

Shattered Ravings

Excursions into Sci-Fi, Fantasy, and Horror...and everything in between...

Movie Review – The Deadly Spawn (1983)

Posted on [February 24, 2012](#)

[The Deadly Spawn](#)

Directed by [Douglas McKeown](#)

Courtesy of Elite Entertainment and MVD Visual

Original Release Date: 1983

Blu-ray/DVD Release: February 7, 2012



I can't believe I have never watched THE DEADLY SPAWN. Although I was only nine years-old when it came out, that's about the same time I started watching horror movies. Over the years, this case-cover has jumped out at me several times, but I never picked it up for some reason. I wish I would have watched it because it's an excellent 80s creature-feature and I had a great time with it.

If you are not familiar with THE DEADLY SPAWN, here is the plot synopsis courtesy of the Blu-ray cover:

Two campers in the New Jersey woods have their outdoor fun interrupted by the arrival of a meteorite crashing nearby. They go to investigate the crater, but are suddenly attacked and devoured by alien parasites who have hitched a ride to Earth. After finishing off the campers, the hungry space monsters head for a nearby town, where they make their domain in the basement of an old house and begin polishing off one hapless inhabitant after another. Four young teenagers, plus one pre-teen boy, try to find a way to stop the angry space monsters before they reproduce and literally eat humanity.

Wow...where do I even begin? This film is amazing from start to finish. And to top it all off, it's actually intense! I can't tell you how often I watch horror movies that are suspenseful but have no intensity. THE DEADLY SPAWN starts off with a bang and doesn't let up.

While the acting is the typical 'lame duck' of these old 80s flicks, the special effects make up that and then some. All of the special effects are practical and look amazing. I was seriously concerned about what they would look like going into this film, but wow...the production team did a great job. There's plenty of gore and it looks phenomenal. Of particular note for me was when woman gets part of her face bitten off. Staggeringly realistic!

The plot of THE DEADLY SPAWN, while being a typical 'aliens-trying-to-eat-the-human-population' scenario, is actually pretty good and pretty unique, especially in regard to the characters. They are a varied and diverse bunch of the modern nuclear family, which makes them so much fun to watch as they get eaten. How can you not want to see that?

My favorite aspect of this film is the ending. I will not give it away, but I love the twist and did not see it coming. It is very well done and sent a shiver down my spine as it played out.

THE DEADLY SPAWN is dubbed by some as a cult classic and I completely understand why; it is a fun foray into carnage and frights. Check out the Blu-ray version, which contains a variety of special features, including:

- * Special introduction by producer Ted A. Bohus
- * Commentary track
- * Color pages from the upcoming comic
- * Casting tapes
- * Gag Reel
- * Trailers

and more! Add this film to your collection today. It is definitely worth it!

MSB

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