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Author(s)	Robert F. Hawkins
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Guardie e Ladri

(Cops and Robbers)
(ITALIAN)

Genoa, Feb. 19.

Lux Film release of a Ponti-Delaurentis-Golden production. Stars Aldo Fabrizi, Toto; features William Tubbs, Ave Ninchi, Rossana Podesta, Gino Leurini. Directed by Steno, and Monicelli. Screenplay, Steno, Monicelli, Fabrizi, Maccari, Flajano, Brancati, from story by Piero Tellini; camera, Mario Bava; music, Alessandro Cicognini. At Olympia, Genoa. Running time, 107 MINS.

Bottoni.....	Aldo Fabrizi
Ferdinando Esposito.....	Toto
Mr. Locuzzo.....	William Tubbs
Signora Giovanna.....	Ave. Ninchi
Mrs. Esposito.....	Pina Piovani
Bottoni's daughter.....	Rossana Podesta

The richly human vein of top Italian comedy has been tapped for this film which finally combines the talents of two major comedians, Toto and Aldo Fabrizi, in a heart-warming chuckler. It has a bright future at local boxoffices. Abroad, both art and lingual customers rate a good look, and returns should satisfy. Sureseaters might find it worthwhile as a change-of-pace from usual weighty Italo diet.

Yocks, chuckles and the human touch have been scrambled and served up in a story by Piero Tellini which gives cop Fabrizi three months to find thief Toto, who has eluded him after robbing a visiting American (William Tubbs). Alternative is to lose both job and pension. Fabrizi succeeds in befriending Toto's family in his attempt to get at the thief himself. When the two finally meet at a family get-together, they agree philosophically to let the law have

its way without letting their families know about it.

Both the figure of the warm-hearted cop who regrets having to jail a man whose predicament he has come to understand, and the sly but human and humorous thief, are sharply sketched by Fabrizi and Toto. Neither has rarely been better. William Tubbs registers as the blustering American duped by Toto, and others lend good support. Gino Leurini and Rossana Podesta, as youthful romancers, will please the younger set. After the hilarious marathon chase between cop and robber in opening reels, pace slows down to steadier but equally satisfying clip. And the humor acquires more depth. A fine musical accompaniment again has been scored by Alessandro Cicognini, while Mario Bava's camera and other credits measure up.

Hawk.

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