

# Movies & Languages Film Festival 2022-2023

## Operation Mincemeat

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

<b>DIRECTOR</b>	John Madden
<b>YEAR/COUNTRY</b>	2021 / USA
<b>GENRE</b>	War, espionage film
<b>ACTORS</b>	Colin Firth, Kelly MacDonald, Matthew MacFadyen, Penelope Wilton, Johnny Flynn, Jason Isaac



### PLOT

In July of 1943, the Allied forces (the British and the Americans) begin to plan how to deceive Hitler into thinking that they will not attack southern Europe by invading Sicily but rather by invading Greece. While British intelligence is thinking of how exactly to carry out this deception, stories within the main story also evolve. There is a romance; there are fears of spies, on the one hand, internally in Britain and externally on the continent and, on the other, both Nazi and Communist spies. There are also questions of nationalism and defending one's country, of lost loved ones, and of separation because of war time. In the end, plans move ahead despite fear that the Germans may have realized that the British secret service is trying to trick them.

### LANGUAGE

The language is often complicated and sophisticated; it is spoken by cultured, educated, and for the most part wealthy, British people. There are many idiomatic expressions as well as cultured references to history and Britain.

### VOCABULARY

<b>Brute force:</b> a force that is powerful and difficult to control	<b>Mincemeat:</b> meat that has been cut into small pieces
<b>War is waged:</b> war is conducted	<b>Pitfalls:</b> weak points
<b>Wilderness:</b> a wild land	<b>Hurting:</b> going quickly
<b>To make a vow:</b> to swear, to make an official promise	<b>Poking holes in our plan:</b> finding the weak points in our ideas/thinking
<b>A stiff whiskey:</b> a very strong whisky	<b>To think something through:</b> to make sure that every step in a plan works
<b>Spam:</b> an inexpensive mixture of meats, used a lot during WW II because of rationing	<b>RAF:</b> Royal Airforce. A RAF pilot who is grounded, is an RAF pilot who has been ordered not to fly, to stay on the ground.
<b>Smuggler:</b> a person who brings something illegally into a country	<b>To fish for cues:</b> to investigate something to get a better idea of it. A "cue" is an indicator
<b>A hiatus:</b> a pause, a break in continuity	<b>In a nutshell:</b> a brief summary
<b>Dazzling:</b> something that catches your eye, something that impresses.	<b>Won't have the foggiest idea:</b> will no idea about something



<b>To toast:</b> to drink to wish someone something good or to congratulate someone	<b>To kick the bucket:</b> to die
<b>To be knee deep in something:</b> to be very involved in something	<b>An untimely end:</b> when someone dies before they biologically should have
<b>A fishwife:</b> the talkative woman who sells fish at the market	<b>Once in a great while something happens:</b> after a long period of time something happens again
<b>An uncanny nose:</b> a nose that is exceptionally good at distinguishing smells	<b>Attended Arendal:</b> went to an elite school near the town of Arendal
<b>Nautical rivets, knots, and bolts:</b> the things that hold the structure of a ship together	<b>The right patina of wear:</b> showing the expected signs of age
<b>Solom, Samson, and Jove:</b> characters in the Bible	<b>A betrothed:</b> a person who has promised they will marry you
<b>To plead my case:</b> to argue in my favor	<b>Solid footing:</b> to have stability
<b>Godspeed:</b> expression of good wishes for someone starting a journey	<b>Droopy eyelid:</b> when your eyes begin to shut because you are very tired
<b>To drag me to the bowels:</b> to pull me down to hell	<b>A landing craft:</b> a boat used to land soldiers on beaches
<b>To shatter:</b> to totally destroy	<b>Wallet litter:</b> the stupid things people keep in their wallets
<b>Doom:</b> disaster	<b>A gift horse:</b> something that unexpectedly helps you
<b>The soft under belly:</b> the weak point	<b>Lindy hop:</b> fast dance popular in the 30's and 40's
<b>Foolproof:</b> incapable of going wrong or being misused	<b>A way of forgetting your woe:</b> a way of forgetting your sadness
<b>To avert your eyes:</b> not to look at something	<b>Hasn't quite found her stride:</b> hasn't found a good way to live
<b>To pull strings:</b> to influence something not in the proper way	<b>Dismemberment:</b> the falling apart or disintegration of something
<b>Nothing short of first rate:</b> absolutely wonderful	<b>To throw someone off balance:</b> to cause someone to lose their control or understanding of the situation
<b>To keep one's ear to the ground:</b> to try to understand how something is developing	<b>Corkscrew reasoning:</b> reasoning in a very irrational way
<b>To endorse something:</b> to give your approval of something	<b>A scrounge:</b> a person who uses others to survive
<b>Spooks:</b> people who scare you	<b>A howling gap:</b> a very big hole
<b>To reel you in:</b> when you go fishing and catch a fish, you reel it in. In this case it means to bring or order someone to come back	<b>Send you off into the blue:</b> to order you to go to a place that is very far away
<b>Over ripe:</b> too old and rotting	<b>Dashing:</b> very good looking
<b>Dreary office:</b> a very boring office	<b>Spinster:</b> a woman who has never married
<b>Bollocks:</b> reaction to a very stupid thing	<b>To throw someone off balance:</b> to cause someone to lose their control or understanding of the situation
<b>Bereft mother:</b> abandoned mother	<b>Corkscrew reasoning:</b> reasoning in a very irrational way



<b>A ne'er-do-well:</b> a worthless person	<b>The die is cast:</b> something has started and it can't be stopped now. These are the words that Caesar said when he crossed the Rubicon.
<b>To flicker:</b> the quick movement fire makes	<b>To turn the tide:</b> to change the way things are happening
<b>To bug an office:</b> to listen to what is being said	<b>Gargoyle:</b> the devil-like animal on a gothic church used to symbolically protect it from evil
<b>To jeopardize:</b> to put at risk	<b>Callous:</b> emotionally cold
<b>To strike a deal:</b> to come to an agreement	<b>A 5<sup>th</sup> column:</b> not soldiers but the people who fight against the enemy secretly
<b>A sliver of satisfaction:</b> a little satisfaction	<b>To rack our brains:</b> to think a lot about how to resolve something
<b>To own up to:</b> to take responsibility for	<b>To have someone drawn and quartered:</b> to have someone tortured and cut up into pieces
<b>In peril:</b> in danger	<b>To bear witness:</b> to see what happens
<b>Righteousness:</b> goodness, being on the side of what is good	<b>To be swallowed broadline and sinker:</b> when you are fishing and the fish not only bites but swallows. Figuratively, it means that a person has been totally deceived into thinking something that is false

