



## Manipulative Behavior : The Main Female Character in Movie “Gone Girl”

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Sutrisno, B., Ayuningsih, D. & Rachmawari, B.. (2025). Manipulative Behavior : The Main Female Character in Movie “Gone Girl”. *Journal of English Language and literature*, 10(1), 117-126.  
doi: 10.37110/jell.v10i1.277

Received: 05-12-2024

Accepted: 21-02-2025

Published: 02-03-2025

**Abstract :** The aim of this research is to analyze and find out tactics of manipulators in a movie entitled Gone Girl. This movie tells about a Missouri couple who had a great life, but it all changed when their 5th wedding anniversary occurred. The story begins with Nick Dune’s wife, the Amazing Amy, has gone missing. Along with the process of investigation, it became blurred between Nick’s story and the investigation result. Nick suspected of killing his wife and he struggled for convincing the media. The writer used the qualitative method in this research. The researcher used the theory of manipulation behavior and emotionally abusive relationship. This analysis focuses on the main female character’s manipulative behavior that is shown from the storyline of the movie. The findings of this research are the tactics used by Amy are mostly lying and acting like a victim. She can make the situation seem that she is the victim being tortured by the people around her.

**Keywords:** *manipulative behavior, emotionally abusive, lying, playing victim, emotional blackmail, dominate.*

### INTRODUCTION

Everyone wants to have or accomplish something. Sometimes, desire manifests as manipulative behavior. Some people use deceit to acquire what they want. They are capable of controlling circumstances and even others to establish an environment that works for them. The study reported that the behavioral and personality character is more influenced by the admiration and obedience in their social group (Clemans et al., 2012). As a result, someone with a lot of influence can encourage others to imitate their bad habits as well as their own violent or deceptive actions.

Manipulation exists in the social realm. According to Handelman (2009) When a more

direct and straightforward method could encounter resistance, manipulation is employed as a motivating technique. It is an effort by one individual to influence another to take a certain action and/or accomplish a particular goal. Behavior that coerces someone into doing something or shapes their surroundings to suit their desires is known as manipulative behavior.

There are many reasons why someone might manipulate the situation, but it is often driven by negative personal experiences, present difficulties, the need to provide constructive criticism for someone's actions, or the desire to acquire something or someone. As stated by Buss (1992), most people use this not simply to get what they want, but also to hide their genuine feelings and frighten others.

People can influence the circumstance in a variety of ways. Simon's statement indicated the methods employed to carry it out (Simon, 2019). Half-answers will be given by manipulators, and they will only seem complete if you give them some thought. Additionally, they can reiterate a number of fully authentic, verifiable facts while leaving out an important detail that would provide an entirely different perspective on the matter. Charm is a tool used by manipulators to achieve their goals.

No previous study has been large enough to manipulation behavior. However, it has been determined from earlier studies when and why manipulative behavior is dysfunctional, and when it is simply ethically wrong (Potter, 2006). The researcher is therefore open to using this movie as research material. The objective of this approach is to define manipulation as something that is intrinsically bad, regardless of its detrimental effects.

In order to understand how someone might use their intelligence to manipulate the situation as much as possible in accordance with their prearranged plans and to investigate the nature of the manipulator, manipulative behavior is an interesting social issue that has been researched in literature. We can then comprehend the benefits and drawbacks of things, as well as ways to prevent that circumstance or enhance our understanding.

Etesami's comparative study (2019) concluded that manipulation is "viewed as the tendency of an individual to express an opinion, usually different from their actual belief, with the intention of shifting the public opinion toward their actual belief.". Therefore, manipulative behavior can be defined as an action or endeavor on the part of an individual to affect the attitudes, opinions, and behavior of others without the individual's knowledge.

Meanwhile, Braiker (2007) claimed that manipulation is a basic symptom of someone's disorder, and that it is used to influence or manipulate others, especially for one's own benefit, by clever, unjust, or deceptive tactics. A manipulator will reward their victim in order to maintain a cycle of control and compulsion. Manipulation makes people more dependent, helpless, and victims.

