

Where Adam Stood

UK TV play : 1976 : dir. Brian Gibson : BBC : 76 min
 prod: Kenith Trodd : scr: Dennis Potter : dir.ph.:

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 Alan Badel; Ronald Hines; Max Harris

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Halliwell's Television Companion review:

"Dennis Potter play taken from incidents in Edmund Gosse's "Father and Son" about a stern Victorian papa agonising over Darwin's Theory of Relativity. As a leading natural scientist of the day he recognises its force, as a fundamentalist christian he is committed to the literal truth of the bible; his motherless son unwittingly sharpens the dilemma. On any estimation one of the half dozen best things Potter has done – intellectually faultless, warm, tender and sly. ** "

[no listing in "History of Television", "How Sweet It Was" or "Television's Greatest Hits"]

No further information currently available. If Max Harris played the son, nothing else is known of him. Dennis Potter supplied several other titles of special interest to the archive, most notably his superb serial "**The Singing Detective**" (wartime boyhood guilt intertwines with adult gumshoe fantasy in the mind of a patient hospitalised with a crippling skin disease) and the less pleasing "**DREAMCHILD**" (an elderly Alice Liddell on her first cruise to America is haunted by disturbing recollections of her childhood acquaintance with Lewis Carroll, and nightmarish encounters with his creations). As with director Peter Greenaway, however, Potter's private preoccupations were sometimes allowed to override narrative consistency and intellectual rigour. At least, he was never less than interesting (something one could not accuse Derek Jarman of, for example). The Darwinism debate was also the touchstone of the courtroom drama "**INHERIT THE WIND**", made in 1960 and as a TV movie in 1988.

See those titles, and subject index under **HISTORY**, **RELIGION** and **TV PLAYS**.