

3 ANNOYING THINGS ABOUT “THE STRAIN”

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They keep you screaming at the TV screen



The Strain has become one of the most talked about shows on television, not shying away from the gore and action expected from a vampire/apocalyptic genre. But while it's been quenching the fans' thirsts for those off the charts special effects/makeup and "glorious" vampire kills, there are just some annoying clichés that all these kinds of shows/movies have to have. These genres wouldn't be thriving without them. From the stubborn to the ones in denial, The Strain delivers these lock, stock and barrel.

The True Denials

After everything you've seen, you're STILL calling this an epidemic?

Of course, you have the scientists who can't turn their, well, scientific minds off and accept what's going on in front of them. As CDC agents, Eph Goodweather, Nora Martinez and Jim Kent have the daunting task of trying to figure out what could have suddenly turned normal citizens into night crawling creatures who can die by the sun.

And that's the problem. First of all, there is NOTHING they can do to stop what's happening...well, nothing humanly possible. They have to go straight to the source, and that's The Master. The problem they have is not looking at the situation for what it really is...people turning into vampires. Old man Setrakian, who by all accounts seem to **have a well of information about the vampire apocalypse** and has been right every step of the way, has been constantly trying to drive into the heads of the three scientists the fact that this isn't an illness. I mean, they've seen the signs: the physiological and physical changes of the human body, inside and out; the fact that the sun can kill these creatures, and the way they have to kill or take these things down – by way of silver bullets and beheadings.



After

everything Eph has seen with Setrakian, he still won't come to grips with reality. (spoilertv.com)

They keep looking at these beings as humans who happen to be sick and just need to give them some tea to get them better. When Eph and Setrakian went on a quest to track down the passengers of the **ill-fated flight**, Nora decided not to join them because she saw it as them tracking down and killing HUMANS. I slowly started to get tired of her, but then realized that Eph was just a notch above her in the belief department. Even when Vasiliy HAD to kill Jim in "**Creatures of the Night**" because he was vampire worm-ridden which is a good indication of turning into a vampire, Eph was furious. I was asking the same question Setrakian was asking, "When will you decide to believe me?"

The Stubborn Ones/The Know-It-Alls

Sigh Yes, the stubborn ones. The ones who are told to drive/not to go there/stay in the car, but decide not to. The ones who meet untimely and gruesome deaths because they refused to follow instructions and better yet common sense. This was never more evident than in "**For Services Rendered**" when the stubborn ones were dropping left and right. First it was the cab driver who, after seeing the vampires and told frantically to drive by his passenger, sat looking at them, and then "brilliantly" decided that it was best to shoot out his secure car window to take down the vampires. Suffice it to say, he didn't make it.



You had ONE job...to drive. (vod.fxnetworks.com)

Then there is the case of Neeva and her daughter. Neeva has been witnessing her boss slowly transform into something otherworldly, and **sensibly decided to take her children out of the house** and bring them to her place (her sixth sense may be due to her being from a Caribbean country, you know, spirits and stuff). She was contemplating her next move over breakfast the next morning, when her daughter came home and asked why the children were there. Neeva tried explaining that Mrs. Luss wasn't right. Her daughter wanted to take the children back home and chided Neeva's protected behavior for overreacting. And she thought she knew better because she was a medical professional and thought she could look at Mrs. Luss. Cut to them being trapped in the house by vampires and the daughter being side swiped by one of their tongues, then getting killed by some vampire-looking vigilantes. Mother knew best.

The Frantic Ones

These are the ones who are so scared/frightened that all senses leave them. Instead of staying inside a SECURE space away from those creatures, they want to get out...into the danger. Take for instance the delivery truck driver in "Creatures of the Night". There are all these things walking around outside, trying frantically to get in to feed on the "living", and he wants to leave the convenient store. Granted, after a while the vampires did manage to break the glass door, but that was way after they had him for dinner when he insisted on leaving. Bad decision. "I need to get out of here!" And go where? You know what? Go. Go ahead. Get eaten.



Ann-Marie was apparently so terrified that she basically played possum. (thisisinfamous.com)

The Possums

I think we all know these. The ones so shocked, so stricken, that they. CANNOT. MOVE. Even when the infected is TELLING you to run. In “[It’s Not for Everyone](#)”, loving wife, Ann-Marie finds her husband, Ansel chained up in their shed (he chained himself up when he saw what was happening to him) and was horrified to see what her husband turned into. I’m sure she was totally beside herself and didn’t know what to do with herself. But he clearly was no longer her husband and even he was telling her to go. After what seemed like hours (alright, I’m exaggerating), she decided to move. She could have been vampire food.

But what would horror be without all those tropes? I mean, without them, there wouldn’t be the needed casualties, and through those casualties we learn a lot. I just wish they didn’t annoy me so much.

I KNOW I’m not alone in this.



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