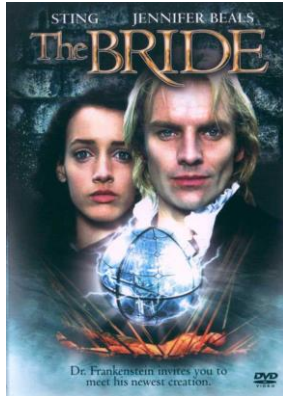


Short Review: “The Bride” (1985) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Bride, The (1985). Columbia Pictures, 118 min. Director: Franc Roddan. Producer: Victor Draai. Screenwriter: Lloyd Fonvielle. Based upon the novel *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley. Cast: Sting, Jennifer Beals, Clancy Brown, Geraldine Page, Anthony Higgins, Veruschka, Quentin Crisp, Cary Elwes, and David Rappaport.

Capturing the poetry and pathos of Mary Shelley’s original novel, this ravishingly beautiful remake of James Whale’s “The Bride of Frankenstein” (1935) picks up where the 1935 classic left off. But instead of perishing in the tower after its rejection, the monster (Brown) escapes into the countryside. There, it meets a dwarf (Rappaport) who convinces the creature to join the circus. Meanwhile, the bride of the monster (Beals) becomes the object of Dr. Frankenstein's (Sting) uncontrollable desires. When she also rejects him, demonstrating her independence as a woman, all hell breaks loose. Filmed in Budapest, Hungary, this revisionist remake is both stunning to look at and filled with a fresh spirit not seen in many years. Jennifer Beals, who made such a splash as the stripper in “Flashdance” (1983), plays Eva with a wide-eyed innocence and, at the same time, tempestuous sexuality that is dangerously erotic. We understand completely why Sting can’t keep his hands off her! At least he has the right idea. If you can’t find a date to the school prom, create one yourself.

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