

= The Cheese Special =

The Cheese Special is a 1913 American silent short comedy film featuring Max Asher and marking the film debut of Louise Fazenda . The scenario was written by Allen Curtis , but the identity of the director is unknown . It was the first production released by the newly formed Joker productions , as part of the Universal Film Manufacturing Company . The film is presumed to be lost and there is no published synopsis of the film . Known production details state that it was shot on a beach resort and used a miniature train . The film had a wide release and was reviewed by The Moving Picture World as a low comedy suited for the burlesque theaters .

= = Plot = =

No known script or plot of the film has surfaced , but the highlight of the film was summarized in the Corsicana Daily Sun as " a roaring Joker comedy in which Dauntless Dan stops the train with one hand and rescues the heroine with the other while the villain hisses between his teeth . "

= = Cast = =

Max Asher

Louise Fazenda as heroine / Schmaltz 's daughter

Henry Mann as Schmaltz

Lee Morris

Bobby Vernon as Sylvion De Jardins

= = Production = =

Few details are known about the production of the film , but it was shot on a beach resort and used a miniature train . Due the lack of credits , both Louise Fazenda and Henry Mann 's roles were provided by Photoplay , in response to an reader inquiry . The film was the first release by the new Joker productions , which was dedicated to producing only short comedy films . Kalton C. Lahue and Samuel Gill credit this production as being Louise Fazenda 's film debut . Film historian Richard E. Braff notes that Allen Curtis as the writer , but provides no directorial credits . The single reel production was released on October 25 , 1913 .

= = Reception = =

The new Joker line was billed as one of the " best comedies yet " by advertisers wanting to draw crowds to the theaters , but there may have been truth in the claims because it was cited as one of Max Asher 's best roles in a 1914 edition of Moving Picture World . The film had a wide release with showings in Indiana , Kansas , Ohio , North Carolina , Maryland , Pennsylvania , Texas , and in Chicago , Illinois . The Moving Picture World review of the film noted that it was a low comedy suitable for the burlesque houses with " less particular audiences " than finer establishments because one of the minor characters spat frequently on camera , interrupting the humor and thus making it unfit for the best theaters . Another newspaper review claimed that it was one of the best comedies released in months , but ended up referring to the film as " The Chinese Special " . The date of disappearance is unknown , but Universal destroyed its remaining copies of silent era films in 1948 . The film is presumed to be lost .