In other hand, Horrn (2019) identified that manipulation is a type of intended influence that

is defined as an attempt by the manipulator to affect the victim's behavior in order to achieve a goal that is in the manipulator's self-interest. Manipulation requires an intention and a particular goal in order to reach the aims of manipulating the situation.

Thus, manipulative behavior can be defined as a psychological tactic that coerces the victim into giving or doing something in order to fulfill someone's wish. High-status individuals who are closest to us also exhibit this mentality; otherwise, it permeates every aspect of our everyday lives. For instance, someone who, in one way or another, forces others to do their task while acknowledging the output as their own. As an additional example, if someone pretends to be fine while in reality they are depressed, this might be regarded as manipulating the situation because he has control over how other people see and respond to him.

There are several example methods of manipulative behavior that are usually used by manipulators as their strategy to manipulate the situation or someone. Simon (2019) stated some of those methods:

- 1) Covert intimidation: In order to induce the target to comply with their wishes or try to establish an imbalance of power, the manipulator will typically provide them preferential treatment. They would deliberately leave the target in an effort to make them feel alone if they failed to live up to expectations. If they obey him, the targets who have fallen for their baits will always be rewarded; if they do not, they will suffer consequences. The victim's wellness and mental health may suffer as a result.
- 2) Lying: Typically, manipulators are skilled at lying. To confuse others, they distort the facts. They typically make statements that seem to be supported by evidence while also omitting crucial details. When the manipulator says something, they will appear to be very honest and sincere, but their true goal is to trick you and gain your trust. They do not only lie about other things, but they can also lie about the target person. They can spread false news while making it look like reality about the victim to others or may exaggerate events to make themselves seem more vulnerable and understate their role in a conflict in order to gain other's sympathy.

3) Playing the role of victim: Following some of the aforementioned examples, they typically act as though they are the victims of an incident or even of their own deceptions. To gain sympathy, they portray themselves as victims, then manipulate others to comply with their wishes. They try to get you into an argument or make you feel bad for expressing concerns because they react aggressively. They will then attempt to influence and control your decisions.

Similar findings have been reported by Handelman (2009) which has concluded four types of manipulation. (1) Limiting manipulations. These manipulations are designed to limit a target's alternatives by steering him toward a single option or limiting the amount of options he examines when making a decision; (2) Expanding manipulations. The goal of these manipulations is to open a target's mind by getting him to broaden his "field of vision" toward new options while taking decision; (3) Emotional manipulations. The goal of these manipulations is to get the target to respond impulsively, involuntarily, and unconsciously; (4) Intellectual manipulations. These manipulations are aimed at persuading the target to act based on logic and thought.

### **Prevention of Manipulative Behavior**

Understanding some of the manipulators' tactics is one of the best ways to overcome their behavior so that we don't get caught up in their tracks. There are also several ways to avoid the tactics of the manipulator (Simon, 2019): (1) Get to know the people you deal with well. We certainly cannot immediately feel familiar or know the ins and outs of them, but we can know about their general personalities. This is evident in their everyday interactions with others and their environment; (2) Gain a thorough understanding of manipulative strategies. Since a manipulator's actions are not always evident, it is important to understand the fundamentals of manipulative behavior. They typically provide partial responses that appear to be complete responses. You shouldn't assume that someone is anxious just because they switch topics a lot. Instead of focusing on something else, they can divert your attention to something that is unrelated to the subject at hand; (3) Prevent harmful misunderstandings. The manipulator is extremely cautious in all that they do. In order to portray him as the victim and others as the

wrongdoers, they will keep an eye on the situation and may fabricate stories.

### **Manipulative Behavior in Relationship**

Manipulative behavior can affect any kind of relationship, especially with friends, family, or a marriage partner. It can cause mental damage to them.

#### ***Manipulative Behavior in Family***

Butkovic & Bratko (2007) pointed that manipulative behavior can be used in a family to educate their children, especially to parent-offspring. According to earlier research, children with manipulative parents may develop eating disorders, anxiety, depression, guilt, and other mental health issues. According to one study, parents who frequently employ manipulation techniques on their kids may raise the probability that their kids will follow suit. Making children feel bad, parents not taking responsibility for their actions, undervaluing children's accomplishments, and the urge to be involved in many facets of a child's life are all indications of manipulation in parent-child relationships.

