

Waking Ned (1998)

In the remote Irish village of Tullymore, someone has struck it rich, winning several million in the National Lottery. Since it is a close-knit, traditional Irish village, everyone knows everyone else's business, yet it remains mystery who might have won. Clever Jackie O'Shea (Ian Bannen) tries to find the winner through a process of deduction, analyzing everyone's behavior and hosting a fancy chicken dinner for potential winners (so as to curry favor and perhaps receive a bit of the winnings himself). Finally, it becomes clear that only Ned Devine, an elderly retiree who lives alone, could have won the prize. Jackie and his friend Michael O'Sullivan (David Kelly) call on Ned, only to find the poor man stone dead, clutching the Lottery ticket in his hand, and with a smile on his lips. The shock of winning killed him!

The scheming Jackie tries to figure out a way to cash the ticket, but has a dream in which Ned Devine prompts him to share the money with the impoverished village. So he concocts a crazy scheme: his friend Michael will pose as Ned when a representative from the Lottery commission (Adrian Robinson) comes to verify the winner. In a series of humorous events, the entire village (save one) convince the Lotto observer that Michael is legitimately Ned Devine, and even devise an offshore banking scheme to cash the check.

The town begins celebrating, when the old "witch" Lizzie Quinn (Eileen Dromey) threatens to turn them in for a fraud reward. She even attempts to reach the only working phone in the area (a telephone box along a winding coastal road). Her motorized wheelchair runs out of juice, so she staggers to the phone booth. As she tries to complete the call to betray them all, the phone box is struck by the Parish Priest in his van, and Quinn plunges to her death.

Thus, everyone in Tullymore becomes a millionaire, and all the loose ends are tied-up.

Cast

Jackie O'Shea	Ian Bannen
Michael O'Sullivan	David Kelly
Annie O'Shea	Fionnula Flanagan
Maggie O'Toole	Susan Lynch
Pig Finn	James Nesbitt
Narrator (voice)	Paul Vaughan
Lotto Observer	Adrian Robinson
Mrs Kennedy	Maura O'Malley
Maurice O'Toole	Robert Hickey
Brendy O'Toole	Paddy Ward
Dennis Fitzgerald	James Ryland
Pat Mulligan	Fintan McKweon
Lizzy Quinn	Eileen Dromey
Kitty	Kitty Fitzgerald
Father Patrick	Dermot Kerrigan

Short notes on difficult vocabulary

Michael O'Sullivan: He survived all those storms to be washed away by a few plastic lottery balls.
to be washed away by a few plastic lottery balls = per essere portato via da qualche pallina di plastica (con i numeri) della lotteria

Annie O'Shea: Have we won?

Jackie O'Shea: No, but it got my apple tart brought in now didn't it.

but it got my apple tart brought in now didn't it = ma almeno è servito a farmi portare la torta di mela, non è vero?

Annie O'Shea: But he's never told a lie in his life.

Jackie O'Shea: Well, he's making up for it now.

to make up for sth = rifarsi per (qualcosa che ci si è persi in passato)

Michael O'Sullivan: There's the man.

Pig Finn: Hey boys. Hey boys.

Jackie O'Shea: How are ya? The old sparkle in your eye, ey?

Pig Finn: Your a devil Jackie. Geez Jackie, you must have a terrible thirst on ya tonight. I've never seen a man drink two pints at the same time.

Jackie O'Shea: This is yours Finn. I bought you a pint so.

Pig Finn: Your joking me? Well, you've never bought me a pint.

Jackie O'Shea: Well, I've always bought you home many a night.

Michael O'Sullivan: And I bought you a packet of your favorite Mexican crisps.

the old sparkle = quel vecchio luccichio negli occhi; **geez** = (slang) cavoli; **on ya** = (slang) on you; **your joking me?** = (slang: you are joking me) mi stai prendendo in giro?

Pig Finn: Come on, Maggie!

Maggie O'Toole: I caught a whiff of something then.

Pig Finn: Oh no, it's peaches. Peach soaps, Maggie.

Maggie O'Toole: Oh no. It's something else.

Pig Finn: Could be strawberries. Oh, Maggie.

Maggie O'Toole: Finn.

Pig Finn: Maggie.

Maggie O'Toole: Finn. Oh no, sorry love, it's still there.

whiff = ondata (di profumo), zaffata

Annie O'Shea: I have a chicken leg left over.

