

# Movies & Languages Film Festival 2022-2023

## *Belfast*

**About the movie** (in English with English subtitles)

<b>DIRECTOR</b>	Kenneth Branagh
<b>YEAR/COUNTRY</b>	2021/ UK
<b>GENRE</b>	Coming of age
<b>ACTORS</b>	Caitriona Balfe, Judi Dench, Jamie Dornan, Ciarán Hinds, Colin Morgan



### PLOT

Buddy's family story is told against the background of the Belfast troubles beginning in August 1969. Buddy is coming of age in the close knit working class community, where the street is the place of social relationships and the neighbourhood children are free to play while everyone is looking out for them. This community soon feels the rupture of violence and consequence on daily life of the militarization of the streets. In the background there is often the whirring sound of the helicopters patrolling Belfast

This is the most personal portrayal of the Kenneth Branagh, the director, and his upbringing. He makes a superb use of black and white for looking back with nostalgia and colour to show Buddy's delight and fascination with cinema and theatre. In fact, Branagh is renowned for his Shakespearian direction and acting together with numerous other artist endeavours.

Buddy's networks of relationships are explored in the film. His relationship with his father who works as a carpenter in London. The father has tax problems and is fond of betting on horses. His mother who clings to the reality that she knows in this district of Belfast. His grandfather who is suffering from health issues involving his lungs. His grandmother who takes him to the colourful scenes of the theatre. Then there is Catherine his childhood sweetheart who he plans to marry. Furthermore there is affection and friendliness for relatives and neighbours.

Buddy is also perturbed by the preacher's use of language. In his sermon, there is a unmistakable choice between redemption and damnation. This is symbolised with a fork or an adoption of either good or evil. This theme is also reflected in the showing of 'High Noon' on the television, the battle between good and evil. It is interesting to see that the director choses to show television scenes in black and white rather than in colour which he uses for both films and theatre

Throughout the film the soundtrack features moving songs and music of Van Morrison, a fellow artist from Northern Ireland, together with the repeated whirring of helicopters in the background.



## LANGUAGE

Northern Ireland English
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## VOCABULARY

<b>I felt I was coming out to joy</b>	A happy and joyful song by Van Morrison
<b>Buddy</b>	Nickname for Charles, but also friend: 'my buddy'
<b>Dribbling</b>	To pass by a defender, especially in football because of superior skills in ball control
<b>Cheating</b>	Doing something in a dishonest way
<b>Tight knit neighborhood</b>	A friendly and welcoming community ( <i>quartiere affiatato</i> )
<b>Paving stones</b>	Slabs of stone that are used to form a pathway for pedestrians at the side of a street
<b>To nip into the house</b>	To pop in/to drop in. To pay a short visit to
<b>To plug the gap</b>	To make up for the deficiency
<b>Curfew</b>	When no one is allowed outside for security reasons ( <i>coprifuoco</i> )
<b>Joiner carpenter</b>	A skilled worker using wood ( <i>falegname</i> )
<b>Eeijit</b>	Idiot, stupid
<b>Wee</b>	Little
<b>Bell tolling</b>	Bell ringing
<b>Pictures movies</b>	Films, movies
<b>Mortal coil</b>	Soul
<b>Fork in the road</b>	When a road branches out into two separate roads ( <i>bivio</i> )
<b>Winding road</b>	A road which is not straight often because it is in hilly and mountainous territory ( <i>strada tortuosa</i> )
<b>Remedy grievances (or to ensure order)</b>	To resolve injustices or unfairness
<b>Whirring helicopter</b>	The noise of helicopter flying
<b>Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire</b>	Famous dancers in Hollywood films



<b>Wee fella</b>	Little guy or boy: Fella = man
<b>Bluff</b>	To hide your true intent
<b>To be the odd man out</b>	To be different in opinion to the rest of a group ( <i>voce fuori del coro</i> )
<b>Scoffs</b>	To make a noise to show your discontent ( <i>deridere</i> )
<b>Spending all our money on horses</b>	Using your money to bet on horse races
<b>We're drowning in debt</b>	To have an enormous amount of debt
<b>Tradesman</b>	Skilled worker ( <i>artigiano</i> )
<b>Wonky eight</b>	The eight is not straight or in the correct upright position
<b>Bright side of the road</b>	To be on the best side of the road
<b>Join a gang</b>	To become a member of a gang
<b>Rigmarole</b>	To have to perform a tedious and long process or procedure ( <i>trafila</i> )
<b>Nicked</b>	Stolen
<b>We've been scrimping and saving</b>	We've been living on little money
<b>Shipshape and above board</b>	In order and legal and honest
<b>You're skipping off in the week</b>	To not go to work normally for no good reason
<b>London Big Smoke</b>	Nickname for London because of the fog and smoke
<b>Jumped-up gangster</b>	Inflated with exaggerated opinion of one's own importance
<b>Peelers</b>	Police
<b>Do not forsake me</b>	Do not leave me
<b>I do not know what fate awaits me</b>	What future is waiting for me
<b>Or lie a coward , a craven coward</b>	The opposite of brave and courageous
<b>Days like this</b>	Good days in the song
<b>Since we were toddlers</b>	Since we were just able to walk
<b>I'm stranded</b>	I'm without anyone ( <i>abbandonato</i> )



<b>That money's a bit tight</b>	Little or no money
<b>I wish I had you in Carrickfergus</b>	A song of hope of Van Morrison
<b>Not grassing to the police</b>	Not telling the police what someone has done
<b>We're looting the supermarket</b>	Looting = robbing in a group from a shop or dwelling ( <i>saccheggio</i> )
<b>High Noon a gunfight</b>	Famous scene from a famous Western 'High Noon'
<b>Everlasting love</b>	Love forever
<b>"So do not say in grief that you are sorry he is gone but rather say in thankfulness you are grateful he was here"</b>	The words of the preacher at the funeral of the grandfather
<b>"For the ones who stayed. For the ones who left. And for all the ones who were lost."</b>	Dedication of the film

