

different people the way they most need her to."

When Dawn met a confused young man named Darrian Ashoka in *Lucifer's Halo*, Linsner says Darrian was "in need of direction. What he needed was a lover—an equal, someone who would set him on his quest for purpose." So Dawn appeared as Darrian thought a lover should...as a hot babe. Later, when Dawn went to Hell to retrieve the halo, she was acting as an ambassador of sorts. She appeared in a formal gown, looking absolutely regal. And she'll take on even more new looks in the future.

"In *Return of the Goddess*, it's Dawn's worshipers who are calling out for her," Linsner states. "And they need vengeance. Dawn will appear in the aspect of herself most able to deal that vengeance—the Goddess as avenging warrior. Think of Kali the Destroyer in Hindu myth or the Valkyries of Norse myth. She'll be a force to be reckoned with."

But regardless of her getup, some things in Dawn's appearance are always consistent—like the three-teardrop scheme on her left eye and the chains and roses on her wrists.

So what's with that three-teardrop thing?

Think of it as a scar that Death left.

The tears didn't appear on Dawn's face until after she met Death in *Drama*. Before this meeting, which happened near the beginning of time, Dawn was an empty vessel—innocent and naive, almost totally lacking in knowledge. She needed to know about Heaven and Hell, about what joy and sorrow were and what her future held. Death agreed to give her this knowledge. But all knowledge has a price. Death, who loved life (and thus, loved Dawn), wanted to touch Dawn in exchange for this knowledge.

The touch of Death leaves a mark, and Dawn's teardrops are that mark. She wears them to this day.



What about the chains around one wrist and roses around the other?

"It's all about balance," Linsner says. "As major a force as birth and rebirth is, it has to be governed by balance. The chains and roses symbolize two opposing forces. The chains symbolize Heaven, the roses symbolize Hell."

In Linsner's world, Heaven is a place of rigid order—hence the chains. And God wears chains around both of his wrists. Hell is a place where things grow wild, run dangerous and can prick you at any time—like the thorns of a rose. To symbolize this, Lucifer wears roses wrapped around both his arms.

Are the rumors true that Dawn really sprang from a lingerie doodle?

Yep! The legend is true! The story goes that Linsner was at a comic convention in the late 1980s and terribly bored. Having little to do, he started drawing in a sketchbook. He drew a skull. From there, he sketched another interlocking skull. He kept idly drawing more skulls until he realized he had a pattern. He thought the pattern might look cool as lingerie. "So I drew it into a lace corset, to be exact," Linsner says. "Dawn just grew from there."

So where can I find some Dawn back issues?

Dawn's comic history is a pretty short one. She's appeared in 1989's *Cry For Dawn* and 1996's *Crypt of Dawn*, two anthology titles from Cry For Dawn Productions and Sirius Entertainment, respectively. But all she really did there was make cover appearances or act as a narrator to introduce stories starring other characters.

As a character unto herself, Dawn first appeared in *Drama*, a 1994 one-shot. There, she met her opposite number—Death—and allowed Death to actually touch her in exchange for a glimpse of her future.

In that glimpse, Dawn saw part of what would happen in 1995's six-issue *Dawn: Lucifer's Halo* mini-series. Dawn guided Darrian, who was stuck in the middle of a struggle between Heaven and Hell. She protected Darrian, advised him, mothered him and got him through the conflict alive.

In the middle of *Lucifer's Halo*, Dawn took time out for *Dawn* #1/2. There, she brought Darrian a dream which showed him the nature of life and death.



SHE'S NEKKID! Dawn appears to people the way they want her to look. (This is how most like to see her.)

Looking to read a six-issue mini-series in paperback, still in pri

What's the deal with...

"The story opens just says of the bimonthly series. "A worldw underway and no one Enter Dawn. "There one young witch offe [Dawn] in exchange responds to the girl ever's behind the ge

In a nutshell—Ma

What does Linsner...

"Dawn will always fi work on other creat fresh," Linsner states ever want that to ha

But still, Linsner k very important to m

How devoted are...

They're a little more lot of people seem to definitely put the 'fa

Linsner has recei ple I've never met." women who feel the ous undress. And w

At 1998's *Wizar* flashed by a woman year's *Dragon* "Con fr ever Dawn Look-a-L sidebar), which entrants, all trying to "It's terrific to feel th people," Linsner ad feel a little less alone universe of ours."

Get ready, ladi Dawn Look-a-Like C to 1999's *Dragon* "C

Is Dawn a true re...

Uh...well...gee, we s gonna ask her! And that a lady should ha too. "Only her haird sure," he laughs. "I tell me anyway. You a straight answer ou

Anyway, now yo in Dawn lore, so yo pared to dive into the *Goddess* series, no natural or a dye-job

Jim McLaughlin, relax, is the repre the "beer and pizza maybe he's just an