

SUBJECT INDEX:

DREAMS & BEDTIME



Now I lay me down to sleep – Johnny Sheffield casts aside his loincloth for the role of Booth Tarkington's prankster "LITTLE ORVIE". Scenes of a child praying at bedside are a super-releaser, discharging cascades of endorphins in the parent-ego. Or to put it another way – adults go all mushy at such Visions of Purity.

Bathing the children and putting the children to bed are two of the cardinal rites of parenthood. Images of both have come to symbolise domesticity, the family, and all the associated values of “innocent play”, trust, casual affection, safety. As such, bedtime scenes are a standard feature of films and television which set out to celebrate the “virtues” of family life. It would be pointless even to attempt to list them all here, but amusing or significant incidents of the junior boudoir are worthy of mention, for example the triumphant slow-motion dormitory procession of “**ZERO DE CONDUITE**”.

“Twas all just a dream!” is almost the definitive cliché of children’s escapist fantasies. From “**ALICE IN WONDERLAND**” to “**THE WIZARD OF OZ**”, some of the most famous journeys of all have taken place safely in the land of nod, while dream sequences have played an important role in such films as “**IVANOVO DETSTVO**” (“Ivan’s Childhood”).

Bedknobs and Broomsticks	
Bobby Wideawake	
Cat’s Eye	US 1985: In one episode of the Stephen King portmanteau, <i>Drew Barrymore</i> is menaced in her sleep by a small goblin that steals her breath.
Children in the Nursery	UK 1896
Dolly’s Toys	
Dreamscape	
A Favourite Nursery Scene	UK 1898
The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T.	
Girls Indulging in a Pillow Fight	
The Invisible Boy	US 1957: In this SF spank opera, <i>Richard Eyer</i> becomes probably the first and last boy in cinema history to be spanked in his pyjamas while still invisible – a tricky operation, but fathers had to master such skills in the 1950s.
Ivanovo Detstvvo	:
Jacob Two-Two and The Hooded Fang	Canada 1977: Boy dreams he is sent to a juvenile prison
Little Monsters	:
Paperhouse	
Pillow Fight	UK 1898
Tom’s Midnight Garden	
Zero de Conduite	

~ 16 titles ~