used to blood. It doesn't gross me out because of all the transfusions. I've been sick for years.

DRACULA

Yeah well, so was I. I don't think this is the right path for you. Being a vampire is not easy. You'll want to kill and hurt people and that urge takes years, if not decades to master. It can be a very sad, lonely life. Do you think I would want that for you?! Do you think I wanted that for me?!

AMY

I don't know what you've been through. And I'm sorry your parents mourned your death. I know mine would. And then...they would live. And I want to live, too. I haven't really lived in years. But life as a vampire? It would be a new adventure. A new beginning. You get that, right?

DRACULA

I do, I really do. But you are not becoming a vampire, end of discussion. I will go find new midnight snack. Like spaghetti.

HE tries to exit. SHE stabs her arm with something sharp and BLEEDS.

AMY

You want to suck it, right? My tasty, rich, warm blood, just look at it flowing, juicy, red, right here for the taking.

He looks at it, mesmerized.

DRACULA

No, no, no, I am better than these animal instincts.

AMY

If you want this, you'll have to let me bite you too.

SHE closes in on HIM.

DRACULA

(Struggling) Amy, I was changed against my will. That's why I always give people a *choice* when they're dying. Either I kill them, painlessly, easily, or they die from their disease. Why would I want to do to anyone else what was done to me? Turn them from their normal lives. Their family. Their loved ones.

AMY

I understand that! You have a moral compass. I admire that. In fact, it's kind of cool you don't go around killing people every which way. But being sick is not *living*! There is a world outside these hospital walls and I want to see it!

The bloodlust almost takes HIM.

DRACULA

I understand, so yes, I will try to change you, if your heart desires it. Look this is like blood transfusion. You need my blood to replace your blood. So you drink while I drink and all's good. But we have to do it at the same time, okay?

AMY

I'm good at biting. I'll make a good vampire.

DRACULA

Take my arm, I promise I am no *Twilight* vampire, sparkling in sunlight and shit.

They sit, together. She takes his arm and he takes hers.

AMY

Thank you. Really, I mean it.

DRACULA

Okay then, on the count of three. One-

AMY

Two. Three?

DRACULA

Bite me.

They bite each other, blood spraying. SHE'S dying as she's drinking. THEY wrestle for control. HER heart monitor beeps. SHE smiles and dies. The monitor flat lines. AMY sits up and the lights change, magical. SHE gets out of bed, vampire cape already on. SHE'S perfect and strong.

DRACULA

Whew. It worked!

AMY

What, you thought it wouldn't work?

DRACULA

Um, well, it's just a delicate process-

AMY

Hey, your voice is, normal.

DRACULA

Fuck.

(Back to accent.)

NO it's not! I mean, yes, it is! Completely normal accent!

AMY

I suppose I have to do one too, huh? Oh, shoot.

SHE breaks something.

DRACULA

You'll get used to being strong.

AMY

This is amazing!

DRACULA

You're strong enough to make the world a better place. This is now your job.

AMY

We're career Dracula? Shit.

DRACULA

Saving the world is our job description. Everyone wants to save the world. The Dracula protect the environment. Got to make sure the humans don't start hunting mermaids or harvesting magic beans again.

AMY

No freaking way!

DRACULA

Way.

AMY

No need to be condescending.

DRACULA

(smiling) Bite me. Are you ready? Change into bat and leave shit hospital? Shit life?

AMY

I'm ready to start living.

DRACULA

I know. So let's go start living it.

AMY

How long will it be?

DRACULA

As long as you want it.

END OF PLAY