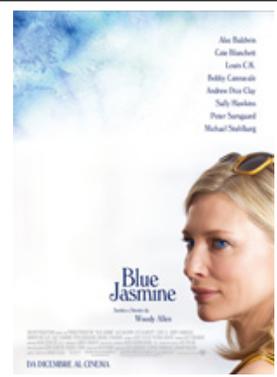


## Movies & Languages 2014-2015

### Blue Jasmine

About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Woody Allen
YEAR / COUNTRY	2013 / USA
GENRE	Comedy-Drama
ACTORS	A. Baldwin, C. Blanchett, S. Hawkins, B. Cannavale



### PLOT

Jasmine, a New York socialite who is deeply troubled and in denial, decides to go to San Francisco to impose upon her sister and forget about her past. In her attempt to move on, she fluctuates between ill-fitting employment, ill-judged social climbing and abysmal interpersonal relations.

### LANGUAGE

New York and Californian accents with Slang and Idiomatic American English.

### GRAMMAR

#### Why and Why not

##### 1. Replies

We generally use *Why not?*, not *Why?* in short replies to negative statements.

Compare:

They've decided to move to Devon - **Why?**

I can't manage tomorrow evening - **Why not?** (More natural than **Why?**)

*Why not?* can be also used to agree to a suggestion.

Let's eat out this evening - Yes, **why not?**

##### 2. Why should...?

A structure with *why* followed by *should* can suggest surprise.

I wonder **why** she **should** want to go out with me.

The structure can also suggest anger or refusal to do something.

I don't see **why** we **should** have to pay for your mistake.

Give me a cigarette - **Why should I?**

##### 3. Infinitive structures

**Why can be followed by an infinitive without to.** This structure can suggest that an action is unnecessary or pointless.

**Why argue** with him? He'll never change his mind. (Not *Why arguing...?* Or *Why to argue...?*)

**Why pay** more at the other shop? We have the best value.

**Why not + infinitive without to** is used to make suggestions.

Sandy's in a bad mood - **Why not give** her some flowers?

*Why don't...?* can be used in the same way.

**Why don't you give** her some flowers?

**Why don't we go** and see Julie?

## VOCABULARY

<b>Babble:</b> talk rapidly and continuously in a foolish, excited, or incomprehensible way	<b>Aptitude:</b> a component of a competency to do a certain kind of work at a certain level, which can also be considered "talent"
<b>Bumpy:</b> marked by bumps and jolts; rough: a bumpy flight	<b>Ceiling:</b> an overhead interior surface that covers the upper limit of a room
<b>To brag about:</b> to assert boastfully in an arrogant, boastful speech or manner	<b>Big shot:</b> an important or influential person
<b>Cakewalk:</b> something easily accomplished	<b>Broke:</b> having completely run out of money
<b>To crack up:</b> suffer an emotional breakdown under pressure	<b>Lug:</b> to pull or carry with force or effort
<b>Grab:</b> to obtain and consume quickly	<b>Homey:</b> comfortably informal and inviting, cozy
<b>A grave:</b> an excavation made in the earth in which to bury a dead body	<b>Lifeguard:</b> an expert swimmer employed at a beach or pool to rescue bathers from drowning or from other accidents and dangers
<b>Splurge:</b> to indulge oneself in some luxury or costly pleasure	<b>Stare:</b> to gaze fixedly and intently
<b>Phoney:</b> an insincere or pretentious person	<b>Placate:</b> to appease or pacify, especially by concessions or conciliatory gestures
<b>To Pry:</b> to inquire impertinently or unnecessarily into something	<b>Vain:</b> excessively proud of or concerned about one's own appearance
<b>Loser:</b> a misfit, especially someone who has never or seldom been successful at a job, personal relationship, etc.	<b>To squander:</b> to spend or use (money, time, etc.) extravagantly or wastefully
<b>Slush:</b> silly, sentimental or weakly emotional talk	<b>To do time:</b> to spend time in prison
<b>Postpone:</b> to put off to a later time	<b>Interior decorator:</b> a designer of interiors