

## Document Citation

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LIST OF INTERTITLES FOR THE FILM "THE HOUSE IN SNOWDRIFTS" (USSR, Sovkino, 1927).  
A drama in six parts, 1757 meters. N.B. The SXF I catalogue describes this film as "missing parts 3. 5 and 6" (item #450), but this print is missing several other long segments (including parts of part 1, all of 3 and 5), while it includes all of part 6. Translated by Jerry Heil. Bracketed items are translator's additions and comments. Audiences should be given either a copy of the intertitles or a plot synopsis, though, with explanations, the film is intelligible. Translated by Jerry Heil.

"THE HOUSE IN SNOWDRIFTS"

A melodrama in 6 parts.

Scenario: B. L. Leonidov.

Director: Freidrich Ermler.

Cameraman: Yevgeny Mikhajlov.

Artist [set designer]: Yevgeny Yenej.

Assistant director: Robert Majman.

Administrator [at studio]: Sam Gershtenzang.

A Production of Sovkino [Leningrad], 1927.

Cast [the actors are named in titles as they appear]:

The Musician: Fedor Nikitin.

His wife: Tatyana Okova.

A speculator [black-marketeer]: Valery Solovtsov.

His wife: Anna Bastunova.

Yasha: Yakov Budkin.

His sister: Galina Shaposhnikova.

[names not listed in titles: V. Plotnikov (another speculator)  
and Masayev (a worker).]

[Part 1.]

Titles missing  
from PFA print

1. The year 1919.

2. Nighttime in the besieged city ... [Petrograd in the Civil War]

3. ... they're barely able to keep awake at their posts ...

4. Only rarely is glimpsed someone searching for fuel on the streets ...

5. The enemy is at the city gates. To arms, comrades.

6. Dawn is breaking ...

7. ... and by morning the city seems still to be sleeping ...

8. But somewhere ...

9. Here and there life seems to have stopped with the revolution.

10. A musician and his wife have experienced only cold and peace  
within four walls. /Fedor Nikitin and Tatyana Okova/

11. How can it be so cold on my birthday!

12. In the cellar of the same house they didn't acknowledge the cold ...

13. Yasha. /Yakov Budkin/

14. His sister, Galya. /Galina Shaposhnikova/

15. It's a pity that our lodger died. [умер, though the written  
He was a happy organ-grinder. text of titles has болен = sick]  
[or better?: It was nice having the organ-grinder around.]

16. I'm leaving for the front, but you kids will somehow have to  
feed yourselves using the barrel-organ [hurdy-gurdy].

[check context] 17. No, Popka, we're going with you. ["Popka" is the parrot's name, Papa here]

18. To the bar-r-ricades! [the parrot says this]

19. A man who is able to conceal both ends in the water. /Valery Solovtsov/  
[прятать концы в воду, i.e. "to burn  
both ends of the candle", to work things  
to his own advantage, etc.]

[00. For the work in the Ukraine, you will have to remain behind now.  
(a title here which has nothing to do with this film, extraneous.)

Missing titles

20. His worthy spouse. /Anna Bastunova/

21. Papa, we're ready.

22. You can't serve in my unit, you're still too young.

23. I'll try to get some firewood from the neighbor.

24. Excuse me, but only you have running water.

25. I'd like to ask you for another ten pieces of firewood.

26. That's enough, now you're really in debt to us.

27. We don't take little kids to the front. Now go on home.

[Part 2.]

28. It was getting livelier there, where they were getting ready  
to repulse the enemy.

29. A love of music united the lower and upper floors.

30. We'll survive. [or?: We can begin again.] Don't despair!

31. If I knew how to play like you do, I'd really show it off!

32. Don't be silly. You think anyone needs my music now?

33. To work duty! [i.e. physical labor detail]

34. To work duty!



35. Send the little musician in your place -- he owes you one.
36. My wife is ill and I cannot work for you.
37. Then you have to pay your debt.
38. Do my work duty for me and you'll get a good share of rations. [паёк]
39. So that in two weeks' time ...

