

# The Paragon Multimedia DVD, VHS Collection

Title: **The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo**

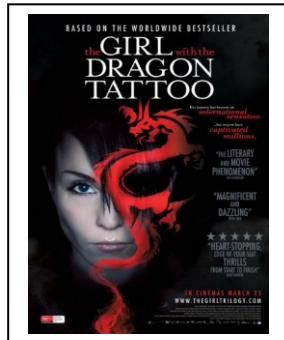


ISBN: 5035822083936

## Information

Release **Title:** The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo  
 26<sup>th</sup> December 2011 (United Kingdom)  
 From: Best selling novel by Stieg Larsson  
 AKA: Origin: United States, Sweden, Norway  
 Release date: United States – 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011 (New York Prem)  
 Genres: Crime, Drama, Mystery, Thriller  
 Disc Nos. - 1  
 Certification: 18  
 Duration: 2h 38m  
 Region Code:  
 Region: 2  
 Product Code:  
 MPN:  
 EAN:  
 UPC:  
 Languages: English, Swedish  
 Filming locations  
 Hofsta Manor, Björkvik, Södermanlands län, Sweden (Vanger's estate)  
 Sound mix: Dolby Digital, Datasat, SDDS, Dolby Surround 7.1  
 Colour: PAL  
 Aspect Ratio: 2.39:1

Library Image



*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	David Fincher
Screenplay by	Steven Zaillian
Based on	<i>The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo</i> by Stieg Larsson
Produced by	Scott Rudin Ole Sandberg Søren Stærmose Ceán Chaffin
Starring	Daniel Craig Rooney Mara Christopher Plummer Stellan Skarsgård Steven Berkoff Robin Wright Yorick van Wageningen Joely Richardson
Cinematography	Jeff Cronenweth
Edited by	Kirk Baxter Angus Wall
Music by	Trent Reznor Atticus Ross
Production companies	Columbia Pictures Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Scott Rudin Productions Yellow Bird
Distributed by	Sony Pictures Releasing
Release dates	December 12, 2011 (Odeon Leicester Square) December 21, 2011 (United States) December 21, 2011 (Sweden) December 26, 2011 (United Kingdom)
Running time	158 minutes <sup>[1]</sup>
Countries	Sweden Germany United Kingdom United States
Language	English
Budget	\$90 million <sup>[2]</sup>
Box office	\$239.3 million <sup>[2]</sup>

# Storyline

In Stockholm, journalist Mikael Blomkvist is recovering from the legal and professional fallout of a libel suit brought against him by businessman Hans-Erik Wennerström. The wealthy Henrik Vanger offers Blomkvist evidence against Wennerström in exchange for an unusual task: investigate the 40-year-old disappearance and presumed murder of Henrik's grandniece, 16-year-old Harriet.

Every year, Vanger receives a framed pressed flower, the same type she always gave him on his birthday before disappearing. He believes her killer is taunting him. Blomkvist moves into a cottage on the Vanger family estate on Hedestad Island.

Meanwhile, Lisbeth Salander is a young, brilliant asocial investigator and hacker whose state-appointed guardian suffers a stroke. He is replaced by Nils Bjurman, a sadist who controls Salander's finances and extorts sexual favors by threatening to have her institutionalized. Unaware she is recording him, Bjurman chains Salander to his bed and brutally rapes her. At their next meeting, Salander tases Bjurman, binds him, rapes him with a dildo, and tattoos "I'm a rapist pig" across his chest. Using the secret recording she made, she blackmails him into securing her financial independence and having no further contact with her.

In the meantime, Blomkvist explores the island and interviews Vanger's relatives, learning some were Nazi sympathizers during World War II. He uncovers a list of names and numbers that turn out to be Bible verse references, and recruits Salander as his research assistant. She discovers a connection between the list and numerous young women brutally murdered from 1947 to 1967, indicating a serial killer. Many of the victims have Jewish names, making her theorize that the murders could have been motivated by antisemitism. One morning, Blomkvist finds the mutilated corpse of his cat on the doorstep. Another night, a bullet grazes his forehead; after Salander tends his wounds, they have sex. The pair learn that Harriet's late father, Gottfried, and later Martin, her brother, committed the murders.

While looking for more proof, Blomkvist gets caught by Martin and forced into a specially prepared basement. There, Blomkvist is gassed unconscious and placed in restraints. Martin brags about killing and raping women for decades, like his father, but admits to not knowing what happened to Harriet. Blomkvist is about to get killed when Salander arrives, attacks Martin and forces him to flee. She pursues him on her motorcycle until he runs off the road and hits a propane tank, blowing up the car and killing him. Salander nurses Blomkvist back to health and reveals that, as a child, she was institutionalized after attempting to burn her father alive.

