

Unreality of Real: Debordean Reading of Gillian Flynn's Gone Girl

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Abstract : Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*, depicts a society in which, as a result of media dominance, the reality is very precarious and difficult to grasp. In *Gone Girl*, reality and image of reality represented on TV, are challenging to differentiate. Along with reality, individuals' agency and independence before media and the capitalist rule are called in to question in the novel. In order to expose the unstable nature of reality and an individual's complicated relationship with media, this study has deployed the ideas of Marxist-media theorist Guy Debord (1931-1992). In his book *Society of the Spectacle* (1966), Debord delineates a society in which images replace the objective reality, and people are incapable of making real changes. The results of the current study show that despite their efforts, Nick and Amy, the two main characters of the novel, are no more than spectators with very little agency before the media. Moreover, following Debord's argument about the replacement of reality with images, everyone and every institution in *Gone Girl* projects an image that does not necessarily embody the objective reality, a fact that makes it very hard to differentiate the real from unreal.

Keywords : agency, Debord, *Gone Girl*, media studies, society of spectacle, reality

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