
Subject: movie request

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Mon, 16 Sep 2013 17:57:37 GMT

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Originally posted by: @RUTGERS.ARPA:redford%doctor.DEC@decwrl.ARPA

Message-ID:

Date: Thu, 17-Jan-85 09:02:26 EST

Article-I.D.: topaz.299

Posted: Thu Jan 17 09:02:26 1985

Date-Received: Sun, 20-Jan-85 06:10:43 EST

Sender: daemon@topaz.ARPA

Organization: Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N.J.

Lines: 8

From: redford%doctor.DEC@decwrl.ARPA (John Redford)

I heard from a friend about a movie or TV version of "The Adolescence of P1". Does anyone know anything about it? The book was about a system cracking program which gets loose in the net and eventually attains consciousness. It was unusually accurate for this kind of thing, unlike, say, "Wargames".

John Redford

Subject: Re: movie request

Posted by [avolio](#) on Mon, 16 Sep 2013 17:57:40 GMT

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Message-ID:

Date: Fri, 18-Jan-85 08:44:53 EST

Article-I.D.: grendel.416

Posted: Fri Jan 18 08:44:53 1985

Date-Received: Mon, 21-Jan-85 03:05:54 EST

References:

Organization: DEC ULTRIX Applications Center, MD

Lines: 14

> From: redford%doctor.DEC@decwrl.ARPA (John Redford)
> I heard from a friend about a movie or TV version of "The Adolescence of P1".
> Does anyone know anything about it? The book was about a system cracking
> program which gets loose in the net and eventually attains consciousness.
> It was unusually accurate for this kind of thing, unlike, say, "Wargames".

Yes, I saw it last week on a local PBS station. It was 60 minutes long. It was a fun, low budget affair but by no means was it much more "accurate" than "Wargames" was.

--

Fred Avolio
301/731-4100 x4227
UUCP: {seismo,decvax}!grendel!avolio
ARPA: grendel!avolio@seismo.ARPA

Subject: Re: movie request
Posted by [jims](#) on Mon, 16 Sep 2013 17:57:41 GMT
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Message-ID:
Date: Mon, 21-Jan-85 17:26:21 EST
Article-I.D.: hcrvax.1636
Posted: Mon Jan 21 17:26:21 1985
Date-Received: Tue, 22-Jan-85 00:44:10 EST
References:
Organization: Human Computing Resources, Toronto
Lines: 12

Path hcrvax!jims (Jim Sullivan @ Human Computing Resources, Toronto, Ontario)

Yes, the adolescence of P1 was/is a T.V. short (1 hour) shown recently on PBS' Wonderworks (Monday @ 8:00pm) (i think)

It's about a hack (called Hacker) who writes a Life program, and then modifies the program to create new programs....actually an interesting idea. I enjoyed it, although my girlfriend thought it was silly. By the way, it was filmed in Toronto.

Jim Sullivan ..!hcrvax!jims

Subject: Re: movie request
Posted by [davidl](#) on Tue, 17 Sep 2013 19:20:21 GMT
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Message-ID:

Date: Mon, 21-Jan-85 16:42:15 EST

Article-I.D.: orca.1318

Posted: Mon Jan 21 16:42:15 1985

Date-Received: Wed, 23-Jan-85 07:26:39 EST

References:

Reply-To: davidl@orca.UUCP (David Levine)

Organization: Tektronix, Wilsonville OR

Lines: 42

Summary:

In article avolio@grendel.UUCP (Frederick M. Avolio) writes:

>> From: redford%doctor.DEC@decwrl.ARPA (John Redford)

>> I heard from a friend about a movie or TV version of "The Adolescence of P1".

>> Does anyone know anything about it? The book was about a system cracking

>> program which gets loose in the net and eventually attains consciousness.

>> It was unusually accurate for this kind of thing, unlike, say, "Wargames".

>

>Yes, I saw it last week on a local PBS station. It was 60 minutes long.

>It was a fun, low budget affair but by no means was it much more "accurate"

>than "Wargames" was.

The PBS children's anthology series "WonderWorks" has a program called "Hide and Seek" which was based on "The Adolescence of P-1." At least, that's what it said in the credits. Actually, the only thing the two have in common is P-1's first line, which is

CALL GREGORY. P-1

They've changed the locale from Silicon Valley to Canada (required by Canadian content legislation, I guess). They've changed the hero from a wiseass computer professional to a socially immature high school student. They've changed P-1's origin from a deliberate system cracking program to an accidental outgrowth of a version of Life on a Commodore Pet. The entire plot has been changed out of all recognition.

In the TV show, the hero first discovers that his creation has gotten out of hand while he's cracking the school computer to change his girlfriend's grades (sound familiar?). There are supposed system professionals who do nothing but spout nonsense peppered with phrases from the Hacker's Dictionary. The ending is incomprehensible. Yet, it entertains. Viewed as a juvenile, I think it succeeds.

I can mildly recommend the book "The Adolescence of P-1", although it's dated. I can also mildly recommend "Hide and Seek" to those under, say, 16. However, "Hide and Seek" is just another "War Games" cash-in that bears little if any resemblance to the book upon which it is supposedly based. I suspect that the author of the book had no say whatsoever in the story of the TV show.

David D. Levine (...decvax!tektronix!orca!david) [UUCP]
(orca!david!tektronix@csnet-relay.csnet) [ARPA]

(Gets nasty on Mondays, doesn't he?)
