

= The Ed @-@ touchables / Nagged to Ed =

" The Ed @-@ touchables " and " Nagged to Ed " is the first pair of episodes of the animated comedy television series Ed , Edd n Eddy that serves as a half @-@ hour pilot episode for the show . It premiered on Cartoon Network in the United States on January 4 , 1999 , although it had originally been scheduled to air in November 1998 .

The series follows Ed (voiced by Matt Hill) , Edd " Double Dee " (voiced by Samuel Vincent) and Eddy (voiced by Tony Sampson) , three preadolescent boys collectively known as " the Eds " and unofficially led by Eddy , who live in a suburban cul @-@ de @-@ sac . In " The Ed @-@ touchables " , the Eds try to earn money by hunting down the " serial toucher " , who has been stealing the cul @-@ de @-@ sac children 's belongings , while " Nagged to Ed " chronicles the Eds ' first encounter with the obsessive Kanker Sisters , after they lure the Eds ' into their trailer park home .

Series creator Danny Antonucci directed both episodes , co @-@ writing " The Ed @-@ touchables " with Jono Howard and " Nagged to Ed " with Howard and Mike Kubat . The score was composed by Patric Caird , who went on to compose the scores for all of the series ' episodes . Although Ed , Edd n Eddy was one of Cartoon Network 's top @-@ rated shows ever since its premiere and was largely well received , its pilot was met with mixed reviews . The episodes can be bought as part of various season home media releases ..

= = Plot = =

= = = " The Ed @-@ touchables " = = =

While organizing his room , Double Dee (Samuel Vincent) notices that his magnifying glass is missing . Convinced that it was stolen , he begins to have a panic attack , but is calmed down by Eddy (Tony Sampson) . The two then go to Ed 's (Matt Hill) house . Not long after they arrive , Ed 's younger sister Sarah (Janyse Jaud) comes barging into his room , accusing him of stealing her doll . Ed denies having done so , and Eddy concludes that there is a " serial toucher " on the loose . The Eds spread the word to the other cul @-@ de @-@ sac children , who offer them money if they catch the thief .

The three then form a plan , which has Ed sitting alone on a bench in the playground with a " Don 't Touch ! " sign around his neck . Jonny (David Paul Grove) soon walks by , carrying his imaginary friend Plank , who is a board of wood . Impressed with Ed 's hair cut , Jonny ignores the sign and rubs Plank against Ed 's head . Eddy and Double Dee then jump out from behind a nearby bush and capture Jonny , accusing him of being the serial toucher . Eddy interrogates Jonny and Plank after tying them to chairs in Double Dee 's garage and hooking them up to a homemade lie detector . However , when they give him no answers , he resorts to using chinese water torture on Plank . This makes Jonny need to use the bathroom and in his desperation , he falsely confesses to the crime . The Eds then collect their money and punish Jonny by trapping him in a tire .

While on their way to buy jawbreakers at the candy store , the Eds are stopped by Sarah who claims to have found her doll under her bed . Double Dee then confesses that he recently found his magnifying glass as well , proving that there never actually was a serial toucher . Despite this revelation , the Eds still decide to spend the money , without freeing Jonny . However , while they are enjoying their jawbreakers , Sarah rolls the tire in which Jonny is trapped in down a hill , knocking the three over . The jawbreakers fly out of their mouths and roll down the street , leaving the Eds to chase after them .

= = = " Nagged to Ed " = = =

Setting out on Double Dee 's monthly insect expedition , the Eds venture into a forest . While Double Dee admires the bounty of nature , Eddy discovers a giant spiderweb and fearfully suggests

that they leave . His friends are intrigued by its enormous size however , and Ed starts bouncing on the web . Suddenly , nearby voices start chanting the Eds ' names . Double Dee and Eddy urge Ed to climb down from the web , but he is unable to break free on his own . After his friends manage to pull him down , the three of them frantically try to run away . Before they are able to escape the forest though , they fall into a muddy swamp and are surrounded by three seemingly ominous figures .

Some time later , the Eds wake up in a trailer home , where three girls are staring down at them . The boys have already been changed out of their dirty clothes and put into clean robes , which the girls inform them each belong to one of their three respective dads . Explaining that they are new to the area , the girls introduce themselves as Lee (Janyse Jaud) , Marie (Kathleen Barr) and May Kanker (Erin Fitzgerald) . The Eds begin to offer their own introductions , but are stopped short by the sisters who are already familiar with the boys ' names . As the Kankers head into the kitchen to prepare food for the Eds , Double Dee anxiously proposes that the three of them leave . However , Eddy stops him , insisting that they stay at least for the free food . Looking around , the boys notice drawings of themselves , each paired with one the Kankers : Ed with May , Double Dee with Marie , and Eddy with Lee . Although left unsettled by this discovery , they eagerly accept the food that is brought out to them and begin to relax , as the Kankers slip a movie into the VCR and go upstairs to freshen up .

