

A VOICE SPOKE TO ME AT NIGHT

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Plot Summary

The unnamed narrator lives alone in a new, "history-less" flat and feels isolated. One night, a mysterious **voice from the past** speaks to them — a gruff, old Scots voice appearing almost like a ghost. The narrator's loneliness seems to "make a portal," linking them to another lonely person across time.

The story blends realism with surreal, eerie communication across centuries.

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Themes

Loneliness & Isolation

- The narrator lives alone with only a phone and Tinder for company.
- Their intense isolation creates the conditions for supernatural communication.

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Connection Across Time

- The voice is drawn to the narrator "because of the force of his loneliness," suggesting loneliness can bridge eras.

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Fear & Anxiety

- Narrator expresses intrusive fears: "something will drag me by the ankles."

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Identity & Intelligence

- Despite their fear, the narrator is intelligent and articulate: references Chaucer, Francis Drake.

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Narrative Style

- First-person inner monologue capturing anxiety and self-awareness.
 - Lyrical, unsettling tone.
 - Moments of fragmented thought, reflecting loneliness and hyper-awareness.
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Symbols

- **The voice:** the past demanding to be heard; loneliness echoing across time.
 - **The flat:** sterile, empty modern life.
 - **Night-time setting:** vulnerability, liminality, blurred boundaries.
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Key Quotations

- "I have a terrible fear that something will come and drag me by the ankles."
 - "I read a bit of Chaucer in school..." (shows intelligence)
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