#### ***Manipulative Behavior in Marriage***

One spouse may feel troubled, alone, or unworthy as a result of manipulation in a marriage. One spouse may unintentionally manipulate the other to prevent their partners from feeling burdened, even in partnerships that are healthy. Many even choose to overlook or undervalue the fact that they are being manipulated in their relationship. Intimate relationship manipulation can manifest in a variety of ways, such as exaggeration, guilt, affectionate gift-giving or selecting, secret storage, and passive violence. (Bub & Lommen, 2017).

#### **1) Manipulative Behavior in Friendship**

People could also feel manipulated if they are part of a friendship that has turned toxic. One person may take advantage of another to satisfy their own needs at the expense of their friend in manipulative friendships. In order to receive support, manipulative friends may use guilt or compulsion, or they may only contact their buddy when they need their own emotional needs satisfied. They may also look for excuses to keep their friends in a relationship.

#### ***Emotionally Abusive Relationship***

Most people who are in an emotionally abusive relationship feel desperate, helpless, and trapped. The majority of victims of emotional abuse are not conscious that they are being abused, and many of them hold themselves responsible for the problems in the relationship. The designated patient (the one with the problem) is often portrayed as the victim of abuse. The abused partner often willingly adopts the role of the labeled patient because emotional abuse causes a person to doubt his own perceptions and to hold himself or herself responsible for all of the problems in the relationship. In addition to going unreported, the abuser could feel strengthened by the therapeutic process as his beliefs and ideals are validated.

Emotional abuse differs significantly from verbal abuse. Emotional abuse is described as any nonphysical conduct that uses degradation, humiliation, or fear to dominate, intimidate, humiliate, degrade, punish, or isolate another person (Beverly Engel, 2017). Verbal abuse (belittling, berating, continual criticism) to more subtle strategies like intimidation, manipulation, and unwillingness to be pleased are all examples of emotionally abusive behavior.

The major effects of emotional abuse on the victim are depression, lack of motivation, disorientation, difficulty focusing or making decisions, low self-esteem, thoughts of worthlessness or failure, sentiments of hopelessness, self-blame, and self-destructiveness. Given enough time, the majority of emotional abuse victims start to feel that they are not only at blame for all marital problems but also that they are undeserving of love and are humiliated.

### **Types of Emotional Abuse**

In this section, the researcher will show the common sorts of emotional abuse intimate relationships, whether it will be the giving or receiving of these abusive practices.

#### **1) Domination**

Dominate is intended to control the actions of another individual. The individual who attempts to exert control over another has a strong desire to get what he wants and often uses threats to get it. Examples of domineering behavior include asking a partner around, keeping track of time and activities, limiting resources (phone, finances), separating a partner from her family or friends, interfering with opportunities (job,

education, medical care), being overly possessive and jealous, throwing objects, and so forth.

#### **2) Verbal Assaults**

Verbal abuse includes things like berating, insulting, criticizing, humiliating, name-calling, screaming, threatening, excessively blaming, shaming, selecting sarcasm, or showing disdain for the person. This kind of abuse is extremely detrimental to a person's sense of self-worth and self-image. Similar to physical assault, verbal abuse causes mental and spiritual harm that is extremely difficult to recover from. Yelling and screaming are frightening in addition to being degrading.

#### **3) Continual Blaming**

The absurdity and negative consequences of abuse are exacerbated when someone constantly criticizes you, continually finds an issue, is unsatisfied, and blames you for everything that goes wrong. Over time, this type of abuse erodes your feeling of value and self-esteem, reducing any optimistic beliefs you may have about your accomplishments and yourself.

#### **4) Emotional Blackmail**

It occurs when one spouse coerces the other into doing what he wants by using his partner's guilt, fear, or sympathy, either overtly or covertly. Emotional blackmail includes situations where one partner rejects or isolates herself from her partner until he complies with her demands, or when a spouse threatens to quit the relationship if he doesn't get what he wants. Your boyfriend uses emotional blackmail when he refuses to have sex or show you affection, gives you the cold shoulder or silent treatment, threatens to find someone else, or uses other fear tactics to manipulate you.

