

- [Contribute»](#)
- [About»](#)
- [Contact»](#)

[Corazine](#)

- [Home](#)
- [Reviews](#)

- [RSS Feed](#)
- [Twitter](#)

[My Stepdad's a Freakin' Vampire \(Level 33\)](#)

By

[Upchuck Undergrind](#)

– November 9, 2011 **Posted in:** [Reviews](#)



I'm fairly sure your initial reaction to this movie will be based on the title. And I'm fairly certain your response will be *rolls eyes*, *facepalm* or something along those lines. However, belay that facepalm, because this movie is so much cooler than you'd expect. It's a VERY cool movie. I had a blast from beginning to end. The basic plot should be obvious from the title. It should also be obvious that this is a movie for teens. And what a movie! This is B horror for the younger set. Of course nobody believes our young hero's claims that his stepdad – whom he does

not like – is a killer. He is a prankster extraordinaire, after all, and gets in plenty of trouble for it. So his credibility with adults and even his peers is kind of at a nadir. Nor does he himself believe his stepdad's a freakin' vampire when a surprise character makes his appearance to fill the core high school characters in on what's REALLY going on. He just thought the old stepdad was a mere killer! Anyway, while there are some tropes flying around here, they're part of a sharply executed film that makes the most of its resources – FX, actors, crew, etc. Sure, the CGI may be obvious but it's a freakin' B movie; this one's for fun. There's dread serious horror and then there's fun horror. This is of the variety, with loads of humor rubbing shoulders with the horror. And, yes, there is a horror element beyond the mere concept of ol' Stepdaddy being a vampire. I was surprised by the amount of gore and goo present. Sure, it's no "Hostel" or "Saw" in the violence department, but I'd wager there's nearly as much horror violence here (at least two impalings, for example) as there was in the first two or three Friday the 13th movies. Of course, the tone and attitude in "Stepdad..." is entirely different. The violence is played with panache and a sense of pure fun. This isn't a vicious film, but it is a horror film, and one designed especially for children. Besides the bloody sequences there are plenty of goopy green slime sequences as well (I'm sure in part because if all the splatter in this was red it wouldn't be marketable as a kids' flick) but that works well. There are a lot of surprises; I'll just say that the stepdad isn't the only monster about. And the movie has a pretty epic scope. It's ambitious and well-realized. It may not have the CGI sheen of, say, James Cameron's "Avatar" but it's a lot more fun. And there are practical effects afoot too, for which I laud the filmmakers. Given the budget and the kind of movie being made here, i can find little, if anything, even the goofy title, to criticize. It's a damn good flick and there's as much entertainment value as there is splatter (green or red). The material was obviously beloved – or at least respected – by those involved, and an effort to make this the best stepdad vampire movie possible is obvoiusly at work. The performances range from realistic to campy, but in each case, the performance style is part of the character. Example: The main kid takes a straight-faced approach to this while, on the other extreme, the more outlandish characters have just the right campy edge. Everything comes together and fits like puzzle pieces. I could effuse forever but then you wouldn't have time to watch the movie!

[Upchuck Undergrind](#)

No related posts.



About Upchuck Undergrind

No Comments

Start the ball rolling by posting a comment on this article!

Leave a Reply

Your email address will not be published. Required fields are marked *

Name *

Email *

Website

Comment

You may use these HTML tags and attributes:
<abbr title=""> <acronym title=""> <blockquote
cite=""> <code> <del datetime=""> <i> <q
cite=""> <strike>

[About Arras WordPress Theme](#)

Copyright Corazine. All Rights Reserved.