

?

DVDFILE.com

REGISTER

NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE BOARDS

DVD PLAYER FOR PC'S

THE LORD OF THE RINGS

THE TWO TOWERS

AUGUST 26

OWN

THE TWO TOWERS

AUGUST 26

NEWS + VIEWS

DISC STUFF

MARKETPLACE

COMMUNITY

INTERACTIVE

TECH

SITE

CONTACT US

TERMS OF USE

LAST UPDATE: 08.21.03

SEARCH:

Disc Reviews

find

NAVIGATION

Disc Reviews

» 50 Most recent reviews

Disc News

» Latest updates, archive

Press releases

» Latest announcements

Cut List

» Missing footage on DVDs

Petition Place

» Get your faves on DVD

Status Reports

» Most requested DVDs

Bootleg Bulletin

» Pirated discs update


Distribution ABCs

» Master list of studios

VISIT OUR SPONSORS

HAN SHOOT

FIRST



HD DVD

ONE FORMAT ONLY!

ET


TE

DISC REVIEW

Once Bitten

MGM Home Entertainment / 1985 / 93 Minutes / Rated PG-13
Street date: August 26, 2003

Reviewed by Mike Restaino on August 21, 2003. ([Bio](#) / [Equipment list](#))



» **Buy It:** [Click for best price](#)

» **Discuss:** [Weigh in at the forum](#)

It's difficult to avoid comparisons to Porky's, the seminal 80's teen sex comedy, when discussing Once Bitten. - and I mean that as a compliment. Bob Clark's ode to horny teenage boys may not have aged all that well - its lame euphemisms and rampant amount of nudity remain cute but dated - but as an amalgamation of all things 80s it just about got it right (at least if you were straight, horny and desperate in high school).

Starring a strangely pubescent Jim Carrey (a career highpoint), Once Bitten co-opts Porky's by concocting a ridiculous storyline about a vampire cult that can only survive if they can get the blood of virginal 18-year-old men and then running with it, letting the lusty Lauren Hutton seduce Carrey and his bumbling gang of boner-ific boys. (Vamp-snacks!)


For a simple and silly horror comedy it actually gets a lot of things right: Hutton makes a nice vampress, and while Jim Carrey isn't quite at the height of his comedic prowess (to say the least), he brings a goofy slightness to his portrayal that will likely appeal to the target audience.

But perhaps the probably with Once Bitten is that it tries to hard. Where Porky's kept its artistic aims low - it's about boys losing their virginity and that's it - Once Bitten has higher aspirations and subsequently plenty of third act problems. And the film is certainly, woefully, of the 80's. Cleavon Little is the super-queeny right hand man to Hutton and comes off as just as ridiculous and moderately offensive of a flamboyant homosexual as Meshach Taylor's convertible-riding "Hollywood" in Mannequin. And watch out for the film's hilariously synthesized music score, which resides somewhere between being enjoyably cheesy and just plain unbearable.

With other youthful films of the period like Earth Girls Are Easy or Valley Girl are also plagued by similar inconsistencies, those were forgivable as there were so many fun sequences to latch onto. Once Bitten, while often quite charming, never really evolves into anything more than the sum of its parts.

(For those trivia buffs out there, Michael J. Fox was Once Bitten's filmmakers' first choice for playing the role that eventually went to Jim Carrey. I've got no big qualms about Carrey, but I found it fascinating to watch the film thinking of Alex P. Keaton as the protagonist - it seems like it would have been a perfect fit. Too bad.)

Video: How Does The Disc Look?




This 1.85:1 widescreen transfer here looks just fair (there's also a full screen version on the flipside). Black levels are consistent if oftentimes pretty darned gray, while color reproduction is a bit muddy. Visible detail is fine, as there is a clarity to the print that is really above average, but most of the time the film suffers from that soft-focus 80's look, as if everything was shot through a thinly-stretched piece of pantyhose. There are also a few if slight compression artifacts noticeable. Not terrible, but hardly exemplary.

Audio: How Does The Disc Sound?

A simple mono mix is all we get and it is not all that impressive. The score and songs sound awful and muddy, but at least the dialogue has been recorded fairly well. The entire mix still suffers from weak frequency response which leaves no room for even a hint of atmosphere and some dialogue still comes off sound clipped. This one will leave you wanting a little more blood.

Also included is a Spanish mono dub plus English, French and Spanish subtitles and English Closed Captions.

Supplements: What Goodies Are There?



Only the film's bizarre theatrical trailer in 1.85:1 anamorphic widescreen and mono, which is notable for its complete lack of any actual movie footage.

DVD-ROM Exclusives: What do you get when you pop the disc in your PC?

No ROM extras have been included.

Parting Thoughts

For those of you who love all things Jim Carrey or simply want to own every bad 80's teen sex comedy, it is hard to refuse the cheap \$14.95 list price. Once Bitten is hardly the best of the bunch, but at least it got a new widescreen transfer. I won't stop you from buying this, but don't say you weren't warned...

» **Buy It:** [Click for best price](#)

» **Discuss:** [Weigh in at the forum](#)

BUY GUIDE

video

audio

extras

rom

value

THE LORD OF THE RINGS

THE TWO TOWERS

AUGUST 26


OWN

THE TWO TOWERS

AUGUST 26

?

?



JOIN DVDFILE.COM

[Register!](#)

Join our community and gain members-only perks


[Message Boards](#)

Visit the forum and chat with other dvd enthusiasts

DOWNLOADS

[InterActual Player 2.0](#)

DVD player for your PC!



HOT MESSAGE FORUMS

[Now Playing](#)

Weigh in on all the latest dvd releases

[At the Movies](#)


Discuss the latest box office hits

[Glitch Exhaust](#)

Share all your glitches here!

[Game on!](#)

Xbox, GameCube, PSX2...



AT THE DRIVE-IN

[Hakuna Matata!](#)

'Lion King' menu gallery

[Party Animals](#)


Sneak peek the new 'Animal House' DVD

[To the Extreme](#)

Check out the T2 Extreme Edition DVD trailer

[Fortune & glory!](#)

Sneak peek at 'Indy Jones!'



ABOUT US

[Meet the Staff](#)

Who the heck are we?

[Site Info](#)

What we do, how, and why...

[Contact us](#)

Send us email and let us know what you think

[Advertise here](#)

View our electronic press kit for more info

Copyright © 2000-2003 InterActual Technologies, Inc. InterActual, the InterActual logos, PCFriendly, and the PCFriendly logos are either trademarks or registered trademarks of [InterActual Technologies, Inc.](#) All Rights Reserved. This site is a Region 1 resource.