Bread and roses (2000)

Maya is a quick-witted young woman who comes over the Mexican border without papers and makes her way to the LA home of her older sister Rosa. Rosa gets Maya a job as a janitor: a non-union janitorial service has the contract, the foul-mouthed supervisor can fire workers on a whim, and the service-workers' union has assigned organizer Sam Shapiro to bring its "justice for janitors" campaign to the building. Sam finds Maya a willing listener, she's also attracted to him. Rosa resists, she has an ailing husband to consider. The workers try for public support; management intimidates workers to divide and conquer. Rosa and Maya as well as workers and management may be set to collide.

The 1912 Lawrence Textile Strike, which united dozens of immigrant communities under the leadership of the Industrial Workers of the World, was led to a large extent by women. The popular mythology of the strike includes signs being carried by women reading "We want bread, but we want roses, too!", though the image is probably ahistorical. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bread_and_Roses)

Cast

Pilar Padilla as Maya
Adrien Brody as Sam Shapiro
Elpidia Carrillo as Rosa
Jack McGee as Bert
Monica Rivas as Simona
Frankie Davila as Luis (as Frank Davila)
Lillian Hurst as Anna
Mayron Payes as Ben
Maria Orellana as Berta
Melody Garrett as Cynthia
Gigi Jackman as Dolores
Beverly Reynolds as Ella
Eloy Méndez as Juan (as Eloy Mendez)
Elena Antonenko as Maria
Olga Gorelik as Olga

http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0212826/

Memorable quotes (with notes on difficult vocabulary)

You said you’d fix it up = dicevi che avresti sistemato le cose

Don’t tell me away = Non mi tradire/Non dirgli dove mi sono nascosto

Are you any good with electric fans? = Come te la cavi con i ventilator?

Do you think I’m kidding? = Pensi che stia scherzando?
You get any chance to be fired = non metterti nelle condizioni di essere licenziata
This is not a fucking camp for spastics = (offensive) Questa non è una colonia per handicappati
You close off an intersection = Bloccate un incrocio
You are a janitor like everybody else = Sei un pulitore come tutti gli altri
He is pissed with us = (volgare) è incazzato nero con noi
We are going to work something out = troveremo una soluzione
To be continued! = (qui) Ne riparliamo!/Non è finita qui!
We want bread but roses too = vogliamo pane ma anche rose (in riferimento al famoso sciopero degli operai tessili)
We are fighting for health care = lottiamo per l’assistenza sanitaria
Stand up for your fucking rights! = Combattete per i vostri diritti