

Match the plot with its corresponding movie. Make sure to highlight the clues prompting your answer.

Earth Day 2025: Horror in Defense of the Planet

22 April 2025

Despite clear evidence of the impacts of climate change, certain political figures and groups continue to downplay or deny the crisis. US climate denier organizations, revitalized by the steroid injection that was Trump's victory, are collaborating with far-right politicians in Europe to obstruct major climate reforms. However, there is significant global consensus on the need for action.

Horror cinema has identified this bundle of existential anxiety from the very beginning, appropriating the theme to intervene and raise awareness through the driving force of fear. Eco-horror is a subgenre of horror that focuses on the terrifying consequences of environmental degradation, portraying nature as an active and vengeful force reacting against human exploitation. These films explore ecological anxieties through narratives in which the natural world fights back—through monstrous creatures, subtle psychological breakdowns, and often through mysterious transformations of familiar landscapes. In essence, eco-horror reflects a deep cultural fear of losing control over the environment that we have long taken for granted, transforming the usually passive nature into a central character of fear and severe consequence.

The genre's roots go back to the 1950s, when postwar fears about nuclear fallout and scientific overreach gave rise to films in which mutant creatures — most notably the all-powerful "Godzilla" — are metaphors for environmental hubris. In the 1970s, growing ecological awareness led cinema to address human environmental abuse by staging the wrath of nature descending upon the characters; and the 80s and 90s bring a mix of eco-horror with sci-fi and psychological horror. Now in the 21st century we have more urgent and speculative stories rooted in climate change, extinction, and the emotional toll of living (subsisting?) in the Anthropocene.

https://www.motelx.org/en/news/earth-day-2025-horror-in-defense-of-the-planet



A."Creature From the Black Lagoon" (J





d; 1954) B."Godzilla vs. Hedorah" (Yoshimitsu Banno, Ishirô Honda; 1971)



C. "Prophecy" (John Frankenheimer; 1979)



D. "Mother!" (Darren Aronofsky; 2017)



E. "Annihilation" (Alex Garland, 2018)



F. "In the Earth" (Ben Wheatley; 2021)

- A strange prehistoric creature lurks deep in the Amazon jungle. A group of scientists tries to capture it and bring it to the "civilized world" for study.
- 2. As the world searches for a cure for a disastrous virus, a scientist and a boy scout venture deep into the forest for a routine inspection of their equipment.
- 3. A government health inspector is sent to assess the damage a logging company is doing to a patch of forest claimed by Native Americans, and comes face to face with a creature of true terror incarnate.
- 4. A toxic, ever-evolving alien life form from the Dark Gaseous Nebula is here to feed on our rampant pollution.
- 5. Surrealizing ecological nightmare in which a couple's relationship is tested when unexpected guests arrive at their home, interrupting their peaceful existence.
- 6. A biologist enlists in a secret and dangerous expedition where the laws of nature do not apply.