

REF: 336

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS

Title: **Comedy Collection (box set)**



5 Disc  
Library Image



ISBN: 5060079162844

## Information – Disc 1

Release Title: **Comedy Collection**

**My Man Godfrey** 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1936 United Kingdom  
(London)

AKA:

Origin: United States

Release Date: United States: 06<sup>th</sup> September 1936

Genres: Romantic, Comedy, Drama, Romance

Disc Nos. – 1-5

Certification: A

Duration: 1h 34m (90m)

Region Code:

Region: 2

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English, Russian

Filming locations: Universal Studios - 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, California, USA(Studio)

Sound mix: Mono (Western Noiseless Recording Electric)

Colour: PAL B&W

Aspect Ratio: 1.33:1 (35mm)

	
Theatrical release poster by <a href="#">Karoly Grosz</a> <sup>[1]</sup>	
Directed by	<a href="#">Gregory La Cava</a>
Screenplay by	<a href="#">Morrie Ryskind</a> <a href="#">Eric Hatch</a> Contributing writers: <a href="#">Zoë Akins</a> <a href="#">Robert Presnell Sr.</a>
Based on	<a href="#">1101 Park Avenue</a> 1935 novel by <a href="#">Eric Hatch</a>
Produced by	<a href="#">Charles R. Rogers</a>
Starring	<a href="#">William Powell</a> <a href="#">Carole Lombard</a>
Cinematography	<a href="#">Ted Tetzlaff</a>
Edited by	<a href="#">Ted J. Kent</a> <a href="#">Russell F. Schoengarth</a>
Music by	<a href="#">Charles Previn</a> <a href="#">Rudy Schrager</a> (both uncredited)
Production company	<a href="#">Universal Pictures</a>
Distributed by	<a href="#">Universal Pictures</a>
Release date	September 6, 1936
Running time	94–95 minutes <sup>[2]</sup>
Country	<a href="#">United States</a>
Language	<a href="#">English</a>
Budget	\$575,375 <sup>[3]</sup>
Box office	\$684,200 <sup>[4]</sup>

## Collection Description

Five classic comedies from the golden age of cinema. 'My Man Godfrey' (1936) starts with two Park Avenue Brats on a scavenger hunt looking for a forgotten man. One of the sisters (Carole Lombard) convinces a down-and-out (William Powell) to come back to the party with her. He later becomes the family butler, and proves to be much more than the family had bargained for. In Howard Hawks' 'His Girl Friday' (1940), Walter Burns (Cary Grant) is a newspaper editor trying to hang on to his star reporter, Hildy Johnson (Rosalind Russell), who is also Walter's ex-wife. Hildy is leaving journalism to go off and marry Bruce (Ralph Bellamy), but an escaped convict hiding behind a desk in the newsroom is the perfect bait for Walter to lure Hildy back to her job - and to him. In 'My Dear Secretary' (1948), budding young writer Stephanie Gaylord (Laraine Day) is delighted to get a job working as the secretary for celebrated author Owen Waterbury (Kirk Douglas). But while she expects to breathe the rarefied air of a great literary talent, what she actually gets is a madcap playboy who is constantly chasing the ladies and indulging in all kind of unhinged 'slapstickery' with his lunatic flatmate (Keenan Wynn). Of course, it's not long before the pair fall for each other, but with such wildly different characters does their fledgling love affair really stand any chance of working out? 'Father's Little Dividend' (1951) is the sequel to the popular 1950 film 'Father of the Bride'. Stanley Banks (Spencer Tracy) has to cope with the prospect of becoming a grandfather. His fears that his peace and quiet will be shattered increase as the big day comes nearer. Elizabeth Taylor stars as the mother-to-be. Bob Hope stars in 'My Favourite Brunette' (1947) as Ronnie Jackson, a baby photographer who aspires to the life of the detective working in the office next door. Following a case of mistaken identity, he gets the chance for some real sleuthing, charged with finding the missing Baron Montay. Immediately out of his depth, the wise-cracking Ronnie tries to track down the Baron in a gloomy mansion with the Baroness (Dorothy Lamour) at his side, and soon the two are in all sorts of trouble. [magpie](#)

## Storyline:

### Disc 1 — **My Man Godfrey**

During the Great Depression, Godfrey Smith lives with other homeless men at a New York City dump in a Hooverville by the East River. One-night, spoiled socialite Cornelia Bullock offers him \$5 to be her "forgotten man" for a scavenger hunt. Godfrey refuses and makes her retreat and fall on a pile of ashes, much to the glee of her younger sister Irene. Godfrey finds Irene to be kind and offers to go with her to help her beat Cornelia and satisfy his curiosity regarding their scavenger hunt.

In the ballroom of the Waldorf-Ritz Hotel, Irene's businessman father Alexander Bullock waits resignedly, as his ditsy wife Angelica and her mooching protégé Carlo play the game. Godfrey is authenticated as a "forgotten man", allowing Irene to win that part of the hunt. He takes the opportunity to publicly express his contempt for the players' antics before leaving in a huff. An apologetic Irene decides to make Godfrey her protégé and hires him as the new family butler.

