

Borderline Personality Disorder in Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*

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Abstract

The present study investigates borderline personality disorder in Amy Dunne, the main character in Gillian Flynn's novel *Gone Girl*. The objective of this study was to analyze the events that promote insecurity and anxiety, leading to the stage of chronic borderline personality disorder in the main character, Amy. Many events from her high school to the present have taken a toll on her anxiety and personality disorder. Events like her birth, recession, migration, and discovery of her husband's betrayal developed a violent murderer instinct for revenge. Her journey from a normal, loving wife to a dangerous plotter starts from those unpleasant experiences. The study employs a qualitative research approach, focusing on the psychological dimensions of Amy's character. A psychoanalytic framework is utilized as the primary analytical tool to examine her behaviour, motivations, and emotional responses. Through an interpretive and analytical methodology, the research investigates the underlying causes of Amy's psychological condition and behavioural patterns. The close textual analysis of the character's behaviour and patterns helps to analyze the traumatic experience of unwanted birth, unemployment, migration, and finding her husband's infidelity, which shapes her unconscious with painful experiences, emotional fluctuation, and guides her to the quest for immediate gratification. The study explores that Amy's persistent insecurity, emotional instability, and desire for retribution stem from recurring traumatic experiences, which contribute to the manifestation of characteristics commonly associated with borderline personality disorder. *Keywords:* Insecurity, Revenge, Borderline Personality Disorder, Reconciliation

Introduction

This research is focused on the exploration of Borderline Personality Disorder in the main character, Amy, in Gillian Flynn's novel *Gone Girl*. The author is acknowledged for exposing the bitter reality of post-modern socio-psychological behaviour. The twentieth-century generation is living a more competitive life. The impact of the Industrial Revolution and mechanical civilization has taken human beings far from traditional ethical and responsible values. Competition is not limited to the societal level but also to family and even to spouses. The quest to win over others emotionally and economically has

unknowingly pushed them into vicious psychological conflict, strong doubt, and feelings of insecurity. Sometimes it goes to the level of sexual dissatisfaction, disinterest, emotional distraction, hatred, and even cheating against each other with extra-marital relationships. Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* depicts a similar issue of insecurity and retribution of a young wife who is dissatisfied with her husband for his irresponsible behaviors, including having an extramarital relationship. His neglect of his wife while making a family decision takes him far from her. Rather than pursuing reconciliation, both continue to ignore each other. When the wife gets to know about her husband's affairs, she plans for revenge.

The novel is set in the first half of the twenty-first century. It was a period of rapid growth in science and technology, individualism, gender equality, democracy, and post-modern lifestyle. It is also the period of building up strength in human psychology, especially for women and the backward race. Women's professionalism and gender empowerment were emerging. At that time, women had conquered politics, law, finance, diplomacy, writing, criticism, and social activism. *Gone Girl* presents the true strength of a female, a wife, who is secretly planning to challenge the patriarchal mindset through secret planning for revenge and retribution against her unfaithful husband. Extra-marital affairs are becoming a source of conflict and crime in the modern world, where intimacy also has certain limits. Crossing the line is creating trouble in individual, family, and social relations. *Gone Girl* also depicts a similar plotline (Lev Grossman, 2014).

Gone Girl is written in a diary form. It is divided into two different parts. In each part, both characters are presented in coherence. Readers get both of them in their separate expressions and emotions. The first part talks about a problem, a suspense, and the second, a revelation. Readers get different narratives in the novel; it begins with Nick's diary. The novel is an honest depiction of socio-psychology. Characters are living together dangerously. They have a trust deficit in each other. Normal family issues are taken to the media hype. Human psychology is captivated by consumerism. They are always competing for superiority. Simple mistakes and misunderstandings lead to vicious conflict. In this context, this research is an attempt to explore the nature and causes of insecurity and the retribution of a female character against her husband, who is in an extramarital relationship. The insecurity in her causes borderline personality disorder (BPD).

Borderline personality disorder is a kind of psychological problem that emerges in an individual because of relationship problems, instability in self-image, unstable

emotional attachment, impulsive behavioral patterns, and painful experiences of the past. It is the stage between Neurosis and Psychosis. Adolph Stern propounded the mental state of borderline personality disorder (BPD) in 1938. He studied the symptoms of the human mind, such as fear of abandonment, betrayal, quest for retribution, and instability. The study investigates Amy's abnormal behavior from a psychoanalytic perspective.