[Poster announcing a Shaliapin concert]

40. The great artist deludes himself/is deluding himself. Now nobody needs even his art.
41. Our work is no worse than Kerensky's. [Head of the Provisional Government before Oct. 1917]
42. He who doesn't work doesn't eat.
43. Real Soviet rations. [a container of unhulled rye grain]  
[cover on sheet music: Tchaikovsky's opera "Eugene Onegin" -- the title of the couplet is "How Beautiful is the Day" (Как прелестный этот день)]
- 

44. We have to go to the front to finish off the bourgeois.

[Part 3.]

45. Tomorrow's my birthday, but there's no firewood.  
Shaliapin could ...
46. I'm not Shaliapin and I won't give out my art to public ridicule.
47. Promise me that on my birthday the stove will burn all day long.
48. You promised to give me a grand piano on my name-day.
49. With the kids at the front. [or: lads, boys - с ребятами]
50. [You have to] grow up a little bit first. There will be enough of the bourgeoisie to last your lifetime.
51. They aren't taking [us] with them, so we can only send them off with music.
52. Give up the piano and our account will be square [we'll be even].
53. How can I get along without an instrument ...
54. You are no better than the Bolsheviks, you don't recognize debts.
55. I'm no Bolshevik, take it ...
56. There's nothing to eat today, we didn't earn anything.  
Let's just go listen to some music.
57. It's time to part company with these swindlers. They're robbing everybody.
58. To hell with rations and music. [Даёшь паёк и музыку.]
59. [It's made of] cardboard. [Картонный.]
60. He's been drinking our blood. [Попил нашей кровушки.]  
Tomorrow let's go to the front.

Missing titles

[Part 4.]

61. The long-awaited moment is drawing near.
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62. I know that you love me and that you will get the firewood for tomorrow.
63. Two children are under fire over there.
64. They were getting ready for the celebration day.
65. Lend me ten pieces of firewood. You know what kind of day it is, it's a holiday.
66. No, no, I cannot. You can't work any more [not able-bodied any more].
67. How cruel you are!
68. Congratulate your wife on her birthday.
69. Be calm, there is some firewood. [or: Calm down, it's OK, etc.]
70. This day was a turning point at the front.
71. They sent the children to the city with the first returning detachment.
72. The only thing is that we didn't get to fight much. [A child says this]
73. What a lovely day! If only we had some bouillon and chicken [chicken bouillon] -- then dying wouldn't be so bad.
74. Yes, yes, what a day ... I'll try to get some.
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75. Lord, send him a chicken.

[Part 5.]

Missing titles.

76. To the bar-r-ricades!
77. Popka, Popka. [Попка ... попка ...] [The parrot's name.]
78. A pigeon [dove] is smaller than a chicken, but it's tastier.
79. But it cannot take Popka's place/It can't be fixed to take Popka's place.
80. It'll be even better. It won't fly away.
81. It will pass beautifully for Popka for now. And when we get rid of the bourgeois ....
82. It's no loss. Let it/him work for \_\_\_\_\_ [a little mouse??  
... за мышонка]
-

[Part 6.]

83. Congratulations.

84. Never mind, you'll start working again and settle things up.  
[расчитаетесь]

85. We're nobodies/no-goods. ... Where is a real life?

[check context] 86. There, you see, Popka, you left without us and they gave you  
a thrashing. [поколотили тебя! or perhaps better: they cut  
you up]

[check context] 87. You lie. We thrashed it. [Мы поколотили.] Go and have a look.

88. What an evening! Such a holiday! But the musician isn't here!

89. There's a musician among us, let's mobilize him [for army duty].

90. You make little jingles [i.e. play some tunes] and we'll give  
you rations and a little firewood ... [soldier to musician]

[Scene where the speculators' goods are being confiscated.]

91. At night in the liberated city ...

92. ... they were celebrating victory.  
[the sign/banner reads: "Long live the Third International!"]

The End.

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