On his first day as butler, Godfrey is warned by the Bullocks' longtime maid Molly that he is merely the latest in a long line of butlers who did not last long due to the female Bullocks' antics. Despite this, he proves to be up to the challenge, though Cornelia holds a grudge against him. Irene becomes infatuated with Godfrey, and he tries unsuccessfully to discourage her. She kisses him, causing him to politely but firmly outline the boundaries of their employee-employer relationship.

Eventually, Godfrey is recognized by his longtime friend Tommy Gray at a tea party thrown by Irene. Godfrey makes up a story that he was Tommy's valet at Harvard; Tommy plays along by embellishing Godfrey's story with a non-existent wife and five children. Upon hearing this, Irene impulsively announces her engagement to a surprised Charlie Van Rumples, but breaks down in tears and flees after being congratulated by Godfrey.

Over lunch the next day, Tommy wonders what one of the elites "Parkes of Boston" is doing as a servant. Godfrey explains that when he lost the woman he loved, he considered suicide, but the undaunted attitude of the homeless men living at the dump rekindled his spirits.

Eventually, Irene breaks her engagement with Charlie. Cornelia attempts to seduce Godfrey on his day off, but when he rebuffs her, she plants her pearl necklace under Godfrey's mattress and calls the police to report it missing. However, the police do not find them. Mr. Bullock realizes his daughter has orchestrated the whole thing and informs her that the pearls are not insured.

The Bullocks send their daughters to Europe to help Irene get over her broken engagement to Charlie, but when they return, her feelings for Godfrey have not changed. She stages a fainting spell and swoons into Godfrey's arms, who soon realises she is faking it. Godfrey puts her in the shower and turns on the cold water. This, however, has an unexpected result. Irene says, "Oh Godfrey, now I know you love me...You do or you wouldn't have lost your temper."

Godfrey quits. Before he leaves, Mr. Bullock throws Carlo out (literally) and tells his family that his business is in dire straits and he will likely go to jail. However, Godfrey provides good news: when he had realized Mr. Bullock's situation, sold short, using some of the money raised by pawning Cornelia's pearl necklace to buy up the stock that Bullock had sold. He gives the stock back to Mr. Bullock, saving the family from financial ruin. Godfrey also returns the necklace to Cornelia, who humbly expresses her gratitude and remorse for her behaviour.

With the rest of the money Godfrey got for Cornelia's necklace, he and Tommy become business partners and convert the now-filled-in dump into a fashionable nightclub called "The Dump", which creates jobs for the homeless men with a plan to build housing for 50 of them. A determined Irene tracks Godfrey to his office and apartment at The Dump, makes it clear that she is moving in, and, when Tommy sends in New York's mayor to marry them, Irene leads a startled Godfrey up by the hand and says "Stand still Godfrey, it'll all be over in a minute". [Wiki](#)

In the depths of the Depression, a party game brings dizzy socialite Irene Bullock to the city dump where she meets Godfrey, a derelict, and ends by hiring him as family butler. He finds the Bullocks to be the epitome of idle rich, and nutty as the proverbial fruitcake. Soon, the dramatizing Irene is in love with her 'protege'...who feels strongly that a romance between servant and employer is out of place, regardless of that servant's mysterious past...[IMDb](#)

## Cast

William Powell as Godfrey Parke (aka Smith)	Fred Coby as Investigator (uncredited)
Carole Lombard as Irene Bullock	Grady Sutton as Charlie Van Rumble (uncredited)
Alice Brady as Angelica Bullock	Franklin Pangborn as Scavenger Hunt Judge (uncredited)
Gail Patrick as Cornelia Bullock	Bess Flowers as Mrs. Merriweather (uncredited)
Jean Dixon as Molly	Grace Field as a socialite (uncredited)
Eugene Pallette as Alexander Bullock	Jane Wyman as a socialite (uncredited)
Alan Mowbray as Tommy Gray	Theodore von Eltz as A.G. Geiger (uncredited)
Mischa Auer as Carlo	
Pat Flaherty as Mike Flaherty	
Robert Light as Faithful George	

## Parents Guide

### Certification

Argentina-13, Australia-G, Brazil-Livre, Finland-K-16, France-Tous publics, Italy-T, Japan-G, Netherlands-141937, Original rating141937, re-rating, Norway-7VOD16cinema rating, 1938, Portugal-M/6, South Korea-152003, Sweden-15, United Kingdom-Aoriginal ratingU1996, re-rating, United States-TV-GNational Board of ReviewApprovedcertificate #2302

**Sex & Nudity** –None **Violence & Gore** - None, **Profanity** – None, **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - None

Scroll Down for Disc 2-5



Title: Comedy Collection (box set)

## Disc 2

5 Disc  
Library Image



Theatrical release poster

Release Title: Comedy Collection

**His Girl Friday** 28<sup>th</sup> June 1940  
United Kingdom (London)

AKA:

Origin: United States

Release Date: United States: 18<sup>th</sup> January 1940

Genres: Romance, Comedy, Drama

Disc Nos. – 2-5

Certification: PG

Duration: 1h 32m (92m)

Region Code:

Region: 2

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English, French

Filming locations: Warner Brothers Burbank, Burbank, California, USA

Sound mix: Mono (Western Noiseless Recording Electric)

Colour: PAL B&W

Aspect Ratio: 1.37:1 (35mm)



