

The Little Witness

(alternative title unknown)

UK : c1900 : dir. : G. A. S. films

Silent : ? min

prod: George Albert Smith : scr: : dir.ph.:

.....
Cast unknown

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	¢	M	⚡	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
5784	1.5	0	1	323	-	-	-	-	-	No	Unseen



Note how the action takes place on a tiny (outdoor) theatrical stage with crudely painted backdrop

Source: The International Encyclopedia of Film

[no listing in "The British Film Catalogue 1895-1985", "Classics of the Silent Screen", "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)", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "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. The chances that the source for the above still could have located a film of G. A. Smith's unknown to *The British Film Catalogue* are so remote that "**THE LITTLE WITNESS**" must be an alternate title, though I've not as yet been able to identify the original one from the scant descriptions the catalogue offers. The still was used to illustrate a piece on the origins of cinematographic set design, which began with Georges Méliès in 1897. The author goes on to say that contemporary English film-makers, for reasons of economy, dispensed with set-building and used natural decors, but then confounds his own point by using a still from an *English* film shot against a painted backdrop. Be that as it may, this still is the earliest in the archive from any British film.

See subject index under **EYEWITNESSES TO MURDER / BOY WHO CRIED WOLF** and [**SILENT CINEMA**](#).