

D5515 DIFFERENT WORLD (USA, 9/24/1988-7/9/1993) [TV SERIES]

Do the write thing (4/2/1992)

Credits: director, Otis Sallid ; writer, James E. West.

Cast: Jada Pinkett, Roscoe Lee Browne.

Summary: Lena (Pinkett) cannot keep her grades high enough to maintain her engineering scholarship. She writes an essay about her father for an English assignment. Professor Foster is so impressed that he enters her work in a contest. She wins the award and receives a journalism scholarship. Lena is mortified when her father shows up for the awards ceremony. He is not the Vietnam vet and former Black Panther she described in her essay, but rather a hustler who is constantly in debt. Mr. James approves of Lena's actions, as he feels that she was just doing what was necessary to survive. Lena fears that she is just like her father, but he states that she can choose her own path. She confesses to Professor Foster, who was already aware of her duplicity. He says that she is a good writer and helps her get an English scholarship.

Soldier boy (4/5/1990)

Credits: director, Neema Barnette ; writer, Leilani Downer.

Cast: Glynn Turman, Obba Babatundé.

Summary: Col. Bradford Taylor (Turman), the Professor of Military Science at Hillman college, is given a testimonial dinner at which the featured speaker is a former Spec 4 who served under Taylor in Vietnam. Frank Bennett (Babatundé) lost a leg while serving in Taylor's platoon (Taylor's first casualty), and Taylor still feels guilty about it. Bennett is now an official in the VA helping disabled veterans. As it turns out, he believes Taylor saved his life and thus relieves Taylor of a 20-year burden of guilt.

Bierbaum, Tom. "A Different world" Variety 328 (Oct 7, 1987), p. 68.

Dempsey, John. "2d go-round is 'Different world' for 'Coz' reruns" Variety 337 (Nov 1, 1989), p. 51+ [2 p.]

Gerard, Jeremy. "TV notes" New York times 138 (Feb 20, 1989), p. C18.

Indiana, Gary. "The tube: evening of the living dead" Village voice 33 (Jun 7, 1988), p. 49-50.

Mitchell, Elvis. "Television: A for effort" Rolling stone 524 (Apr 21, 1988), p. 32-33.

O'Connor, John J. "Review/television: Jesse Jackson finds a platform on a sitcom" New York times 138 (Apr 27, 1989), p. C28.

"Susan Fales: in a different world" Ebony 44 (Jun 1989), p. 160+ [3 p.]

Tate, Greg. "The tube: 'A Different world': recombinant Bonet" Village voice 32 (Dec 15, 1987), p. 117.