

Allegorical meanings of *The Matrix*

- Ignorance is bliss
- The red pill opens up your sense of curiosity
- Duality in the universe---extreme separation
- What we believe to be real limits us because there is a reality beyond our everyday perceptions—however being immersed into this reality can drive some people insane.
- “the monotony of our internal talk:
- “your mind can play tricks on you, getting you to believe lies or hiding the truth, because the very nature of what is real is blended and twisted.”
- Escaping the Matrix is like “the plunge into the network of truth, an escape from the psychosis of the dream of our lives.”
- Believe in yourself (like Neo when he went to get Morpheus back).
- Sometimes it can be difficult to distinguish between reality and what we would like reality to be.
- What if everything we base our lives on, our identity, isn't true?
- What if what I perceive as lettuce really tastes like tomato or carrot to you?
- Your mind can project things, whether they are true or not.
- Sometimes things have double meanings, sometimes they have no meaning.
- Accepting a new view on what you believed your life and the world are is a lot to take—it takes a very open minded and willing person.
- Would you choose to know, or be oblivious?
- Maybe reality isn't what we think it is?
- People are stuck in a world that is not exactly unrealistic, but definitely deceiving—consumerism, fear, technology, corporations, violence. Machines=creators of the illusions. Unplugged=passive resistors, those who avoid television. Captains/operators of ships=those who combat the system from within.
- “waking up.” People live such repetitive, busy and focused lives that they seem to be in their own “matrix.” The writers of the movie seem to be saying that it's time for people to open their eyes and see what is happening on a deeper level in terms of spiritual matters and on a political level. Rage Against the Machine song ends the movie “Wake Up.”
- If you can truly free yourself from the confines of your mind, then anything is possible.
- We are too dependent on technology—we get lost in virtual worlds like video games.

Allegorical meanings of the *Parable of the Cave*

- Change is hard to accept unless you see it for yourself
- Somebody else's reality can only be known through seeing or experiencing it yourself
- Reality is different for different people
- People see what they want to see and believe what they want to believe
- People are naïve and unknowledgeable about the world around them.
- Many people receive those who claim to be enlightened or awakened in a negative way.
- Reality is sort of like a comfort zone