

Lazy Lightning

US : 1926 : dir. William Wyler : Silent : 48 min
 prod: : scr: Harrison Jacobs : dir.ph.: Eddie Linden
Bobby Gordon
 Art Acord; Fay Wray; Vin Moore; Arthur Morrison; George K French; Rex De Roselli

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5941	1.5	2	0	571	3	-	-	-	-	No	unseen

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

"In this excellent Western Art works on a ranch. He befriends an invalid boy (Gordon), and notices that his guardian (Morrison) would be happy to let the boy die. Art steps in. Harrison Jacobs wrote it and Eddie Linden was the cameraman. Wyler made his directing debut in 1925 with 20-minute Westerns. This was his first leading feature. He would later make Westerns with Ted Wells and Fred Humes, while also continuing with a series of 20-minute Western shorts, all with Fred Gilman, an acceptable Western actor who nevertheless only played supporting roles in main features.

Together Gilman and Wyler made the so-called "Mustang" Westerns, eight titles in all: "**HORSE TRADER**" in 1926, then in 1927 "**GUN JUSTICE**", "**HAUNTED HOMESTEAD**", "**HOME TRAIL**", "**LONE STAR**", "**ORE RAIDERS**", "**PHANTOM OUTLAW**", "**SQUARE SHOOTER**" and "**TENDERFOOT COURAGE**". They were small but well made Westerns. *** "

The Moving Picture Boy entry on Bobby Gordon:

"Cheeky Bobby Gordon, who could also be strikingly effective in soulful parts, should not be confused with the much older Robert Gordon (1895-1971, real name Robert Gordon Duncan), who played Huck in the 1917 "**TOM SAWYER**". Nine-year old Bobby was spotted at a prizefight by the director William Beaudine, looking for a Jewish boy to play the hated Martin Levy in "**PENROD AND SAM**". (Racial caricatures are a depressing feature of Booth Tarkington's otherwise likeable

"Penrod" books, and have undoubtedly assisted them into oblivion. One would rather not recall the names of the little black brothers: Herman and Verman.)

Bobby had many more Jewish parts to play - in "**THE COHENS AND THE KELLYS**" and "**THE JAZZ SINGER**", for instance – but seldom such demeaning ones. His biggest parts were in "**LAZY LIGHTNING**" (26, with the cowboy star Art Acord) and in "**A RACE FOR LIFE**" (28, with Rin Tin Tin). Bobby stayed in the business until World War Two."

[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "Hollywood in the Twenties", "A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen", "Silent Movies: A Picture Quiz Book", "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. No mention, nota bene, in "*The Thrill of it All – A Pictorial History of the B-Western from The Great Train Robbery and Other Silent Classics to the Color Films of the Genre's Last Days of Glory in the 50s*". [Bobby Gordon](#) was 13. The only reliable still I have of him comes from "[HIS PEOPLE](#)", made the year before. He had supporting parts in "**THE COUNTRY KID**" (23 – with Wesley Barry), "**THE GOOD BAD BOY**" (24 – with Joe Butterworth), "**MOUNTAINS OF MANHATTAN**" (27) and others.

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