

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

Title List

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. BUD TAKES UP THE DANCE | 27. ART OF SALESMANSHIP |
| 2. LESSON IN CITIZENSHIP | 28. FATHER'S PRIVATE LIFE |
| 3. THE MOTOR SCOOTER | 29. LESSON IN CIVICS |
| 4. FOOTBALL TICKETS | 30. FIRST DISILLUSIONMENT |
| 5. LIVE MY OWN LIFE | 31. WOMAN IN THE HOUSE |
| 6. GRANDPA JIM'S REJUVENATION | 32. NEW GIRL AT SCHOOL |
| 7. BUD'S ENCOUNTER WITH THE LAW | 33. KATHY MAKES MAGIC |
| 8. THANKSGIVING DAY | 34. ADVANTAGE TO BETTY |
| 9. SECOND HONEYMOON | 35. THE BIG TEST |
| 10. TYPICAL FATHER | 36. FATHER IS A DOPE |
| 11. MARGARET GOES DANCING | 37. SPIRIT OF YOUTH |
| 12. CHRISTMAS STORY | 38. BUD, THE LADYKILLER |
| 13. SPARROW IN THE WINDOW | 39. MARGARET'S PREMONITION |
| 14. BOY'S WEEK | 40. STAGE TO YUMA |
| 15. A FRIEND OF OLD GEORGE'S | 41. BAD INFLUENCE |
| 16. BUD, THE SNOC | 42. BETTY HATES GARDEN |
| 17. THE PROMISED PLAYHOUSE | 43. JIM, THE TYRANT |
| 18. JIM, THE FARMER | 44. BETTY'S BROTHER |
| 19. FATHER OF THE YEAR | 45. BETTY EARNS A FORMAL |
| 20. THE MINK COAT | 46. THE HOUSE PAINTER |
| 21. THE MATCHMAKER | 47. BUD, THE WALLFLOWER |
| 22. BUD, THE BRIDESMAID | 48. THE BUS TO NOWHERE |
| 23. PROUD FATHER | 49. KATHY, THE INDIAN GIVER |
| 24. FATHER DELIVERS THE PAPERS | 50. THE HISTORICAL ANDERSONS |
| 25. NO PARTIALITY | 51. THE GRASS IS GREENER |
| 26. CLOSE DECISION | 52. THE PERSISTENT GUEST |

Storylines Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BUD TAKES UP THE DANCE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty Anderson.....Elinor Donahue
Bud Anderson.....Billy Gray
Kathy Anderson.....Lauren Chapin
Mrs. Lanson.....Claire Meade
Marcia.....Susan Whitney

SYNOPSIS

A quiet evening at home for the Andersons is rudely dispelled when teen-ager Bud reluctantly gets ready to attend his first dance. Making matters worse is the news that his parents plan to attend the school dance, and horrified by the prospect, Bud retires into voluntary confinement. To add to his woes is his date, Marcia, rumored as a teenage menace, and affectionately labelled "dynamite" in Bud's circle.

It takes all the parental love and persuasion of Mom and Dad Anderson, aided by Bud's sisters Betty and Kathy, to help the fourteen year old boy over this adolescent crisis. With the help of the Anderson girls, everything ends happily as Bud manages to master some of the intricacies of The Dance.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: James Neilson
Screenplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by: Paul West & Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"LESSON IN CITIZENSHIP"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Bud.....Billy Gray

SYNOPSIS

Good citizenship, to Jim Anderson, means actively helping others, a philosophy which, unfortunately, leads the Anderson family into a clear-cut case of pandemonium.

Kathy, Jim's youngest daughter, gives one of father's suits to a deserving man, Mr. Potter, leaving Jim's wife, Margaret, frantically searching for it. The elder daughter, Betty, a witness to a minor auto accident, believes she is duty-bound to appear in court, particularly since the young man in one car, Greg Reynolds, has dreamy brown eyes; and the car owner against whom Betty is to testify is none other than one of Jim's insurance clients. The final goodwill attempt comes from Bud, who has pledged a guest for part of the entertainment program at his Hi-Y Club's Father-Son luncheon, and volunteers none other than Jim to give a dissertation on citizenship. The predicament becomes more complicated when needy Mr. Potter gives Jim's name as a reference at the unemployment office.

However, all ends well. Mr. Potter and his wife turn out to be ex-vaudevillians, providing the Hi-Y Club with its entertainment, simultaneously securing a job for Potter, and unburdening Father. "Dreamy" Greg's insurance company pays without a suit, and Betty and Greg make a "good citizenship" date.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE MOTOR SCOOTER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....	Laurer Chapin
Bud.....	Billy Gray

SYNOPSIS

For some time Bud Anderson has been asking his father, Jim, for a motor scooter. Jim succumbs, buying a second-hand scooter from a friend and triumphantly rides it home to the delight of daughters Betty and Kathy, but not to wife Margaret, who puts her foot down, declaring it's too dangerous for Bud. Therefore, Jim is forced to sell it back to his "buddy" taking a ten dollar loss.

When Jim comes home the next evening, his conscience bothers him about Bud and the scooter, solving the problem by giving his son \$20. But bright and early the next morning, Bud brings home a surprise -- the scooter. He has bought it back for ten dollars less than his father had sold it; again, mother steps in refusing permission. Jim, however, is delighted at Bud's business ability.

When Bud agrees that the scooter is a real responsibility and promises to take care of it as though it were an automobile, Margaret relents. When we leave the Anderson family, everybody is riding the scooter but Bud.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Harry Clark and Summer Long
Original Story by:	Paul West and Dick Conway

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"FOOTBALL TICKETS"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Bill Lawrence.....	James Dobson

SYNOPSIS

The day of the big football game finds Jim Anderson in a quarry, having only two tickets to see his alma mater play, thus permitting him to take only one member of the family. Therefore, each child, Betty, Bud, and Kathy, makes a speech telling why he or she should be chosen, with Jim and Margaret, his wife, serving as judges.

After Betty has been selected, two problems arise: the secretary of one of Jim's prospective but recalcitrant insurance policy clients forgot to get the tickets, and Jim promises to take said potential client in the hope of selling him an endowment policy. Afraid to tell Betty that she cannot go, Jim gives the tickets to his client and Betty, but is unable to locate them, finally tracing them to the laundry. Jim dashes over there, but the tickets cannot be found. Coincidentally, the laundryman has a pair which Jim buys at an exorbitant price, and Betty goes off to meet Jim's client at the game.