They deduce that Harriet is alive and in hiding; traveling to London, they find her. Harriet reveals that Gottfried sexually abused her when she was 14 for an entire year before she was able to defend herself, killing him in the process. Martin continued the abuse after Gottfried's death. Her cousin, Anita, smuggled her off the island and let Harriet assume her identity in London, though Anita and her husband were later killed in a car accident. Finally free of her brother, Harriet returns to Sweden and tearfully reunites with Henrik.

As promised, Henrik gives Blomkvist information against Wennerström, but it proves to be outdated and useless. Salander reveals that she has hacked Wennerström's accounts and discovered that he is laundering money for various criminal syndicates. She gives Blomkvist evidence of Wennerström's crimes, which Blomkvist publishes in a scathing editorial, ruining Wennerström and bringing Blomkvist to national prominence. Salander, in disguise, travels to Switzerland and removes two billion euros from Wennerström's secret accounts. Wennerström is later murdered in an apparent gangland shooting.

On her way to give Blomkvist a Christmas present, Salander sees him and his married lover, Erika Berger, being affectionate. She discards the gift and rides away on her motorbike.

## Cast

**Daniel Craig as Mikael Blomkvist:** A co-owner for Swedish magazine Millennium, Blomkvist is devoted to exposing the corruptions and malfeasance of government, attracting infamy for his tendency to "go too far". Craig competed with George Clooney, Johnny Depp, Viggo Mortensen and Brad Pitt as candidates for the role. Initial concerns over schedule conflicts with the production of *Cowboys & Aliens* (2011) and *Skyfall* (2012) prompted Craig to postpone the casting process. Given the uncertainty surrounding *Skyfall* following Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's bankruptcy, Sony Pictures Entertainment and DreamWorks worked out a schedule and Craig agreed to take the part. The British actor was required to gain weight and adopted a neutral accent to befit Stockholm's worldly cultural fabric. Having read the book amid its "initial craze", Craig commented, "It's one of those books you just don't put down" [...] There's just this immediate feeling that bad things are going to happen and I think that's part of why they've been so readable for people."

**Rooney Mara as Lisbeth Salander:** Salander is a computer hacker who has survived severe emotional and sexual abuse. The character was a "vulnerable victim-turned-vigilante" with the "take-no-prisoners" attitude of Lara Croft and the "cool, unsentimental intellect" of Spock. Fincher felt that Salander's eccentric persona was enthralling, and stated, "there's a kind of wish fulfilment to her in the way that she takes care of things, the way she will only put up with so much, but there are other sides to her as well." Casting was complicated by the raft of prominent candidates such as Emily Browning, Eva Green, Anne Hathaway, Scarlett Johansson, Keira Knightley, Jennifer Lawrence, Carey Mulligan, Elliot Page, Natalie Portman, Léa Seydoux, Vanessa Hudgens, Sophie Lowe, Sarah Snook, Kristen Stewart, Olivia Thirlby, Mia Wasikowska, Emma Watson, Evan Rachel Wood and Yolandi Visser; Lowe, Mara, Seydoux, and Snook were the final four candidates. Despite the hype, some eventually withdrew from consideration due to the time commitment and low pay. Mara had worked with Fincher in his 2010 film *The Social Network*. Fincher, while fond of the actress' youthful appearance, found it difficult at first to mould her to match Salander's antisocial demeanour, which was a vast contrast from her earlier role as the personable Erica. Mara went through multiple changes in her appearance to become Salander. Her hair was dyed black and cut into various jagged points, giving the appearance that she cut it herself. In addition to her transgressive appearance, which was described as a "mash-up of brazen Seventies punk and spooky Eighties goth with a dash of S&M temptress" by Lynn Hirschberg of *W*, Mara participated in a formal screening and was filmed by Fincher on a subway in Los Angeles in an effort to persuade the executives of Sony Pictures that she was a credible choice.

**Christopher Plummer as Henrik Vanger:** Vanger is a wealthy businessman who launches an extensive investigation into his family's affairs. Despite calling the Vanger family "dysfunctional", Plummer said of the character: "I love the character of the old man, and I sympathize with him. He's really the nicest old guy in the whole book. Everybody is a bit suspect, and still are at the end. Old Vanger has a nice straight line, and he gets his wish." Plummer wanted to imbue the character with irony, an element he found to be absent from the novel's Henrik. "I think that the old man would have it," he opined, "because he's a very sophisticated old guy [...] used to a great deal of power. So in dealing with people, he would be very good [...] he would be quite jokey, and know how to seduce them." Julian Sands portrays a young Henrik Vanger.

