

Forbidden Adventure

(aka: "Newly Rich")

US : 1931 : dir. Norman Taurog : Paramount

: ? min

prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Mitzi Green; Jackie Searl; Bruce Line; Billy Butts; Donald Haines; Jerry Tucker

Edna May Oliver; Louise Fazenda

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Jackie Searl, Mitzi Green and Bruce Line learn to ape the absurdities of their elders. Source: NFT Bulletin

NFT Bulletin - July 97 - review:

"Fresh from his success with **"SKIPPY"**, Taurog directed for Paramount this curious film, which is partly an uninhibited (no doubt heartfelt) satire on the Child Actor syndrome, and partly

knockabout farce for kids. Two outrageous child film stars (Mitzi Green and Jackie Searl) don't exactly help their ambitious mothers (Edna May Oliver and Louise Fazenda) to gain the acceptance they yearn for in high society. There's a charmingly gentle performance, by contrast, from Bruce Line as an authentic Boy King."

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "A Pictorial History of the Talkies", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Not one of my film guides has an entry on it – under *either* title. An early Paramount talkie then, but one of keen interest to this archive if it is lampooning the culture of studio-groomed child stars. The *NFT Bulletin* says it is in part also "a knockabout farce for kids", which raises the interesting question – to which I presently have no answer – of when the first films began to be made expressly for a child audience. We can certainly date children's productions back to the mid-1940s, when J. Arthur Rank began to commission special titles for his cinema club circuit, and even in the late 1920s boy Western stars like Buzz Barton were being given their own matinee series, implicitly to draw in the school-age patrons, but I cannot put a date on the beginning of films expressly made for children. The ubiquitous **Our Gang** series, or the Franklin Brothers' "Kiddie Comedies" (fairy tales with an all-child cast) were obviously made to amuse the grown-ups.

Mitzi Green () and Jackie Searl () – tagged “The Kid Everybody Wants to Spank” – were often teamed together in vexatious offspring roles -

See subject index under **BRATS / SPOILT CHILDREN, COMEDY** and **CHILD PERFORMERS / CHILD STARS**.