

Fabrizio Forte

Titles: 1 Sources: 1 Stills: 1

Born: Italy, c1970



The open country as the dourest kind of prison

Source: Film Review 1978-79

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Forte:

“A shepherd’s life, however peaceful in theory, isn’t always a happy one, particularly if you work, as in **"PADRE PADRONE"**, for a violent and neurotic father in the mountains of Sardinia. Gavino Ledda’s only slightly fictionalised autobiography gave the Taviani brothers the canvas for a beautiful but disturbing film whose childhood scenes are among its most unforgettable.

The little Gavino is brusquely removed from school by his father and assigned to a life of almost total isolation. When he tries to run away, he is caught and beaten. When he meets and talks to another shepherd boy, he is beaten. The only release for the boys is sex with chickens or a resigned donkey. After ten years of lonely boredom, Gavino becomes almost an animal himself, even losing the power of speech. But eventually he escapes, wins himself an education, and becomes a writer.

The crop-headed Fabrizio Forte conveys marvellously the gradual chilling of natural

warmth and the loss of hope, in surroundings which at first are frightening and then merely miserable. To those not condemned to work there, of course. They look idyllic.”

FILMOGRAPHY

<i>Year</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Role</i>
77		PADRE PADRONE ("Father Master")	Italian TV, in central role, Gavino Ledda, as a boy