

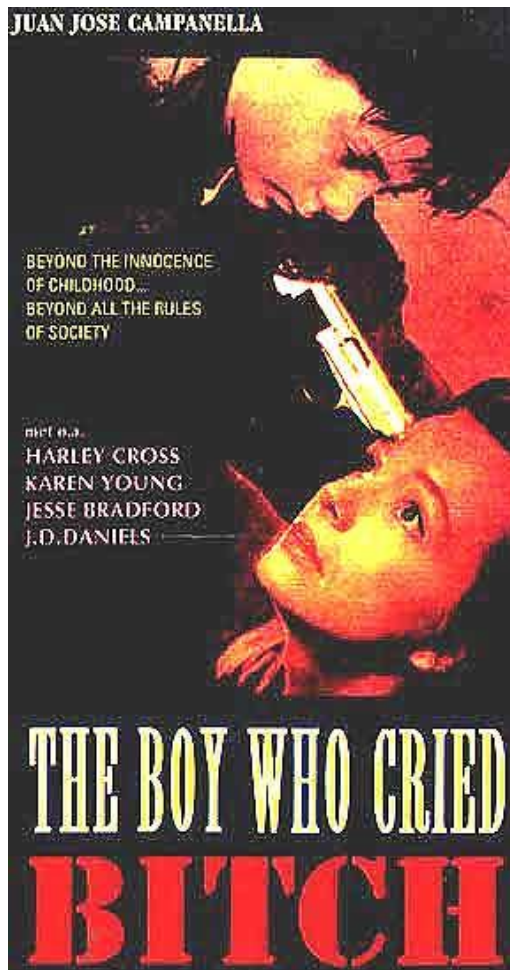
The Boy Who Cried Bitch

US : 1991 : dir. Juan Jose Campanella : : 105 min
prod: : scr: Catherine May Levin : dir.ph.:
[Harley Cross](#); [Jesse Bradford](#)
Karen Young; Dennis Boutsikaris; Adrien Brody; Gene Canfield; Moira Kelly; J.D. Daniels;
Kario Salem; Samuel Wright; Edwina Lewis; John Rothman

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	✂	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
2205a	2	3	7	581	3	-	-	-	-	No	<i>unseen</i>



"A typical, very typical, no-good brat of our time, which you can only do one thing with..."
Source: Young Male Movie Stars website



*The film concerns a psychotic boy, but they **still** couldn't forbear to drag that old cliché "innocence" into the tag-line ! Source: Young Male Movie Stars*

Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 1996 review:

"Thoughtful, unsettling drama about violent, psychotic 12-year old Cross, whose mother hasn't given him proper parental attention, and whose psychiatric care is inadequate at best. Well made, extremely well-acted, but be forewarned: it's unrelentingly grim and sad. *** "

Radio Times Guide to Films review:

"Disturbed adolescent Harley Cross is expelled from prep school¹, and ends up in a psychiatric hospital where he threatens his room-mate, torches the hallway and has convulsions in the classroom. Eventually his mother brings him home, where he leads his brothers astray and

¹ Adolescents do not go to **prep schools**, obviously, but because he's "disturbed" we must exaggerate his age. Right?

threatens her with a gun. Argentine director Juan Jose Campanella builds up an all-too-believable scenario in his desire to show what Charles Manson, and other similar mass murderers, were probably like as children². ***"

Young Male Movie Stars website review:

"Best work of Harley Cross in a strange and merciless movie, in which you can see more mikes in the picture than anywhere else – maybe it shouldn't have been shown in full TV format – and it looks like Harley was the one who cried "Action!" too and not the director – with neither photographer nor light man ready! But there was always a mike!

Anyway Harley is incomparably competent as a typical, very typical, no-good brat of our time – who you only can do one thing with, which his mother does by the end of the movie – and I don't think you ever have seen this in a motion picture, before or after! It's a 200% must, if you get the chance to see this very rare movie! The script is by women – men would never understand this!³"

Cast:

Dan Love**Harley Cross**
Candice LoveKaren Young
Mike Love**Jesse Bradford**
Nick LoveJ.D. Daniels
Jim CutlerGene Canfield
JessicaMaira Kelly
EddyAdrian Brody
Orin FellDennis Boutsikaris

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "The Critics' Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

² An unbelievably crass observation, not least given the fact that Manson never killed anybody, his groupies did. The idea that deranged adults must necessarily have been psychotic children is quite unsupported by case evidence. It's the old "Bad Seed" theory again.

³ The writer is himself male, but does not share the limitations of his sex, apparently.

No further information currently available. Harley Cross was seen earlier in Schlesinger's unpleasant urban paranoia offering "**THE BELIEVERS**", as a would-be sacrificial offering, in "**A HOBO'S CHRISTMAS**" (87), "**THE FLY II**" (89) and playing 9 in "**COHEN AND TATE**" (89). Jesse Bradford, here 11, attracted widespread praise two years later for his central performance in "**KING OF THE HILL**". In '95 he had less promising material in "**FAR FROM HOME: THE ADVENTURES OF YELLOW DOG**".

See subject index under **DISABLED / HANDICAPPED** (possibly), **THE CHILD AS EVIL IN OUR MIDST** (possibly) or **BRATS / SPOILT CHILDREN** (ie: young persons who "haven't been given proper parental attention").