

## The Matrix and the Desert of the Truth

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Review Note

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I will try to explain in the context of the *Matrix* and philosophy what the truth is and whether there is the free will or not. Everyone wants to know the truth, but no one apparently explains what it is. The matrix is the desert of the truth, and human mind remains therein thirsty. Can we know that we are alive or dead, that is to say, what is the difference between reality and imagination? Never can this problem only be solved by our minds? So long as we try to arrive at necessity, we remain in possibility.

The first film of the Trinity<sup>1</sup> told us that the matrix was, in fact, an unreal world and we were slaves of that world. This idea made me remind Plato's allegory of the cave and Cartesian mind-body dichotomy immediately. As in the film, we could be actually in an imaginary world, maybe we could be made by the Architect. Morpheus said to Neo that if the mind had died, then the body could not live. Because every vital activity happens to mind or brain, they could not get the immortality and freedom unless human beings abstracted from the body themselves.

In the second film,<sup>2</sup> this opinion identifies with which Mor-

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<sup>1</sup> Joel Silver, *The Matrix* [Film], dir. Larry and Andy Wachowski (USA and Australia: Warner Bros. Pictures and Roadshow Entertainment, March 1999).

<sup>2</sup> Joel Silver, *The Matrix Reloaded* [Film], dir. Larry and Andy Wachowski (USA and Australia: Warner Bros. Pictures and Roadshow Entertainment, May 2003).

pheus told that everything began with the choice. Not only Neo did describe what the freedom was but also define it. As for Merovingian, he believed that causality was the only truth and even the meaning of life was based on which has to be understood the relation between cause and effect. So, which are those right, free will or causality?

The last film<sup>3</sup> showed us that the highest good had exposed itself. According to Kant, the *summum bonum* had to win forever, because it was the reflection of God in this world. Everything was a program written by God: Smith has played a lousy man rebelled against God, whereas Neo is a good man as a Messiah. But the justice of God would not let to evil forever, at last, the prophecy of the Oracle has occurred and Neo has won the fight and put the peace. Perhaps, all of these, like that Neo had chosen to love Trinity, were events which had actualized in God's mind.

Everything that has a beginning has an end. It is not impossible but inevitable. It is true that both reality and imagination might be, as Smith said, caprices of the perception and illusions of the mind. But Smith knew that everything had been created for a purpose, and his fight was intended for the retrieval it from Neo. In this film, the truth is relative, and it is composed of the possibilities. Thus, there is no difference between the fact and imagination. Eventually, let me say that the matrix is everywhere which the mind was not free from the body. We should not forget that our emotions are probably saviors for our minds.

## References

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Silver, Joel, *The Matrix Reloaded* [Film], dir. Larry and Andy Wachowski (USA and Australia: Warner Bros. Pictures and Roadshow Enterta-

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<sup>3</sup> Joel Silver, *The Matrix Revolution* [Film], dir. Larry and Andy Wachowski (USA and Australia: Warner Bros. Pictures and Roadshow Entertainment, October 2003).

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