

“PENNY DREADFUL’S CAULDRON OF TERROR” (Comic Review)

Written by David Elijah-Nahmod
Wednesday, 22 August 2012 13:12



The ever-lovely, Rondo Award-winning Penny Dreadful, hostess of the popular PENNY DREADFUL’S SHILLING SHOCKERS, recently parlayed her TV success into her very own comic book title. PENNY DREADFUL’S CAULDRON OF TERROR, spawned in the dungeons of publisher Comic Book Divas, is (according to Ms. Dreadful) intended to be a one-shot title—but ya never know!



The buxom, multitasking witch penned the comic’s two terror tales, and also serves as hostess as well as co-starring in the second story—in which her leading man is her husband, the rather hairy Garou Wolfman. Titled “Puppy Love,” this is the utterly delightful fable of how a certain witch and werewolf met, fell in love and came to America in search of tolerance. Their saga is told completely in rhyme, and Dreadful reveals herself to be quite an accomplished poet. The first tale, “Fright Sprite,” is a decidedly disturbing tale of evil elves who overtake a small, isolated house in the English countryside. It’s a chilling, shilling shocker that will give nightmares to moms everywhere!

The host segments showcase the star’s trademark love and knowledge of all things horror. Penny Dreadful is that rarity among TV horror hosts: She personally watches all the films she presents, and genuinely loves them. In her intro to “Puppy Love,” several panels reveal a few of the icons who inspire Dreadful’s life’s work, including Boris Karloff as the Frankenstein Monster and the beloved, recently departed Jonathan Frid as TV vampire Barnabas Collins. The comic is printed on thick, magazine-style paper, so the colors are vibrant and the ink won’t

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smear your fingers.

Like the hostess herself, PENNY DREADFUL’S CAULDRON OF TERROR is a delight; here’s hoping that Ms. Dreadful and Comic Book Divas can conjure up a few more issues. It can be purchased at www.shillingshockers.com or www.comicbookdivas.com .

