TB Movie Club Weekly Review **<u>#MovieClub</u>**

Movie: A Man Called Otto (2022 - Netflix) Genre: Family / Drama Actors: Tom Hanks, Mariana Trevino, Truman Hanks, Peter Lawson Jones Director: Marc Forster

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"A Man Called Otto" is a heartwarming adaptation of the Swedish novel "A Man Called Ove" by Fredrik Backman. Directed by Marc Forster, known for his work on "The Kite Runner", "Stranger than Fiction," and the 007 movie, "Quantum of Solace". The film falls under the family drama genre. The stellar cast includes Tom Hanks as the grumpy widower Otto, Mariana Trevino as the vibrant Marisol, and a noteworthy performance by Peter Lawson Jones as Ruben.

The plot revolves around Otto's decision to end his life following the death of his wife, Sonia. However, his plans take an unexpected turn when a Mexican family, led by Marisol, moves into his neighborhood. As Marisol's infectious personality begins to influence Otto, a beautiful and unlikely friendship develops.

One of the film's strongest aspects is the exceptional acting, particularly by Mariana Trevino and Peter Lawson Jones. Trevino shines as Marisol, a mother of two children with a third pregnancy underway, bringing warmth and depth to her character, while Jones delivers a powerful performance as Ruben. Tom Hanks, a master of feel-good movies, doesn't disappoint, effortlessly embodying the role of Otto.

The narrative is skillfully crafted, balancing pleasant flashbacks that provide insight into Otto's past without becoming monotonous. The film's soundtrack adds to the overall enjoyable experience.

However, "A Man Called Otto" does fall into some predictable tropes common in feelgood movies. The introduction of characters into Otto's life often leads to expected conclusions. Additionally, the movie's ending can be anticipated as the story progresses, leaving little room for surprise.

Despite these minor flaws, "A Man Called Otto" is a must-watch for fans of feel-good films. It successfully captures the essence of humanity, showcasing the power of love and care in our society. The standout performances, particularly by Mariana Trevino and Peter Lawson Jones, elevate the movie. Notably, the portrayal of the younger version of Otto by Truman Hanks, Tom Hanks' own son, adds an extra layer of authenticity. Overall,

"A Man Called Otto" delivers a heartwarming message and is a delightful choice for those seeking a feel-good movie experience.