When the Kankers return , they make multiple attempts to garner the Eds ' attention , but the boys , engrossed with what they are watching on the T.V. , ignore them . Angry , and feeling unappreciated , the Kankers start bossing the Eds around , forcing them to clean up the house . Eddy quickly grows annoyed with the situation though , and loses his temper with the Kankers , sending them crying into their room . In a moment of regret , he attempts to apologize , but is told by May to leave and to never return . The Eds gladly accept this , but upon opening the front door , they find the Kankers blocking their way , holding self @-@ made dolls styled to look like the Eds . Dubbing the dolls " Eddy Junior " , " Ed Junior " and " Double Dee Junior " , the Kankers try to guilt the Eds into staying . However , this only causes the boys to flee in terror . The Kankers look after the Eds longingly as they go and declare their love for them .

= = Production = =

As an animator of various Hanna @-@ Barbera children 's cartoons , Canadian cartoonist Danny Antonucci was bothered by people who thought that animation was only for children , prompting him to produce edgy adult works such as Lupo the Butcher and The Brothers Grunt . Antonucci was later dared to produce a children 's cartoon and accepted the challenge . Antonucci drew the Eds while designing a commercial . Impressed , he spent months designing the show and then faxed a one @-@ page concept sheet to Cartoon Network (CN) and Nickelodeon in 1996 . Both responded quickly with high interest , but demanded creative control , to which Antonucci refused . After CN agreed to let Antonucci have creative control , a deal was made that his studio , a.k.a. Cartoon , would produce the series . The show entered production in 1997 , making it Cartoon Network 's first original series to be produced by an outside production company rather than Hanna @-@ Barbera , as well as the first to by @-@ pass a seven @-@ minute short .

An advocate of hand @-@ drawn animation , Antonucci wanted Ed , Edd n Eddy to be produced in a way akin to cartoons from the 1940s to the 1970s . Consequently , the series was the last to use cel animation ; the cels were shipped to Korea for creation of the initial animation , and then later edited back at a.k.a. Cartoon . However , when the negatives arrived back from Korea , they were so dirty , a run through digital noise reduction (DVNR) , technology used to clean up dirt and grain digitally as film is transferred to tape , was unavoidable . Antonucci referred to it as " a necessary evil " , because it caused large damage to the animation . Upon seeing the harmful effects on the pilot , the percentage of DVNR was minimized to purify the colors and avoid affecting the image as much as possible .

The episode was directed by Antonucci , who also co @-@ wrote the episodes , " The Ed @-@ touchables " with Jono Howard and " Nagged to Ed " with Howard and Mike Kubat . Both episodes

were storyboarded by Scott Underwood , Leah Waldron , James Wootton and Bill Zeats . The score was composed by Patric Caird , who went on to compose the music for the rest of the series . The series was initially scheduled to premiere November 7 , 1998 but was moved to November 16 , and then finally to January 4 , 1999 due to minor post @-@ production delays .

= = Reception = =

Ed , Edd n Eddy was one of Cartoon Network 's top @-@ rated shows ever since its premiere , particularly with boys . While Ed , Edd n Eddy went on to garner largely positive reviews , the pilot was met with mixed reactions . Some reviewers were unenthusiastic about the episode . The Hollywood Reporter said the animation was " primitive " and " simplistic " and could " only be described as ugly . " He further criticised the characters as " grim and toothy " and the voice work as " glowering " . The Times @-@ Picayune wrote : " the funniest thing about Ed , Edd and Eddy is the title . " Terrence Briggs of Animation World Magazine wrote a scathing review , considering Ed , Edd n Eddy the worst Cartoon Network show up to that point and criticising the episodes as " empty adventures " of pure " filler " with characters that were " products from the school of acid @-@ trip caricature " .

However , other reviews were positive . After Briggs ' review was published , a large number of letters supportive of the show were sent to the magazine , prompting it to " take a second look " at the show , with Matt Shumway and Lamont Wayne writing a much more positive review , calling it " a fresh show with very different approaches " . The Sarasota Herald @-@ Tribune was highly positive of the show and felt that the show 's lively animation and slapstick humor recalled " the delight of earlier cartoon era " , writing : " In times of old , cartoon characters had eyes that bugged out when they drank something unpleasant , legs that became whirling circles when they ran and bodies that flattened into pancakes when they crashed into slammed doors . Well , they 're ba @-@ a @-@ a @-@ ck . " The Herald Sun considered Ed , Edd n Eddy an animated mixture of well @-@ known classic TV shows , noting " just imagine Dexter in his laboratory working on some new project for the Cartoon Network when he tunes into The Little Rascals and The Three Stooges . Alfalfa , Spanky , Moe and Curly really excite the wunderkind who decides to extract some DNA from the old TV legends . Into the test tubes with the DNA ... add a little animation and Dexter has Ed , Edd N Eddy " .

The pilot was released as part of Ed , Edd n Eddy : The Complete First Season DVD on October 10 , 2006 , which can be purchased on Amazon.com and the Cartoon Network Shop . It is also available for purchase on the iTunes Store , where it can be bought separately , or as a part of season 1 . It can also be streamed through Netflix .