

Maldon Film Club: members to vote on films proposed for season 2024-25

No.	Title	Year	Cert	Country	Language	Director	Genre	Mins	Synopsis	Rot Tom	IMDB UK
<p>Choose <u>one</u> Classic film, from C1 to C5 (page 1 only)</p>											
C1	Casablanca	1942	U	USA	English, French, German	Michael Curtiz	Drama, Romance, War	102	Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), a cynical world-weary ex-patriate, runs a nightclub in Casablanca, Morocco during the early stages of WWII. Rick's joint has become a kind of haven for refugees seeking to obtain illicit letters that will help them escape to America. But when his former lover, Ilsa, and her husband, Victor, (Ingrid Bergman and Paul Henreid) show up there one day, Rick faces a tough challenge which will bring up unforeseen complications, heartbreak and an excruciating decision to make.	9.2	8.4
C2	It's a Wonderful Life	1946	U	USA	English, French	Frank Capra	Drama, Family, Fantasy	130	A young George Bailey (James Stewart), overwhelmed by family obligations and a sense of responsibility toward his community, feels tied down to a life he never wanted to live. As he ages, he sees his youth, dreams and opportunities pass him by. However, his friends and family have been praying for him. Told from the point of view of a group of angels, he is met by his guardian angel, Clarence Odbody (Henry Travers), as he contemplates ending his life.	9.2	8.6
C3	Jaws	1975	12A	USA	English	Steven Spielberg	Adventure, Mystery, Thriller	124	When a young woman is killed by a shark near the New England tourist town of Amity Island, police chief Martin Brody (Roy Scheider) wants to close the beaches, but mayor Larry Vaughn (Murray Hamilton) overrules him, fearing that the loss of tourist revenue will cripple the town. Ichthyologist Matt Hooper (Richard Dreyfuss) and grizzled ship captain Quint (Robert Shaw) offer to help Brody capture the killer beast, and the trio engage in an epic battle of man vs. nature.	8.8	8.2
C4	The Titfield Thunderbolt	1953	U	GBR	English	Charles Chrichton	Comedy	84	When British Railways announce the closure of the Titfield to Mallingford branch line a group of local residents make a bid to run it themselves, backed by a monied member of the community, Valentine (Stanley Holloway), who is attracted by the complete lack of licensing hours on trains. Unfortunately the local bus company starts to use methods that can hardly be seen as fair competition.	8	7.1
C5	Two Women	1960	15	ITA, FRA	Italian, German, English	Vittorio De Sica	Drama, War	101	Cesira (Sophia Loren) is a beautiful widow and a successful grocery store owner in Rome. As WWII rages, she evacuates to her home village with her beloved daughter, 13-year-old Rosetta (Eleonora Brown) to escape the daily bombings. Cesira is too consumed with managing her daughter's wellbeing to be wooed by the timid advances of a young intellectual, Michele (Jean-Paul Belmondo). As food dwindles and the allies advance, Cesira decides to return to Rome - and encounter the horrors of war at last.	n/a	7.6

Ratings Keys:

Rot Tom is the average score of the global Rotten Tomatoes audience ratings out of 5, doubled to give a figure out of 10.

IMDB UK is a weighted average of the ratings out of 10 from all the votes of IMDB website users in UK.

Shaded ratings are averaged from a small number of ratings which might be skewed one way or the other.

