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With Helen Hayes

A FAREWELL TO ARMS

A Paramount Picture 1932

CAST:

HELEN HAYES (*Catherine Barkley*); GARY COOPER (*Lieutenant Frederic Henry*); ADOLPHE MENJOU (*Major Rinaldi*); MARY PHILIPS (*Helen Ferguson*); JACK LA RUE (*The Priest*); BLANCHE FREDERICI (*Head Nurse*); HENRY ARMETTA (*Bonello*); GEORGE HUMBERT (*Piani*); FRED MALATESTA (*Manera*); MARY FORBES (*Miss Van Campen*); TOM RICKETTS (*Count Greffi*); ROBERT COUTERIO (*Gordoni*); GILBERT EMERY (*British Major*); PEGGY CUNNINGHAM (*Molly*); AGUSTINO BORGATO (*Giulio*); PAUL PORCASI (*Inn Keeper*); ALICE ADAIR (*Cafe Girl*).

CREDITS:

FRANK BORZAGE (*Director*); BENJAMIN GLAZER, OLIVER H. P. GARRETT (*Scenarists*); CHARLES LANG (*Photographer*); OTHO LOVERING (*Editor*); HANS DREIER, ROLAND ANDERSON (*Art Directors*); HAROLD C. LEWIS (*Sound Recorder*); TRAVIS BANTON (*Cos-*

tumer); ARTHUR JACOBSON, LOU BORZAGE (*Assistant Directors*); RALPH RAINGER, JOHN LEIPOLD, BERNHARD (BERNARD) KAUN, PAUL MARQUARDT, HERMAN HAND, W. FRANKE HARLING (*Musical Score*); CHARLES GRIFFIN (*Technical Adviser—War Sequences*); DR. JARDINI (*Technical Adviser—Hospital Sequences*); EDWARD A. BLATT (*Associate Producer*). Based on the novel by ERNEST HEMINGWAY.

SYNOPSIS:

Back from the front, Lieutenant Frederic Henry finds his close friend Major Rinaldi excited about the arrival of some English nurses, especially Catherine Barkley. That evening, Frederic goes to a local dive. He is drunk when the Austrians begin bombing the village and everyone rushes to safety. Concealed in an areaway, Frederic discovers that he is with a woman and, thinking she is from



With Helen Hayes and Adolphe Menjou

the dive, talks to her in a frank manner—until he sees that she is a nurse from the nearby hospital.

The next night, the Major introduces Frederic to Catherine Barkley and both laugh over the previous night's misadventure. The two become inseparable, and soon they are hopelessly in love. However, Frederic goes back to the front, and the Major, jealous of the relationship, has Catherine transferred to Milan. Frederic is seriously wounded and is rushed to the hospital, where Major Rinaldi performs an operation. Regretting his jealous actions, the Major then sends his young friend to Milan to be with Catherine.