Afraid that he has lost a client, Jim is surprised when Betty returns from the game having scored a touchdown: she sold the endowment policy.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Phil Davis
Original Story by:	Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"LIVE MY OWN LIFE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Bud.....Billy Gray

SYNOPSIS

When Bud Anderson believes he is unwanted at home, he decides to get his own apartment. Informing his father of the move, Jim unexpectedly agrees with his son, even helping him settle in a room over a feed store. These tactics, Jim feels, will help Bud realize that he belongs at home.

The room, as can be expected is anything but palatial, and at the first hunger pang and Bud's attempts to cook his first meal (a grade A fiasco), Bud wants to go home but is too proud to admit defeat.

The family, in the meantime, confers on how to get Bud back home without him losing face. After much deliberation, it is agreed they must make Bud feel they are lost without him.

The plan goes into action with Betty calling her brother to tell him her radio is out of order, asking him to come over and fix it. Bud jumps at the chance, fixes the radio and is fed one of mom's spectacular dinners. This turns the trick, and Bud returns to the fold positive that there's no place like home.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"GRANDPA JIM'S REJUVENATION"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Bud.....Billy Gray
Octogenarian.....Burt Mustin
Eddie Gilbert.....Donald Curtis

SYNOPSIS

It's a bad day for Jim Anderson when he makes a date to play badminton at a friend's house. Margaret, his wife reminds him that his one "athletic" claim to fame was the winning of a poetry contest; fourteen year old son Bud makes him feel ancient when he asks to borrow Jim's razor; and daughters Kathy and Betty are amused by the very thought of him playing badminton at his age.

This series of family condemnations prey on Jim's mind, leading to a nightmare in which he plays badminton with a white-bearded octogenarian, far more agile than Jim. Convinced he has one foot in the grave, Jim doesn't even rise for breakfast the next morning.

Margaret, realizing the gravity of this situation, works out a plan with the children in which they revert to what Jim calls "two-year-olds" almost driving him crazy with their antics. When a college classmate, Eddie Gilbert, now a grandfather, arrives claiming that Jim doesn't look a day older than he used to, Jim is cured. Husband and wife then go off for a game of badminton and horseback riding, successfully completing Jim's rejuvenation.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodner
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Phil Davis
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BUD'S ENCOUNTER WITH THE LAW"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Bud.....Billy Gray
Trumble.....William Fawcett

SYNOPSIS

A summons served to Bud Anderson to appear at the police station puts the entire family into an uproar, especially since the charge is unreadable, the document having accidentally been tossed into the washing machine.

After numerous unsuccessful attempts at trying to figure out the charge on the summons, Bud finally remembers that he and a friend took two old oil barrels, with which to build a raft, from a street near the office of Trumble and Company. To make matters worse, Mr. Trumble is a potential insurance client for Jim. Realizing the predicament, Jim decides Bud must do the right thing and go straight to Trumble and confess.

Once there, Jim gets the account before Bud can tell his story, and when they arrive home, they find the police wanted Bud only to return his wallet, left in the station when he took out a bicycle license. Just then, Jim gets a call to be at the police station, and not knowing why, goes through the same case of nerves his son had.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THANKSGIVING DAY"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson is very proud when he learns that his younger daughter Kathy has written the best poem in the fourth grade commemorating Thanksgiving Day, causing Jim to take the family out for Thanksgiving dinner in the youngster's honor. However, when older daughter Betty reads the prize poem aloud, Jim is obviously disappointed by the masterpiece, making an unflattering remark which Kathy overhears, breaking the child's heart.

On Thanksgiving Day, Jim's plans fall apart: Kathy must be on a TV show; Bud goes to a football dinner; and Betty goes to a friend's house for dinner. So Jim and Margaret stay at home watching Kathy on TV. She is so frightened that she's left speechless, greatly upsetting her parents and sadly, they decide to dine at home.

Kathy returns home, is comforted by them, and the child forgives Jim for not liking her poem. Bud and Betty then return home because they weren't enjoying themselves. All is happy and the reunited Anderson family have a hamburger Thanksgiving dinner at home.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by:	Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"SECOND HONEYMOON"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Bud.....Billy Gray

SYNOPSIS

A second honeymoon for Jim and Margaret Anderson turns out to be no vacation at all. After Jim finally convinces his wife that the children can manage for just a week-end without their protective eyes, and Jim helps the offspring by driving Betty to a party, helping Bud put a motor scooter together which he has taken apart, and cleaning Kathy who has spilled paint all over herself, they are ready.

The children are delighted by the news and Jim and Margaret leave, slightly depressed at what they interpret as the youngsters' lack of interest.

At the mountain lodge resort they do their best to be cheerful, but unable to stand it any longer, place a call to find out how the kids are. When there is no answer, they dash home at racing speed only to learn that Betty didn't answer the phone because she didn't want to talk to a persistent boyfriend, and all is well.

At this point, Jim decides that a second honeymoon is still a good idea only this time with the children.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Story & Screenplay by: Paul West

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"TYPICAL FATHER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Armand.....Chet Marshall

SYNOPSIS

Because the newspapers are filled with tales of young people's elopements, and Jim's seventeen year old daughter Betty is dreamy-eyed over a schoolmate, Armand Bradley, with whom she is starring in a play, Jim is convinced Betty is planning to elope. The rest of the Anderson clan is definitely not in agreement with Father, but this doesn't hamper Jim's vivid imagination.

One night when the two teenagers are alone in the Anderson living room, Jim overhears their conversation involving suitcases and road maps, not realizing they are reading their lines for the play. When Armand leaves in his hot rod, Jim assumes Betty is with him and he and Margaret follow them to a house with the sign reading "Justice of the Peace." But all fears are shortly dispelled when they enter. Armand's father is the justice and the boy was merely serving as a witness for a marriage.

After Armand assures Jim that he has no intentions of marrying at such a tender age, Jim and Margaret return home a little shamefacedly to their still-single daughter.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"MARGARET GOES DANCING"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson and his wife Margaret rarely have differences of opinion on anything vital, but when friends persuade Margaret to take dancing lessons with Jim, he revolts. Margaret decides to go alone, and Jim goes off to his club for a "little game." After all, he hasn't been there for a long time and a man should keep up his old male contacts. Each goes his own way, but Jim finds his club very dull and Margaret finds the dance school even duller. Both, however, are too stubborn to admit it.