Directed by	Howard Hawks
Screenplay by	Charles Lederer Ben Hecht (uncredited) <sup>[1]</sup>
Based on	<i>The Front Page</i> 1928 play by Ben Hecht Charles MacArthur
Produced by	Howard Hawks
Starring	Cary Grant Rosalind Russell
Cinematography	Joseph Walker
Edited by	Gene Havlick
Production company	Columbia Pictures
Distributed by	Columbia Pictures
Release date	January 18, 1940
Running time	92 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English

### Box Collection Description

Five classic comedies from the golden age of cinema. 'My Man Godfrey' (1936) starts with two Park Avenue Brats on a scavenger hunt looking for a forgotten man. One of the sisters (Carole Lombard) convinces a down-and-out (William Powell) to come back to the party with her. He later becomes the family butler, and proves to be much more than the family had bargained for. In Howard Hawks' 'His Girl Friday' (1940), Walter Burns (Cary Grant) is a newspaper editor trying to hang on to his star



reporter, Hildy Johnson (Rosalind Russell), who is also Walter's ex-wife. Hildy is leaving journalism to go off and marry Bruce (Ralph Bellamy), but an escaped convict hiding behind a desk in the newsroom is the perfect bait for Walter to lure Hildy back to her job - and to him. In 'My Dear Secretary' (1948), budding young writer Stephanie Gaylord (Laraine Day) is delighted to get a job working as the secretary for celebrated author Owen Waterbury (Kirk Douglas). But while she expects to breathe the rarefied air of a great literary talent, what she actually gets is a madcap playboy who is constantly chasing the ladies and indulging in all kind of unhinged 'slapstickery' with his lunatic flatmate (Keenan Wynn). Of course, it's not long before the pair fall for each other, but with such wildly different characters does their fledgling love affair really stand any chance of working out? 'Father's Little Dividend' (1951) is the sequel to the popular 1950 film 'Father of the Bride'. Stanley Banks (Spencer Tracy) has to cope with the prospect of becoming a grandfather. His fears that his peace and quiet will be shattered increase as the big day comes nearer. Elizabeth Taylor stars as the mother-to-be. Bob Hope stars in 'My Favourite Brunette' (1947) as Ronnie Jackson, a baby photographer who aspires to the life of the detective working in the office next door. Following a case of mistaken identity, he gets the chance for some real sleuthing, charged with finding the missing Baron Montay. Immediately out of his depth, the wise-cracking Ronnie tries to track down the Baron in a gloomy mansion with the Baroness (Dorothy Lamour) at his side, and soon the two are in all sorts of trouble. [magpie](#)



## Storyline:

### Disc 2 – His Girl Friday

His Girl Friday is a 1940 American screwball comedy film directed by Howard Hawks, starring Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell and featuring Ralph Bellamy and Gene Lockhart. It was released by Columbia Pictures. The plot centres on a newspaper editor named Walter Burns who is about to lose his ace reporter and ex-wife, Hildy Johnson, newly engaged to another man. Burns suggests they cover one more story together, getting themselves entangled in the case of murderer Earl Williams as Burns desperately tries to win back his wife. The screenplay was adapted from the 1928 play *The Front Page* by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur. This was the second time the play had been adapted for the screen, the first occasion being the 1931 film which kept the original title *The Front Page*.

The script for *His Girl Friday* was written by Charles Lederer and Ben Hecht, the latter of whom is not credited for his contributions. The major change in this version, introduced by Hawks, is that the role of Hildy Johnson is a woman. Filming began in September 1939 and finished in November, seven days behind schedule. Production was delayed because the frequent improvisation and numerous ensemble scenes required many retakes. Hawks encouraged his actors to be aggressive and spontaneous. *His Girl Friday* has been noted for its surprises, comedy, and rapid, overlapping dialogue. Hawks was determined to break the record for the fastest film dialogue, at the time held by *The Front Page*. He used a sound mixer on the set to increase the speed of dialogue and held a showing of the two films next to each other to prove how fast his film was.

*His Girl Friday* was #19 on American Film Institute's 100 Years ... 100 Laughs and was selected in 1993 for preservation in the United States National Film Registry of the Library of Congress as "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant". The film is in the public domain because the copyright was not renewed; the play it was based on remained under copyright for several decades until it expired in 2024, fully releasing the film from remaining copyright. [Wiki](#)

Having been away for four months, Hildy Johnson (Rosalind Russell) walks into the offices of the New York City-based *The Morning Post*, where she is a star reporter, to tell her boss, editor Walter Burns (Cary Grant), that she is quitting. The reason for her absence was among other things to get a Reno divorce, from, of all people, Walter, who admits he was a bad husband. Hildy divorced Walter largely because she wanted more of a home life, whereas Walter saw her more as a driven hard-boiled

reporter than subservient homemaker. Hildy has also come to tell Walter that she is taking the afternoon train to Albany, where she will be getting married tomorrow to staid strait-laced insurance agent, Bruce Baldwin (Ralph Bellamy), with whose mother (Alma Kruger) they will live, at least for the first year. Walter doesn't want to lose Hildy, either as a reporter or a wife, and if he does, doesn't believe Bruce is worthy of her. Walter does whatever he can at least to delay Hildy and Bruce's trip, long enough to persuade Hildy to stay for good. His plan includes doing whatever he can to place Bruce in a bad light, while dangling a big story under her nose, namely covering what the newspaper believes is the unfair imminent execution of convicted cop killer, Earl Williams (John Qualen). Hildy doesn't trust Walter in dealing with her and Bruce in an above-board manner, but the lure of what potentially may become the biggest story in years, which includes true love, a bumbling sheriff (Gene Lockhart) and a corrupt mayor (Clarence Kolb), the latter's actions largely in light of an upcoming election, may prove to be too much for Hildy to resist, especially if it ends up being an exclusive. Regardless of the story outcome, Hildy will have to decide if the thrill of the chase was worth the anguish on her personal life. [IMDb](#)

