

Short Review: “Parasite” (1982) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Parasite (1982). Charles Band Productions, 85 min. Director and Producer: Charles Band.

Screenwriters: Alan J. Adler, Michael Shoob and Frank Levering. Cast: Robert Glaudini, Demi Moore, James Davidson, Al Fann, Luca Bercovici and Cherie Currie.

In a repressive, post-holocaust tomorrow, a research scientist (Glaudini) produces a species of human-symbiot that will help solve many of the world's problems. His totalitarian government, however, wants the parasitic creature, which takes root in the human host, trained to turn monstrous in order to destroy mutant punks that look like rejects from a “Mad Max” movie. In an attempt to protect his creation, the scientist implants the parasite inside himself, but the monster soon eats his way out, and sets its sites on luscious Moore (in her first film). Band's foray into the field of low budget genre films has all the visual pace and styling of a classic horror film, even though the narrative logic is somewhat strained and the plot is derivative of half a dozen other films, including “Alien,” “Mad Max” (1979), and Cronenberg’s “The Parasite Murders.” Demi Moore looks good, especially in 3-D, as are the other babes, but it’s hard to keep a straight face when things are flying at you in this gimmick-laden quickie.

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