The children then break the breach. Daughter Kathy drags an old banjo out of the attic, and their other two children, Bud and Betty, are as cheerful as can be. Jim and Margaret remember their romantic days, and Jim, dressed as a troubadour, even serenades Margaret and the Andersons are once more restored to their normal, if hectic, existence.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Story and Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE CHRISTMAS STORY"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Les Turner.....William Traylor
and
Nick.....Wallace Ford

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson, amazed by his family's "accent-on-the-gifts" attitude at Christmas time, hopes to recapture the true Yuletide Spirit by driving his protesting brood into the country to cut a Christmas tree on Christmas Eve. Their car gets stuck in a snowdrift, and they are forced to take shelter in a country store boarded up for the winter, and illegally inhabited by Nick, a little old hermit. The children tell him of their disappointment in having their holiday spoiled, but Nick is overjoyed at having this family for his Christmas. Kathy, touched by his happiness, gives him her Teddy bear, and Nick happily starts to give the Andersons Christmas presents from the wellstocked store shelves, signing IOU's which he will never be able to pay.

Les, a young Forest Ranger, then arrives, revealing to Jim that Nick does not own the store and he must arrest the hermit for taking the goods. Jim persuades Les to let him pay the IOU's without telling Nick, to which Les agrees, and all have a Christmas Eve dinner in the store, presided over by Nick. When they finally reach home, the Andersons agree this has been their finest Christmas.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Original Story by: Paul West & Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"SPARROW IN THE WINDOW"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin

SYNOPSIS

It's a rainy day, and all the Anderson children are ill-tempered. Suddenly, Kathy, the youngest, finds a dripping wet little sparrow sitting on her window sill and immediately, the entire family forgets itself in an effort to comfort and save the little creature's life, all a little shamefaced at their outburst of temper.

Using Jim's best hat and new silk muffler, they make a nest for the bird, feeding it milk with a nose dropper, and keeping the shivering creature warm with a hot water bottle. After a sleepless night during which each member of the family gets out of bed to see how the sparrow is doing, the bird finally regains its health and starts flying all over the house. At last it lands on Kathy's finger, fulfilling a wish she had expressed when she first saw the sparrow.

But captivity is no place for a wild bird, as Kathy is the first to admit, and the sparrow is freed, allowing the family to catch a last hour of much needed sleep.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Summer Long and Harry Clark
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BOY'S WEEK"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Judge Mitchell.....James Todd
Officer.....Richard Wessel

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson receives a traffic ticket for parking in a driveway (which he heartily denies) on the day marking the beginning of Boy's Week when his son, Bud, is appointed Judge in the court where Jim's case is to be tried. Father's attempts to butter-up Bud are in vain the boy making it very clear that he will not be prejudiced in the case merely because Jim is his father.

The entire Anderson family turns out for court. Jim, of course, pleads not guilty and demands a jury trial, a request he quickly alters when Bud informs him of the necessary court fees, and Jim settles for a trial by the judge.

Kathy, Jim's youngest daughter, is his first witness, and as a result of her damaging testimony, Jim is fined five dollars. When he objects to the decision, the real judge fines him another five dollars.

As Jim grudgingly waits for Bud to come home, his anger shifts to elation when the real judge comes in with Bud, telling Jim how proud he should be of his daughter for telling the truth, and of his son, for a fair administration of justice.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"A FRIEND OF OLD GEORGE'S"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Petty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Lyle.....	Parley Baer

SYNOPSIS

Just as the Anderson family is getting set for their youngest daughter's birthday party to be followed by a trip to the circus, the door bell is rung by Lyle Herbert, a total stranger who had heard about the family and just dropped in for a visit.

Eager to have the party by themselves, Jim finally hits on a plan to get Lyle out of the house. Learning of Lyle's hobby, collecting street car photos, Jim sneaks upstairs, calls him on the phone pretending to be a streetcar photo devotee and invites lovable Lyle to see his collection at a fictitious address. Delighted, Lyle leaves, and the Andersons hurry to the circus only to find all the tickets sold. As they are unhappily about to return home, Lyle appears, and to their surprise, turn out to be the circus manager, escorting them to the best seats in the house.

Jim's feelings of guilt for having played the trick on Lyle are quickly dispelled when Lyle, in his informal fashion, invites himself to be their guest for the entire circus run.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by:	Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BUD THE SNOB"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Claude.....Jimmy Bates
Virginia.....Joyce Coates

SYNOPSIS

Because he becomes completely flustered in the presence of girls, Bud Anderson shuns them, earning him the epithet, "snob." When sister Betty persuades her girl friend, Virginia, to phone Bud, he is so embarrassed that he hangs up the phone. As he does so, Marcia, a classmate, comes to the door and bashful Bud dashes into a closet. When father accidentally opens the closet door, he finds Bud wearing a Halloween mask.

In this disguise, Bud becomes an extrovert, overwhelming Marcia with his "hep" conversation, and decides that a masquerade party is the answer to his problem, planning one for the following night. While dressing, however, Bud discovers his mask is missing, and goes into a panic, but Jim persuades Bud to allow him to use Betty's cosmetics as a disguise, but keeps Bud from viewing the finished job in the mirror. Again, confident, Bud soon enthralls his guests with his wit, and when he sees himself in a mirror, finding his father did nothing to his face, his shyness at long last is overcome.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE PROMISED PLAYHOUSE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Ed Davis.....	Robert Foulk
Myrtle Davis.....	Vivi Janiss

SYNOPSIS

When daughter Kathy comes down with the measles, Jim Anderson promises to permit her to build a playhouse if she takes her medicine. Kathy agrees on the condition that he must eat and sleep there with her the day it is finished. Jim agrees and promptly forgets about it until Kathy, on the day the house is completed demands he keep his promise.

Jim, who always preaches that a promise must be kept, is trapped and soon is in the playhouse pretending that the crackers they are eating are really pieces of fried chicken. After numerous unsuccessful attempts to lure the child back into the house, he gives up and prepares to spend the night there. However, when Kathy falls asleep, Jim carries her to the house only to learn that elder daughter Betty has invited visiting friends to stay at the Andersons, after they were unable to procure hotel rooms. Jim and Margaret, their house overflowing with guests wind up spending the night in Kathy's playhouse.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Roswell Rogers
Original Story by:	Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"JIM THE FARMER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Miss Thomas.....	Sarah Selby
Brace.....	Mary Young

SYNOPSIS

It's a painful process for Jim Anderson until he learns that the secret of life is to find what one can do best and do it. Feeling that the tensions of modern business are robbing him of life's simple pleasures, he places his successful insurance office in the hands of his associates and embarks on a back-to-nature campaign, searching for a farm on which to settle.