Research Objectives

This research is focused on the following objectives:

- a. To find the nature and causes of insecurity and revenge in Amy, the main character in the novel
- b. To find the causes of emotional instability and psychological problems, leading to borderline personality disorder in Amy.

Literature Review

Broken relationships are common elements in the postmodern world, where capitalism and consumerism have transformed human life into a machine. People without financial freedom are under extreme pressure within their families, society, and relatives. Couples are going through lots of misunderstandings, conflicts, self-alienation, anxiety, and revenge because of their fluctuating earnings. *Gone Girl* (2011) depicts the lives of postmodern people living in hardship. Patrick Osborne (2017) thinks the conspiracy is a true picture of the complicated life of an American family. He says that the source of anxiety in young Americans is the open culture, multiple relationships, and economic disparities. They are living with higher expectations, but the outcomes hardly justify their lives. For him, the novel depicts the reality of youth in America, the transformation of the American dream, and the influence of consumerism. He claims consumerism is making people narcissistic. He exposes the way American youths are heading towards unhealthy competition, narcissism, conflict, and anxiety due to the influence of capitalism and consumerism. The American Dream is pressuring them to make money for financial freedom. In the process, competition is increasing. The success of one becomes a source of envy for others, even among family members.

Gone Girl is a perfect example of a mystery thriller with a Gothic tradition. Gothic novels are full of mystery and thrill. *Gone Girl* is also a perfect combination of mystery and thriller that brings the postmodern Gothic theme. Emilia Rautiainen (2021) claims it is a postmodern Gothic novel with hybridity in plot development, characters, and setting.

The experimentation in techniques, mixing the features of 18th-century Gothic and 21st-century technical experimentation, has made it almost a distinct genre (p.3).

In the novel, a working woman could not bear her husband's betrayal and ignorance and was determined to teach him a very good lesson for his mistakes. Males take everything, including extra-marital affairs, casually, and females take them seriously. They do not tolerate any insecurity or betrayal. Social stereotypes shape their different psychological development. The marginalized and the suppressed people come out with different determination to overcome the suppression and torture.

This novel exposes the reality of the patriarchal society that gives privilege to men for having extramarital affairs. The main source of conflict in the fiction is Nick's extramarital affair. The extramarital relationship is a reflection of patriarchal psychology that takes women as inferior creatures (Hussein, 2020). Amy is quite concerned about her status in her family. Her main quest is to get respectful treatment from her husband. Her independence makes her strong enough to challenge the social stereotypes.

Readers can see *Gone Girl* through the lens of a postmodern gender perspective. They find a transition of gender performativity in Amy after becoming independent. She helps her husband during an economic crisis. Economic responsibility is normally taken by males in societies around the world. Amy's mindset might have changed after becoming able to play the role of problem solver. However, she has not received the equivalent respect from her husband. Her husband's relationship with his students makes her more aggressive and rebellious. Every action she takes against her husband displays her confidence. Najam & co. (2022) claim it is Amy's quest to get absolute emancipation by teaching true lessons to her husband. The classical notion of gender is challenged here, and gender performativity comes into play in determining gender (p.54). They relate it to Foucault's theory of gender performativity. She is bold and brave enough to reverse the gender role in the novel.

Psychoanalytical critics find the domination of the 'Id' impulse in the novel. Amy wants immediate gratification by punishing Nick because she finds his relationship with another woman, a university student. For that, she plans to trouble her husband. However, the plan is quite unnatural. Amy is behaving like a psychopath and is guided by her 'Id' impulse, but the reason behind it is not sufficiently explained. Her plan for revenge is not an instant decision. She never lets him feel her different behaviour (Arianto & Situmorang, 2022).

Elements of postmodern fiction writing are found in Flynn's *Gone Girl*. It is experimental with form, issue, and plot development. Ardebil & Co. (2020) find the element of hyper-reality in the text. They think Amy is behaving as a hyper-real character under the influence of postmodern media culture. Because Amy's father has written *Amazing Amy*, a fiction with a wonder character, Amy positions herself in place of Amy of the 'Amazing Amy' book series. Amy is influenced by the 'Amazing Amy Series' on television. She projects herself as the character. Her activities exemplify post-modern hyperreality, where the character audience internalizes the characters and the story itself, and Amy is also doing the same (p.12). This is a technical innovation of twentieth-century experimental writing.

