

## D2640 DANIEL (USA, 1983)

**Credits:** director, Sidney Lumet ; writer, E.L. Doctorow.

**Cast:** Timothy Hutton, Edward Asner, Mandy Patinkin, Lindsay Crouse.

**Summary:** Biographical melodrama set in the United States in the 1950s and 1967.

Tells the story of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg (fictionalized as Paul and Rochelle Isaacson), executed in the 1950s for passing atomic bomb secrets to the Soviet Union. Flashes back and forth between 1967 - as the Isaacson's son Daniel (Hutton), an aloof, uncommitted graduate student at Columbia, prodded by the near suicide of his activist sister (Plummer), probes the events behind his parent's execution - and the period of his parents' life from the 1930s to 1953. Daniel can't escape his past, a past that torments him and his sister with shattering memories of their parents' execution. With the help of his wife (Barkin), lawyer (Asner) and adoptive parents (Rubenstein and Tucci), Daniel embarks on a painful journey through three historical decades of dissidence and demoralizing struggles in an attempt to find the truth about his parents, about himself in relation to them, and on his relations with his sister as she attempts to regain her sanity. Anti-Vietnam War activities feature in the 1967 scenes.

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