



## The Changes

The influential BBC children's science fiction series based on the classic novels by Peter Dickinson  
2-disc set

Well-remembered for its unsettling depiction of a society in meltdown, the ten-part BBC series *The Changes*, first broadcast in 1975, gets its long-overdue DVD release courtesy of the BFI on 25 August 2014 as part of BFI SCI-FI: Days of Fear and Wonder, a nationwide celebration of Sci-Fi film and television. Made with a young audience in mind, this trailblazing series dared to explore complex and controversial themes, setting a standard that has rarely been matched since.

When a strange noise is emitted from machinery and electricity pylons, previously placid and easy-going folk turn violently against the technology that surrounds them – ruthlessly attacking radios, TVs and other domestic appliances. In the devastating aftermath, young Nicky Gore (Victoria Williams) is separated from her parents and finds a surrogate home with a group of Sikhs. But they soon are dubbed “The Devil’s Children” by superstitious locals and Nicky is accused of sorcery by a witchfinder. In grave danger, she is forced to find a way to escape, find her parents and uncover what caused the world to become so unbalanced.

This highly acclaimed series was adapted from Peter Dickinson’s best-selling trilogy of novels (*The Weathermonger*, *Heartsease* and *The Devil’s Children*) by Anna Home (who would later become chief executive of the Children’s Film and Television Foundation), and features music by the BBC Radiophonic Workshop’s Paddy Kingsland (*The Boy from Space*, *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*, *Doctor Who*).

*The Changes* paved the way for the likes of *Survivors* and *Day of the Triffids* and its gritty depiction of a near-apocalyptic world, and its integration of Sikh characters make it as progressive and fascinating now as it was when it was first broadcast.

### Special features

- *At Home in Britain* (1983): a short COI film exploring the everyday lives and different faiths of Asian residents living in Britain
- Stills gallery
- Extensive illustrated booklet with essays by Peter Wright, Michael Bonner, Paddy Kingsland, Lisa Kerrigan, Kathleen Luckey and Rebecca Vick

### Product details

RRP: £24.99 / cat. no. BFIV2002 / Cert PG

UK / 1975 / colour / English language, with optional hard-of-hearing subtitles / 246 mins / Original aspect ratio 1.33:1 / DVD9 x 2 / PAL / Dolby Digital audio (320 kbps)

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Images are available at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI DVD 2014

BFI DVD and Blu-ray releases are available from all good video entertainment retailers or by mail order from the BFI Shop Tel: 020 7815 1350 or online at [www.bfi.org.uk/shop](http://www.bfi.org.uk/shop)

*Sci-Fi: Days of Fear and Wonder* will be a three month celebration of film and television's original blockbuster genre. It will include a three-month programme at BFI Southbank, from 20 October until 31 December 2014, and very special events, guests and screenings right across the UK. Classic Sci-Fi titles will be released into UK cinemas and on DVD and Blu-ray. There will be an extensive education programme, 50+ films available online through BFI Player, a BFI Sci-Fi Compendium, nine new BFI Film Classics published with Palgrave Macmillan, exciting new partnerships, special guests and commentators, all of which will celebrate cinema's most spectacular and visionary genre, exploring how the fear and wonder at its heart continues to inspire and enthrall.

[www.bfi.org.uk/sci-fi](http://www.bfi.org.uk/sci-fi)

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