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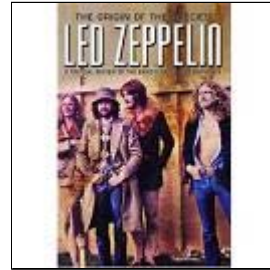
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Led Zeppelin: The Origin of the Species (DVD)

I'm all for releasing documentaries on legendary artists-let's face it, the DVD medium allows for hours worth of entertainment to be packed onto a single disc. Which is why *The Origin of the Species* is so puzzling. At 70 minutes, what you get is basically a look at how Led Zeppelin came to be, from the early days of The Yardbirds to the release of Led Zeppelin 2. Featuring interviews with former Yardbirds member Chris Dreja, journalist Chris Welch, among others, and some rare live footage, this DVD gets off to a strong start but then basically just ends, just as the viewer really starts to get into things. Led Zeppelin were one of the greatest and most beloved bands of all time, and the amount of potential that this release could have had seems to have been really wasted. My guess is they are going to put out a second part to this which will cover the second half of the band's career, but considering how little there is to watch here they should have waited and released it as one full-volume. I'm sure though that Chrome Dreams were banking on the still enormous popularity of the band would promote strong sales regardless of the limited amount of content here, but hey, there's a good amount of rare clips of the band in their early days here which is worth seeing. For Zeppelin completists that alone will be worth picking this DVD up.



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