

## = The Two Roses =

The Two Roses is a 1910 American silent short drama produced by the Thanhouser Company . The film focuses on the young Tony Prolo who goes to deliver lunch to his father of the same name . After arriving and giving him his lunch , the young Tony is hit by a passing vehicle and the father rushes his son home . Mr. Sears , whose car hit the child , receives a demand for \$ 10 @, @ 000 by the " Black Hand " . The Sears go to the police and set a trap for the Black Hand , but end up wrongly arresting the child 's father . Tony convinces the police to investigate further and the confusion is cleared up when the real culprit is caught . Mr. Sears compensates the family by purchasing them a house in the countryside . The film features Marie Eline , cast in the role of an Italian boy , along with the leading players Frank H. Crane and Anna Rosemond as the parents . The film was released on June 7 , 1910 . The film survives with new inter @-@ titles that were created to replace the lost materials .

## = = Plot = =

The film begins with a young Italian boy , Tony Prolo , who is preparing to deliver his father 's lunch to him . The boy sets off to the railroad construction area , passing the dangerous terrain without incident . The father , Tony Prolo ( Senior ) , greets his young son and happily takes his lunch . His young son begins tossing rocks across the street and runs out into the road and is knocked down by a passing vehicle . Tony rushes to his son 's aid and the rich man , Mr. Sears gets out the car and attempts to comfort the father . The father rejects him and rushes home , carrying his son in his arms . At home , Tony Prolo and his wife attend to their son and pray for his health .

At his residence , Mr. Sears receives a letter by the " Black Hand " demanding \$ 10 @, @ 000 for ruining a person 's life . The letter tells him to give the money to a man at a specific street corner who will be carrying a white rose . Sears heads to the police and the detective lays a trap for the Black Hand man . At the same time , Tony Prolo has gone to see the doctor and stops by the florist to get a white rose for his flower @-@ loving son . After he purchases the rose , his path crosses with Mr. Sears and the detective at the street corner , and he is arrested because he is carrying a white rose . The real Black Hand man is hiding behind a door and witnesses the arrest of Tony Prolo , but is discovered by the constable and he is arrested after he was discovered carrying a white rose .

Tony Prolo convinces the Sears to have the police investigate his story , and they all are brought to Tony Prolo 's home . The Sears family sees his suffering son and the confusion over the Black Hand is resolved when the constable brings the real suspect into the room . Tony Prolo is released and Mr. Sears compensates the family by purchasing a cottage in the country that is surrounding by white roses .

## = = Cast = =

Marie Eline as Tony , an Italian boy  
Frank H. Crane as Tony Prolo  
Anna Rosemond as Tony Prolo 's wife

## = = Production = =

The writer of the scenario is unknown , but it may have been Lloyd Lonergan . Lonergan was an experienced newspaperman still employed by The New York Evening World while writing scripts for the Thanhouser productions . He was the most important script writer for Thanhouser , averaging 200 scripts a year from 1910 to 1915 . The film director is unknown , but two Thanhouser directors are possible . Barry O 'Neil was the stage name of Thomas J. McCarthy , who would direct many important Thanhouser pictures , including its first two @-@ reeler , Romeo and Juliet . Lloyd B. Carleton was the stage name of Carleton B. Little , a director who would stay with the Thanhouser

Company for a short time , moving to Biograph Company by the summer of 1910 . Film historian Q. David Bowers does not attribute a cameraman for this production , but two possible candidates exist . Blair Smith was the first cameraman of the Thanhouser company , but he was soon joined by Carl Louis Gregory who had years of experience as a still and motion picture photographer . The role of the cameraman was uncredited in 1910 productions .

The role of the Italian father Tony was played by Frank H. Crane . Crane was involved in the very beginnings of the Thanhouser Company and acted in numerous productions before becoming a director at Thanhouser . In the role of Tony 's wife was Anna Rosemond , who was one of two leading ladies for the first year of the company . Marie Eline , played the role of Tony 's son , was concealed in masculine make up and black hair for the role of the Italian boy . The Moving Picture World said , " [ m ] aybe you 'd never recognize her if we did not tip you off . Don 't pass the tip to others in your place , but see if their little favorite doesn 't fool them completely in her masculine makeup . " Other members of the cast have not been identified .

= = Release and reception = =

The single @-@ reel drama , approximately 1000 feet long , was released on June 7 , 1910 . This production was the first Tuesday release in the Thanhouser " two a week " releases . The production was advertised as a " A powerful , pathetic , pretty story of life in Little Italy . " The Moving Picture World contained a brief article that used the term " The Thanhouser Kid " to describe Marie Eline ; it was the origin of the nickname for Eline . The film had a wide national release : it was advertised by theaters in Kansas , Indiana , Texas , and Pennsylvania .

In 1987 , the film was erroneously claimed to be an adaptation of Charles Dickens serial novel Little Dorrit by H. Philip Bolton in Novels on Stage - Dickens dramatized . Bolton writes , " [ t ] he first film in some sense from the novel - albeit indirectly - would appear to have been a " Two Roses " movie produced in 1910 by Thanhouser . "

A mostly complete print of the film survives and has been preserved in its 35 mm state by the Deutsche Kinemathek - Museum für Film und Fernsehen in Berlin . The surviving print had only a French language title card " Les Deux Roses " and was devoid of intertitles . New German intertitles were added by Urte Alfs and Anke Mebold of the Deutsches Filminstitut based on the published synopsis from The Moving Picture World . The restored work uses an original music composition composed and performed by Günter A. Buchwald . Ned Thanhouser made available an English language translation of the new German intertitles . The film is also released as part of a two @-@ disc DVD set , Screening the Poor , published in the Edition Filmmuseum Series .