#### **5) Gaslighting**

This term comes from the iconic film *Gaslight*, when a husband uses a series of cunning strategies to make his wife question her memory, perceptions, and even her sanity. When a spouse does this, they may constantly deny that specific events occurred or that they said something that you both know was spoken, or they may assume that you are lying or exaggerating. It's possible that the abusive person is trying to gain control over you or avoid taking accountability for their actions.

### **Steps to Stop the Abuse**

When a person realizes that he is in an emotionally abusive relationship, he will feel confused and do not know how to get out of that

toxic relationship. Here are some tips that can be done to stop abusive partners.

- 1) Concede to yourself that you are experiencing emotional abuse and the resulting agony. You can identify it by recalling instances in which your relationship traumatized you. You must observe some abusive behaviors that your partner may eventually engage in, such as gaslighting, blackmailing, and yelling.
- 2) Think about the reasons behind your decision to be with an abusive partner. You still bear the emotional scars of your childhood if you were abused or neglected as a child, or if you were raised in a dysfunctional or alcoholic household. Because of these adverse effects, you might have thought that you had less alternatives for romantic relationships and that you had to connect with partners who chose you instead of choosing a mate. To put it another way, you may have believed you had no choice but to take what you could get. If you were a child who was subjected to emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, you may have been an easy target for abusive partners as an adult.
- 3) Be mindful of your emotions. Sometimes emotional abuse is so obvious that you aren't aware of it until it's too late. It can just be a pregnant pause, a particular facial expression, or a particular speaking tone. You can tell when your spouse is being abusively if you pay close attention to how you feel, whether you're with them or not.
- 4) Bring up your partner's violent actions with them. It's very likely that you've already invested a great deal of time in attempting to understand your partner's behavior, communicating your feelings, or determining what went wrong in the relationship, only to discover that none of these strategies were successful in halting the abuse.

## METHOD

This research uses qualitative type. Vanderstoep and Johnston (2009) explained that qualitative research is a research that produces narrative or textual descriptions of the phenomenon under study qualitative research. Therefore, this research can also be said to be a subjective study because it aims to explore the research object so that the message and intentions will be obtained on the part of the object under study.

Another approach in literature is psychological approach. The aim of this approach is to provide in-depth clues to solving a thematic

and symbolic in psychological matter in literary works (Guerin, 2005). This approach focuses on human problems, indicating that literature is no longer autonomous as an author's imaginary product, but rather there is a close connection between literature and individuals' mental.


There are two types of data used in this study: (1) primary source, which is the 2014 film *Gone Girl*, which was based on the American author Gillian Flynn's June 2012 novel of the same name; and (2) secondary source, which is a number of books and journals that the researcher used to add knowledge or information about research topics related to research questions.

In analyzing data, there are several steps, such as: (1) Watching the movie. Researcher watched the movie for five times to understand the storyline well, and then took notes about some scenes that related to the topic; (2) Classifying the data. Researcher checked out the existing script with the recorded data, then classified the data into classes according to the problem identification; (3) Coding. The researcher classified and coded the data with the theories: (a) R – Reason; (b) MB – Manipulative Behavior; and (c) EA – Emotional Abusive; (4) Interpreting. After coding the data, researcher made an interpretation that related to the topic in accordance with the data that has been collected; (5) Making a conclusion. The researcher made a conclusion based on the storyline from the movie and theories that had been found; and (6) Writing the report. As the final, the researcher reported the final paper related to the main female character in *Gone Girl* movie.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Findings

The reasons why Amy manipulated the situations.

Coding	Scene	Duration
R1	 <p>Figure 1 Amy drove a car to run away</p>	01:06:25




Amy: "Nick Dunne took my pride and my dignity, and my hope and my money. He took and took from me until I no longer existed."

Script 1 Amy drove a car to run away

Coding	Scene	Duration
MB1	 <p>Figure 4 Amy read and analyzed about crime</p>	01:06:40


Amy felt hurt towards Nick because Amy had sacrificed many things to support Nick's previous life. This can be seen from Amy's monologue.