Staying at home while the real estate agents are looking for his new home, Jim becomes increasingly irritated because he's not as indispensable as he thought, since his office hasn't yet called for advice. Although things are not going as well as they would be if Jim were there, the office staff refuses to call him, respecting his wishes to lead a simple life.

Margaret, realizing nothing would make him happier than an office S.O.S. goes to the office and asks them to call Jim. They are overjoyed, call him, and in record time he arrives, but unfortunately finds one of Margaret's gloves there. After the first feeling of anger passes over having been tricked he realizes his place is at the office, and, thanks Margaret for helping him rediscover himself.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Roswell Rogers
Original Story by:	Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"FATHER OF THE YEAR"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Mailman.....Joseph Kerr
Mr. Milan.....Louis G. Mercier

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson is elated on learning that his children, are writing an essay nominating him for the Father Of The Year in a contest run by the local newspaper, but though they know he is the best father, they can't quite find reasons to substantiate their belief, slightly damaging Jim's ego. When he forbids Bud to go on a hunting trip because his friend is a reckless driver, returns a piece of jewelry Betty has received from a boy friend because he feels it is an improper gift, he makes their task even more difficult. Kathy alone regards him favorably because he raises her allowance.

The day before the contest closes, Bud learns that the hunting trip was a ruse to get free farm labor and Betty discovers five sorority sisters all wearing pins similar to the one she received, sent by the same young man. The children change their mind about Jim. Inspired, they create a masterpiece nominating him Father Of The Year because he never says, "I told you so," and Jim beams with pride as the children mail their essay.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by: Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE MINK COAT"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Myrtle Davis.....Vivi Janiss
Morrie.....Lester Sharpe
Mrs. Morell.....June Vincent

SYNOPSIS

Shortly after Jim Anderson lectures his family on economy, he is maneuvered into purchasing a bargain mink coat for wife Margaret. Fearing friends will think she is showing off, Margaret won't wear the mink, but Jim persuades her to don it to a concert.

The day after the concert Margaret is invited to a society luncheon, for which she must buy a new dress to match the elegant coat. Meanwhile Jim is practically blackmailed into contributing a huge sum of money to the Woman's Aid League. When his bank informs him that he is overdrawn Jim envisions disaster, and son Bud adds fuel to the fire by mentioning an acquaintance who had been sent to jail for writing rubber checks.

Jim begins to hate the coat which has taken over their home, and is ruining their lives. He persuades Myrtle Davis, a friend of Margaret's to buy the mink, and gathering his family together, Jim tells them he is giving no more lectures on economy.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE MATCHMAKER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Louise.....	Lyn Guild
Tom.....	William Hudson

SYNOPSIS

Margaret Anderson decides that Tom Goodwin's five-year courtship of her shy cousin Louise must be brought to a head, and she plans a dinner hoping to get Tom to propose. Margaret sends the children out for the evening, trying to create a romantic atmosphere that will convince Tom he should be married.

Margaret's plans are on the verge of success, when son Bud comes home with young sister Kathy in tow, angrily shouting she has ruined his evening, an older daughter Betty rushes in saying she is through with men. Margaret, most unhappy, feels her efforts to present a happy picture of home life have been destroyed.

Tom, questions Betty and learns she is distraught because her beau did not invite her to a dance. Tom suggests Betty use the direct approach, telling the boy she has another offer which she can accept if he doesn't intend to ask her, assuring her this will work.

Louise, using the technique Tom has suggest to Betty, gets him to propose to her.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by:	Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BUD THE BRIDESMAID"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Louise.....	Lyn Guild
Tom.....	William Hudson

SYNOPSIS

After courting Margaret Anderson's cousin Louise for five years, Tom finally proposes marriage and the Andersons invite them to hold the wedding at their home. Just before the rehearsal, the couple has a spat, and Louise refuses to go ahead with the marriage, although they really love each other.

Minister Swain arrives and Margaret pleads with Louise to go through with the rehearsal, even if she calls off the wedding afterwards. Louise agrees. However, when Margaret discovers that there is no stand-in for the bride, son Bud is elected to enact this all-important part, marching down the aisle on his father's arm. Bud rebels when asked to repeat the vows, feeling too silly, and Louise, knowing her place is beside Tom forever, relieves Bud of his task.

The Andersons, watching Louise and Tom clasp each other's hands, know the wedding will go off as planned.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay by:	Dorothy Cooper and Barbara Hammer
Original Story by:	Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"PROUD FATHER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Roger Garland.....John Gallaudet
Beanie Brugendorger.....Tom Mann

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson is upset when he finds his children collectively unable to solve their problems. Because Beanie, the school bully, has threatened his son Bud refuses to leave the house; stage fright has caused Betty to cancel her dancing debut at the PTA show; and young Kathy will not allow Jim to yank her loose baby tooth.

When the PTA Master of Ceremonies develops laryngitis, the committee asks Jim to take over, but he refuses, telling the children that their lack of courage is responsible for his lack of confidence. Determined not to let their dad down Bud says he will go to the show, despite Beanie; Betty announces she will make her debut; and Kathy displays the tooth she herself pulled with a string.

At the show, Jim introduces Betty who is so frightened, she forgets her dance steps. When Beanie laughs at her, Bud, enraged, tosses the bully out of the auditorium and Betty asks the audience if she may begin again. This time her performance is flawless, much to the delight of proud father Jim.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"PROUD FATHER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Roger Garland.....John Gallaudet
Beanie Brugendorger.....Tom Mann

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson is upset when he finds his children collectively unable to solve their problems. Because Beanie, the school bully, has threatened his son Bud refuses to leave the house; stage fright has caused Betty to cancel her dancing debut at the PTA show; and young Kathy will not allow Jim to yank her loose baby tooth.

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Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Original Story by: Paul West and Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"FATHER DELIVERS THE PAPERS"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Mrs. Collins.....Dabbs Greer
Husband.....Jack Tesler
Old Lady.....Cheerio Meredith

SYNOPSIS

Learning that son Bud is about to lose his newspaper route because of his sloppy delivery methods, Jim Anderson extracts a half-hearted promise from him to adopt a more diligent attitude toward his part-time job.

A short time later, Bud strains his sacroiliac, and is ordered to bed for several days, leaving his route unserviced. Jim is drafted for the job, and mounted on Bud's bike, delivers the papers in a drenching downpour, falling far behind of schedule. The manager of the paper is furious and goes to the Anderson home to fire Bud whom he thinks is responsible, but when he learns that Jim is delivering the papers to help his ailing son, he loudly praises Father and agrees to give Bud another chance.

