



TOP ARTICLES



**Review - Forgive Me For Raping You**

Director: Bill Zebub  
 Production: Rough Pictures  
 Distribution: MVD  
 Visual Release: October 19th, 2010  
 Just when you thoug...



**Coming Soon - Stiffed**

Director: Billy Garberina  
 Production: C.R. Productions  
 Distribution: Independent Entertainment / Alternative Cinema  
 Release: ...



**Review - Antfarm Dickhole**

Director: Bill Zebub  
 Production: Bill Zebub Productions  
 Distribution: MVD Entertainment Group  
 Release: November 22nd, 2011 T...



**Review - Necroville**

Director: Billy Garberina  
 Production: C. R. Productions  
 Distribution: Shock-O-Rama Cinema / Alternative Cinema  
 Release: Sept...



**Review - American Scream King**

Director: Joel Paul Reisig  
 Production: Be Your Own Hollywood.com  
 Distribution: Midnight Releasing  
 Release: February 21st, 2012...

**Review - Brain Dead**

Director: Kevin S. Tenney

**Review - The Deadly Spawn: Millennium Edition (Blu-ray)**

by Max Ingram



**Director:** Douglas McKeown  
**Production:** Elite Entertainment  
**Distribution:** MVD Visual  
**Release:** February 7th, 2012 (Blu-ray Edition)

Marketing departments will often try to pump up customer expectations by assigning grandiose titles to their products. Phrases like "special edition," "newly enhanced," and "limited availability" are common parlance in the ad game. But when the final product actually delivers on those expectations, there's really no harm done. However, in the case of Elite Entertainment's "Millennium Edition" of The Deadly Spawn, not only does it not deserve all the implied fireworks and fanfare, it actually ends up being a let down by commonplace standards as well.



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Production:  
Prodigy  
Entertainment  
Distribution:  
Breaking Glass

Pictures The 1998 B-movie classic Ni...



Review -  
Drainiac  
(Widescreen  
Remastered)

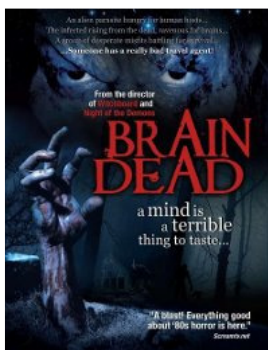
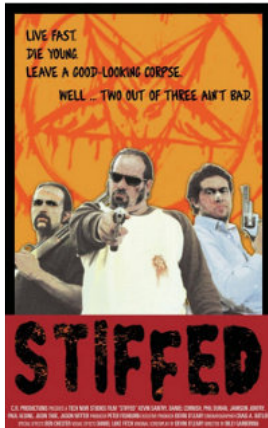
Director: Brett Piper  
Production: Brett Piper Productions  
Distribution: Shock-O-Rama Cinema / Alternative Cinema  
Release: June 2...



Top 5 Monsters  
We're Thankful  
Are Fake

Happy Thanksgiving! It's that time of year again, rabid readers. The time we all set aside for counting our blessings and showing some gr...

**RECOMMENDED**



The Deadly Spawn is an indie horror flick from 1982 that managed to garner a loyal following due to its innovative creature effects and intelligent storytelling. It follows the rather simple, suburban lifestyle of a quiet family home that becomes invaded by flesh-devouring alien parasites. The sharp-toothed tadpole-like creatures crash land on earth in a falling meteor and soon take a liking to the taste of human flesh. Pete (Tom DeFranco), a college student majoring in science, and his younger brother, Charlie (Charles George Hildebrandt), a grade-schooler obsessed with horror films and monster make-up, find themselves facing off against the creatures along with a few visiting friends.



The Deadly Spawn itself is a damn good genre flick, with plenty of blood, guts and gruesome creature effects on display. In fact, there's very little criticism that I can level at it. The real problem is this particular release of the film, the so-called "Millennium Edition" as Elite Entertainment calls it. For starters, despite this being the first time The Deadly Spawn has been released in Blu-ray format, the film doesn't even look to be in high-definition. From what I understand, it's technically running in 1080i (notice the "i", boys and girls) but it might as well be standard definition from the looks of things.

The credit sequences are fuzzy and indistinct, and the whole film has a decidedly "air-brushed" look to it, implying that overzealous efforts were made to create an artificially smooth, modern look, thereby completely obliterating the original grain. From what I can tell, no genuine efforts were made to restore or revitalize the film from original stock, and even the audio remains in its original 16-bit mono. I was also disappointed to find the film playing in full screen format, rather than widescreen, but after a little research I found out that no other option is available, as the original stock was shot on 16mm.



The majority of the bonus features (with a few minor exceptions)

**amazon.com**

[Intruder - Director's Cut](#)  
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New \$22.99

[Deadly Spawn](#)  
Tom DeFranco  
Charl...  
New \$17.99

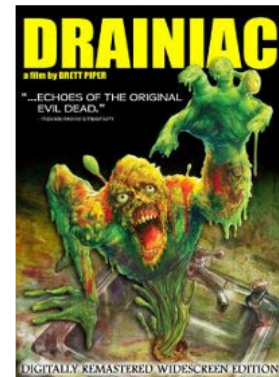
[I Told You Not To Call The Police](#)  
Bill Zebub  
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[The Deadly Spawn](#)  
Charles George Hil...  
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Bill Zebub  
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are culled directly from an earlier DVD release of the film by another company, and from what I gather, that earlier DVD release actually manages to play on screen with a higher level of clarity and picture quality, despite having no claims to a high-definition format.

What this all comes down to is a very lazy, lackluster release of a good film that deserves far better. In fact, the regular DVD release from Synapse Films (2004) is probably a far better bet if you're looking for a truly high-quality, definitive release of this picture. I'd recommend buying that one instead, and crossing your fingers that someone other than Elite eventually gains the rights to convert The Deadly Spawn to high-definition in true style.

This film receives a score of:

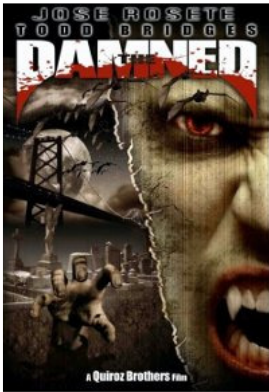
7 out of 10

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