**Stellan Skarsgård as Martin Vanger:** Martin is the current CEO of Vanger Industries. Skarsgård was allured by the character's dual nature, and was fascinated that he got to portray him in "two totally different ways". Regarding Martin's "very complex" and "complicated" personality, the Swedish actor said, "He can be extremely charming, but he also can seem to be a completely different person at different points in the film." While consulting with Fincher, the director wanted Skarsgård to play Martin without reference to the book.

**Steven Berkoff as Dirch Frode,** Head Legal Counsel for Vanger Industries

**Robin Wright as Erika Berger:** Blomkvist's business partner and editor-in-chief of Millennium magazine. She's also Blomkvist's occasional lover.

**Yorick van Wageningen as Nils Bjurman:** As Salander's legal guardian, he uses his position to sexually abuse and eventually rape her. Salander turns the tables on him, torturing him and branding him across the torso with the words *I AM A RAPIST PIG*. Fincher wanted the character to be worse than a typical antagonist, although he did not want to emulate the stereotypical "moustache-twirling pervert". The director considered Van Wageningen to be the embodiment of a versatile actor—one who was a "full-fledged human being" and a "brilliant" actor. "He was able to bring his performance from a logical place in Bjurman's mind and find the seething morass of darkness inside," Fincher stated. Bjurman's multifaceted psyche was the main reason Van Wageningen wanted to play the role. The Dutch actor said, "This character goes through a lot and I wasn't quite sure I wanted to go through all that. I started out half way between the elation of getting to work with David Fincher and the dread of this character, but I was able to use both of those things. We both thought the most interesting route would be for Bjurman to seem half affable. The challenge was not in finding the freak violence in the guy but finding the humanity of him."

**Joely Richardson as Harriet Vanger:** Henrik's long-lost grandniece who went into hiding posing as her cousin Anita. In performing her "tricky" character, Richardson recalled that Fincher wanted her to embrace a "darker, edgier" persona,

without sugar-coating, and not "resolved or healed". "Even if you were starting to move towards the direction of resolved or healed, he still wanted it edgy and dark. There are no straightforward emotions in the world of this film."

Moa Garpandal portrays a young Harriet Vanger.

Goran Višnjić as Dragan Armansky, head of Milton Security, Salander's employer

Donald Sumpter as Detective Morell. David Dencik portrays a young Morell.

Ulf Friberg as Hans-Erik Wennerström, CEO of the Wennerström Group

Geraldine James as Cecilia Vanger

Embeth Davidtz as Annika Giannini, Mikael's sister and a lawyer

Josefin Asplund as Pernilla Blomkvist, Mikael's daughter

Per Myrberg as Harald Vanger. Gustaf Hammarsten portrays a young Harald.

Arly Jover as Liv, Martin's girlfriend

Tony Way as Plague, Salander's hacker friend

Fredrik Dolk as Bertil Camnermarker, Counsel for the Wennerström Group

Alan Dale as Detective Isaksson

Leo Bill as Trinity, another of Salander's hacker friends

Élodie Yung as Miriam Wu, Salander's occasional lover

Joel Kinnaman as Christer Malm

Production

## Parents Guide

### Certification

Argentina:18 Australia:MA15+ Brazil:16 Canada:18A (Alberta/British Columbia/Manitoba/Ontario) Canada:13+ (Quebec) Colombia:18 Denmark:15 Ecuador:Sin Calificación (self-applied) Egypt:R Finland:K-15 France:12 Germany:16 Greece:K-16 Hong Kong:III India:(Banned) India:A (Google Play) Ireland:18 Israel:16 Italy:VM14 Japan:R15+ (edited version) Japan:R18+ (original rating) Lithuania:N-16 Malaysia:(Banned) Malaysia:18 (cut) Mexico:B15 Netherlands:16 New Zealand:R16 Norway:15 (2011, cinema rating) Philippines:R-18 Poland:16 (self-applied) Portugal:M/16 Russia:18+ Singapore:R21 South Korea:18 Spain:16 (ICAA) Sweden:15 Switzerland:16 (canton of Bern) Taiwan:18+ Thailand:u 18+ (self-applied) Turkey:18+ United Kingdom:18 United States:R (certificate #46597) United Arab Emirates:18+

**Sex & Nudity** – Severe **Violence & Gore** – Severe **Profanity** – Moderate **Alcohol, Drugs & Smoking** – Mild **Frightening & Intense Scenes** - Severe

MPAA Rated R for brutal violent content including rape and torture, strong sexuality, graphic nudity, and language

