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A MAN'S CASTLE (1933, 75 min)

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Frank Borzage was one of the screen's great romanticists and A MAN'S CASTLE is one of his masterpieces, in which an authentically rendered depression background takes the sentimental edge off the central love story which finds Spencer Tracy shackled-up with Loretta Young (20 years old at the time) in a makeshift tin-can residence in a squatter's colony. The fact that they go skinny-dipping together in the Hudson River and conceive a child out of wedlock disturbed a few censors back in 1933, and will no doubt surprise many viewers today. But the real surprise of the film is Borzage's fluid and truly cinematic mis-en-scene.