

Supplement No. 126

October 29, 1908

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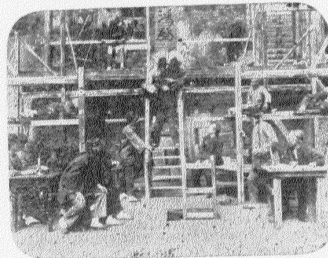
Watch for Our Next

Lights and Shadows of Chinatown

Code Word
CHINA

Length
1000 feet

Released October 29, 1908



This is the first real Chinese story of love and adventure ever put into a moving picture, and so elaborate is its production, and so novel is its theme, that this film is destined to be one of the big hits of the season.

SELIG POLYSCOPE CO., Inc.

45-47-49
Randolph St.



CHICAGO
U. S. A.

Lights and Shadows of Chinatown

SELIG'S NEW FILM

One of the distinct moving picture novelties of the current season is the production of the splendid Chinese spectacle, a Chinese drama, which will be released October 29th by the Selig Polyscope Company of Chicago. The drama is one of the most interesting stage pictures ever presented, and now seen for the first time in moving pictures, forms one of the greatest novelties ever turned out by a film manufacturer.

While all the characters are Chinese, the story of the drama is one of tremendous heart interest, and the climaxes are of great dramatic strength. The scenes are laid in the Chinatown of San Francisco before the great fire, and they deal with the abduction of Kim Soy, a beautiful maiden, the betrothed of Chon Yet, a rich merchant in the Chinese quarter. Chon Yet comes to America and establishes himself in business in Frisco's Chinatown. Li Ching, a rival in business and a Chinaman of much influence—on a recent visit to his native land—sees and becomes enamored with Chon Yet's fiancée, the beautiful Kim Soy. On his return to San Francisco he sets about laying his plans to enable him to possess the maiden. Through forgery he manages to entice her to America, under the belief that she is to join her betrothed husband, Chon Yet. Chon Yet offers \$5,000 reward for information regarding her, and a general hunt for the maiden ensues.

It transpires that the maiden has been abducted by Li Ching, a powerful highbinder and member of a Chinese secret society. He has her secreted in his house, and one day Kim Soy eludes her guards, and in an attempt to escape, goes to a balcony where she is seen by a clerk in Chon Yet's employ. He informs Chon Yet of the girl's whereabouts, and he at-

tempts to rescue her. Li Ching appears just as Kim Soy is about to spring into Chon Yet's arms, and by the aid of his followers the lovers are thrust apart, and while Chon Yet swears vengeance, Kim Soy is led away to her place of captivity by the triumphant Li Ching.

The unhappy maiden prays despairingly to her house god and implores Ah Mee, a slave girl, to save her from Li Ching's clutches and restore her to her lover. Ah Mee, who is Li Ching's slave, seeks to dissuade Kim Soy from her purpose to escape if the opportunity presents itself, and their conference is interrupted by Li Ching who pleads with, then threatens Kim Soy with violence if she does not thrust his hated rival from her heart. She defies him and he leaves her in anger. Kim Soy again implores the good offices of her house god.

Chon Yet invokes the aid of the police, and with the assistance of Tie Loy, a fortune teller, the police are placed on Li Ching's trail. Li Ching then conspires to have Chon Yet slain by his henchmen, and these conspirators swear to carry out the decree of death at a secret meeting held in the great Joss house. Chon Yet and Tie Loy appear after the meeting to pray to the Joss, and while there Li Ching forces Kim Soy to the Joss house in an attempt to have her swear to become his wife. Chon Yet prevents her from taking the oath, whereupon Li Ching engages him in a duel with knives. The police appear and Chon Yet, who is apparently slain by Li Ching, is thrust beneath the table of offerings to the gods. The police then find Li Ching and Kim Soy in attitudes of devotion and leave the scene.

Chon Yet is placed in an underground coffin den, and it is here that he is to be put to death. Kim Soy, who, meanwhile has been rescued by the police from Li Ching's clutches, hears of the murderous plot, and she flies to the police for succor. The police raid the den just after the arrival of Li Ching who purposed

to pay his respects to his fallen rival. In the belief that his orders to put Chon Yet to death have been carried out, he descends to a loathsome dungeon where his hereditary enemy, Quong Kee, lies in waiting for him, resolved to kill him for failing to pay him for the commission of a murder.

While the police and Chon Yet's friends are gathering above, Li Ching is stabbed by Quong Kee who then seeks to escape above only to fall into the hands of the police. Li Ching, wounded to death, climbs the ladder and falls dead at Kim Soy's feet, after a vain dying effort to stab her. The lovers are then reunited and their troubles brought to an end.

The pictures presented give one a faithful idea of life in the Chinese quarter of a metropolitan city like San Francisco. The street scene where Kim Soy attempts to fly to her lover's arms by scaling a balcony, gives the spectator attractive glimpses of Oriental life. Here are seen the merchants plying their trade; fish dealers selling their wares; vegetable vendors carrying monstrous baskets suspended from their stooping shoulders; fortune tellers practicing their mysterious rites to secure a nickel of the "white devil's" money; tourists moving amid the stream of humanity. The Joss house scene, where the hatchetmen subscribe to an oath to kill Chon Yet, is replete with interesting objects lavishly displayed. The drama has its comic as well as pathetic side, and much fun is provided by an Irish policeman and a mischievous Chinese boy named See-See.

More than fifty people, nearly all Chinese, are employed in the pictures. This picture will be one of the greatest ever turned out. It will show nineteen excellent scenes, drawn from photographs, the whole forming a series of views which for attractiveness and interest, never have been excelled.

Order from Your Film Exchange

Released October 20, 1908

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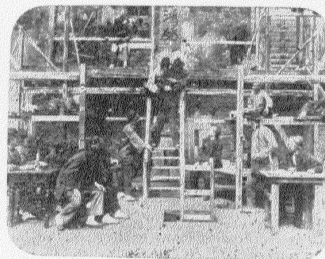
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