## Cast

Cary Grant as Walter Burns  
Rosalind Russell as Hildy Johnson  
Ralph Bellamy as Bruce Baldwin  
Gene Lockhart as Sheriff Hartwell  
Porter Hall as Murphy  
Ernest Truex as Bensinger  
Cliff Edwards as Endicott  
Clarence Kolb as the Mayor  
Roscoe Karns as McCue  
Frank Jenks as Wilson

Regis Toomey as Sanders  
Abner Biberman as Louie  
Frank Orth as Duffy  
John Qualen as Earl Williams  
Helen Mack as Mollie Malloy  
Alma Kruger as Mrs. Baldwin  
Billy Gilbert as Joe Pettibone  
Pat West as Warden Cooley  
Edwin Maxwell as Dr. Eggelhoff  
Marion Martin as Evangeline (uncredited)

Hawks had difficulty casting *His Girl Friday*. While the choice of Cary Grant was almost instantaneous, the casting of Hildy was a more extended process. At first, Hawks wanted Carole Lombard, whom he had directed in the screwball comedy *Twentieth Century* (1934), but the cost of hiring Lombard in her new status as a freelancer proved to be far too expensive, and Columbia could not afford her. Katharine Hepburn, Claudette Colbert, Margaret Sullivan, Ginger Rogers, and Irene Dunne were offered the role, but turned it down. Dunne rejected the role because she felt the part was too small and needed to be expanded. Jean Arthur was suspended by the studio when she refused to take it. Joan Crawford reportedly was considered. Hawks then turned to Rosalind Russell, who had just finished MGM's *The Women* (1939). Russell was upset when she discovered from a New York Times article that Cohn was "stuck" with her after attempting to cast many other actresses. Before Russell's first meeting with Hawks, to show her apathy, she took a swim and entered his office with wet hair, causing him to do a "triple take". Russell confronted him about this casting issue; he dismissed her quickly and asked her to go to wardrobe.

## Parents Guide

### Certification

Argentina-Atp, Australia-PGGTV ratingAoriginal rating, Brazil-Livre, Canada-PGManitobaGNova Scotia/Quebec, Finland-S1991K-161941, France-Tous publics, Germany-12DVD rating, Ireland-G, Italy-T, Japan-G, Netherlands-62002181946, original rating, New Zealand-PG, Norway-AVOD16cinema rating, 1940, Philippines-G, Portugal-M/6, South Africa-PG, South Korea-15, Spain-A, Sweden-15, United Kingdom-Aoriginal ratingPGtv ratingPG2023, re-ratingUvideo rating: re-edited version, 2007Uvideo rating: DVD audio commentary, 2002Ure-release, 1996, re-ratingUvideo rating, 2005, United States-PassedNational Board of ReviewApprovedcertificate #5823TV-GTV rating West Germany-0original rating.

**Sex & Nudity** –None **Violence & Gore** - Mild, **Profanity** – None, **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - Mild



Title: Comedy Collection (box set)



Release Title: Comedy Collection

## **My Dear Secretary** 28<sup>th</sup> June 1940

United Kingdom (London)

AKA:

Origin: United States

Release Date: United States: 5<sup>th</sup> November 1948

Genres: Romance, Comedy

Disc Nos. – 3-5

Certification: A

Duration: 1h 34m (94m)

Region Code:

Region: 2

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English

Filming locations:

Sound mix: Mono (RCA Sound System)

Colour: PAL B&W

Aspect Ratio: 1.37:1 (35mm)

## **Storyline:**

### **Disc 3 – My Dear Secretary**

Successful novelist and playboy Owen Waterbury hires aspiring writer Stephanie 'Steve' Gaylord as his secretary; a dream come true for Steve who admires Owen and his work, and is herself an aspiring

## **Disc 3**

5 Disc

Library Image

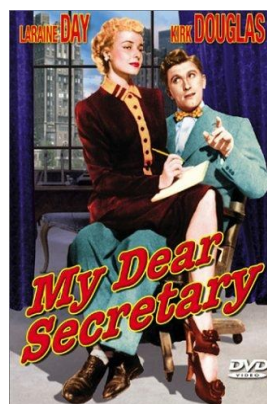


## **My Dear Secretary**



Poster of the film

Directed by	Charles Martin
Written by	Charles Martin
Produced by	Leo C. Popkin
Starring	Laraine Day Kirk Douglas Keenan Wynn Helen Walker
Cinematography	Joseph F. Biroc
Edited by	Arthur H. Nadel
Music by	Heinz Roemheld
Distributed by	United Artists
Release date	5 November 1948 <sup>[1]</sup>
Running time	94 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English



author. Steve soon finds out that the egomaniacal Owen has gone through a series of secretaries who have left when they are fed up with his behaviour. He is constantly in debt and cannot begin to write a contracted novel that will pay his bills including a lucrative advance by his publisher. Steve and Owen end up marrying, and Steve perseveres until Owen's novel, based on the events of his life and that mentions a character based on his publisher shown in an unflattering light, is refused publication.

