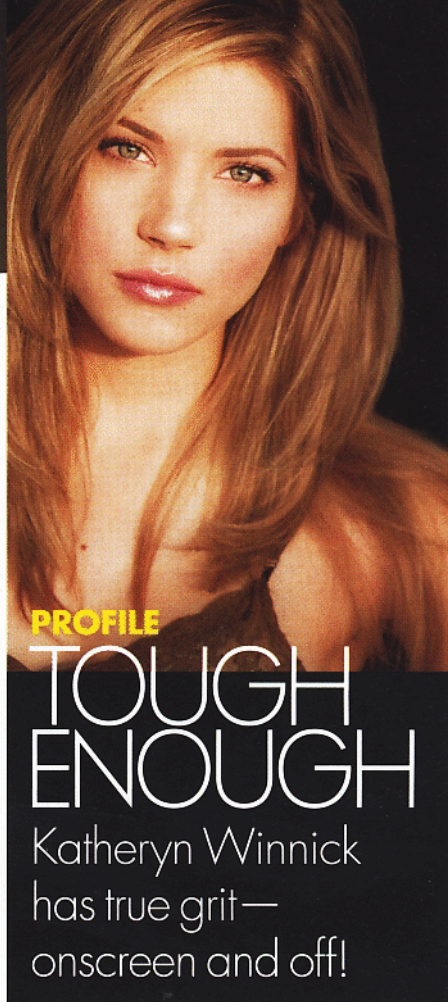


Katheryn Winnick may have only briefly graced the big screen in releases like *Failure to Launch*, but the Toronto-born actress was ready for her close-up when she landed a guest appearance on FOX's *House M.D.* last year. Playing a rape victim who overdoses and then argues against House's suggestion that she have an abortion was challenging, but this former martial arts instructor is nothing if not tough. Winnick demonstrates her grit again in the film *Amusement*. The thriller features three women on the run from a clown-suited killer who harbours a nasty grudge from their childhood. "I love diving into the headspace of a complex character," says Winnick. "I chose to audition for the role of Tabitha because I felt she has the strongest emotional journey."



Winnick moves from horror to more mind-bending fare in two upcoming features. First up is *Radio Free Albemuth*. In this film, she plays the wife of a man who has strange visions about a government conspiracy. In *Cold Souls*, she plays a mob-connected Russian actress who wants Oscar winner Al Pacino's soul to improve her acting chops but finds herself saddled with Oscar nominee Paul Giamatti's soul instead. But there's a hitch: Giamatti, who plays himself, wants it back! The movie was partly filmed in Russia, which meant that Winnick had to master some Russian lingo, but as usual she toughed it out. "Well, I speak Ukrainian—that helped," she says, laughing. **BRIONY SMITH**



PROFILE

TOUGH ENOUGH

Katheryn Winnick has true grit—onscreen and off!

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