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<p>Also choose <u>ten</u> films from Nos. 1 to 41 (page 2 onwards)</p>											
1	1976 (Chile '76)	2022 (UK 2023)	15	CHL, ARG	Spanish	Manuela Martelli	Drama	95	Chile, 1976, three years after Augusto Pinochet established a military dictatorship, Carmen (Aline Kuppenheim) goes to her beach house to take some time for herself. When the local priest asks her to take care of Elías (Nicolás Sepúlveda), a young man he is sheltering in secret, Carmen steps onto unexplored territories, away from the quiet life she is used to.	8.8	7.1
2	20 Days in Mariupol	2023	18	UKR	Russian Ukrainian	Mstyslav Chernov	Documentary	95	A team of Ukrainian journalists from The Associated Press (AP) trapped in the besieged city of Mariupol struggle to continue their work documenting atrocities of the Russian invasion. As the only international reporters who remain in the city, they capture defining images of the war: dying children, mass graves, a bombed hospital, and more. Drawing on Chernov's daily news dispatches and personal footage of his own country at war, this film is a vivid account of civilians caught in the siege, as well as a window into what it's like to report from a conflict zone.	9.2	8.7
3	Afire	2023	12A	DEU	German	Christian Petzold	Comedy, Drama, Romance	102	While holidaying by the Baltic Sea, writer Leon (Thomas Schubert) and photographer Felix (Langston Uibel) find a mysterious young woman, Nadja (Paula Beer), staying as a guest at Felix's family's holiday home. Nadja distracts Leon from finishing his latest novel and with brutal honesty, forces him to confront his caustic temperament and self-absorption. As Nadja and Leon grow closer, an encroaching forest fire threatens the group and tensions escalate when a handsome lifeguard and Leon's tight-lipped book editor also arrive.	7.4	7
4	Aftersun	2022	12	GBR, USA	English, Turkish, Spanish	Charlotte Wells	Drama	102	At a fading vacation resort, 11-year-old Sophie (Frankie Corio) treasures rare time together with her loving and idealistic father, Calum (Paul Mescal). As a world of adolescence creeps into view, beyond her eye Calum struggles under the weight of life outside of fatherhood. Twenty years later, Sophie's tender recollections of their last holiday become a powerful and heartrending portrait of their relationship, as she tries to reconcile the father she knew with the man she didn't.	8.2	7.8
5	Alcarràs	2022 (UK 2023)	15	ESP, ITA	Catalan, Spanish, English	Carla Simón	Drama	120	For as long as they can remember, the Solé family has spent every summer picking the peaches in their orchard in Alcarràs, a small village in Catalonia. But this year's crop may well be their last, as they face eviction. The new plans for the land, which include cutting down the peach trees and installing solar panels, cause a rift in this large, tight-knit family. For the first time, they face an uncertain future and risk losing more than their home and orchard.	7.4	7.2

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6	All of Us Strangers	2023 (UK 2024)	15	GBR, USA	English	Andrew Haigh	Drama, Fantasy, Romance	105	One night in his near-empty tower block in contemporary London, Adam (Andrew Scott) has a chance encounter with a mysterious neighbour Harry (Paul Mescal), which punctures the rhythm of his everyday life. As a relationship develops between them, Adam is preoccupied with memories of the past and finds himself drawn back to the suburban town where he grew up, and the childhood home where his parents (Claire Foy and Jamie Bell), appear to be living, just as they were on the day they died, 30 years before.	8.8	8
7	American Fiction	2023 (UK 2024)	15	USA	English	Cord Jefferson	Comedy, Drama	117	Monk (Jeffrey Wright), a frustrated novelist, is fed up with the establishment profiting from "Black" entertainment that relies on tired and offensive tropes. To prove his point, Monk uses a pen name to write his own outlandish "Black" book. However, it is mistaken for serious literature by the liberal elite and published to high sales and critical praise, and propels him into the heart of hypocrisy and the madness he claims to disdain.	9.2	7.6
8	Anatomy of a Fall	2023	15	FRA	French	Justine Triet	Crime Drama	151	Samuel is found dead in the snow outside the isolated chalet where he lived with his wife Sandra (Sandra Hüller), a German writer, and their partially-sighted 11-year-old son Daniel (Milo Machado-Graner). An investigation concludes "suspicious death", perhaps killed, perhaps suicide. Sandra is indicted, and we follow her trial which pulls the couple's relationship apart. Daniel is caught in the middle: between the trial and their home life, doubts take their toll on the mother-son relationship.	8.6	7.8
9	Black Box	2021	15	FRA, BEL	French, English	Yann Gozlan	Drama, Mystery, Thriller	129	Matthieu (Pierre Niney) is a young and talented black box analyst on a mission to solve the reason behind the deadly crash of a brand new aircraft. Yet, when the case is closed by authorities, Matthieu cannot help but sense there is something wrong with the evidence. As he listens to the tracks again, he starts detecting some seriously disturbing details. Could the tape have been modified? Going against his boss' orders, Matthieu begins his own rogue investigation - an obsessional and dangerous quest for truth that will quickly threaten far more than his career.	7.4	7.2
10	Blue Bayou	2021	15	USA, CAN	English	Justin Chon	Drama	117	Antonio LeBlanc (Justin Chon), a Korean-American adoptee was raised in a small town in the Louisiana bayou. Working hard to make a better life for his beloved family – wife Kathy (Alicia Vikander) and step-daughter Jessie (Sydney Kowalske) – he must confront the ghosts of his past as he discovers that he could be deported from the only country he has ever called home.	9.0	7.1
11	Cairo Conspiracy	2022 (UK 2023)	12A	SWE, FRA, FIN	Arabic	Tarik Saleh	Drama, Thriller	126	Adam (Tawfeek Barhom), the son of a fisherman, is offered the privilege to study at the Al-Azhar University in Cairo, the centre of power of Sunni Islam. Shortly after his arrival in Cairo, the university's highest ranking religious leader, the Grand Imam, suddenly dies and Adam soon becomes a pawn in a power struggle between Egypt's religious and political elites.	8	7.1