Owen claims he cannot have a wife who is his secretary, so he fires his wife/secretary and goes back to his old ways, hiring an admiring and attractive female to be his secretary. In the meantime, Steve takes her own now-completed novel and also Owen's rejected manuscript to her former employer, Charles Harris, who is a major publisher and is romantically attracted to Steve. Harris agrees to read both manuscripts.

Harris finds Owen's manuscript interesting but ordinary, but believes Steve's manuscript to be not only worthy of publication but a serious candidate for literary prizes. Steve initially refuses publication because she feels it would hurt Owen's already fragile ego, but soon changes her mind because of Owen's continued philandering. Steve goes on to be a best-selling author, causing Owen extreme annoyance. She hires an attractive male secretary, after which Owen snaps and insists that he will be her secretary. Steve agrees and begins to narrate a book to Owen based on their life together. Owen strongly objects to the way she describes him and they get into another argument, but end up getting back together. [Wiki](#)

Owen Waterbury, bestselling novelist, recruits aspiring writer Stephanie 'Steve' Gaylord as his latest of many secretaries. The stars in her eyes fade when she finds she is to work in his apartment, with a constant parade of eccentric visitors and slapstick provided by 'klutzy' roommate Ronnie. Waterbury's idea of work looks a lot like play, his interest less in books than in blondes. She leaves, and to get her back, he swallows his playboy principles and marries her. Can the leopard change his spots? Can Stephanie turn the tables? [IMDb](#)

**Personal Review:** [An Awful film](#) in my opinion, couldn't sit through it, however; that is most likely down to what we call 'American Slapstick', alternative to a farce, they just can't do a real 'Farce', or understand the 'irony,' sarcasm like the British. It is as if they got an actor 'Kirk Douglas', and he wanted to do a comedy, then the studio grabbed a script off a pile of rejects, Keenan Wynn was way off mark to understanding what a farce was, however; this was magnified by the poor script, no doubt, it didn't do much for his acting credibility on the surface. As for Kirk Douglas, stick to what he does best...NGW

## Cast

Laraine Day as Stephanie 'Steve' Gaylord  
Kirk Douglas as Owen Waterbury  
Keenan Wynn as Ronnie Hastings  
Helen Walker as Elsie  
Rudy Vallee as Charles Harris  
Florence Bates as Horrible Hannah Reeve  
Alan Mowbray as Deveny  
Helene Stanley as Miss 'Clay' Pidgeon  
Irene Ryan as Mary  
Gale Robbins as Dawn O'Malley  
Grady Sutton as Sylvan Scott  
Virginia Hewitt as Felicia Adams



Parents Guide  
Certification

Australia-G, Canada-G Ontario, Finland-S, France-Tous publics, Netherlands-AL1949, original rating, Norway-7VOD, United Kingdom-AUvideo rating, United States-Approvedcertificate #13279

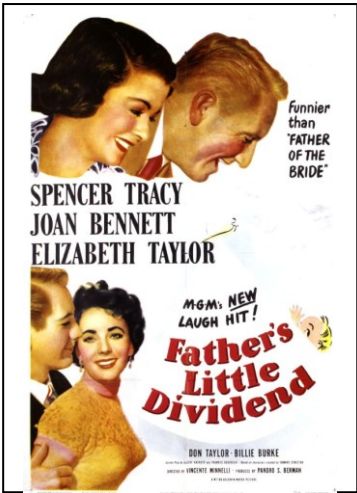
Sex & Nudity –None Violence & Gore - Mild, Profanity – None, Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking – Mild, Frightening & Intense Scenes - None



Title: Comedy Collection (box set)

Disc 4

5 Disc  
Library Image



Father's Little Dividend



Theatrical poster

Release Title: Comedy Collection

Father's Little Dividend 1951

United Kingdom (London)

AKA:  
Origin: United States  
Release Date: United States: 27<sup>th</sup> April 1951  
Genres: Romance, Drama, Comedy  
Disc Nos. – 4-5  
Certification: U  
Duration: 1h 22m (82m)  
Region Code:  
Region: 2  
Product Code:  
MPN:  
EAN:  
UPC:  
Languages: English

Directed by	Vincente Minnelli
Written by	Albert Hackett Frances Goodrich
Based on	Father of the Bride by Edward Streeter
Produced by	Pandro S. Berman
Starring	Spencer Tracy Joan Bennett Elizabeth Taylor Russ Tamblyn Don Taylor Billie Burke Moroni Olsen Richard Rober Marietta Canty Paul Harvey
Narrated by	Spencer Tracy
Cinematography	John Alton
Edited by	Ferris Webster
Music by	Albert Sendrey
Production company	Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
Distributed by	Loew's, Inc.
Release date	April 13, 1951
Running time	82 min
Country	United States
Language	English
Budget	\$941,000 <sup>[1]</sup>
Box office	\$4,622,000 <sup>[1]</sup>

Filming locations: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios - 10202 W.  
Washington Blvd., Culver City, California, USA(Studio)  
Sound mix: Mono (Western Electric Sound System)  
Colour: PAL B&W  
Aspect Ratio: 1.37:1 (35mm)

## **Storyline:**

### **Disc 4 – Father's Little Dividend**

Newly married Kay Dunstan announces that she and her husband are going to have a baby, leaving her father, Stanley Banks, having to come to grips with becoming a grandfather.

