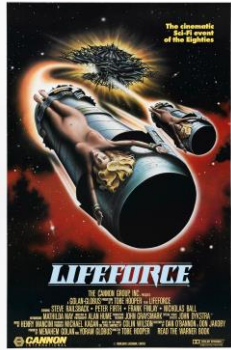


Short Review: “Lifeforce” (1985) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Lifeforce (aka *The Space Vampires*) (1985). MGM/United Artists, in association with Cannon Films, 100 min. Director: Tobe Hooper. Producers: Golan and Globus. Screenwriters: Dan O'Bannon and Don Jakoby. Based on the novel *The Space Vampires* by Colin Wilson. Cast: Steve Railsback, Frank Finlay, Peter Firth, Michael Gothard, Nicholas Ball, Patrick Stewart and Mathilda May.

Space-faring vampires, led by the totally naked Mathilda May, are discovered hiding in the corona of Halley's Comet, and are brought back to Earth by the British-American crew of a space shuttle. Once on terra firma, the vampires escape their confinement at a London scientific installation and begin to ravage the countryside. Hans Fallada (Finlay), a criminologist known as “the Sherlock Holmes of psychology,” enlists the aide of the American shuttle captain (Railsback) to hunt them down, and possibly get a date with May. Patrick Stewart, the future Starfleet captain, warps in for some of the fun and games. Forget trying to figure out how the vampires survive in space without a ready blood supply, and just think how great the Parisian model looks naked. Director Tobe Hooper, best known for “The Texas Chainsaw Massacre” (1974), has made better films, but none quite so erotic. And if May's performance doesn't get those hormones pumping, consider yourself dead.

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