

Queen Sheena, All Bow!

By Milo J. Oz

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DEDICATION

*To all members of the original cast, and every Sheena, JJ,
and Behavior-Adjusting Monster out there.*

STORY OF THE PLAY

Help! please. How do you teach civility when Miss Manners and Mary Poppins aren't around? For three professional bedroom monsters, the assignment to change young Sheena is business as usual – almost. This case has a lot riding on it. If not successful, Fredrick will be forced to retire, nervous Igor will fail, and Petra will be partnered with a monster she dislikes. Never before has the future of this hairy team rested in the palm of a little, spoiled, rude girl – and all under the inquiring eye, and note-taking hand of another monster, a snooping *New Orc Times* reporter! Will showing Sheena her future grown-up self, all mean and demanding, help her change? Looks like “queen” Sheena holds all the power...uh oh.

PRODUCTION HISTORY

Presented August 10 – 21, 2009 by the Stirling Festival Theatre Young Company at the Stirling Festival Theatre (Ontario, Canada); originally titled “Sheena, the Queen of Stirling.”

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

(Approx. 3 m, 3 w)

ANEEHS: (Rhymes with "geese") "Grown-up" Sheena,
played by Petra.

BIANCA: Female monster journalist.

FREDRICK: Male monster.

IGOR: Male monster.

JJ: Sheena's younger brother.

PETRA: Female monster.

SHEENA: Young girl.

The genders of Bianca, Fredrick and Igor are flexible.

Approximately 45 minutes.

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PLACE

Sheena's bedroom

TIME

Night

SETTING

A young girl's bedroom. Present are a bed, closet, desk and chair, dresser, bedside tables, and of course, no shortage of stuffed animals and other personal treasures, particularly, pictures of the girl herself. On one of the bedside tables is a spray bottle.

PROP PIECES

bed with space below allowing passage
open-backed closet allowing passage
chair
JJ's teddy bear & blanket
spray bottle
large book
notepad and pen
handkerchief
scroll
hand fan
very small pillow

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(AT RISE: A young girl's bedroom. Offstage SHEENA is practicing piano. After each mis-note, we hear "Stop it, JJ!" "Go away!" "Leave me alone!" "You're the worst little brother ever!!!" etc. As SHEENA starts playing JAWS theme we see onstage the closet door slowly opening and the MONSTERS creeping out. Suddenly, the piano playing turns into a bashing of the eardrums as SHEENA smashes the keys finishing with a loud "NO!")

FREDRICK: Just in time for another musical temper tantrum.
Lovely.

(Another round of key bashing produces more full-body spasms in MONSTERS...silence)

BIANCA: Nice.

PETRA: Yeah, she's a real Mozart.

FREDRICK: May as well take a seat, monsters. She'll be awhile.

(MONSTERS take places around room. PETRA sprawled on bed; BIANCA poking around and taking notes; IGOR pacing; FREDRICK's head following IGOR's progress...)

IGOR: But it's dark out. I mean, it's really dark out. They've all eaten dinner. She is *definitely* finished with her piano lesson. Why isn't she here, already? It's dark. It's late. It's night-time. She's supposed to be here, right?...What time is it?!

PETRA: Time to get a watch, Igor.

IGOR: *(To PETRA.)* I know, but, do you know what time it is? *(To child in audience.)* How 'bout you? Do you know what time it is? *(To different child.)* And you?... She should be here by now!

BIANCA: Is he always like this?

FREDRICK: Relax, Igor. She'll come. She'll be here. Sit down.

IGOR: Can't sit down. No, no, no. Can't sit down. Too nervous.

FREDRICK: Igor, sit down before you make me throw up. *(IGOR flops down right where he was standing.)* Thank you. *(To BIANCA.)* You were saying?

(BIANCA is instantly at FREDRICK's side. IGOR starts compulsively chewing his nails.)

BIANCA: Yes! My name is Bianca MonsterellaMozzarella Mobella, but people call me "B" – among other things... I am a journalist from the *New Orc Times*. As part of my weekly column – which I'm sure you already know *all* about – I introduce one important, high-profile job to the general monster community. This week it was suggested that I interview you! So, here I am!

(On "here I am!" BIANCA throws her arms to the sides and puffs out her chest, unintentionally smacking FREDRICK.)

FREDRICK: *(Not meaning it.)* What a week for you to pick. Great timing.

BIANCA: Pardon me? *(FREDRICK makes "never-mind" gesture with hands.)* Right then. Down to business. How long have you been "frightening"?

FREDRICK: Oh, we don't like to call it "frightening;" we prefer "selective awakening of young humans in order to adjust their *unsatisfactory* behavior." I've been doing it for 102 years.

BIANCA: Ah, 102 years. *(Makes note, then flattering in order to get information.)* My, my, my. Don't you look good for your age! As "bedroom monsters," do you always use the closet?

End of Freeview

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