While Jim nurses a cold the next day, daughter Betty complains about the newspaper delivery to their home, and Jim, in no uncertain terms, orders her never to utter another word against a newsboy.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers and Dane Lussier
Original Story by: Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"NO PARTIALITY"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Howard Williams.....Norman Ollestad
Jimmy Wood.....Bobby Diamond

SYNOPSIS

When the baby of the Anderson family, Kathy, rebels against the family policy of giving her "hand-me-downs," Jim Anderson agrees with her that whatever Bud and Betty get, Kathy should get too.

This new status starts a chain reaction when Betty invites boy friend Howard to dinner. The problem develops that Kathy has invited the same boy to be her guest, and even though he's twice her age, the youngster has decided this is the "man" for her. Despite Betty's protests that her romance will be ruined, Jim will not interfere, refusing to break his word.

At the dinner, both girls fight for Howard, with Kathy the victor, but once she has proved that she can get an older man, she's only too happy to return Howard to Betty when playmate Jimmy Wood invites her to a wienie roast, an invitation secretly arranged by Jim to avert a family catastrophe.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Screenplay by: Roswell Rogers, Alan Woods
and John Kohn
Original Story by: Virginia Lindsey and Gally Curtis

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"CLOSE DECISION"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Rev. Swain.....	Robert Lynn
Joe Phillips.....	Gary Pagett
Virginia Harris.....	Diana Christian

SYNOPSIS

When Bud consistently neglects his household chores, and fails to memorize the poem he is to recite in church, Jim Anderson forbids him to participate in The Church League baseball game, but when Jim sees that the team is losing because of Bud's absence, he relents and permits Bud to play.

In church the next morning, the Andersons' worst fears are realized. Bud forgets his piece, and to the embarrassment of the family, Bud confesses to the entire congregation that the baseball game was to blame.

Reverend Swain rises to Bud's defense with an account of the boy's actions during the game. At a crucial moment, Bud had tried to tag a runner and missed. The umpire's ruling that the runner was out started a brawl between the teams, and Bud, asked as a point of honor if he had really tagged the runner, admitted he hadn't -- thereby collecting a black eye from his teammates.

Swain praises both Bud, for his honest answer, and Bud's family for their fine training. With the congregation's applause ringing in their ears, Jim and Margaret Anderson realize their efforts in Bud's behalf had not been wasted.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Screenplay and Story by:	Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"ART OF SALESMANSHIP"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Howard "Mac" McGrath.....	Ralph Dumke
Woman.....	Juney Ellis

SYNOPSIS

When Jim Anderson learns that his son Bud has contracted to sell five dozen plastic gravy boats -- and hasn't sold one -- he gives the reluctant Bud a lesson on door-to-door salesmanship and sets a sales quota for him to meet.

Although Bud protests there are some things he just can't do -- and selling is one of them -- Jim insists that anybody can be a salesman if he puts his mind to it. However, when Jim, who has been trying unsuccessfully for days to write a comedy skit for his club, decides he hasn't the knack for writing, he realizes that he has been unfair to Bud in forcing him to do something for which he lacks talent.

Jim releases Bud from his obligation, and tells him that henceforth he, Jim, will be the only salesman of the family.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"FATHER'S PRIVATE LIFE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Patty.....Tina Thompson

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson decides that he needs a private life of his own, and tells his children they must work out their own problems. Complications promptly ensue. Son Bud manages to break the windshield of the Anderson car and can't get to his father to report it and young daughter Kathy purloins a cardboard Zulu from the local movie house and is haunted by a guilty conscience.

When Kathy attempts to run away from home, Jim decides that his family is more important than his private life, and tells his children to bring their troubles to him as before. As the Anderson children again begin to assemble with their assorted problems, life at the Anderson's settles once more into its normal routine.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"LESSON IN CIVICS"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Mayor Mitchell.....James Todd
Billy Mitchell.....Ken Hardison
F. W. Burns.....Lane Bradford

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson is outraged that the "Old Meeting Hall" is being razed because it stands in the path of a new highway. Aroused by Jim, the rest of the Anderson family pitch in to save the historic landmark. Margaret steams up the members of the P.T.A., Bud de ates the issue with the construction foreman, and Betty tries to bribe the Mayor's son to get his father to save the building. However, it is Kathy who unleashes a storm by writing the mayor a letter, in Jim's name, incorporating all the uncomplimentary remarks Jim has made about him.

The Mayor sends for Jim, and the worried Andersons accompany Dad to his office. Although the Mayor at first fumes with indignation, he cools off and announces that the suggestion is a great idea, and puts Jim in charge of the project.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Dorothy Cooper

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"FIRST DISILLUSIONMENT"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Mr. Stagg.....Hal Taggart
Eddie Wardlow.....Peter Miles
Joe Phillips.....Peter Heisser

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson's young son Bud applies for a part-time job in a sporting goods store, and is turned down in favor of a boy who fakes an impressive employment record. Bud promptly decides that dishonesty is the key to success -- and writes a letter to the store manager informing him that the other boy is not to be trusted.

Jim and his wife Margaret intercept the letter, but Jim, knowing that the other boy is about to be fired in any case, allows Bud to think his letter did the damage.

Bud gets the job, but as Jim had hoped, his conscience makes him confess his 'crime' to Jim. Jim explains that the other boy had gotten himself fired by the very dishonesty that had obtained the job, and Bud agrees that honesty, after all, is still the best policy.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"WOMAN IN THE HOUSE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Virg Carlson.....Harry Hickox
Jill Carlson.....Mary Webster

SYNOPSIS

When Virg Carlson asks the Andersons to invite his wife Jill to be their house guest, they agree to do so because Virg is an old friend of Jim's. Jill strews her belongings carelessly about the Anderson home, practically relegating the ever-patient Margaret to the position of personal maid. Jim, seeing that Margaret is unhappy, decides to ask Jill to return to her hotel.

Before he can do so, Jill, to everyone's surprise, offers to shampoo Kathy's hair and Kathy discovers what her elders have overlooked: that Jill is unhappy because she cannot make friends. When Kathy tells Margaret that Jill has accepted her as her first friend, Margaret realizes how lonely Jill must be, and warmly invites her to remain at the Anderson home.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"NEW GIRL AT SCHOOL"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
April Adams.....Sue George
Grover Adams.....Richard Eyer
Teacher.....Anne Barton

SYNOPSIS

When blonde charmer April Adams enters his school, woman hater Bud Anderson becomes a lovesick puppy, blindly catering to her every flirtation whim. One afternoon, April asks Bud if she can come to the Anderson home that evening for help with her English lessons. Bud is overjoyed, and agrees to take care of a dress April has been carrying, until they finish the lesson.