Different verdicts on the text, its character, and its rhetoric are seen in the novel. Issues of Amy's unconscious formation, its reasons, and its nature are yet to be studied. This research focuses on the causes and the nature of Amy's psychological problem through the lens of Freudian psychoanalysis based on the human unconscious, especially the flux of the *Id*, *Ego*, and *Superego* to develop 'borderline personality disorder'.

Methodology and Theory

This study is based on a qualitative research design that follows a descriptive and interpretative approach to examine the meanings, emotional flux, stimulating factors, and human experiences to develop distinct psychological states represented in the text. The primary data source is the novel itself, focusing on the characters, their behavior, and language, while secondary sources include journal articles, reviews, and online materials. The analysis is grounded in psychoanalytic theory (theory of the unconscious) because Amy's behavioural pattern is quite unusual, fluctuating between the *Id*, the *Superego*, and the *ego*. This theoretical framework helps explain the relationship between emotional vulnerability and self-destructive behavior, which is reflected in the psychological condition of the novel's main character.

Borderline Personality Disorder, Insecurity, and Planned Revenge

Borderline Personality Disorder, propounded by an American psychiatrist, Adolph Stern (1938), is another theoretical lens to analyze her psychological behavior (Jones, 2023). In Borderline personality disorder, individuals can plan things consciously; however, their thought process is different from that of common people (Bradley & Westen, 2005). Their abnormal behavior is the result of extreme anxiety and frenzy; when

conditions worsen, they demonstrate masochistic behavior and psychic rigidity (Baskin & Paris, 2012).

To reach the borderline personality disorder, the lens of Freudian psychology is used. Freud, who studied human psychology to discover anxiety and depression and the development of the unconscious (Tarzian et al., 2023). Freud focuses on three different impulses of the human mind: 'Id', 'Ego', and 'Superego'. The source of the unconscious is fear, trauma, or painful experiences (Freud, 1999). In his theory, the Id always searches for immediate gratification with aggression, while the Superego is a passive and receptive state of the human unconscious, which focuses on ethical principles. The Ego comes as a balance between the Id and the Superego with real-life contextualization (Morgan, 1989).

From a Freudian perspective, this study focuses on Amy's unconscious desire and its roots. It studies the flux in her psychology where she lives with dual character: ethical, as a cultured, supportive, and receptive wife, and on the other side, a plotter to take retribution against her husband. She has been able to balance both the quest for immediate gratification and ethical principles. The ego, the real-life feeling, functions as a balancer here. This also studies the character and nature of Amy to discover how they signify borderline personality disorder. The symptoms of BPD are closely analyzed in this study, relating them to Amy's psychological behaviour. The story evolves in her life, feelings, emotions, and behavior, which seem planned but unnatural.

Contextually, on their fifth wedding anniversary, Nick learns of Amy's disappearance. As the investigation progresses, the police begin to suspect him of being involved in her disappearance. Police and detectives start investigating the case. They asked if he had called her friends and parents, but he had not yet. They checked everything inside, even the kitchen and bedroom. Every corner of the house was chaotic. Her favorite vase was also broken. He faces inquiries time and again. Amy's diary offers a glimpse into her playing mind games, but no concrete evidence is provided. She writes in her diary: "It is our first anniversary, and Nick is leaving work at lunchtime; my treasure hunt awaits him. The clues are all about us, about the past year together... (58)". She was the mastermind of those games. Playing psychological games on very special occasions is suspicious because she chooses the game contextually, not at other times. Nick, on one side of his thought, believes she might be doing the same this time, too. But he cannot take any risk on it. He is thinking in a real-life situation, where the wife is missing.

There is no evidence of Amy playing such games when they are in a relationship; it starts immediately after their marriage. When and how she begins to play games is questionable. Amy, a beautiful and intelligent girl, is from a well-to-do family. Renting a house for her is not comfortable. Nick, in his diary, writes, "I suppose it's not a compromise if only one of you considers it such, but that was what our compromise tended to look like. One of us was always angry. Amy, usually" (15). Amy is not satisfied with their relationship because she has to compromise on everything. She feels insecure financially. The insecure feeling generates anxiety inside her. The economic depression is also fueling insecurity and misunderstanding; however, Nick is clueless about what is happening inside Amy. Her psychological games might be her only means of relaxation, or a means to apply the Ego. A message about his mother's cancer makes Nick return to the village because no one was there to take responsibility for his mother, and his father was suffering from a mental problem, Parkinson's disease. He decides to migrate to the village to take care of his parents, but without Amy's consent. She feels disgraced, ignored, and insecure about it. This incident adds to her level of anxiety. Amy could have denied his decision-making, but she decided against it. Here, the Ego is seen coming into her unconscious to guide her actions. She does not protest because ethics and aggression come into compromise in her.

