

## Document Citation

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## FRANK BORZAGE

### A MAN'S CASTLE

*U.S./1933 72 mins. B&W \$40.00*

Directed by Frank Borzage - Screenplay by Jo Swerling from the play by Lawrence Hazard - Cinematography by Joseph H. August - Edited by Viola Lawrence - Music by Frank Harling, conducted by Mischa Bakaleinikoff - Produced by Borzage for Columbia Pictures. Players: *Spencer Tracy, Loretta Young, Marjorie Rambeau, Glenda Farrell, Walter Connolly, Arthur Hohl, Dickie Moore.*

Borzage's strange and highly romanticised glimpse of a depression ridden girl, alternating radiant hope and despair (Loretta Young) who is cared for by an equally poor but resourceful roughneck (Spencer Tracy) who rarely gives her anything but a Wallace Beery-like gruffness. She translates this, somehow, as love talk, but he feels trapped upon hearing they're having a baby and feels the urge to wander from their shack, but not before providing for the baby's future in a manner commensurate with his personality -- by attempting a payroll robbery, from which he emerges with a gunshot wound and a toy for the baby. Walter Connolly is superb as the Bible-spouting, flower-raising Ira, Marjorie Rambeau is alternately a dipso and a sober friend, and Glenda Farrell almost gets lost in the recondite editing. A fascinating period piece.