Coding	Scene	Duration
R2	 <p>Figure 2 When Amy and Nick came to Nick's hometown</p>	00:40:40

Amy: "Nick is happy to be home, but I don't know if he's happy I'm with him. I feel like something he loaded by mistake. Something to be jettisoned, if necessary. Something disposable. I feel like I could disappear."

Script 2 When Amy and Nick came to Nick's hometown

When they went back to Nick's hometown to take care of Nick's mom who suffered cancer, Nick looked happy when he was home. Meanwhile, Amy started questioning her presence there, was Nick happy because he is in home with Amy or he was just happy because of meeting his family?

Coding	Scene	Duration
R3	 <p>Figure 3 Amy had debate with Nick</p>	00:33:58

Nick: "You don't trust me. You don't trust my judgment. You certainly don't trust my intention."

Amy: "What are you talking about?"

Nick: "That's the basic tenet of a prenup, isn't it?"

Amy: "Why are you throwing that in my face again?"

Nick: "Because it's easy to throw."

Amy: "Nick, I don't get it. I don't get why you're daring me to be someone I don't wanna be. The nagging shrew. The controlling bitch. I'm not that person. I'm your wife."

Nick: "I'm sorry. I just don't know how to do this. I've never not had a job."

Script 3 Amy had debate with Nick

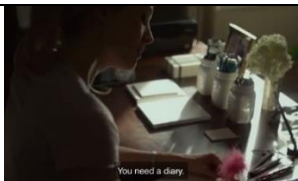
They were having a financial crisis and Amy was working alone. When Amy got back to home and saw Nick enjoyed on the sofa while playing a video game. He even bought a new laptop and the table looked messy because of his food. Nick equivocated that it was the first time he was unemployed.

### The way Amy manipulated things

Amy: "To fake a convincing murder, you have to discipline. And if I get everything's right, the world will hate Nick for killing his beautiful pregnant wife."

Script 4 Amy read and analyzed about crime


To start her plan of revenge, Amy started reading and watching several cases of murder so that she could arrange a good and neat scenario for her husband later.

Coding	Scene	Duration
MB6	 Figure 5 Amy wrote her diary	01:41:02

The strongest evidence that Amy used to support her murder case is a diary that she diligently wrote every day. She wrote down her feelings almost every day. Her diary would be strong evidence for her murder case that Amy was afraid that Nick would kill her.

Coding	Scene	Duration
MB7	 Figure 6 Amy met Desi	01:41:22

When Amy was robbed, she asked Desi for help, her ex who was arguably still obsessed with her. He told Desi that Nick wanted to kill her, so she run. She didn't even brave enough to tell her parents. Desi also brought Amy to live at his house.

Coding	Scene	Duration
MB8	 Figure 7 Amy at Desi's house	01:48:38


Coding	Scene	Duration
EA1	 Figure 11 The first time Amy got back home	02:11:25

Desi: "Good morning!"  
Amy: "Don't do that!"  
"I'm sorry. I need to feel safe."

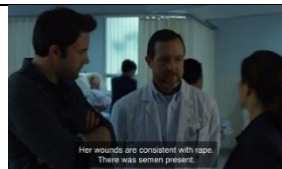
Desi: "You are very safe. What have you been up to?" Amy: "Nothing." Desi: "Amy, I'm not Nick." Amy: "It's hard for me. After so many years under someone's thumb..." Desi: "I know just what that feels like." Amy: "You were never under my thumb."
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#### Script 5 Amy at Desi's house

When Amy was looking at the CCTV, she was shocked and screamed because Desi suddenly came. However, she quibbled by saying that she was still traumatized by what happened to her and Nick.

Coding	Scene	Duration
MB10	 Figure 8 Amy hurt herself	02:00:36

When Amy saw Nick's interview on TV, she wanted to get back to Nick. So she devised a strategy to escape from Desi. She pretended to be someone who was locked up and tortured, and deliberately showed it on Desi's CCTV so that it would be an evidence. Then she tied her own hands to leave marks.

Coding	Scene	Duration
MB11	 Figure 9 Doctor told his diagnose about Amy's condition	02:06:01

After Amy killed Desi and escaped, she returned to her and Nick's house. She then pretended to be unconscious and was taken to the hospital. The doctor also said the diagnosis was that Amy had been attacked or kidnapped, but her condition would get better.

