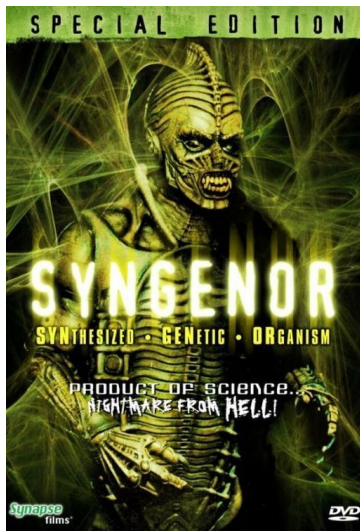


Short Review: “Syngenor” (1981) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Syngenor (aka Scared to Death) (1981). Lone Star Films, 90 min. Director and Screenwriter: William Malone. Producer: Bill Dunn. Cast: John Stinson, Diana Davidson, David Moses and Toni Janotta.

The creature in this bargain-basement “Alien” is a synthetically-created genetic organism (or Syngenor) that sucks the spinal fluid from its victims (with the help of a forked tongue). Released into the sewer systems of suburban Los Angeles by a mad scientist who has been experimenting with volatile chemicals, the Syngenor strikes randomly throughout the metropolis. Eventually, the film's nominal hero (Stinson) must venture into the subterranean depths to find and destroy the creature. Featuring lines, like “I do not intend to just sit here and let my face get ripped off,” this low-budgeter is unintentionally funny, and should have been called “Bored to Death” rather “Scared to Death.” Sci-fi geeks would be better off renting “Alien” for the hundredth time, or getting a lobotomy than watching this dreck.

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