

Document Citation

Title	BBC tv drama early warning synopsis: Penda's fen
Author(s)	
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Language	English
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Subjects	
Film Subjects	Penda's fen, Clarke, Alan, 1974

DEPT.	English Regions Drama	From	David Rose
PRODUCER OF	English Regions Drama (Birmingham)		
Script Editor	Tara Prem	Project No.	01743/2068
Title of Play, Series episode or Serial		Penda's Fen (PLAY FOR TODAY)	
Author (and Translator)	David Rudkin	Dramatized/ Adapted by	Original
Director (if known)	Alan Clarke	Rec. Wk. & Day (if known)	t. b. a.
Studio	-	Cost *	Large (20 plus) / Medium / Small
Approx. No. & Type of Sets	Various	Possible Film Req.	All film

TYPE OF DRAMA Modern or Period (give date) Modern
Comedy, Drama, Suspense, Thriller, etc.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF PLOT (Information in brackets NOT FOR PUBLICATION)

Stephen Franklin, in his last term at school, lives within sight of the Malvern Hills where his father is a local rector. Throughout the play we witness Stephen's gradual awakening and awareness of the forces around him. He begins to acknowledge his sexual ambivalence, to recognise his deep-rooted antipathy for the kind of organisation represented by his school and the cadet-corps and to question the established view of Christian teaching. Stephen's moral 'world-outlook' changes radically throughout the play but his absorption with the music of Elgar and his fascination with Penda, England's last pagan king, remain constant. The play makes a striking and elaborate use of imagery to convey the series of experiences which confront Stephen and which force him to make choices which will affect his future life. *

The film is written by David Rudkin. It will be shot entirely on location around the Malvern Hills (during Weeks 25 to 29) and directed by Alan Clarke.

ANY OTHER POINTS (e.g. names of leading artists if known)