Jackie O'Shea: I'm full Annie. Put it in the fridge for dinner tomorrow.

Annie O'Shea: Jackie. I counted those joints precisely. If there's a leg left over, it means someone was missing.

Jackie O'Shea: Winner smells a rat? Where's my list? Ned Devine. Ned Devine was missing.

if there is a leg left over = se è rimasta una coscia (di pollo); **to smell a rat** = fiutare un imbroglio, sentire puzza di bruciato

Jackie O'Shea: [*after finding Ned's dead body*] Dear God. You'll be cursing in heaven tonight, Ned Devine.
to curse = imprecare

Jackie O'Shea: Is there a greater twist of fate Annie? To win half a million and the next minute die from the shock of it.

twist of fate = scherzo del destino

Jackie O'Shea: It's a premonition, Michael. A vision.

Michael O'Sullivan: It's a chicken dinner.

Jackie O'Shea: It's obvious Michael. He wants us to claim the money. Share the chicken dinner. Share the winnings.

Michael O'Sullivan: What a great man he was.

Jackie O'Shea: Yeah, and his spirit's in me head.

Michael O'Sullivan: What'll you do with the ticket?

Jackie O'Shea: Well, he wrote his name in the back Michael. We pretend to be Ned, and we claim the half million.

to claim the money = (qui) riscuotere la vincita; **in me head** = in my head; **to pretend to be sb** = far finta di essere qc

Jim Kelly: Are you having trouble with the directions?

Jackie O'Shea: I am. You're going too fast, yes.

Are you having trouble with the directions? = (qui) ha problemi a darmi indicazioni stradali?

Michael O'Sullivan: [*pretending to be Ned Devine*] A big win is it?

Jim Kelly: Ned, you've won six million eight hundred and ninety four thousand, six hundred and twenty pounds. How does that make you feel? Take your time now, there's no rush. It's a great shock to the system I know. Just give yourself a moment to get used to the idea. So what do you think, Ned? Well it was a roll over week. The jackpot wasn't won last week, so they carried it over to this week, and you were the only winner. Were you aware of that, Ned?

Michael O'Sullivan: No.

roll over week = settimana in cui il jackpot non viene vinto da nessuno e cumula quindi con la settimana successiva

Michael O'Sullivan: Will you excuse me just a minute, will you Jim? I have a bit of an upset tummy coming on.

upset tummy = mal di pancia

Narrator: Saturday evening, and the universe is much the same as at any other point in the history of the world. The planets and stars orbit and spin, and do everything that is expected of them. On earth, as the sun sets, millions prepare for a weekly event that is much less predictable. In sixty three countries around the world, dozens of lottery machines spin hundreds of lottery balls. It takes seconds for the winning numbers to be selected... seconds for the losers to realize they've lost. But for the winners, it is an event that will undoubtedly change their lives forever... lucky sods!

lucky sods! = (volg.) che rottinculo!

Annie O'Shea: You're a country boy, Jackie. Do you think you can think you can outsmart the man from the city?

to outsmart = fare fesso, fregare

Jackie O'Shea: I'm not a great man for telling things the way they are. I mean, I've been known to add a little color to stories and riddles for the benefit of those who will listen. Yet here tonight I can swear that all I've told you is true. The money will be claimed and divided equally between the fifty two of us. Now it was wrong, to think I could claim the money meself. That's not what Ned wants. He wants us to share the winnings. A nest stake for us all. So now if the lotto man comes to the village, you say that Ned Devine is alive and well, and you point your finger to Michael O'Sullivan.

Kitty: Jackie.

Jackie O'Shea: Yes, Kitty?

Kitty: How are we gonna recognise the lotto man when he comes?

Jackie O'Shea: He sneezes.

Kitty: Sneezes?

Jackie O'Shea: Sneezes. He gets hay fever when he's in the country.

Lizzy Quinn: Enough of the sneezing. How much has been won?

riddles = indovinelli; **meself** = myself; **nest stake** = qualcosa da mettere da parte il 'nido' (*nest*, cioè la casa);

you point your finger to Michael O'Sullivan = indichi (col dito) Michael O'Sullivan

Michael O'Sullivan: Lizzy Quinn, the witch. If the village finds out, she'll burn.

Lizzy Quinn, the witch. If the village finds out, she'll burn. = Lizzy Quinn, la strega. Se in paese lo vengono a sapere, brucerà sul rogo.

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0166396/>