

Based on the 1966-71 daytime soap opera Dark Shadows, House of Dark Shadows is basically a retelling of the Barnabas Collins story, only closer in vein (yes, the pun was intended) to producer Dan Curtis' original conception of the character. Curtis' idea was that Barnabas would be a real monster, on the show for about six months and then staked to make way for a new supernatural threat once ratings had risen. What he did NOT expect was the phenomenal response the character would trigger from the audience, which forced the writers to come up with a way to make Barnabas a sympathetic (hence the first reluctant) vampire. With no restrictions, however, Curtis directed House of Dark Shadows and Barnabas was indeed a monster, albeit one hidden from the rest of the Collins family but with a real blood-sucking agenda. Says Wikipedia, "Dark Shadows producer Dan Curtis began pitching the idea of a

Read more: <http://www.comicbookmovie.com/fansites/mediageek/news/?a=53781&t=DA RK SHADOWS First Movie Airs on TCM Tonight>