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12	Champions	2023	12A	USA	English	Bobby Farrelly	Comedy, Drama, Sport	124	After an incident that leads to him losing his former job as a minor-league basketball coach, Marcus Marakovich (Woody Harrelson), is ordered by the court into community service to manage a team of players with learning disabilities. He soon realizes that despite his doubts, together, this team can go further than they ever imagined.	9.2	6.8
13	Fallen Leaves	2023	12A	FIN	Finnish Arabic	Aki Kaurismäki	Comedy Drama	81	In modern-day Helsinki, Ansa and Holappa, Alma Pöysti and Jussi Vatanen, two lonely souls in search of love, meet by chance in a karaoke bar. However, their path to happiness is beset by obstacles - from lost phone numbers to mistaken addresses, alcoholism, and a charming stray dog.	6.2	7.4
14	Four Daughters	2023 (UK 2024)	15	FRA, TUN, DEU	Arabic, French, English	Kaouther Ben Hania	Documentary	107	One day, Rahma and Ghofrane, the two elder daughters of a Tunisian woman, Olfa, disappeared. Film-maker Kaouther Ben Hania restages pivotal moments in the family's life with three actresses (Hend Sabri, Nour Karoui, Ichraq Matar) playing the parts of Olfa and her two missing daughters, interwoven with confessions and reflections from Olfa and her remaining younger daughters, Eya and Tayssir, to lift the veil on what happened.	8	7.4
15	How to Have Sex	2023	15	GBR, GRC	English	Molly Manning Walker	Drama	91	Three British teenage girls, Tara, Em, and Skye (Mia McKenna-Bruce, Enva Lewis and Lara Peake), go on a rites-of-passage holiday - drinking, clubbing and hooking up, in what should be the best summer of their lives.	6.8	7
16	One Fine Morning	2022 (UK NR)	15	FRA, GBR, DEU	French, English	Mia Hansen-Løve	Drama, Romance	112	Sandra (Léa Seydoux), a young mother who raises her daughter alone, pays regular visits to her father (Pascal Greggory) who is suffering from neurodegenerative disease. While she and her family fight tooth and nail to get him the care he requires, Sandra reconnects with Clément (Melvil Poupaud), a friend she hasn't seen in a while. Although he is in a relationship, the two begin a passionate affair.	6.8	7.1
17	One Life	2023 (UK 2024)	12A	GBR	English, German, Czech	James Hawes	Biography, Drama, History	110	The true story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued 669 predominantly Jewish children from the Nazis. Fifty years later, it's 1988 and Nicky (Anthony Hopkins) lives haunted by the fate of the children he wasn't able to bring to safety in England, blaming himself for not doing more. It's not until a live BBC television show, 'That's Life', surprises him by introducing him to some surviving children - now adults - that he finally begins to come to terms with the guilt and grief he had carried for five decades.	8.8	7.8
18	Other People's Children	2022 (UK 2023)	15	FRA	French, Hebrew	Rebecca Zlotowski	Comedy, Daram, Romance	103	Rachel (Virginie Efira) is 40 years old, with no children. She loves her life: her high school students, her friends, her ex, her guitar lessons. When she falls in love with Ali (Roschdy Zem), she becomes attached to Leila (Callie Ferreira-Goncalves), his 4-year-old daughter. She tucks her into bed, cares for her, loves her like her own. But to love other people's children is risky.	9.8	6.8