Finally, Amy abandons her house to take retribution against her husband. Her explanation of her act seems bizarre and raises questions about her mental health. She wants to take revenge, but abandons herself and makes the police punish Nick. To make that decision, she takes a long time and goes through extreme contemplation. She is in planned retribution. Planned retribution is the stage of neither psychosis nor neurosis. This is a symptom of borderline personality disorder in her. Her unstable thoughts, mind games, and strong planning to dig up her husband seem uncommon. An intelligent girl like Amy is, ironically, soft and brutal. Nevertheless, Nick cannot be innocent of what he had been doing behind Amy's back. Her unstable nature is reflected in her criticism of Nick and also in his love for him. It is an unusual and uncommon but planned act of hers to take revenge at the appropriate time. The plan for retribution has silently progressed.

The novel traces the sources of her different psychological behavior, especially the reasons behind her anxiety, which leads to generating insecurity and a plan of revenge. Nick's decision to migrate to the village of his parents develops an existential crisis in Amy. She was not satisfied with the decision to open a restaurant in partnership with Mar

Go, whom she never liked to be with. Their experimental sexuality, which means anywhere, anytime, in any position, is a reflection of their romantic outlook. The couple of sound romantic sensibility is going through different forms of betrayal: sexual and real-life. Coming with Amy, she is betraying her husband because she wants retribution. Her betrayal is justifiable against her husband's extramarital affair. However, she is living, pretending to be normal in an impossible situation. The first half of the novel states that Nick and Amy's sex life was going nicely. No sign of sexual obsession and anxiety was found in their life; the problem is not in their sexual behavior. Amy writes, "He squeezes me into him – those strong arms – and hauls me up the stairs. 'God, I love you,' he says. Then comes sex, a stiff drink, and a night of sleep in a sweet, exhausted rats' tangle in our big, soft bed" (79). This is evidence to indicate that the problem is not a physical one, but rather psychological.

In her diary, Amy portrays their marriage as stable and loving, expressing no doubts about their relationship. This is ironic, but more dominated by the Ego because, despite suspicion and quest for retribution, they are having fun in their sex. Amy's tolerance is unnatural because, knowing her husband is cheating on her, she is having a sexual adventure. It is the reflection of the limbo between psychosis and neurosis. She also suggests that Nick made several personal sacrifices and gave up many things he valued to fulfill her wishes. She writes: "I like to think I am confident and secure and mature enough to know Nick loves me without him constantly proving it" (78). This is her balanced expression because she is planning something more against him. However, Nick's late arrival at home on their third anniversary helps to increase trauma. Still, Amy was taking it to her unconscious as a repressed memory. It made her think about more brutal revenge against Nick because, on the special occasion, he had ignored her. The anxiety made her stronger rather than weaker, a different and uncommon psychological state of mind; she was neither completely psychotic nor neurotic. Unseen emotional flux is inside her mind. It is evidence of borderline personality disorder in her.

Nick found an envelope left by Amy, in which he discovered treasure-hunt clues, as she used to do on previous anniversaries. He opened the envelope and found a blue sheet of paper containing a message written in poetic form. The text refers to a student-teacher relationship, which closely parallels Nick's extramarital affair with one of his students (p.103). Here, her game is not a mere game; it is an expression of the unconscious through the clue that she knows her husband well. This becomes a main source of

insecurity for her. But she repressed her pain inside and behaved normally. This discovery also led her to go for planned revenge rather than an expression of dissatisfaction or any kind of aggression. Despite growing anxiety and restlessness, she manages to hide her fluctuating emotions. This state of mind, a balance between extreme desire for revenge and pretended ethics, is also evidence of having BPD inside her.

