PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

JOSEPH CAMPBELL AND THE POWER OF MYTH
Twenty-five years ago, renowned scholar Joseph Campbell sat down with journalist Bill Moyers for a series of interviews that became one of the most popular programs in PBS history. In dialogues that span millennia and far-flung places, the two men discuss myths as metaphors for human experience, touching on topics as diverse as world religions and pop culture. It is the winner of a Dupont Award and an Emmy.

SHE SAYS: Women in News
In this classic program, ten pioneering female journalists talk about the difficulty they had breaking into what was once a male-dominated profession. The documentary highlights their struggle to be taken seriously and the impact they eventually had on news reporting. Anna Quindlen recalls the drama of covering Geraldine Ferraro’s 1984 bid for vice president, and Nina Totenberg and Narda Zacchino discuss the significance of female journalists reporting on the Clarence Thomas/Anita Hall sexual harassment case. Carole Simpson, the first African-American female network anchor, details how news typically comes from a “white, male perspective” despite the diverse makeup of her own newsroom, and Helen Thomas gives credit to earlier newswomen, such as Barbara Walters, who helped break down barriers. Other participants include Judy Woodruff, Rena Pederson, Judy Crichton, Geneva Overholser, and Paula Madison. (57 minutes)

THE MYSTERY OF LOVE
In a world of deepening violence and misunderstanding, we need to explore the forces that hold things together. By expanding our definition of love, we learn to honor equally the many forms of affection and connection that create a healthy life and society. This film examines the many faces of love through in-depth stories of marriage, family, friendship, divine love, altruistic love, brotherly love, the love between parents and children, and love of community. This PBS special also includes insights and commentary from leading authorities who have worked with the subject of love, including Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., Betty Sue Flowers, Ph.D., Ethel Person, M.D., Rabbi Alan Lew, and Frances Vaughan, Ph.D. Hosted by author, playwright and actress Anna Deavere Smith. (117 minutes)

DANGER! RADIOACTIVE WASTE
This was a 1977 NBC documentary, produced and written by Joan Konner, which was virtually the first examination of the nuclear waste impasse offered to American viewers, providing glimpses of the Hanford atomic graveyard – 575 square miles in Washington State near the Columbia River, where 55 million gallons of high-level waste from the military program lay buried, with quantities of obsolete radioactive equipment and more accumulating, all stored in way considered unsatisfactory. The nation had created “a radioactive monster with no cage to keep it in” and as a result, this documentary had an especially strong impact.
THE SECRET GOVERNMENT
A ninety-minute special, produced with Bill Moyers, on the Constitutional crisis created by the growing power and independence of the Executive branch of government. This special gave historical precedent to the Iran-Contra scandal and Reagan’s secret arming and funding of the Contras in Nicaragua, looking back at past covert, illegal activity by the United States. The program received an Emmy Award for Outstanding Analysis of a Current story.