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The Deadly Spawn: Millennium Edition

It's 'Deadly' fun.

Rod Lott

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From 1983, “[Deadly Spawn](#)” clearly is rooted in the style of the 1950s sci-fi monster movies whose posters bedeck one of the character’s walls, from Bert I. Gordon’s “The Spider” to Jack Arnold’s “Monster on the Campus” — films in which severe deficiencies in budget are mitigated by ingenuity and charm.



In this New Jersey-lensed low-budgeter, a meteor (or something like it) crashing into the woods unleashes an alien menace in the single most hideously decorated house in film history, where the tables, walls and chairs are painted Pepto-Bismol pink. Among the seemingly infinite family members inside the multistory home are a monster-obsessed kid (Charles George Hildebrandt), his science-minded older brother (Tom DeFranco, “Alien Nation”) and their Aunt Millie (Ethel Michelson), who’s a dead ringer for “Saturday Night Live” character Debbie Downer.

The mother creature is a triple-headed, Audrey II-esque thing that takes root in the the dank, dark depths of the family basement; its spawn resemble giant sperm fashioned from cuts of raw meat. While the bulk of the movie tracks the aliens’ attempted takeover of this home, a wonderful subplot ensues in which they crash a luncheon of a