



A MAN CALLED OVE (En man som heter Ove)

Autumn
Season
2017

Release: 2015

Cert (UK): 15

Language: Swedish

Runtime: 1 hr 56 mins

Director: Hannes Holm

Writer: Hannes Holm from a novel by Fredrik Backman

Cinematographer: Göran Hallberg

Cast: Rolf Lassgård, Bahar Pars, Filip Berg



In Sweden, the novel by Fredrick Backman sold over 650,000 copies – about 1 copy for every 15 people – so it was no shock when the film was made, or that it was a huge success in Sweden.

The story is about an old man, Ove, who has lost his wife and his job and whose only pleasure is moaning at the neighbours; a Swedish Victor Meldrew. Most reviewers agree this would have become a sentimental mish-mash if produced in Hollywood, but 'This adaptation by Hannes Holm maintains the careful balance between pathos and sardonic observation that endeared it to readers' – Jenny Kermode, Eye for Film. Mixing his moans with humour and hope (his new neighbours bring this into his life, against his will) Kermode concludes 'The result is a lighthearted, charming film which people of all ages will enjoy'.

The writer/director Hannes Holm has been directing since the 1980s, but mainly for TV until 2000. This is the biggest success he has had to date, and he gets much praise: 'he tweaks expectations with the way he presents the material, and his grip on the film's tricky, tragicomic tone is masterful' – Odie Henderson, RogerEbert.com.



Also up for making the film so good is the main actor Rolf Lassgård, a very experienced actor, with 64 credits to his name on imDB: here, he 'gives one of the year's best performances' – Henderson again.