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The Deadly Spawn (1983, Blu-ray Review)

by [Greg B.](#) on February 28, 2012



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Director: Douglas McKeown

Cast: Charles George Hildebrandt, Tom DeFranco, Richard Lee Porter, Jean Tafler

Elite Entertainment / Region A / Unrated / 1.33:1 Fullscreen / English 2.0 Mono / 81 minutes / [PURCHASE](#)

Disk Extras: Intro by producer Ted A. Bohus / Commentary with Bohus and editor Marc Harwood / Production and promo stills / Comic book preview / Casting tapes / Gag reel / Trailer and TV spot / Alternate opening scene / Local TV coverage / Liner notes from Ted A. Bohus

Earth vs. The Ultimate Eating Machine!

A couple of campers are out doing a little outdoorsy-type shit when a meteor crashes near the campsite. Upon investigating, the two are quickly mauled by an unseen alien creature. The murderous monster makes its way to the basement of a nearby home, sets up shop and begins spawning little eel-like babies who are soon feeding on the family living in the house. The nine year old son, who happens to be into movie monsters, is the first to see the aliens and live so he uses his creature-smarts and learns how to fight and kill them. His older twenty-something brother and his science nerd friends get in on the fun and use their collective noodles to basically get their asses handed to them by the toothy parasitic creatures while the little dude kicks much ass and helps to dispatch all of the *Deadly Spawns*... or does he?

The movie is just what you probably think it is with a name like *The Deadly Spawn*; a low-budget, '80s puppet monster flick with shitty acting, a little nudity, unintentional laughs and tons of great practical gore effects. This movie delivers on all of those fronts and will satiate your need for 1980s horror and gore cheesiness. The momma alien is a giant head of rows and rows of nasty, drippy teeth and a body that looks like the Chet shit monster from *Weird Science*. The babies look like six inch long sperm with those same gnashing teeth, kinda like a lamprey if a lamprey was alien and snacked on humans like they were a king-sized Snickers bar. The *Deadly Spawn* is like if you crossed Ridley Scott's *Aliens* with *Night of the Creeps* with a splash of *Evil Dead*. Gory, low-budget sci-fi horror doesn't get any better than this unless there is more boobies involved.

Now comes the bad part; this "high definition" Blu-ray Millennium Edition from Elite Entertainment and MVD Visual. While the movie kicks ass, this release is lackluster at best. The picture quality is pretty fucking shitty by even VHS standards. I was pretty impressed with the nice, saturated colors and strong contrasts but I noticed that the blacks were actually too dark and just blended all together. There was also noticeable film damage throughout the entire runtime but that's not even the worst part, that would be a complete lack of detail in the picture to the point where people looked like they were made of clay! Whole scenes were just completely blurry like someone smeared Vaseline on the lens. I'm confused to what Elite was thinking when they supposedly remastered this and what source did they use? This is by far the worst HD Blu-ray transfer I have ever seen.

I would definitely pick up the movie in some form and there are a couple of different options for you from other companies with slightly different supplementals but they are all around the same price. Don't buy this thinking it's an improvement over the other options, buy it because you just want a competitively priced Blu-ray of a fucking badass movie.

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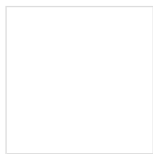
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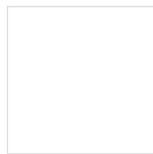


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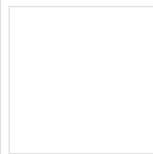
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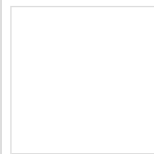
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