Gone Girl

About the movie (subtitled version)

| DIRECTOR | D. Fincher |
| :--- | :--- |
| YEAR / COUNTRY | 2014 / USA |
| GENRE | Drama, Thriller |
| ACTORS | B. Affleck, R. Pike, N. P. Harris, K. Dickens |



## PLOT

Nick and Amy have been married for 5 years. They met in New York City, before moving to a small town in Missouri. By all appearances, they are the perfect couple, until Amy disappears on their 5th anniversary. Nick is immediately the prime suspect and the villain in the media's hysterical coverage of the case. While the police hunt for clues and Nick protests his innocence, we get to know Amy in diaryentry flashbacks: two interwoven strands of "he-said/she-said", bringing to light a troubled marriage. But which story is honest? Is Nick really innocent? Is Amy still alive? Where is she?

The screenplay by Gillian Flynn is based on her 2012 best-selling novel of the same name.
Rosamund Pike received nomination for an Academy Award, AFTA Award, Golden Globe Award and Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Actress.

LANGUAGE
American English, slang.

## GRAMMAR

## INVERSION

If a negative adverb or adverbial expression is put at the BEGINNING of a clause for EMPHASIS, it is usually followed by AUXILIARY VERB + SUBJECT.

NORMAL sequence
I NEVER eat meat
EMPHATIC (inversion)
NORMAL sequence
EMPHATIC (inversion)

NEVER DO I EAT meat He SELDOM spoke English SELDOM DID HE speak English

## MOST COMMON NEGATIVE ADVERBS OR ADVERBIAL EXPRESSIONS:

NEVER, RARELY, SELDOM, HARDLY, HARDLY EVER, AT NO TIME, ONLY, NOT ONLY, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES, NO SOONER, *NOT UNTIL:

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES will the president resign.
RARELY do people care about the environment to give up their car.
NOT ONLY is she beautiful but she's also quite rich.
HARDLY had I begun my exam, when the ceiling collapsed!
NO SOONER did he open the door than the cat attacked him.
*NOT UNTIL \& ONLY+ time expression>>>INVERSION IN MAIN CLAUSE
I won't marry you until you get a job. (normal sequence)

NOT UNTIL you get a job WILL I MARRY you. (emphatic)
NOT UNTIL the price went up DID HE SELL his stocks.
ONLY when I got home DID I REALIZE I had forgotten my umbrella on the bus.

## Use INVERSION also in short answers with NEITHER, NOR and SO:

John doesn't lik
I'm hungry!
VOCABULARY

| Housing development: small houses, often for poor people | Press conference: a meeting to answer questions put by a number of TV and/or newspaper reporters |
| :---: | :---: |
| Trash: rubbish | To put up flyers: to fasten printed notices on buildings for mass distribution |
| Homeless men: men who have nowhere to live | The mall: a shopping area where cars are not allowed |
| "Go": short for Margo, Nick's twin sister | To close down: a company where all work or activity stops, usually forever |
| A mug: a large, deep cup, with a handle on one side | To go bust: when a company loses so much money that it is forced to close down |
| Board games: like Snakes \& Ladders or the game, Master Mind, played on a flat surface (a square piece of wood or cardboard) | Standoffish: aloof, reserved, rather unfriendly |
| To glance: to look very quickly at something | Ivy League: an association of 8 colleges in the northeastern U.S., comprising Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania and Yale...with reference to the old, ivy-covered college buildings |
| Jitters: nervousness | To rub someone the wrong way: to annoy or offend someone |
| To scan: to glance through | Cops: policemen |
| Hipster: someone who is trendy | Clue: something that provides information, a sign |
| Nick says he is "the salt of the earth": he feels more admirable or valuable than any other person | To be laid off: someone who has been told to leave their job by their employers, usually because there is no more work for them to do |
| Nick says he is "corn-fed": he is healthy \& strong, but provincial \& unsophisticated, a Missouri guy | Barkeeper: a person who owns a bar |
| To scrimshaw: to turn out meticulously executed work | What's the catch?: when something sounds too good to be true and not as good as it seems to be. "OK, I've seen all the benefits, but what's the catch? This sounds too good to be true. There's a catch there, isn't there? Aha, triple interest rates!" |
| Cute: sweet, attractive | A sweetheart: a lovable, friendly person |
| Treasure hunt: to search for something that is hidden | Jellybean: a small ovoid candy with a hardened sugar coating over a chewy center (caramella gommosa di frutta) |
| Trust fund: an estate, especially money \& securities, held in trust (fondo fiduciario) | To break up with someone: a relationship that is coming to an end because it is not working out well |
| To plagiarize: to appropriate, to steal someone else's ideas, writing etc. | Forensics: relating to the discovery of information about a crime by scientifically examining objects involved in it (metodi d'indagine scientifica della polizia) |