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19	Past Lives	2023	12A	USA, KOR	Korean English Mandarin	Celine Song	Drama Romance	105	Na Young and Hae Sung, Korean childhood friends sharing a profound connection, were separated when Na Young's family emigrated. As an adult (Greta Lee) in North America, she changed her name to Nora, made her name as a playwright and is happily married to an American, Arthur (John Magaro). Throughout twenty years of separation, while their careers took them in different directions, they kept in touch periodically by video chats, and they're now excited to reunite in New York City and pick up where they left off. However, Nora and Hae Sung (Teo Yoo) must confront the possibilities that were left unexplored and the paths they didn't take.	8.2	8
20	Perfect Days	2023	PG	JPN, DEU	Japanese English	Wim Wenders	Drama	123	Hirayama (Koji Yakusho) seems utterly content with his simple life as a cleaner of toilets in Tokyo. He follows a structured everyday life and dedicates his free time to his passion for music and books. Hirayama also has a fondness for trees and photographs them. A series of unexpected encounters gradually reveal more of his past.	8.6	7.9
21	Pig	2021	15	USA, GBR	English, Pesian	Michael Sarnoski	Drama, Mystery	92	Rob (Nicolas Cage) is a truffle hunter living the life of a hermit in the Oregon wilderness when his only companion, his beloved truffle-foraging pig, is kidnapped. Inconsolable Rob only wants his pig back and, if he has to, he'll go to the edge of the world to find her, including returning to his past in Portland.	8.2	6.9
22	Poor Things	2023 (UK 2024)	18	IRL, GBR, USA	English, French	Yorgos Lanthimos	Comedy, Drama, Romance	141	The young woman, Bella Baxter (Emma Stone), has been brought back to life by the brilliant and unorthodox scientist Dr. Godwin Baxter (Willem Dafoe). Under his protection, Bella is eager to learn. Hungry for the worldliness she is lacking, Bella runs off with Duncan Wedderburn (Mark Ruffalo), a slick and debauched lawyer, on a whirlwind adventure across the continents. Free from the prejudices of her times, Bella grows steadfast in her purpose to stand for equality and liberation.	8	8.2
23	Return to Seoul	2022 (UK NR)	15	FRA, DEU, BEL	English, French, Korean	Davy Chou	Drama	119	After an impulsive travel decision to visit friends, Freddie (Park Ji-min), 25, returns to South Korea for the first time, where she was born before being adopted and raised in France. Freddie suddenly finds herself embarking on an unexpected journey in a country she knows so little about, taking her life in new and unexpected directions. Based on the true story of Laure Badufle.	9.2	7.2
24	Rye Lane	2023	15	GBR	English	Raine Allen-Miller	Comedy, Drama, Rom.	82	Yas (Vivian Oparah) and Dom (David Jonsson), two twenty-somethings both reeling from bad break-ups, connect over the course of an eventful day in South London -- helping each other deal with their nightmare exes, and potentially restoring their faith in romance.	8.2	7.4
25	Scrapper	2023	12A	GBR	English	Charlotte Regan	Comedy, Drama	84	Georgie (Lola Campbell) is a dreamy, resourceful 12-year-old girl who secretly lives alone in her flat in a working class suburb of London following the death of her mother, making money by stealing bikes with her best friend Ali (Alin Uzun). Out of nowhere, her estranged father Jason (Harris Dickinson) arrives and forces her to confront reality. Uninterested in this sudden new parental figure, Georgie is stubbornly resistant to his efforts. As they adjust to their new circumstances, Georgie and Jason find that they both still have a lot of growing up to do.	7.8	7.1

