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World's Only Blind Film Director is About to Get SICK 'N TWISTED

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(CAPE CORAL, FL) Screenwriter David J. Schow (*The Crow*) has called him “One of the godfathers of splatterpunk.” Stephen R. Bissette, co-creator of *Swamp Thing*, has said of his work, “Mind the edge—it cuts even deeper now.” And, he’s the world’s first—and only—blind feature film director. For Joseph M. Monks, groundbreaking is nothing new. With his first comic book in over a decade set to be released, he’s had time to hone the blade some.

“When we first hit the scene with *Cry For Dawn*, no one was doing anything like it. We turned heads. We shocked people. Today’s publishers have gotten away from that sort of content, so what better time to spread the sickness?”

Cry For Dawn, the early-‘90s cult/underground title, was banned in 7 countries and refused by printers; one of the issues was seized in an FBI raid. Monks, a staunch free speech advocate, has always been a horror writer first and foremost, and the debut issue of *SICK 'N TWISTED* harkens back to when there were legitimate concerns about the feds crashing through his door.

“George Bernard Shaw said, ‘The secret to success is to offend the greatest number of people,’” Monks says. “We found out quick I kinda had a knack for that.”

Though that book ended its run in 1993, Monks, who shifted his focus from comics to film, writing and directing the gritty indie feature *The Bunker*, and the TV pilot: *Redemption*, always wanted to return. “I wanted to keep pushing the envelope. To keep making readers and reviewers uncomfortable. But struggles regarding the direction we were going led to impasses that couldn’t be overcome. So? I’ve got properties to show off. New concepts to stretch the boundaries with. *SICK 'N TWISTED* isn’t hyperbole. It’s splatterpunk/extreme horror for people tired of ‘safe’.”

A *SICK 'N TWISTED* Kickstarter launches on June 17th, with the comic hitting stores in the fall.

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