Middle-class family man Stanley Banks reminisces on events of the past year: One afternoon, returning from the office feeling happy and energetic, Stanley's routine is interrupted when his wife Ellie tells him that they are having dinner with their daughter Kay and her husband, Buckley Dunstan, to hear some important news. Although Stanley is certain that it concerns Buckley's business, the newlyweds reveal that Kay is expecting a baby. Buckley's parents, Doris and Herbert, are delighted, as is Ellie, but Stanley broods that he is too young and vibrant to be a grandfather. Soon Ellie, flush with excitement, throws Kay a baby shower, something Stanley thinks is highway robbery not punishable by law. Later, Ellie suggests that they remodel their house to enable Kay, Buckley, and the baby to move in with them, but Stanley puts his foot down. Ellie is near tears when the wealthy Dunstans announce that they are planning to add a wing to their home for the couple, but is overjoyed when Kay and Buckley reveal that they have just bought their own little house, enabling Ellie to have free rein helping Kay decorate.

After settling into their new home, Kay, who is very close to her father, expresses her concern that the baby will make a difference in her relationship with Buckley. Stanley comforts her by telling her how much he loved her as a baby. Soon the Bankses and the Dunstans are trying to outdo one another buying gifts and making plans for the baby, up to his enrolment in college. One night, while listening to Ellie, Doris, and Herbert bicker over what the baby should be named, Kay breaks down and runs to her room. Only Stanley, who Kay feels is the sole parent who understands her, is able to comfort her. The day after pledging to Kay that he will make certain that none of the in-laws will interfere again, Stanley drags Ellie to Kay's physician, Dr Andrew Nordell, anxious over the "modern" ideas Nordell has about a more natural method of childbirth and infant care.

For the next month or so, things remain calm, until Stanley is awakened by a late-night call from Buckley, who says that Kay has left him "for good." After sneaking over to Buckley and Kay's place, Stanley learns from a cab driver that Kay took a taxi to his house. The two men then return to the Banks house, where the couple make up after Kay's jealousy is revealed to be a misunderstanding stemming from Buckley's late nights working at the office. Kay, as well as Stanley, realize Buckley's devotion to his family.

As the baby's birth approaches, nerves among the parents and grandparents become frayed. The eventual birth of a baby boy delights everyone, except Stanley, a distant and wary observer of the as-yet-unnamed baby, who starts to cry whenever Stanley comes near him.

When the baby is six months old, Kay joins Buckley on a brief business trip and leaves the baby with her parents, hoping to give Stanley time to grow closer to his grandson. One afternoon, while Kay is still away, Stanley takes the baby for a walk in the park. When the baby finally falls asleep in his carriage, Stanley joins some friendly neighbourhood boys in a game of soccer and loses track of time. After the game, when Stanley cannot find the carriage, he frantically retraces his steps back to the house. Seeing through the window that Kay has returned early, he panics and takes a taxi to the local

police station. There a befuddled Stanley confesses to the grim-faced police sergeant that he has lost the baby. Fearing the wrath of the police squad, who found the sweet-natured baby and have fallen in love with him, Stanley secretly prays that his grandson will not start to scream when he picks him up. To Stanley's relief, the baby is delighted to see him, and from that moment on, the two are devoted to each other. Sometime later, at the baby's christening, Stanley beams with pride as his grandson is finally named "Stanley Banks Dunstan." [Wiki](#)

In this sequel to *Father of the Bride* (1950), Stanley Banks (Spencer Tracy) learns that his daughter Kay (Dame Elizabeth Taylor) is going to have a baby. When they get the news everyone except Stanley is overjoyed. His wife and grandmother-to-be Ellie (Joan Bennett) broadcasts it everywhere and all Stan can do is worry about the practical things like how his son-in-law Buckley Dunstan (Don Taylor) can afford it. Well, having not long ago paid for the wedding, Stanley has no intention of bearing any of the expenses involved. Buckley's parents and Ellie are overjoyed at the news and virtually take over redecorating the young couple's new house. Crisis and false alarms take over their lives and when the child is born, the only person he doesn't seem to like is Stanley. A walk in the park - and absolute panic when Stanley misplaces his grandson - seems to resolve the situation. [IMDb](#)

## Cast

Spencer Tracy as Stanley T. Banks  
Joan Bennett as Ellie Banks  
Elizabeth Taylor as Kay Dunstan  
Don Taylor as Buckley Dunstan  
Billie Burke as Doris Dunstan  
Moroni Olsen as Herbert Dunstan  
Richard Rober as Police Sergeant

Marietta Canty as Delilah  
Russ Tamblyn as Tommy Banks (credited as Rusty Tamblyn)  
Tom Irish as Ben Banks  
Hayden Rorke as Dr. Andrew Nordell  
Paul Harvey as Reverend Galsworthy  
Donald and Donna Clark as baby Stanley Banks Dunstan

## Parents Guide

### Certification

Australia-G, Canada-GOntario, Finland-S, France-Tous publics, German-12, Japan-G, Netherlands-141951, original rating, Norway-Acinema rating, 1951, Portugal-M/12, Sweden-Btl, United Kingdom-U, United States-Not Rated, West Germany-12

**Sex & Nudity** –None **Violence & Gore** - None, **Profanity** – None, **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild, **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - None



Scroll Down for Disc 5 ...