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26	She Said	2022	15	JPN, USA	English, Hebrew, Cantonese	Maria Schrader	Drama, History	129	New York Times reporters Megan Twohey (Carey Mulligan) and Jodi Kantor (Zoe Kazan) together broke one of the most important stories in a generation - a story that helped propel the #MeToo movement, shattered decades of silence around the subject of sexual assault in Hollywood and impelled a shift in American culture that continues to this day.	8.8	7.3
27	The Boy and the Heron	2023	12A	JPN	Japanese	Hayao Miyazaki	Animation Adventure	124	After losing his mother during the war, young Mahito moves to his family's estate in the countryside. There, a series of mysterious events lead him to a secluded and ancient tower, home to a mischievous gray heron. When Mahito's new stepmother disappears, he follows the heron into the tower, and enters a fantastic world shared by the living and the dead. On an epic journey with the heron as his guide, Mahito must uncover the secrets of this world, and the truth about himself.	8.8	7.4
28	The Eight Mountains	2022	12	ITA, BEL, FRA	Italian, English, Nepali	Felix van Groeningen, Charlotte Vandermeersch	Drama	147	After meeting as children over a series of summers in the Italian Alps, Pietro (Luca Marinelli) and Bruno (Alessandro Borghi) reunite as adults on the occasion of the death of Pietro's father and bond again in realizing the late father's dream to build a mountainside cottage and in their subsequent explorations of the awe-inspiring mountain range. The cottage becomes a site of both reflection and reconciliation while the purity of nature and the demands of society both threaten to drive the men apart.	9.6	7.8
29	The Great Escaper	2023	12	GBR	English	Oliver Parker	Drama	96	Octogenarian Bernie Jordan (Michael Caine), resident of a care home, staged a "great escape" to join fellow war veterans in Normandy in commemorating their fallen comrades at the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings. Bernie seemed to embody the defiant, "can-do" spirit of a generation that was fast disappearing, but that wasn't the whole story. The story celebrates the love of Bernie and his wife of 60 years, Irene (Glenda Jackson), without sentimentality and with an eye to the lessons we can all learn from the Greatest Generation.	8.4	7.2
30	The Holdovers	2023 (UK 2024)	15	USA	English	Alexander Payne	Comedy, Drama	133	Unloved teacher Paul Hunham (Paul Giamatti), an unwavering curmudgeon with no family to join over the 1970 Christmas holiday, remains at his New England school to supervise Angus (Dominic Sessa), the trouble-making, bright 18-year-old who cannot journey home. Joining them is head cook Mary (Da'Vine Joy Randolph, in her Oscar-winning role), an African American woman whose son was recently lost in Vietnam. These three form an unlikely Christmas family, sharing comic misadventures, helping one another understand that they are not beholden to their past - they can choose their own futures.	9.0	8

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31	The Last Bus	2021	12A	GBR, UAE	English	Gillies MacKinnon	Drama	86	A heart-warming tale of Tom (Timothy Spall), a pensioner whose wife, Mary (Phyllis Logan), has just passed away, who travels from John O'Groats to his original home town of Land's End, one local bus at a time, using his free bus pass, in order to fulfil his pledge to spread her ashes near their first home. He carries with him only a small suitcase, travelling the length of the country with it. Along the way, his adventures are recorded by the people he meets and helps, and by the end of his trip he has unwittingly become a social media celebrity.	7.6	6.5
32	The Old Oak	2023	15	GBR, FRA, BEL	English, Arabic	Ken Loach	Drama	113	The Old Oak is a special place. Not only is it the last pub standing, but it's also the only remaining public space where people can meet in a once thriving mining community that has now fallen on hard times after 30 years of decline. TJ Ballantyne (Dave Turner) the landlord hangs on to The Old Oak by his fingertips, and his predicament is endangered even more when the pub becomes contested territory after the arrival of Syrian refugees who are placed in the village without any notice. In an unlikely friendship TJ meets a curious young Syrian Yara [Ebla Mari] with her camera. Can they find a way for the two communities to understand each other?	n/a	7.2
33	The Outfit	2022	15	USA, GBR	English, French	Graham Moore	Crime, Drama, Mystery	105	Leonard (Mark Rylance), a master English tailor who's ended up in Chicago, operates a corner tailor shop with his assistant, Mable (Zoey Deutch), where he makes beautiful clothes for the only people around who can afford them: a family of vicious gangsters. One night, two killers (Dylan O'Brien, Johnny Flynn) knock on his door in need of a favor - And Leonard is thrust onto the board in a deadly game of deception and murder in which he must outwit mobsters in order to survive a fateful night.	8.8	7.2
34	The Peasants (Chlopi)	2023	15	POL, SRB, LTU	Polish, Latin	DK Welchman, Hugh Welchman	Animation, Darama, History	114	Visualised in animation of many thousands of oil paintings, The Peasants tells the story of Jagna, a young woman determined to forge her own path within the confines of a late 19th century Polish village - a hotbed of gossip and on-going feuds, held together, rich and poor, by pride in their land, adherence to colourful traditions and deep-rooted patriarchy. When Jagna finds herself caught between the conflicting desires of the village's richest farmer, his eldest son, and other leading men of the community, her resistance puts her on a tragic collision course with the community around her.	9.2	7.9
35	The Phantom of the Open	2021 (UK 2022)	12A	GBR	English	Craig Roberts	Comedy, Drama, Sport	106	The (largely) true, story of Maurice Flitcroft, a crane operator at a shipyard in Barrow-in-Furness who, with pluckiness and an unwavering self-belief, managed to enter the 1976 Open despite never playing a round of golf before and with an estimation of his golf abilities that far exceeded them. The extraordinary story of an ordinary man, this is an uplifting and moving comedy drama about pursuing your dreams and shooting for the stars, no matter what hand you're dealt.	8.1	7.1

