Nebraska Director: Alexander Payne 2013 (129')



Nebraska is the story of aging, ailing Woody Grant and his son David as they venture off from Montana to Nebraska to collect a million-dollar prize that Woody believes he has won. The film, shot in black and white, is sad, bleak yet funny.

An authentic piece of Americana. There's no lying or condescending from this director. Nebraska feels pure. San Francisco Chronicle

Bruce Dern gives the performance of his career as the headstrong Woody in the brilliant, wisely observed and wryly funny Nebraska. USA Today

Nebraska impresses for its sure rhythms and artful balance of comedy and melancholy, resulting in Payne's most satisfying film since "About Schmidt." Toronto Globe and Mail

Vocabulary and expressions:

A come-on: A trick or a con.

This is a total come-on.

To sneak out: To leave secretly so that no one hears or sees you.

This is the second time he's tried to sneak out.

To pull someone's chain: To make fun of someone or fool them in some

way.

Don't pull his chain like that.

To pay your dues: An expression meaning that you have put in the work, got the experience and now it is your turn to, e.g., have the job, play the lead role etc.

It's looking good (the chance of promotion). I've paid my dues.

A scam: A trick, a con, a fraudulent activity.

It's a complete scam!

To lose your marbles: To become mad or crazy.

Have you lost your marbles too?



Stubborn: Hard-headed; unwilling to change your ideas or opinion even when the proof is against you.

You're just like your father, stubborn as a mule.

To go bananas: To lose your mind and go crazy.

Have you gone bananas?

To get knocked up: An informal and unkind way of saying a woman has become pregnant.

Peggy got knocked up again? At her age?

To have a senior moment: An expression used to say that someone is acting irrationally or is being very forgetful.

I think you're having a senior moment here, Kate.

To get whipped: To be beaten as a punishment.

This was my parents room. I'd get whipped if they found me in here.

To knock off something: To stop doing something.

Will you two knock off this foolishness?

Lines from the film:

David: Why don't we go see Mount Rushmore?

Woody: ...It's just a bunch of rocks.

David: How did you and Mom end up getting married?

Woody: She wanted to.

David: You didn't?

Woody: I figured what the hell.

David: Were you ever sorry you married her?

Woody: All the time.

David: Dad, would you like to see the old homestead?

Woody: The what?

Ross: David and I want to see where you grew up.

Woody: What for?

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