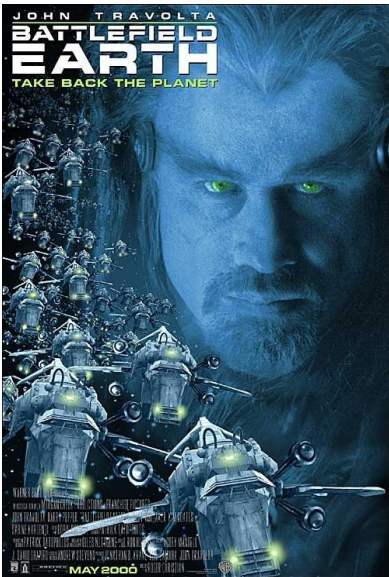


Short Review: “Battlefield Earth” (2000) by Dr. John L. Flynn



Battlefield Earth: A Saga of the Year 3000 (2000). Warner Brothers, color, 118 min.

Director: Roger Christian. Writers: L. Ron Hubbard (novel) Corey Mandell, etc.

Producer: Jonathan Krane, Elie Samaha, etc. Cast: John Travolta, Barry Pepper, Forest Whitaker, and Sabine Karsenti.

It's 3000 AD, and the extraterrestrial Psychlos have taken over the planet, and caged humans as animals. Their leader, Terl (Travolta), assisted by Ker (Whitaker), is pirating all the natural resources, while the humans fight with each other over what is left. Jonnie Goodboy Tyler (Pepper) tries to unite the remnants of mankind in a revolt against the Psychlos. The revolution leads to a lot of explosions. The explosions were useful in waking audience members who had fallen asleep on all the infighting between Terl and his underlings. Christian does wonders with the material that he has at hand, but with less than half of the novel to work with, the story seems unfinished. One wonders what a

masterpiece this could have been if made into two films or a trilogy, like “The Lord of the Rings.” Great score by Maurice Jarre.

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