Nick discovered a second clue but did not tell it to the investigating officer. He was decoding himself. Each of them indicated some incidents, but he pretended that he knew nothing about the text written. Nick visited Amy's friends Marybeth and Rand. When he arrived, their Television had already broadcast the news of Amy's disappearance. Nick learned about Amy's school friends, Daisy and Hilary, and decided to meet them for information about her past. During his investigation, he discovered that Amy had dated Desi during her school years. Noelle Hawthorne was also investigated. He realized the police were not searching for Amy. They were trying to prove him guilty of murder. The planned media trial was getting success. To get there, she remained calm, even after killing the people who came her way. Being murdered, she pretended innocence, balancing her thoughts. Two sides of her psychology are present in her, but she never displays anything unnatural and unethical; rather, she is determined to teach a lesson to her husband. She is unstable between psychosis and neurosis, on the borderline of a disorder.

Nick reached out to Marybeth, a schoolmate of Amy. She further helped him find Amy's school friend, Hilary Handy. She also helped to meet Dasi on the way to St. Louis. Nick was searching for a third clue. He secretly went to Hannibal and found another clue there. Nick and Rand found that Amy had bought a gun from the store. However, she had never told Nick about her feelings of insecurity. The irony was that it was on Valentine's Day that she bought the gun; symbolically, on the day lovers exchanged their beautiful emotions with each other, she purchased a gun. She wanted to leave a message for the investigating officer that she was feeling insecure about someone whom she truly loves. The act of buying a gun and keeping it secret comes under her plan to frame her husband due to her insecurity. A lady with unstable psychological thoughts came up with a master plan to trap her husband. It shows her ability to frame her deeds between aggression and ethics, beyond the character of a normal human being.

Borderline personality disorder is also reflected in her reaction after discovering her husband's act of marital infidelity. A normal woman can't tolerate her husband's extramarital affairs. But Amy was different. She chose not to confront him and continued

living with him as usual. She concealed her awareness of his infidelity while meticulously preparing a calculated and vengeful response. Nick told Go about the affair. She was furious to know it. She never expected it from Nick. The discovery of a partner's extramarital affair typically provokes feelings of anger, jealousy, and betrayal. While Margo displayed such a reaction, Amy remained unusually calm despite experiencing intense insecurity. From this, it was easy to understand that she was not normal (173). Her calmness and well-thought-out plan made her uncommon. Haunted by feelings of insecurity and betrayal, Amy determines to teach Nick a severe lesson, ensuring that he would experience greater emotional distress than she was enduring. Her capacity to balance her thoughts was incredible. The ego plays a significant role in staying on the borderline.

Nick drove to his father's vacant house to find another clue. He sat on the mat to find the fifth and sixth clues. The last one was quite concerning. This clue answered his quest a bit, as she was not satisfied with migrating to Nick's country house. However, she never shared her dissatisfaction with Nick. She kept it hidden in her repressed memories, which became a core issue for her psychological problem. Here, the unconscious is becoming chronic, leading her to BPD.

Nick was reminded of his extramarital affair with Andie after discovering clues that pointed to their relationship. Memories of the affair resurfaced and began to trouble him. Throughout their involvement, Andie displayed intense physical affection and passion, often initiating intimacy. As a woman in her early twenties, she was portrayed as assertive, impulsive, and highly expressive in her desires. Later, he realized that he was doing wrong by cheating on his wife. That was what she wanted to make Nick feel. Instead of confronting Nick directly, she suppressed her emotions and carefully planned her revenge. Amy's plan proved effective, as she successfully damaged Nick's public image. The media, including television networks and journalists, began portraying him as the primary suspect in her disappearance. The insecurity led her thoughts to revenge, keeping real-life emotion hidden.

Amy had no cell phone, no money, and no ATM to run away and sustain her life. Furthermore, Noelle Hawthorne's statement that Amy was in great trouble for being out of money and not having a good marital life was a picture of a clever plan because it was beyond his thought. That came under her plan to make the public feel about her trouble. He realized that Amy had framed him (P. 496). The situation became more difficult for

Nick when he was unexpectedly approached by a television crew in a public place. That intensified the media's focus on him and further damaged his public image. The crowd of people was marching towards him. That was what Amy wanted. The situation became even more damaging when Noelle Hawthorne, who claimed to be Amy's closest friend, publicly confronted Nick and questioned him about Amy's whereabouts. She further alleged that Amy was pregnant and that Nick did not want a child, implying that he may have had a motive to kill her. These accusations intensified public suspicion and further tarnished Nick's reputation. The news of her pregnancy made his friends and Margo furious. Hence, False pregnancy became another weapon to defame Nick, a planned accusation. He realized that Amy had planned well to trap Nick, making sure that he wouldn't escape it. However, now he was quite sure that Amy was not dead, nor was she kidnapped; rather, she had played a very dangerous game to trap him.

