

Short Review: “Mars Attacks!” (1996) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Mars Attacks! (1996). Warner Brothers, color, 106 min. Director: Tim Burton. Writers: Len Brown, Woody Gelman, etc. Producers: Larry Franco and Burton. Cast: Jack Nicholson, Glenn Close, Annette Bening, Pierce Brosnan and Sarah Jessica Parker.

U.S. President Dale Ross (Nicholson) learns that the Martians are coming, and alerts the nation in a fireside chat. Unfortunately, the aliens do not listen to reason, preferring, instead, to zap large number of Americans. Of course, they get theirs too. A wonderful cast has few good lines. The comedy never gets off the ground. The bubble gum cards that were the source for this film probably had more laughs per image. As a parody of 1950's flying saucer flicks, this film never makes it out of the Martian atmosphere. Please, take that film camera away from Tim Burton before he hurts someone with it!

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