When the detectives and police interrogated Amy, she said that Desi was still very obsessed with her. Even on her anniversary with Nick, suddenly Desi came and kidnapped her. Amy says that Desi is the reason why she was missing.

#### The way Amy made her husband doubt the quality of himself

Nick: "All right. You can stop pretending now."  
 Amy: "I'm not pretending. You were perfect. The Nick I saw on TV, that's the Nick I fell in love with."  
 Nick: "You do know I was just telling you what you wanted to hear, right?"  
 Amy: "That's how well you know me. You know me in your marrow."

Script 6 The first time Amy got back home

When they got back from the hospital, Nick asked what really happened to Amy. He also told Amy that he was only saying what Amy wanted to hear in a TV interview. However, according to Amy, it showed how Nick knows her very well.

Coding	Scene	Duration
EA2		02:12:08
	Figure 12 Amy took a bath together with Nick	

Nick: "You killed someone, Amy. You're murderer."  
 Amy: "I'm a fighter. I fought my way back to you."  
 Nick: "You killed a guy. You slashed his throat with a box cutter."  
 Amy: "You went on national television and begged for me to save your life. And I obliged. But I want that Nick."  
 Nick: "I'm leaving."  
 Amy: "You really think that's smart?"  
 "Wounded, raped wife battles her way back to her husband and he deserts her. They'll destroy you. Neighbors will shun you. And I'll make sure that no one forgets the pain you caused me."

Script 7 Amy took a bath together with Nick

Nick's previous situation had indeed been very cornered and only a statement from Amy would be a help for him so that Nick was not imprisoned. Therefore, Amy said that Nick's interview was a sign of asking for help for her, even though he had to kill Desi. He did it for Nick.

Nick: "You fucking cunt!"  
 Amy: "I'm the cunt that you married. The only time you liked yourself was when

*you were trying to be someone this cunt might like. I'm not a quitter, I am that cunt. I've killed for you. Who else can say that?"*

Script 8 Nick hit Amy's head

Nick got angry when Amy said that she won't teach "their" son to hate his father, but his son would do it himself if Nick really leaves Amy. Nick was so angry that he hit Amy. But, Amy said that after all Nick had married her.

## Discussions

### The reasons why Amy manipulated the situations.

After looking at some of the listed findings, we can analyze why Amy manipulated the situation. The first thing to remember is that manipulation is done to achieve something desired. It can be manipulated circumstances or even a person's way of thinking. (Etesami et al., 2017)

The main reason why Amy manipulated her death was because she wanted to take her revenge on Nick. Their story that started from love, went to their unstable financial condition and ended with Nick's affair. Moreover, Amy was a famous figure. When they had economic crisis, Nick lost his job and only Amy worked. Amy saw Nick being lazy and extravagant made him felt annoyed. (Script 3 Amy had debate with Nick)

When they moved to Nick's hometown to take care of Nick's mother who was sick, but that's where Amy doubts her existence in Nick's eyes. She was questioning her presence that was Nick happy because he had met his family or was he happy because he is with Amy there. (Script 2 When Amy and Nick came to Nick's hometown)

Not long after that, Amy also felt that Nick began to change. Amy felt like Nick only came as needed. She didn't feel that Nick loved her anymore. This can be seen from some of the actions that Nick did. For example, when they had sexual intercourse, Nick immediately left Amy. When Amy said she wants to have children, they argued as if their future child is just an excuse for them to stay in their marriage relationship. Even though Nick had wanted to divorce Amy for a long time.

The thing that made him very hurt was when he found out that Nick was having an affair with his student, even doing the habits they usually do when dating. Nick's actions hurt Amy's feelings



and self-esteem because Amy had lowered her pride to be with Nick. Therefore, Amy wanted to make Nick feel sorry and lost for himself and Amy felt that Nick deserved to be sentenced to prison. (*Script 8 Amy saw Nick had an affair in his bar*)

### **The way Amy manipulated things**

Remembering that Amy was a well-known figure makes her much sought after when she went missing. When Nick told Amy's parents that Amy was missing, they immediately held a press conference and even set up a website and hotline in case anyone found Amy. In this case, it is actually very difficult for Amy to escape from anywhere because someone else may recognize her.

