

Name film: **Beneath**

Director: **JJ Perez**

Writer: **JJ Perez**

Producer: **JJ Perez**

Starring: **Enzo Monfre, Brooke Mckinney, Neal Sansing, Michael Morris, Meghan Forbes, Jesse Yandow, Bradford Riley**

Country: **USA**

Time: **83 minutes**

## **BENEATH – A CAVE HORROR FILM**

Beneath is a feature film about cave tour guides, who find out about an evil demon lurking inside a cave. They go into the cave and they summon the demon. Just from reading this, you might assume, you are in for a ride filled to the brim with cliches, but this film subverts them.

I personally find it interesting, when a film is made just from the passion for the film medium. This film was made for “budget” of 5000 dollars and in some places it shows, but it doesn't lesser the interest. But it's not only the horror, but also a comedy, with some of the jokes landing flat and some, that the audience will genuinely laugh.

I see that this film is good, with technical flaws, given, that the camera was bought in the “Best buy” category. Also scenes in the cavern are strangely lit, but given, that this was the first film, it was amazing that JJ Perez pulled this off.

The greatest flaw, for me, was the story. I thought that this is going to be found footage, at least from the trailer. I think that found footage genre would suit this the best. It would even be one of the greatest found films, but it's shot like a film, not like found footage. Given the technical and budgetary confinements, I see this to be good, shoestring budgeted film.

Acting is good, goofy and on the nose sometimes. But given these people were tour guides, they pulled off the dramatic scenes greatly. I think characters are a bit stereotypical, but I can't remember the names. Our group consisted of The expert on the cavern, The stoner douche, The artsy girl, The witty one, The beauty.

I was a bit saddened by the demon design. I see, that it was inspired by the Slenderman, but it was so on-the-nose. I think this is the greatest flaw. I think JJ Perez would benefit from original design. On the topic of creepypastas I like the inclusion of The Midnight Game, which is a greatly adapted for the film formatting.

I think, the audience will appreciate the special make-up. Injuries were functional and convincing. I will give this film 7/10. It had good story, good structure, it made me laugh, but there were some technical flaws, which could be solved by other genre of horror.