

Short Review: “Electric Dreams” (1984) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Electric Dreams (1984). M-G-M/United Artists, 95 min. Director: Steve Barron.

Producer: Larry DeWaay and Rusty Lemorande. Screenwriter: Rusty Lemorande. Cast: Lenny Von Dohlen, Virginia Madsen, Maxwell Caulfield, and Bud Cort.

In a very typical nerd meets girl story, a computer geek (Von Dohlen) falls madly in love with the perfect woman (Madsen) who doesn't know he's alive. Using his computer (with the voice of Cort), like a modern-day Cyrano, he writes love songs that ultimately win the girl's heart. But when he accidentally short-circuits the computer's memory, the machine develops amorous designs on her as well. Geeks never get a break! Just when it looks like they might win, their computers kick sand in their face! Von Dohlen would have been smarter to build a female robot to take to the prom than ask out an ice queen like Madsen. Funny and highly implausible, this film is more like a nightmare for the average computer nerd.

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