

Sights and Sounds

Lt. Robin Crusoe U.S.N.



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There are times when I just want to laugh. I don't really care if the movie is a great movie. I don't really care if the acting is great and I don't care if the plot makes sense. I just want to laugh and enjoy wasting my time for a little while. *Lt. Robin Crusoe U.S.N.* starring Dick Van Dyke serves this purpose perfectly for me. The movie is housed in the Juvenile collection even though to really understand all of the jokes it is helpful to at least be familiar with Daniel Defoe's story of Robinson Crusoe.

As one might guess from the title the film tells the story of a castaway on a deserted island. Lt. Crusoe is forced to abandon his navy jet when the engine fails. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 1, 2015

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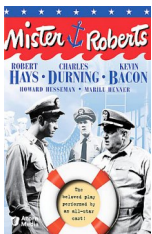
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Mister Roberts - Teleplay



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In 1984 NBC broadcast a full-length production of *Mister Roberts*. Along with a great many others before it aired, I felt the 1955 movie (about which I've [posted previously](#)) was definitive; I certainly didn't feel that there was a need for another version of this classic film. What I didn't realize was that this was not a remake of the movie—it was a play, filmed before a live audience.

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Posted by Keith C. on August 25, 2015

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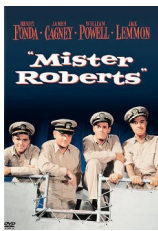
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Mister Roberts (1955)



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Mister Roberts (1955), starring Henry Fonda, is based on the stage play by Frank Nugent. Fonda, who starred in the Broadway play, reprised his role as Lieutenant Douglas Roberts for this film, with an A-list of players supporting him. Jack Lemmon also stars as Ensign Pulver, a role which won him an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor; James Cagney as Captain Morton and William Powell as "Doc" round out the cast. Sadly, the film also ended the longtime friendship and working relationship between Henry Fonda and director John Ford who, in a fit of anger, reportedly sucker punched Fonda in the mouth. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on August 4, 2015

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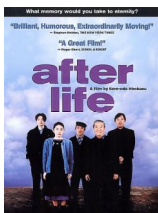
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After Life



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I was told once that it is bad form to start an article or speech with a question, however this film seems to require a question to be asked ? so now that I have the statement out of the way let me ask you that question. If you could have just one memory in your life to live in forever what would that memory be? This is the question proposed in Hirokazu Koreeda's movie *After Life*. The premise is simple, after death

the dead arrive at a sort of clearing house and are given one week to choose a memory from their life in which to spend eternity. At the end of that week the moment is reconstructed and the dead spend eternity in that moment. There is a catch. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on July 28, 2015

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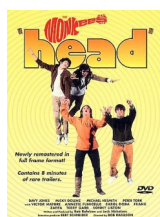
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The Monkees ? Head



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The Monkees were one of the most controversial bands of the 1960's. They were controversial because many people could not decide if they were really a band or not. Conceived first as a television series the group was made of up two established musicians Michael Nesmith and Peter Tork, an English Broadway performer, Davy Jones and a former child star, Micky Dolenz who was also toured with his sister as part of a folk singing duo. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on May 11, 2015

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The Fab Four Films

In 1964 the United States developed a love affair with four young men from Liverpool, England known as The Beatles. I'm sure you've heard of them. By the time they reached the United States they had already been popular in England for two years and had been contracted to film their first movie *A Hard Day's Night*. That was soon followed by their second Film *Help!* Then came two semi psychedelic films *Yellow Submarine* and *Magical Mystery Tour*. If you haven't seen them they are worth a look, if only for the history of both the music and the band. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on April 1, 2015

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