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## the DOOD falls down, goes boom

Fri, 2012-09-21 14:06 — Robin Olson

It started around Saturday. the DOOD wasn't eating well. I didn't notice because Sam usually feeds the cats (*while I feed the foster cats*). **With everything going on with Jackson, we didn't notice the DOOD wasn't moving around much, either-until we looked back on it.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Waiting to see Dr. Larry.

**By Monday, I did notice that DOOD was staying put in one place for most of the day.** He won't get up to eat, but would eat if I brought him his food. He wasn't running around, jumping on Blitzen or bulldozing his way to get a piece of chicken before the others could reach it. **DOOD wasn't even climbing into my lap to lick my face as he does just about every evening.**



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**I cooked broccoli. Yes, that's how I cure disease. Okay, maybe not,** but I knew DOOD would get up if he smelled the vegetable cooking. He didn't get up. I brought him the bowl filled with his favorite thing in the world. He was very interested in

it and got up. I encouraged him to climb down from the cat tree onto the floor. He did so, but he did it slowly. **I knew something was wrong, but not sure what it was.**



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I saw DOOD take a few steps. I shot a quick video to document the problem. **DOOD was limping very badly. He cried a little when he reached me. I tried to examine him after he had some broccoli, but he hissed, then nipped at my hand.** He even growled.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Being a good boy with Dr. Larry and Super-Deb.

I felt the urge to panic, but fought it back. He's a very clumsy cat. **When he runs, his back feet get out from under him all the time.** When he wants to push the others out of the way to get a treat, he might overshoot where he's trying to jump and miss.

**Recently he figured out there's a big covered bucket of kibble in the basement. It's for our feral cat, but he can pry the container open if he really tries. Sam found him inside the bucket gorging himself one night so he fortified access to the basement spiral staircase-then DOOD was injured a few days later.**



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Yes, DOOD is high.

### **I fear DOOD fell down the spiral staircase.**

I gave it a few days. DOOD seemed to act a bit brighter each day. Then yesterday morning the DOOD jumped onto the chair next to me. **He began trembling from pain.** I knew I was pushing my luck and called Dr. Larry. We had to wait until the afternoon, but we brought him in for an examination, blood work and x-rays.



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Poor DOOD. He was very good with Dr. Larry and Super-Deb. **He didn't make much of a fuss until Dr Larry touched the center of his spine-then he hissed and growled.** I was very worried DOOD had a spinal cord injury, but then he wouldn't be able to walk, right? **I also worried about an abscess that I missed finding. Something happened with Jackson because DOOD hissed at him and hid when Jackson was near him.** Maybe there was a bite wound in DOOD's back?



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**Dr. Larry took a long time reviewing the x-rays.** I got more worried as each minute ticked by. He came back into the exam room and motioned for Sam and I to follow him to the back where we could see the x-rays. Dr. Larry sighed. I started to imagine very bad news.

**“I just can't find anything wrong.”**

Next, Dr. Larry went over the x-rays, pointing out how he'd look for signs of an abscess-little wisps or lines passing through the skin where gas/air pockets were forming around the wound. None were found. Vertebrae looked good-intact. We looked at DOOD's right front paw and it was fine. **Then we saw DOOD's heart and I almost fainted. I realized Dr. Larry brought up Jackson's X-ray on the screen! Right????!! RIGHT!..whew...**

**The blood work was normal. DOOD's temp was a bit high,** but that could have been caused by stress. Bottom line-this was probably a fairly bad soft tissue injury. **Rest and pain meds-which are tough to come by for cats-was prescribed.** The choice, [buprenex](#) <sup>(1)</sup> and [aspirin](#) <sup>(2)</sup>-yes aspirin, but only twice over the next 4 days, but I'm not sure I can give that to him.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Waitin' to feel better. (with Nicky in the background)

**DOOD is home, laying on the bed. He doesn't move much and his eyes seem glued open.** I'm sure he's tripping out on the buprenex. I'll give him the aspirin tonight. He's not eating unless I put extra treats on his food and he growls when he has to walk. DOOD must have really twisted his back, but good. I wish he could talk to me and tell me where it hurts.



©2012 Robin A.F. Olson. Zonked.

It's wait and see, like so many other health related problems with our cats. At least nothing is broken and DOOD does not require surgery. I hope that with some TLC and rest he'll be back to running around like a maniac.

**Plus, my face needs a DOOD-special-bath.**

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## **Comments**

Fri, 2012-09-21 17:23 — [Connie & The Crew \(not verified\)](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

### **I gave Em a half of a baby** <sup>[16]</sup>

I gave Em a half of a baby aspirin every three days per the vet's instructions. She was on it for quite some time.

Fri, 2012-09-21 22:33 — [Shelli](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

### **DOOD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Head** <sup>[18]</sup>

DOOD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Head bumps from Quincy, STAT!

And for mama? A nice glass of wine.

Love to all of the furry beasties over there.

xo

Sat, 2012-09-22 14:21 — [bibimimi \(not verified\)](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

### **My main Dood** <sup>[20]</sup>

He could be badly bruised. I hope it's nothing worse than that.

Sat, 2012-09-22 21:12 — Anne in FL (not verified)

**Oh Robin, My heart goes out** [21]

Oh Robin,

My heart goes out to you. Stress over our little ones can be awful. I hope by the time you get this Doodlebug is feeling much better. Loving them and feeling helpless at times is heart wrenching. You do such a good job caring for your furies. We at this end are sending you and Dood {{{hugs}}} and well wishes. (Dood certainly is one GOOD looking boy!!)

Anne

Sun, 2012-09-23 20:23 — Lita (not verified)

**CST** [22]

Could you get someone who does cranio sacral therapy to see Dood? CST is very gentle and it works wonders on nerve/spinal/soft tissue injuries. My cats have an adjustment every month and seem much better for it. Oh, and maybe give him some arnica and/or traumeel, they're great for pain relief and help healing, too.

Fri, 2012-09-28 21:02 — jmuhj (not verified)

**RE: DOOD!** [23]

Wishing DOOD a speedy return to health, and all of you well. Love the jellybeans, btw.

Mon, 2012-10-01 10:36 — Catnymouse (not verified)

**Veterinary Chiropractic** [24]

My cat, Cliff, fell and injured his back. When the typical drug therapies didn't give much help, I took him to visit a chiropractor trained in Veterinary Orthepeidic Manipulation. After a couple of treatments, Cliff was feeling MUCH better. After a couple more visits, he was better than "normal" - he got more playful and purred for the first time in a while.

Get well soon, DOOD!

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Robin @ [Google+](#)

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