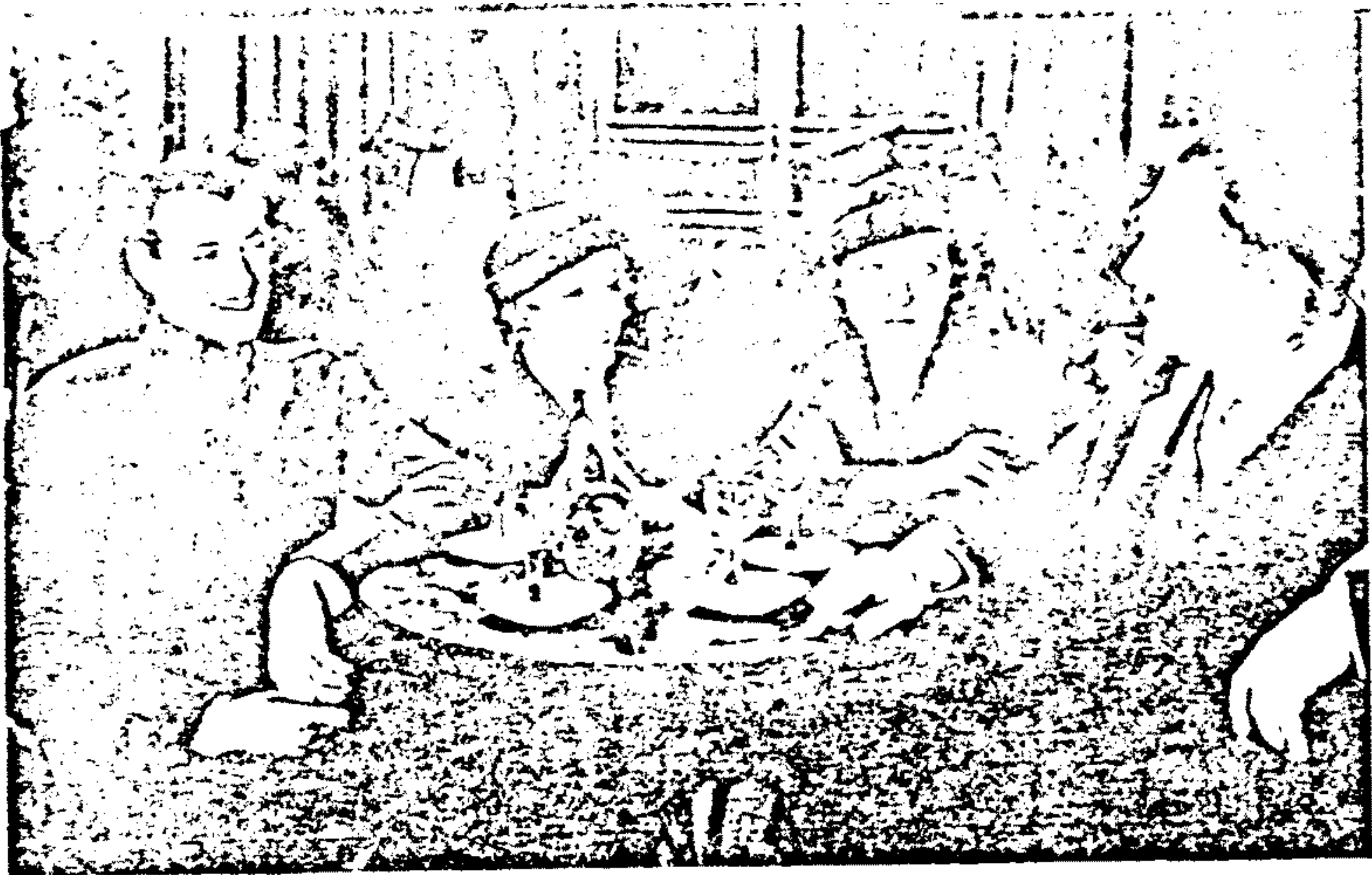
All is bliss for the couple until he is well enough to return to the front. Quietly, Catherine crosses into Switzerland to await the birth of their child; she sends him many letters, but they never get past the Major, whose jealousy is alive again. Meanwhile, the lieutenant's letters are returned and, because he has not heard from Catherine, he

finally goes to Milan and tries to locate her. He learns she is in Switzerland and gets to her soon after their baby has been born dead. She, too, is near death—but they are together as news comes that the war is over.

