

Film title

Tabu

Tagline

Short synopsis

Tale of two young lovers on the idyllic island of Bora Bora in the South Pacific. Their life is shattered when the old warrior declares the girl to be the Chosen Maid and it is forbidden for any man to even look upon her. Refusing to accept a life apart, they run off to another island.

Long synopsis

Reri and Matahi live as happy young lovers on an island in the South Seas. But Reri is destined to be the holy virgin of the gods and is thus taboo for all men – including Matahi. The two lovers flee their island for civilization, to a pearl trading town where Matahi hires himself out as a pearl diver – he has plunged into debt overwhelmed by the abundance on offer in the modern age. But they are also tracked down in the city; Reri who has since given up her resistance, voluntarily boards the ship that is to take them back to her homeland. Matahi tries to catch up with the boat by swimming but is lost in the sea. TABU is F. W. Murnau's final film. Using his private assets, shot exclusively with amateur actors and on original locations, he finally realized a film according to his ideas. However, Murnau did not live to see the premiere of the film on March 18, 1931. The director died a few days earlier as a result of a car accident. "An extraordinary poetic and atmospheric blend of feature film and ethnographic study, sensitive and tactful," is the verdict of the German Encyclopedia of International Film.

Technical information and credits

Original title: Tabu
 English title: Tabu
 Year: 1931
 Country: USA
 Language: EN
 Subtitles: CZ
 Running time: 84 min
 Dostupnost: 12+

DVD / Blu-ray: DCP, mp4
 Genre: Adventurous, Drama, Romantic
 Directed by: Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau
 Written by: Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau, Robert J. Flaherty, Edgar G. Ulmer
 Edited by: Arthur A. Brooks
 Cinematography: Floyd Crosby



Awards

Actors

Matahi, Anne Chevalier, Bill Bambridge, Hitu, Kong Ah, Ah Fong

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