Since Amy was also a writer, she had prepared many tactics that she has prepared. By setting the storyline in her diary which said that her relationship with Nick was very happy, until she finally said that Nick's bad temper made her slowly feel afraid. Obviously, some of the things Amy wrote were exaggerated, there were even lies that looked like they were true. This is intended so that Nick can be seen as the main suspect for Amy's disappearance and make Amy like a victim of violence. (Simon, 2019)

Even when Amy was robbed, she immediately contacted the person she could use, her ex, Desi. She knew that Desi still had feelings for her, so he used the opportunity to ask Desi for help. He also lied to Desi saying that Nick threatened her even violently against her so that she felt scared. (*Figure 6 Amy met Desi*)

After Amy was at Desi's house, she wanted to go back to Nick for watching Nick's interview on TV. Amy again devised a ploy to escape from there and be seen as a victim. She studied the CCTV spots in Desi's house and slowly recorded herself like a kidnapped victim in front of CCTV while Desi was away. She also tortured herself to leave scars like torture wounds, such as wounds on her hands and intimate areas. And finally, Amy killed Desi to save herself without any witnesses and even she didn't have to face the punishment for her action. (*Figure 8 Amy hurt herself*)

She was back with Nick and interrogated by the detectives. She said that Desi was still obsessed with her even now. She also said that Desi had a mental health disorder. Even though Detective Rhonda was suspicious about the contents of her diary that he probably disappeared

because she would be killed by Nick, she still made an excuse and said that it was Desi who kidnapped him. (*Figure 10 Amy was being investigated by detectives*)

From the things above, it can be concluded that the tactics used by Amy are mostly lying and acting like a victim. She can make the situation seem that she is the victim being tortured by the people around her. Her fame and good image he had also helped her a lot to make people believe her lies.

### **The way Amy made her husband doubt the quality of himself**

Amy managed to make Nick appear as the main suspect in the case of her disappearance through the scenario she designed. It cornered Nick so many people who were supporters of Amy began to hate and blame Nick. Likewise with the detectives and the police who continued to monitor Nick so that he felt very cornered.

News on TV began to say that Nick is the main suspect in the case of the disappearance of the Amazing Amy. This slowly made Nick depressed, especially when his own sister, Margo, began to be attacked. He could not stand the public opinion and hatred towards him.

When he took the step of hiring a lawyer, he ended up specifically doing an interview with a television station to lure Amy to reveal herself so that he could escape the threat of imprisonment.

It worked and was enough to make Amy felt moved again to get back together with him, but by killing Desi. When Amy returned, Nick began to feel afraid and worried when he recognized the fact that Amy deliberately killed Desi. Amy also emotionally abused Nick depressed and can't get away from him (Handelman, 2009). There was no way to run away from Amy for Nick. (*Script 8 Nick hit Amy's head*).

### **CONCLUSION**

This story began with a love story that seems sweet and amazing. How an ordinary man, Nick, can win the heart of an Amazing Amy. They started their love story with a kiss under a rain of sugar. Nick ended up marrying Amy.

As time passed by, many things happened that could be said to be a test in their marital relationship. It started with the financial crisis they had to deal with which required Amy to work alone and watch her husband, Nick, laze around. Then Amy must follow her husband into his house to take care of Nick's mother who is sick,

until she felt doubt about Nick's feelings toward her.

Things didn't go smoothly. Amy saw that her husband betrayed her by having an affair with his student. Amy also felt hurt because she had sacrificed a lot for Nick. Even she knew that Nick wanted to divorce her, but she still wanted to keep their marriage. But Nick still did not want to reconcile. This made Amy upset that she set up a situation that made Nick the prime suspect for Amy's disappearance.

Even though Amy's plan didn't go as smoothly as she imagined, she was still able to make a fuss in the public for her loss. Until finally she came back in a pathetic condition. It was just Amy's pretense of revenge she wanted to inflict on Nick. At the end, Amy won the battle and Nick lived the rest of his life under Amy's thumb.

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