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Dracula and Frankenstein Are Friends

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Tegen, Katherine. *Dracula and Frankenstein Are Friends*. Illustrated by Doug Cushman. HarperCollins, 2003. ISBN 006000116X. \$16.89. 32 pp.

Reviewer: Marsha D. Broadway

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Holiday stories;

Subject: Halloween--Juvenile Fiction; Friendship--Juvenile Fiction; Monsters--Juvenile Fiction; Books—Reviews;

Dracula and Frankenstein are neighbors, living side-by-side in spooky houses. Their friendship is challenged when both decide to have Halloween parties. Dracula, in a moment of rivalry, makes Frankenstein's invitations disappear and his own invitations to appear in his own mailbox. The next week, Dracula's party is rocking, with friends dressed up as they favorite dead person, but Frankenstein is sitting alone at home. Dracula's party begins to wane, and feeling some remorse, he decides to take the party next door, telling his guests that the best is yet to be.

A Halloween palate with more humor than horror and a monstrous friendship make this a solid choice for holiday collections in public and school libraries. Simple vocabulary will encourage even first graders to read this one alone.