Title: Comedy Collection (box set)

## Disc 5

5 Disc  
Library Image



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	<a href="#">Elliott Nugent</a>
Screenplay by	<a href="#">Edmund Beloin</a> <a href="#">Jack Rose</a>
Produced by	<a href="#">Danny Dare</a>
Starring	<a href="#">Bob Hope</a> <a href="#">Dorothy Lamour</a> <a href="#">Peter Lorre</a> <a href="#">Lon Chaney Jr.</a>
Cinematography	<a href="#">Lionel Lindon</a>
Edited by	<a href="#">Ellsworth Hoagland</a>
Music by	<a href="#">Robert Emmett Dolan</a>
Production company	<a href="#">Hope Enterprises</a>
Distributed by	<a href="#">Paramount Pictures</a>
Release date	<a href="#">April 4, 1947</a>
Running time	<a href="#">87 minutes</a>
Country	<a href="#">United States</a>
Language	<a href="#">English</a>
Box office	<a href="#">\$3.1 million (US rentals)</a> <sup>[1]</sup>

Release Title: Comedy Collection

**My Favourite Brunette**24<sup>th</sup> March 1947United Kingdom

AKA: My Favourite Blonde

Origin: United States

Release Date: United States: 19<sup>th</sup> March 1947 (Los Angeles, Cal.)

Genres: Romance, Drama, Comedy

Disc Nos. – 5-5

Certification: PG

Duration: 1h 27m

Region Code:

Region: 2

Product Code:

MPN:

EAN:

UPC:

Languages: English

Filming locations: Pebble Beach, California, USA(Crocker Mansion)

Sound mix: Mono (Western Electric Sound System)





Colour: PAL B&W  
Aspect Ratio: 1.37:1 (35mm)

## Storyline:

### Disc 5 – My Favourite Brunette

The story is told in flashback from Death Row as Ronnie Jackson (Bob Hope) relates to a group of reporters the events that led to his murder conviction. Ronnie's a San Francisco baby photographer who dreams about being a real private detective like his office neighbour Sam McCloud (Alan Ladd). One day, he is mistaken for a detective by mysterious lady in distress Carlotta Montay (Dorothy Lamour), who claims that her wheelchair-using husband was kidnapped at the pier as they arrived from overseas. A sinister figure (Lorre) listens at the office door. Carlotta gives Ronnie her address, a coded map, and a \$5,000 ring as payment, telling him that no one must know he's a detective.

Ronnie hides the map in the cups next to his office water cooler. He then drives to the address, which is a mansion down the Peninsula. Kismet (Peter Lorre) greets him at the door, lifting his handgun. Carlotta tells Ronnie that the missing man is her uncle, not her husband. He entered the country on some secret mission, she says. The mansion belongs to Major Montague, Carlotta says, her uncle's former partner. Major Montague enters the room and tells Carlotta she has a phone call.

When Carlotta leaves, Montague tells Ronnie that he had Kismet follow Ronnie from his office; he knows that Ronnie is a private detective. He tells Ronnie that Carlotta is mentally ill and introduces him to a wheelchair-using man in the next room as Carlotta's uncle, who obviously hasn't been kidnapped. Ronnie tells Montague that Carlotta had given him a map to hold. Carlotta re-enters the room and, alone with Ronnie, tells him that the call was from her uncle, who told her he was safe, but was forced to call. She suspects Montague, because he lied to Ronnie about her. He returns her ring, confused about whether Montague or Carlotta's telling the truth. Eventually, he believes her, and Carlotta tells him to guard the map with his life.

As Ronnie leaves, he finds that his handgun is missing. He climbs a tree and sees the gang conferring through a window before the shade is pulled. He sees "Uncle" stand up from the wheelchair and walk around the room. Ronnie snaps a photo of "Uncle" through the keyhole as evidence. Kismet, who's followed him, throws a knife at him. Ronnie runs to his car, roaring down the mansion driveway. The others chase him by car and shoot out one of his tires. Ronnie runs into an apartment building and intercoms himself in by saying that he is "Joe." Many women buzz him in, and he loses his tail.

Back at his office, Ronnie develops the keyhole photo showing the "Uncle" walking about. Kismet has followed him and, as Ronnie is calling the police, slugs him over the head. Kismet burns the photo and what he thinks is the negative. When Ronnie comes to, the prior day's customer arrives to pick up her baby's photograph; Ronnie gives her what he thinks is her baby's negative.

