

## Short Review: “The Parasite Murders” (1974) by Dr. John L. Flynn



**The Parasite Murders** (aka *They Came from Within*) (1974). Cinepix/Canadian Development Corporation, 87 min. Director and Screenwriter: David Cronenberg. Producer: Ivan Reitman. Cast: Paul Hampton, Joe Silver, Lynn Lowry, Barbara Steele, Allan Migicovsky, and Susan Petrie.

A research scientist creates, then implants a parasite that turns people into sexual fiends.

Eventually, the vaguely phallic parasites emerge from their human hosts and attach themselves to other victims. A young doctor (Hampton) and his wife (Lowry) fight a losing battle against the creatures in the isolated high-rise apartment building as their friends are taken over one by one.

Remarkably similar to Don Siegel's “*Invasion of the Body Snatches*” (1956), director

Cronenberg's analogy of rapidly spreading sexual disease is far more disturbing and real for most of us today. Remember how mom always used to warn us about washing our hands after we used the bathroom...

Copyright 2012 by John L. Flynn, Ph.D.