

## Document Citation

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# The Golden Age Of The German Cinema



DIARY OF A LOST GIRL, Courtesy of Raymond Rohauer

### Diary of a Lost Girl

[Das Tagebuch Einer Verlorenen]

1929 Sound B&W 100 min Rohauer  
Produced and Directed by G. W. Pabst.  
Based on the Novel by Margaret Boehme.  
Photographed by Sepp Allgeier. Sound  
Version Music by Lee Erwin. Starring Louise  
Brooks, Joseph Rovensky, Vera Pavlova,  
Franciska Kinz, Arnold Korff

*Diary of a Lost Girl*, an amazing melodrama based on the popular novel by Margaret Boheme, is the second of two great films which the legendary Louise Brooks made with G. W. Pabst. It follows the fortunes of vivacious self-willed Thymaine (Louise Brooks) from the day of her sixteenth birthday (coincidentally, the time of her first sexual experience), through her subsequent banishment to a terrifying reform school, presided over by a sadistic matron, to her decline to the only profession open to her — prostitution. Brooks said of Pabst that "he hated violence in real life, but loved to put it into his films; he loved the pure women in his films, but was bored to death with them in real life." This naturally ambivalent attitude toward sex and violence — the stuff celluloid dreams are made of — made Pabst's films unpopular with the censors, and his unusually sympathetic portrayal of female characters made him a rarity in any decade. Brooks brings a ravishing innocence to her role, to which both censors and distributors reacted with brutal cuts and re-editing. The prints from the Rohauer Collection, although far from perfect, are greatly restored. Some of the original cuts probably are lost to us forever. Distributed under exclusive License by Twyman Films, Inc. By Arrangement with Raymond Rohauer

**Critical Comments:** "Louise Brooks has captivated those who have seen her with her beauty, her vitality, and her intelligence. Unlike even Garbo or Dietrich, her looks, her gestures, and her style of acting have not dated. Without the more artificially exotic quality of those actresses, she nevertheless has her own mystery, her own totally unique and inimitable charisma.... She was too independent, too outspoken, too natural an actress to be contained within the conventions of Hollywood for long; and so she has not made a film since 1938. It was Hollywood's loss, and ours. All we have now to remind us her rare talent is her recently published book ('Lulu In Hollywood'), and a handful of her marvelous screen performances. But they are enough to prove Lotte Eisner's words, that 'Today we know that Louise Brooks is not just a ravishing creature but an amazing actress gifted with an unprecedented intelligence'." — Geoff Andrew, ELECTRIC CINEMA