Ronnie summons the police and drives back to the mansion with them. The mansion is deserted, and Kismet poses as the gardener for the owners, who are out of the country. The police apologize to Kismet for the interruption. (This scene would be repeated years later by Alfred Hitchcock in his film "North by Northwest" with Cary Grant.) Montague gives Kismet Carlotta's ring with a note attached to leave as a 'clue' for Ronnie to discover. Ronnie returns to the mansion and finds the clue, which is a card for the Seacliffe Lodge in Carmel. Ronnie drives to the Lodge, which is really a sanatorium.

After a bizarre golf match with an inmate and an imaginary golf ball, Ronnie is captured by the Montague gang and locked in a room at the sanatorium. Carlotta is also prisoner there. Montague explains that Carlotta's uncle had turned down his offer to buy mineral rights. Carlotta's real uncle is then wheeled into the room to prove he is unhurt. He asks Carlotta to light his cigarette, puts it out, and

then returns it to her. When Ronnie refuses to reveal the whereabouts of the coded map, Kismet slugs him. Carlotta lies, saying that the map is at the Ferry Building, about an hour away. Montague sends a stooge to the Ferry Building to retrieve the map.

In her room, Carlotta unwraps the cigarette from her uncle. Inside is a paper note, saying to see "James Collins", a scientist. Ronnie and Carlotta are able to knock out a nurse and flee. At his office, Ronnie returns the map to Carlotta. They call Collins' office and arrange to meet him at a restaurant that night. Unfortunately, Montague's stooge has followed them and overhears the arrangement.

Ronnie and Carlotta meet Collins and show him the map. Collins says that he made it, and it depicts cryolite deposits from which uranium can be mined. He says that Carlotta's uncle had scheduled an important meeting with the government at the Pilgrim Hotel in Washington. Collins pockets the map, and Ronnie drives him to the police station so he can testify. As Ronnie parks, Kismet, who's hiding in the back seat with Ronnie's gun, shoots Collins and steals the map from his pocket. Ronnie and the dead Collins are spotted by the police, and Ronnie flees the scene, now wanted for Collins' murder.

Carlotta and a disguised Ronnie fly to Washington and go to the Pilgrim Hotel. They answer a help wanted ad, applying as a bellboy and a maid. In the Montague gang's suite, they record the gang's confessions on a recording machine, including Kismet's confession that he murdered Collins. But, when the police are called, Kismet switches the records and throws the incriminating record out the window. Montague tells the police that Ronnie is wanted for the Collins murder in San Francisco. Ronnie is arrested and taken away; the gang still has the map and Carlotta's real uncle.

The flashback ends. Ronnie is on death row, cursing Carlotta for disappearing and not testifying at his murder trial. When the prison warden comes to get Ronnie from his death row cell, Ronnie faints. When he comes to, Carlotta is there and tells him that he is a free man. Ronnie had mistakenly given the keyhole photo negative to his customer. The photo from that negative revealed the "uncle" as an impostor. Carlotta said that a detective took that lead, capturing the gang, and "the rest was routine". Ronnie is cleared, and Carlotta's uncle is safe. The warden tells the executioner that the execution was cancelled. The executioner (Bing Crosby) curses and walks away. Ronnie and Carlotta embrace. [Wiki](#)

Baby photographer Ronnie Jackson, on death row in San Quentin, tells reporters how he got there: Taking care of his private-eye neighbour's office, Ronnie is asked by the irresistible Baroness Montay to find the missing Baron. There follow confusing but sinister doings in a gloomy mansion and a private sanatorium, with every plot twist a parody of thriller cliches. What are the villains really after? Can Ronnie beat a framed murder rap? [IMDb](#)

## Cast

Bob Hope as Ronnie Jackson  
Dorothy Lamour as Baroness Carlotta Montay  
Peter Lorre as Kismet  
Lon Chaney Jr. as Willie  
John Hoyt as Dr Lundau  
Charles Dingle as Major Simon Montague  
Reginald Denny as James Collins  
Frank Puglia as Baron Montay  
Ann Doran as Miss Rogers  
Willard Robertson as Prison Warden  
Jack La Rue as Tony  
Charles Arnt as Crawford  
Alan Ladd as Sam McCloud (cameo appearance)  
Bing Crosby as Would-be Executioner Harry (cameo appearance)

Frank Puglia as Baron Montay  
Ann Doran as Miss Rogers  
Willard Robertson as Prison Warden  
Jack La Rue as Tony  
Charles Arnt as Crawford  
Alan Ladd as Sam McCloud (cameo appearance)  
Bing Crosby as Would-be Executioner Harry (cameo appearance)  
Jean Wong as Mrs. Fong (uncredited)

Jean Wong as Mrs. Fong (uncredited)  
Roland Soo Hoo as Mrs. Fong's Toddler Son (uncredited)  
Clarence Muse as Death Row Inmate (uncredited)  
Anthony Caruso as Death Row Inmate (uncredited)  
James Flavin as Detective Hennessey (uncredited)

## Parents Guide

### Certification

Australia-G, Canada-GOntario, Finland-S, France-Tous publics, German-12, Japan-G, Netherlands-141951, original rating, Norway-Acinema rating, 1951, Portugal-M/12, Sweden-Btl, United Kingdom-U, United States-Not Rated, West Germany-12

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end