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36	The Taste of Things	2023	12A	FRA, BEL	French	Trần Anh Hùng	Drama	135	The relationship between Eugenie (Juliette Binoche), an esteemed cook, and Dodin (Benoît Magimel), the gourmet she has been working for over the last 20 years. Growing fonder of one another, their bond turns into a romance and gives rise to delicious dishes that impress even the world's most illustrious chefs. When Dodin is faced with Eugenie's reluctance to commit to him, he decides to start cooking for her.	7.4	7.7
37	The Teachers' Lounge	2024	12A	DEU	German	Ilker Catak	Drama	98	Carla Nowak (Leonie Benesch), a dedicated sports and math teacher in her first job at a high school, stands out among the staff because of her idealism. When one of her students is suspected of a series of thefts at the school, she decides to get to the bottom of the matter on her own. She tries to mediate between outraged parents, opinionated colleagues and aggressive students. Trying to do everything right, but caught between her ideals and the school system, the consequences of her actions threaten to break her.	6	7.5
38	The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry	2023	12A	GBR	English	Hettie Macdonald	Drama	108	A seemingly unremarkable Devon man in his sixties named Harold (Jim Broadbent) one day learns that his old friend Queenie (Linda Bassett) is dying. He goes to mail a letter to her, only to realise that a letter is not enough and so he decides to keep walking - the 500 miles to Queenie's hospice in Berwick-upon-Tweed – to the surprise of himself and his wife Maureen (Penelope Wilton).	7.6	6.8
39	The Zone of Interest	2023 (UK 2024)	PG	USA, GBR, POL	German Polish	Jonathan Glazer	Drama History	105	The commandant of Auschwitz, Rudolf Höss (Christian Friedel), and his wife Hedwig (Sandra Hüller), strive to build a dream life for their family of five in a house and garden next to the camp and in earshot of its unimaginable horrors in the summer of 1943.	7.8	7.8
40	Till	2022 (UK 2023)	12A	USA	English	Chinonye Chukwu	Biography, Drama, History	130	Till is a profoundly emotional and cinematic film about the true story of Mamie Till Mobley's (Danielle Deadwyler) relentless pursuit of justice for her 14 year old son, Emmett Till (Jalyn Hall), who, in 1955, was lynched while visiting his cousins in Mississippi. In Mamie's poignant journey of grief turned to action, we see the universal power of a mother's ability to change the world.	9.4	7.2
41	Wicked Little Letters	2023 (UK 2024)	15	GBR, FRA	English	Thea Sharrock	Comedy, Crime, Drama	100	Two neighbours live in a 1920s English seaside town: deeply-conservative local Edith Swan (Olivia Colman) and rowdy Irish migrant Rose Gooding (Jessie Buckley). When Edith and fellow residents start to receive wicked letters full of unintentionally hilarious profanities, foul-mouthed Rose is charged with the crime. The anonymous letters prompt a national uproar, and a trial ensues. However, as the town's women, led by Police Officer Gladys Moss (Anjana Vasan), begin to investigate the crime themselves, they suspect that something is amiss and Rose might not be the culprit after all.	n/a	7.1