When she arrives, Bud learns that April, forbidden to go on dates, is using her English lesson as a blind; that she has a date with Bud's rival, and is using the Anderson home to change clothes. When Bud hears the other boy's whistle, he becomes a teen-age man again and tells April their romance is through. Contrite, April apologizes, and starts weaving her spell by asking Bud to walk her home. Bud is hooked again.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers
Original Story by: Ed James

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"KATHY MAKES MAGIC"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Joe Phillips.....	Pete Heisser
Dr. Conrad.....	Harry Antrim

SYNOPSIS

When Kathy Anderson gets a magic set, she feels endowed with super-natural powers and commands her kitten to turn into a bird. Her brother Bud is also busy -- smoking one of his father's cigars, and when Kathy accidentally discovers his hide-out, Bud chases her away. When her kitten disappears and a bird takes its place at the milk saucer and Bud becomes ill -- from the cigar, of course -- Kathy believes the spells she cast have worked, and that Bud will die.

Remorseful, Kathy prays to be taken instead of Bud and when Bud recovers, Kathy starts willing her toys to her friends, believing she is not long for this world. However, when her kitten reappears, Kathy joyfully feels the spell has been broken, and decides to give up magic.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"ADVANTAGE TO BETTY"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Eula Craig.....	Tamar Cooper
Coach Gabener.....	Harry Cody
Hal Berdahl.....	Charles Tannen

SYNOPSIS

Dissension arises in the girls' high school tennis team when local newsmen elect pretty Betty Anderson queen of the yearly sports banquet, passing up the dowdy team captain, Eula Craig. In a gesture of friendship, Betty phones Eula, pleading illness, asks the team star to take her place at the banquet. Eula spurns the role of substitute, and Betty decides to attend.

Jim Anderson in an effort to heal the breach, brings Eula to the Anderson home, hoping to persuade her to attend the banquet. Betty realizes the lonely life unattractive Eula leads, and she lends her the dress she was going to wear and makes her up to bring out an unsuspected charm. By the time Eula leaves for the banquet, the girls have become fast friends.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE BIG TEST"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Mr. Glover.....Jack W. Harris

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson promises his son Bud a boat if he raises his science mark - and immediately - Bud devotes himself to mastering science. While he is studying alone at school after class, the questions for the next day's test fall from the teacher's desk. Bud picks them up just as the science teacher, Mr. Glover, enters. Glover assumes Bud has been cheating. Withholding Bud's name but pegging him as a bad student, Glover asks the advice of the student council on the proper course to pursue.

The council and its chairman, Betty Anderson, suggest the student be given the exam; if he gets a high mark he will convict himself. Later Betty learns Bud is the suspect and warns him not to pass. Courageously, Bud does his best, gets the highest mark, and faces serious consequences. Betty tells Glover she warned Bud of the trap, and the teacher agrees to give Bud an oral test which he passes easily - proving his honesty and winning the boat from his father.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"FATHER IS A DOPE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Ed Davis.....Robert Foulk
Dr. Conrad.....Harry Antrim

SYNOPSIS

After Jim Anderson and his family watch a TV program in which the father is portrayed as a man easily fooled by his family, Jim protests that fathers are smarter in real life. He wouldn't be hoodwinked that way.

Suspecting that Margaret doesn't want him to go on a hunting trip, Jim anticipates his family will attempt to trick him into staying home. Sure enough, daughter Betty asks him to help her get a job; young Kathy complains that she can't go to a party because Jim won't be there to drive her; and Bud announces that he's very sick.

Jim laughs at their transparent ruses, only to discover they are all speaking the truth. Jim hastily cancels his hunting trip, with the reflection that perhaps fathers are a little dumb -- sometimes.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"SPIRIT OF YOUTH"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Bob.....	Steven Tersel
Maxine.....	Kathryn Grant

SYNOPSIS

Goaded by the thought that their children are beginning to regard them as "old fogies," Margaret and Jim Anderson go off to their college reunion determined to recapture the "spirit of youth."

Jim is irked by the undergrads at his fraternity house who assign him to a bathroom schedule which forces him to get up at daybreak and Margaret is dismayed when the student members of her sorority foist the responsibilities of a fund raising campaign upon her. However, they feel certain that they will get into the youthful swing before the reunion ends.

The last straw is the college formal where Margaret and Jim find their thoughts keep straying back home to Bud, Betty and Kathy. Realizing youth can never top the wonders of their own maturity, they abruptly leave for home and their three good reasons for aging gracefully.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BUD, THE LADY KILLER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Dora Fenway.....	Susan Odin
Joe Phillips.....	Pete Heisser
Claude Messner.....	Jimmie Bates

SYNOPSIS

Plain Dora Fenway has a crush on Bud Anderson. When Jim, Bud's father, witnesses the ungallant manner in which Bud tries to rid himself of her unwanted attentions, he upbraids him for his lack of courtesy. Bud agrees that the best way for him to apologize is to invite Dora to the Junior Prom but after Dora accepts, Jim admits he may have gone too far, making Bud appear the suitor for her affections.

Following Jim's suggestion to ease the situation, Bud tells his pals he's fallen for Dora and immediately all the boys start making a play for her. Dora, thanking Bud for the buildup he has given her, tells him he doesn't have to take her to the Prom. She is going with Horace with whom she shares an interest in entomology. Moaning that women are fickle, Bud takes up the study of bugs.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Sumner Long and Dorothy Cooper

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"MARGARET'S PREMONITION"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Ed Davis.....Robert Foulk
Myrtle Davis.....Vivi Janiss

SYNOPSIS

When Margaret Anderson receives a phone call confirming her premonition that something is wrong at her Aunt Mattie's, Bud, Betty and Kathy claim she has psychic powers. Shortly after, Jim announces he is driving to Hillsborough on an overnight business trip, and tries to keep him at home but Jim says he's going just to prove Margaret wrong.