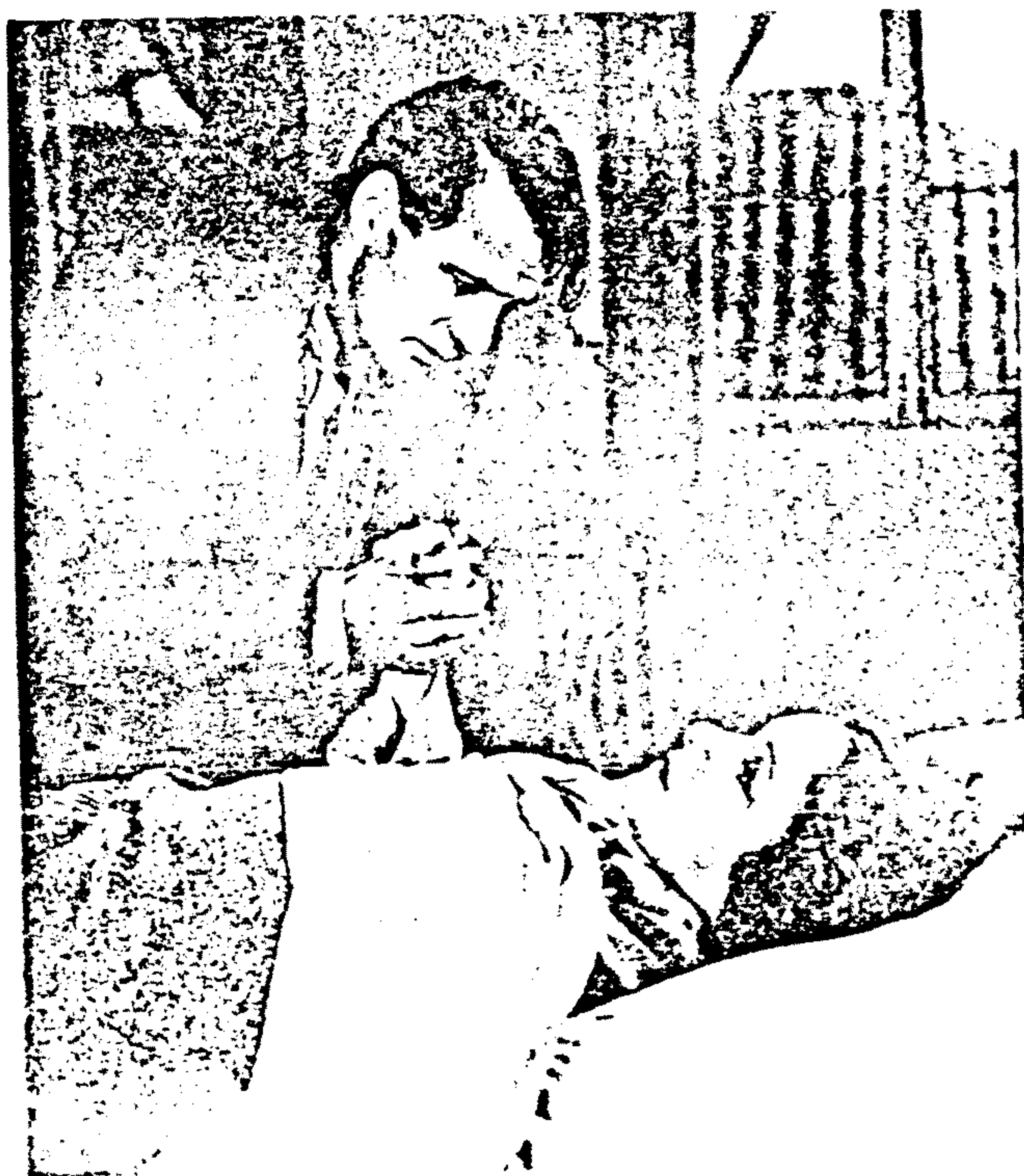
NOTES:

A Farewell to Arms, from his 1930 novel, was the first Hemingway opus to reach the screen. The scenarists pretty much ignored the war, building up the romance between Lt. Henry and Catherine Barkley, and made the whole affair quite legitimate in the bargain.

Paramount filmed two endings; one, like the book, had Catherine die giving birth to the Lieutenant's dead child, and the other had her live. In true Hollywood tradition, the latter was preferred and ultimately used. Hemingway was displeased and, at the time of the picture's release,



With Helen Hayes, Mary Philips
and Robert Couterio



With Helen Hayes



told a reporter for the *Arkansas Democrat* "I did not intend a happy ending."

Hemingway wasn't filmed again until 1913, also at Paramount and also starring Gary Cooper (*For Whom the Bell Tolls*). However, *A Farewell to Arms* was to have two more film versions. In a revamped, but thoroughly engrossing, version it appeared in 1950 as *Force of Arms* with William Holden, Nancy Olsen, and Frank Lovejoy. In 1957, producer David O. Selznick ended an otherwise brilliant career on a sour note with his own overblown version of *A Farewell to Arms*. Rock Hudson was Lieutenant Henry, Jennifer Jones was Catherine Barkley and Vittorio de Sica was Major Rinaldi. This \$4,000,000-disaster had only one major virtue, the superb color photography of Piero Portalupi and Oswald Morris.

Of the first *A Farewell to Arms*, critics said "The performances of Helen Hayes and Adolphe Menjou are among the outstanding of the year, while Cooper probably does the best work of his career. Jack LaRue and Mary Philips contribute splendid performances. And cinematographer Lang must not be forgotten." (*Photoplay*); "Gary Cooper, particularly in the closing scenes, is revealed as an actor with a greater emotional depth than he has ever displayed before." (Martin Dickstein in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*).

The *New York Daily News* found Cooper "as natural and convincing an actor as might have had years of stage training—which isn't the case. Gary is a true product of the celluloid. His performance as carefree Lt. Henry is thoroughly ingratiating."

A Farewell to Arms was nationally re-issued in 1938, but, since the rights were purchased by Selznick International Pictures, television rights are uncertain. It is quite possible it may never be seen again.

The film was nominated for four Academy Awards: including Best Picture; Hans Dreier and Roland Anderson for the Art Direction; Charles Lang for cinematography; and Harold C. Lewis for Sound Recording. Mr. Lewis won for his contribution.

With director Frank Borzage
and photographer Charles Lang