

Joy and the Dragon. Five-reel drama (1,020m). **Balboa Amusement Producing Co.**, Copyright Dec.18, 1916, Pathé Exchange, Inc., LU9747. *Distributor*: Pathé Exchange, Inc., Gold Rooster Plays, released Dec. 31, 1916, by Pathé Exchange, Inc. *Director*: Henry King. *Scenario*: Will M. Ritchey. *Cameramen*: William Beckway, Georges Rizzard. *Cast*: Baby Marie Osborne (*Joy*), Henry King (*Hal Lewis*), Mollie McConnell (*The matron*), J. Cullen Landis (*Slinky Joe*).

Commentary: The French title for this film is ***La Légende du Dragon d'or***. According to ***De Pathé Frères à Pathé Cinéma***, this movie was included in ***Programme du Cinéma Castillet***, Perpignan, France, Mar. 15-18, 1918, and the movie was announced in ***Ciné-Journal***, No. 436/132, Dec. 22, 1917. In France, this film was shown at the Omnia Pathé, Paris, Jan. 25-30, 1918 (134). In the United Kingdom, the title changed to ***A Little Ray of Sunshine***, according to the article describing the same film in the British magazine ***The Cinema*** and in the poster announcing the film's release in the U.K.

Summary: Saved by fishermen, Joy is the only survivor of a shipwreck that made her an orphan. The little girl is then placed in an orphanage that serves as a secret operation for a band of thieves. Joy also has possession of her deceased mother's jewels. The thieves are more interested in the jewels than in the welfare of the little girl. Eventually, Joy runs away from the orphanage, leaving the jewels behind, just to save herself. In her escape, Joy hides on a train going West. Out West, Joy meets Hal Lewis, the black sheep of a well-to-do Eastern family. The two runaways bond, and in forming a supportive "family" together, Hal becomes more responsible and caring while parenting little Joy. In seeing his own family back East differently, Hal, with Joy, goes back home, and Hal reconciles himself with his father. To add to the family's good fortune, Hal bravely returns to the orphanage to confront the gang of thieves, and while destroying their ring, he also manages to retrieve Joy's jewels (Drawn from ***American Film Institute*** 478).

Works Cited:

- American Film Institute Catalog of Motion Pictures Produced in the United States. Vol. 1, Feature Films, 1911-1920*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1983.
- Bousquet, Henri. *De Pathé Frères à Pathé Cinéma: Catalogue 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918*. Paris: Édition Henri Bousquet, 1999.
- Jura, Jean-Jacques and Rodney Norman Bardin II. *Balboa Films: A History and Filmography of the Silent Film Studio*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 1999.