As he is getting into his car, Margaret rushes from the house, claiming to have received a phone call from Hillsborough announcing the deal is off. Jim, however, learns that the call was faked by Margaret and blows up. Just as he starts to lay down the law, they receive word that a cloudburst has washed out the bridge to Hillsborough. Jim admits that sometimes mother, in a mysterious way, knows better than father.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"STAGE TO YUMA"

CAST

Tate Ibsen.....Robert Young
Boggs.....Harry Hickox
Miss Quimby.....Sarah Selby
Watts.....Robert Griffin
Deuce.....Rayford Barnes
Porfio.....Ricky Vera
Major Alden.....Lester Matthews

SYNOPSIS

A stagecoach speeds along the trail to Yuma, carrying six passengers, spinster schoolteacher Miss Quimby; Porfio, her young Mexican pupil, deputy sheriff Watts, his prisoner, Deuce, a condemned murderer, middle aged Major Alden, and tough, cynical, Tate Ibsen, who is on the stage to free Deuce. Before Tate can make his move, the coach is attacked by Apaches, and the driver slain. As the Indians hover to make the kill, Tate cold-bloodedly sacrifices the lives of Watts, his friend Deuce, and Major Alden to save his own life.

Before he dies, Alden, having seen through Tate's plans, pleads with him to save the schoolteacher and the boy, the only people worth saving. Although Tate sets up Miss Quimby and Porfio as decoys in a final attempt to insure his own escape, he is suddenly overwhelmed with the humanity of Alden's dying words. He attacks the Indians and miraculously defeats them to win safety for the teacher, her pupil and himself.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: D.D. Beauchamp
Story by: Marvin DeVries

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BAD INFLUENCE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Bud.....Billy Gray
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Arty Merrill.....Lee Erickson

SYNOPSIS

Because of Arty Merrill's unfortunate home environment and his addiction to petty kleptomania, Margaret Anderson is not too happy when he and son Bud become pals. Arty asks Bud to go skin diving with him, but Jim refuses to give Bud money for the equipment. Arty offers to lend Bud the money, and shortly after Bud finds Arty pilfering Kathy's piggy bank. Margaret enters and sees Bud holding the coins, and concludes Bud has come under Arty's bad influence. However, Jim refuses to forbid their meeting, feeling Arty needs affection and friendship.

Arty steals Betty's camera in order to buy the skin diving equipment. The Andersons accuse Bud again, but Arty confesses both thefts, stating that he thought he could keep Bud's friendship by buying him presents. Jim tells Arty that affection can't be bought and gives him a fresh outlook on life by explaining that the Andersons want his friendship because they like him.

Produced by:

Eugene B. Rodney

Directed by:

William D. Russell

Teleplay by:

Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BETTY HATES CARTER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Carter Mawson.....Robert Easton
Janie Little.....Cindy Robbins
Dave.....Joseph Malls

SYNOPSIS

Jim Anderson arranges a date for his daughter to attend the annual insurance ball with young Carter Mawson, son of an old friend. Betty is outraged, feeling she is old enough to make her own dates. Betty and Carter discuss the situation, agreeing they are victims of parental interference. Carter then displays some interest in Betty's girl friend Janie. Betty, believing he is making a choice of his own free will, foists Janie on him as his date for the ball.

As soon as Carter takes up with Janie, Betty starts eating her heart out. Although Janie offers Carter back to her, Betty's pride prevents her from accepting. Janie, however, realizes Betty is stuck on Carter. On the night of the ball Carter comes to the Anderson home. He tells Betty that Janie can't attend the ball because of illness and that she had told him Betty's date for the affair has been called off. Jubilantly, Betty agrees to go to the ball with Carter.

Produced by:
Directed by:
Teleplay by:

Eugene B. Rodney
William D. Russell
Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"JIM, THE TYRANT"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Miss Thomas.....	Sarah Selby
Kippy.....	Jimmy Bates

SYNOPSIS

After a discouraging day at the office, Jim Anderson comes home to find his family immersed in their own affairs and indifferent to his wounded feelings. Deciding he's been too easy-going, Jim announces he's going to become a tyrant. Baby Kathy is appalled upon learning the definition of the word. Later, Kathy goes on a rampage -- throwing Bud's baseball through a window, upsetting Betty's perfume, and sliding on Margaret's newly waxed floors.

Learning the "tyrant" is to discipline her, Kathy hides under her bed in fear. Jim is shaken by his daughter's reaction. Questioning Kathy, Jim learns her outbreak stemmed from the same rejected feeling that caused him to become a tyrant. After Kathy agrees that no member of the family should demand all attention, Jim hugs his "kitten" and abdicates his position as the Anderson "tyrant."

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Roswell Rogers and Herman J. Epstein
Story by:	Herman Epstein

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BETTY'S BROTHER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Mr. Armstead.....	Sam Flint

SYNOPSIS

Betty Anderson's success in High School -- both as scholar and student leader -- hits a new high when she is chosen to represent her school on a TV youth forum program. However, the elation of the Anderson family is dampened on learning that not only is Bud failing in his studies but that he is also becoming a problem to his teachers. As Jim contrasts Betty's scholastic record with Bud's Margaret suddenly realizes that Freshman Bud has been stumbling in an effort to live up to his sister's brilliant record.

Margaret's diagnosis impresses Betty, she asks Bud to substitute for her on the TV program on the pretense that she must cram for an all-important exam. Although scared stiff, Bud agrees to help his sister out. Bud is a huge success as he tells the TV audience that the way to succeed is to have faith in oneself. After receiving special praise for the appropriateness of his remarks from the forum chairman, Bud faces life with renewed confidence in himself.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Paul West
Story by:	Herman J. Epstein

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BETTY EARNS A FORMAL"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Mr. Fredericks.....Grandon Rhodes
Hostess.....Claire Carleton

SYNOPSIS

Betty Anderson has her heart set on a new gown for the High School dance. Learning that the dress costs \$89.00, Jim Anderson refuses to advance the money. Betty gets a part time job to buy the dress, but refuses to reveal the nature of the position. Jim, imagining all kinds of dire things, offers to buy the dress, but Betty refuses - determined to earn the money herself.

When Jim sees the brief costume Betty wears at her job, his fears rise to a feverous pitch. Although he has promised not to interfere in her venture, Jim follows Betty to her place of employment. He finds Betty working at a super market selling canned peaches and serving samples. Learning that Betty lacks the necessary sales to buy her gown, Jim, relieved of his fears and proud of Betty's initiative, buys enough canned peaches for Betty to reach her objective.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Paul West

Storylines Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE HOUSE PAINTER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....	Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....	Jane Wyatt
Betty.....	Elinor Donahue
Bud.....	Billy Gray
Kathy.....	Lauren Chapin
Mr. Everett.....	Parker Fennelly

SYNOPSIS

When Betty Anderson tells her father that her class at school has agreed that all people's actions are motivated by selfishness, Jim points to elderly Shively Everett, who is about to paint the Anderson home, as a man who would never sell out his ideals. To prove his point, Jim tells Everett he is selling the house and asks him to use cheap paint. Jim is crushed when Everett agrees to do so. Little does Jim realize that he has impressed Everett as being a dishonest character.