Nick thought about the final clue, which took him out of the city into a woodland area. There, he entered a secluded lighthouse that reminded him of his past affair with Andie. They had visited the place many times and had enjoyed parties and intimacy there. Since they were in a teacher–student relationship, they could not meet openly anywhere else. The isolated location provided them with a private and safe space away from public attention. He realized each clue was taking him to the places where he cheated on his wife. He was trapped in such a way that either his arrest or his capital punishment could take him out of it. She was punishing him for good. He went further and found a blue envelope on the table beside the television. He opened it and found that she was straightforward. She deliberately offered the clues that she was neither dead nor kidnapped. She wrote, “For this anniversary, I’ve arranged a trip: Follow your beloved river, up up up! And you don’t even have to worry about trying to find your anniversary present. This time, the present will come to you! So, sit back and relax, because you are DONE” (314). His extra-marital relationships, the act of cheating, were indirectly stated in the clue. She also guaranteed the end of him from her. It was not the act of a normal woman with a proper mental status; it was a planned revenge of a betrayed wife. She was living with pain, insecurity, and motivation for revenge.

She had left another piece of paper for him with the message, “The beginning of a wonderful new story, Nick! ‘That’s the way to do it!’ Enjoy” (314). This message led Nick and the readers as well to realize that Amy was not killed. Instead, she framed Nick in a way that left him with no escape. It raised a contradiction between her emotional anxiety

and the calm, controlled manner in which she constructed the message, which accused him of his infidelity despite having a wife at home. Her feelings of insecurity and desire for revenge worked together in shaping her actions. This behavior suggested that she was neither fully psychotic nor purely neurotic, but rather existed on the borderline between the two states, reflecting traits associated with borderline personality disorder.

Despite the feeling of existential crisis and discovery of infidelity, Amy did not show any signs of conflict or dissatisfaction with her husband. However, the act of her own disappearance was a clear example of planned retribution driven by insecurity and an existential crisis. Several incidents of dissatisfaction contributed to her growing anxiety, which eventually became chronic and developed into traits associated with borderline personality disorder.

Amy deliberately wanted to take Nick into deep trouble, and for that, she repressed everything into her unconscious. She became unstable, overthinking, felt insecure, and finally became a murderer. She revealed that she did not have a blood phobia. She also cut her arm to take out blood to produce evidence that Nick had killed her. She believed that the police would examine the blood in a laboratory to confirm it was her blood. She let the blood run for about ten minutes, a suicidal attempt. She deliberately presented the pieces of evidence to make sure that the police would find them and accuse her husband. She “Wrap the First Clue in its box and tuck it just out of the way so the police will find it before dazed husband thinks to look for it. It has to be part of the police record” (301). She deliberately provided clues to the police, including the box and clothes at the riverbank, the knife, blood drops, etc. She remained patient from the outside, but inside her mind, a strong instinct for revenge ruled. The feeling of insecurity always haunted her badly. To overcome it, she planned to take harsh revenge against her husband. The novel ends with reconciliation between those antagonistic forces. They decided to live together, with doubt, insecurity, and betrayal. An unusual reconciliation, a sign of instability, a symptom of borderline personality disorder.

Findings and Conclusion

The text mainly analyzes Amy’s psychological condition through the lens of psychoanalysis. Amy, the main character of this novel, is found suffering from Borderline Personality Disorder. Amy’s childhood trauma, including feeling unwanted because she was born after her parents’ miscarriages and infertility struggles, develops into deep insecurity, inferiority, and anxiety. These circumstances contributed to her emotional

instability and raised desperation for revenge. Nick's emotional distancing from her and his extramarital affair with his own student stimulate Amy's insecurity and jealousy. Living with the feelings of betrayal and abandonment, she carefully plans revenge against him. For that, she planned to frame him as a culprit for her disappearance and possible murder. Her unstable actions, such as manipulation, revenge fantasies, emotional flux, murder, and even reconciliation, are interpreted as symptoms of BPD because such symptoms neither fall under psychosis nor neurosis. In a common outlook, Amy appears intelligent and calculated to execute her plan; she remains psychologically unstable. She constantly fluctuates between love, hatred, insecurity, and revenge. The study concludes with the result that Amy's fear of abandonment, emotional instability, and desire for revenge against her husband are rooted in her borderline personality disorder.

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