# FILM REVIEW

**A Man Called Ove**

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A man Called Ove is a 2015 Swedish comedy-drama film written and directed by Hannes Holm and based on the 2012 novel of the same name by Fredrik Backman. In his novel he tells the darkly humorous story of Ove, a 59-year-Old Swedish man struggling to find purpose in his life after his retirement. When the movie begins, Ove’s wife Sonja has recently died. Thereafter Ove plans to kill himself and during his attempts of suicide he suddenly remembers the memories with his wife that he experienced. With all those flashbacks the movie flows ahead.

To commence with the movie’s plot, Ove seems to be in constant conflicts with world, expressing persistent frustration towards people around him and getting into disputes with shop workers, neighbours, and even other drivers on the road. Through Ove’s point of view, themes of distrusting technology and the fear of outsiders emerge. who spends his days enforcing block association rules that only he cares about, and visiting his wife's grave, Ove has given up on life. After a boisterous young family moves in next door and accidentally flattens Ove's mailbox, an unlikely friendship forms. The movie explores themes of friendship, love, and people can have impact on each other’s life.

Moreover, in terms of movie characters the main role of Ove was portrayed by Rolf Lassgard. He is the 59 years old protagonist. As a boy he lost his mother and then as a teen, his father died. When he was old aged, he always used to take short walk round in the morning. He believes that men should do things—not just talk about them—and he distrusts the internet and people who work from home. Ove is incredibly loyal to his job, his wife, and his car brand. He drives nothing but Saabs over the entirety of his lifetime. Despite Ove’s grouchy demeanor and the overwhelming sense of disappointment he feels about where his life has led, he proves himself to be an undeniably good-natured person. Another, main role named Sonja was played by Ida Engvoll. Sonja is Ove’s late wife, who dies six months before the start of the novel. She met Ove in the train when she moved to town to study to be a teacher. Right after she and Ove got married and moved into their row house. When they both were coming back from their Spain tour, there they were involved in a bus accident that paralyzed Sonja form the waist down and caused her to miscarry her pregnancy. It was hard for her to find a job, but her optimistic outlook and with Ove’s support, she became a teacher for children, and she inspires everyone around her. However sadly, she gets sick with cancer and passes away, leaving Ove alone.

Apart from the main characters there are other roles: Parvaneh, Patrick, Parvaneh’s husband. Parvaneh, Ove’s new neighbour form Iran, along with her husband Patrick, settled in the house across from Ove’s. They frequently turn to him for assistance and express gratitude by sharing meals. Despite facing and overcoming various challenges, Parvaneh is naturally confident yet harbors some insecurities. Patrick, the husband of Parvaneh and the father of their two children, struggles with confidence and often intimidated by Ove. Besides, The White shirts, as Ove calls them, are depicted as stern and unsympathetic bureaucrats he encounters throughout his life. They are portrayed as authoritarian figures who misuse their power. For instance, land developers let Ove's house burn down, government officials deny responsibility for Anita's paralysis, and a private health provider tries to push Ove's neighbor Rune into a care facility against his wife's wishes.

While the movie production, cameras are used on mix positions and angels. Like, Close-up shots are often used to capture Ove's facial expressions and emotions, providing an intimate look into his character. The lighting contributes to the realistic and intimate feel of the narrative. For more impactful emotional and positive scenes, while cooler tones might be often used during moments of tension or reflection. Dialogue serves as a vital component in this film, conveying Ove's character and relationships through the tone and words he chooses, whether expressing grumpiness or warmth. Indeed, the soundtrack and score have a big impact on the film’s emotional tone, which can go from depressing to upbeat, which makes the audience more connected to film. The sound effects from Ove’s Saab and the surroundings are also included, and they contribute to the overall mood.

Talking about this film’s classic Hollywood narrative style, the film stays inside the two-hour length. However, this length helps keep the audience interested and engaged in movie. Rolf Lassgård's portrayal of Ove, the main character, fits the mold of an interesting and intriguing character. His journey drives the narrative forward, and the film centers around his experiences and relationships scenarios. In addition, supporting characters, such as Ove's neighbors and friends, are characterized through their interactions, contributing to the overall narrative. Ove's character follows the hero's journey archetype. He faces several obstacles and hostile forces. The film uses a combination of medium or closeup shots for cinematography. This approach enhances the storytelling by showcasing both the broader settings and the characters' emotions.

To conclude, “A man called Ove” is a genre-defying movie that skillfully navigates between moments of laughter and tears, leaving a emotional impact on viewers deep down in their heart along with powerful storytelling and well-developed characters. Overall, through unexpected friendships with neighbors, the film unfolds a heartwarming tale of love, loss, and the transformative power of human connections.

**Reference**

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