Believing that he is saving the Andersons from the horrible example of a depraved father, Everett counsels Margaret and the children much to their bewilderment - on the value of integrity. However, when it comes to paint the house, Everett refuses to use cheap paint and angrily upbraids Jim for the terrible example he is setting for his family. Jim warmly shakes Everett's hand, happy that his faith in mankind has been vindicated.

Produced by:	Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by:	William D. Russell
Teleplay by:	Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"BUD, THE WALLFLOWER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Kippy.....Paul Wallace
Claude.....Jimmy Bates

SYNOPSIS

Following Betty Anderson's suggestion, Springfield High plans a Sadie Hawkins Dance, with the girls inviting the boys. Bud Anderson and a few of his classmates fail to receive bids and to hide their disappointment, they decide to go camping on the week-end of the dance. When his pals receive last-minute invitations, Bud is deflated. To soothe Bud's wounded pride, Jim Anderson offers to go camping with him.

As they are about to leave, pretty Wanda Marsh comes to the Anderson home to see Bud. Little Kathy blanches, suddenly remembering she had absent-mindedly mislaid the letter Wanda had given her, inviting Bud to the dance. Kathy makes a frantic search through her belongings and finds the letter, enabling Bud to gracefully accept Wanda's invitation. Jim hides his relief, as Bud apologetically bows out of the camping trip.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Paul West

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE BUS TO NOWHERE"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Old Man.....John Qualen
Dotty.....Yvonne Lime

SYNOPSIS

When Betty Anderson expresses her belief that life is devoid of significance, the Anderson family feels that she is merely passing through another of her teen-age moods. Betty's refusal to accept dates and attend dances disturbs Jim Anderson, but his efforts to renew her interest in everyday life fail. Resentful of her family's lack of sympathy, Betty decides to leave home - and buys a bus ticket to a distant town.

When she is waiting for her bus, Betty meets a little old man who has gotten off his bus at the wrong stop, and lacks the money to buy another ticket. Touched by his plight, Betty pays his fare with her own money. On discovering Betty's absence, the Anderson family search frantically to find her. However, by the time Jim gets to the bus station, he finds a glowing daughter who has found the true significance of life - that happiness comes from helping others.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"KATHY, THE INDIAN GIVER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Susie.....Reba Waters
Claude Messner.....Jimmy Bates
Mrs. Martin.....Lois January

SYNOPSIS

After Kathy trades her cap for Bud's paintbrush, she changes her mind, whereupon Jim Anderson lectures her on the importance of keeping a bargain. When little Susie Martin complains her baby sister Debbie is getting all her family's affection, Kathy trades her doll for Debbie. The astounded Andersons return Debbie to her parents and Kathy, insisting Jim has violated her right to make a fair trade, refuses to associate with her family.

To show Kathy the absurdity of her position, the Andersons' pretend to trade Bud for a friend of his. Kathy still gives her family the cold-shoulder and Jim, feeling they have gone too far, decides to apologize to his daughter. He is flabbergasted when Kathy admits she has been stubborn because she wanted a real live baby to play with. Jim concludes he will never understand women - regardless of their age.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Kay Lenard

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE HISTORICAL ANDERSONS"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Miss Woodruff.....Claudia Bryar
Orlo.....Don Bender

SYNOPSIS

Bud Anderson's history class is assigned to the task of writing themes on heroes of the American Revolution. Jim tells Bud to write about Major Nathaniel Oliver Anderson, their revolutionary forebearer. Bud's history teacher is so enthusiastic about his famous ancestor that arranges for the Anderson family to re-enact his deeds in tableau for the P.T.A.

On delving into library records, Bud discovers Major Anderson was a first class scoundrel. Feeling disgraced, Bud wishes to leave town, but Jim, convinced of the strength of truth and laughter, persuades his family to present the tableau as scheduled. Their hilarious representation of their ancestor's unholy activities wins the day, and Jim is roundly applauded when he concludes that a man should not be judged by his ancestors but by the success of his own efforts.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Roswell Rogers
Story by: Herman J. Epstein and
Roswell Rogers

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE GRASS IS GREENER"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Charlie.....Frank Wilcox
Gribble.....Paul Harvey
Anders.....Richard Norris

SYNOPSIS

Charlie Bradley, business tycoon and college friend of Jim Anderson pays a visit to Springfield. In a television interview, he reveals that during his college days he was known as one of the "Four Musketeers," the other three being famous foreign correspondent Russ Perry, university president Robert Sylvester, and - Jim Anderson. Jim's family are unable to hide their feelings that he is the only one who has not found the secret of success.

Jim's spirits sag and damped with each renewed effort by his family to spur him into making one last attempt to reach the big money class. However, when the Anderson's realize how they are unconsciously hurting Jim, they gather 'round with a fervent display of love and when Charlie Bradley pays the Andersons a visit and sees the happy home life that Jim leads, he confesses that his own life has been a mad race for a vanishing goal, and asks Jim for the secret of his success.

Produced by: Eugene E. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Teleplay by: Dorothy Cooper
Story by: Herman J. Epstein

Storylines

Screen Gems

FATHER KNOWS BEST

"THE PERSISTENT GUEST"

CAST

Jim Anderson.....Robert Young
Margaret Anderson.....Jane Wyatt
Betty.....Elinor Donahue
Bud.....Billy Gray
Kathy.....Lauren Chapin
Fred.....Barry Truex
Lou.....Ray Walker
Grace.....Virginia Christine

SYNOPSIS

Fred, a shabbily-dressed schoolmate of Bud's, offers to help Bud with some difficult algebra problems at the Anderson home. Fred arrives at dinner time, wolfs down a hearty meal and, after doing homework for hours, grabs at Jim's suggestion that he spend the night there. By the following day, Fred has successfully made himself an integral part of the Anderson family life. While Jim awaits the opportunity to question Fred about his reasons for not returning home, Betty's friend Alice enters and tells the Andersons that Fred has been mooching meals all over town.

Questioned by Jim, Fred reveals that he has been deserted by his divorced parents, and has been living in a bus. The Andersons are deeply touched by the boy's plight and Jim gets an inspiration - he remembers that his dear friends Lou and Grace Miller, a childless couple, have often expressed the wish to have a family of their own. After checking with the proper authorities, Jim arranges a meeting between Fred and the Millers, who eagerly take the boy into their home.

Produced by: Eugene B. Rodney
Directed by: William D. Russell
Story & Teleplay by: Paul West