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The Matrix

By The Wachowskis

FADE IN:

1 ON COMPUTER SCREEN 1

so close it has no boundaries.

A blinding cursor pulses in the electric darkness like aheart coursing with phosphorous light, burning beneaththe derma of black-neon glass.

A PHONE begins to RING, we hear it as though we weremaking the call. The cursor continues to throb,

relentlessly patient, until -

MAN (V.O.)

Yeah?

Data now slashes across the screen, information flashingfaster then we can read: "Call trans opt: received.

2-19-98 13:

WOMAN (V.O.)

Is everything in place?

On screen:

We listen to the phone conversation as though we were ona third line. The man's name is Cypher. The woman,

Trinity.

TRINITY (WOMANV.O.)

I said, is everything in place?

The entire screen with racing columns of numbers.

Shimmering like green-electric rivers, they rush at a10-digit phone number in the top corner.

CYPHER (MANV.O.)

You weren't supposed to relieve

me.

TRINITY (V.O.)

I know but I felt like taking a

shift.

The area code is identified. The first three numbers

suddenly fixed, leaving only seven flowing columns.

CYPHER (V.O.)

You like him, don't you? You like

watching him?

We begin MOVING TOWARD the screen, CLOSING IN as eachdigit is matched, one by one, snapping into place likethe wheels of a slot machine.

(CONTINUED)

2.

1 CONTINUED:

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TRINITY (V.O.)
Don't be ridiculous.
CYPHER (V.O.)
We're going to kill him. Do you
understand that? He's going to
die just like the others.
TRINITY (V.O.)
Morpheus believes he is the One.
Only two thin digits left.
CYPHER (V.O.)
Do you?
TRINITY (V.O.)
I... it doesn't matter what I
believe.
CYPHER (V.O.)
You don't, do you?
TRINITY (V.O.)
If you have something to say, I
suggest you say it to Morpheus.
CYPHER (V.O.)
I intend to, believe me. Someone
has to.
The final NUMBER POPS into place -
TRINITY (V.O.)
Did you hear that?
CYPHER (V.O.)
Hear what?
On screen:
TRINITY (V.O.)
Are you sure this line is clean?
CYPHER (V.O.)
Yeah, 'course I'm sure.
We MOVE STILL CLOSER, the ELECTRIC HUM of the greenNUMBERS GROWING into an
ominous ROAR.
TRINITY (V.O.)
I better go.
(CONTINUED)
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1 CONTINUED:

She hangs up as we PASS THROUGH the numbers, entering thenether world of the computer screen. Suddenly, a flashlight cuts open the darkness and we find ourselves in -

2 INT. HEART O' THE CITY HOTEL - NIGHT 2

The hotel was abandoned after a fire licked its wayacross the polyester carpeting, destroying several roomsas it spooled soot up the walls and ceiling, leavingpatterns of permanent shadow.

We FOLLOW four armed POLICE OFFICERS using flashlights asthey creep down the blackened hall and ready themselveson either side of Room 303.

The biggest of them violently kicks in the door. The other cops pour in behind him, guns thrust before them.

BIG COP :

Police! Freeze!

The room is almost devoid of furniture. There is a foldup table and chair with a phone, a modem, and a powerbook computer. The only light in the room is the glow of the computer.

Sitting there, her hands still on the keyboard, isTRINITY; a woman in black leather.

BIG COP:

Hands behind your head! Now! Do

it!

She slowly puts her hands behind her head.

3 EXT. HEART O' THE CITY HOTEL - NIGHT 3

A black sedan with tinted windows glides in through thepolice cruisers.

AGENT SMITH, AGENT BROWN, and AGENT

JONES get out of the car.

They wear dark suits and sunglasses even at night. They are also always hardwired; small Secret Service earphonesin one ear, the cord coiling back into their shirtcollars.

AGENT SMITH:

Lieutenant?

LIEUTENANT:

Oh shit.

(CONTINUED)

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3 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

Lieutenant, you were givenspecific orders -LIEUTENANT I'm just doing my job. You gimmethat Juris-my dick-tion and youcan cram it up your ass.

AGENT SMITH :

The orders were for yourprotection.

The Lieutenant laughs.

LIEUTENANT:

I think we can handle one little girl.

Agent Smith nods to Agent Brown as they start toward thehotel.

LIEUTENANT :

I sent two units. They'rebringing her down now.

AGENT SMITH :

No, Lieutenant, your men arealready dead.

4 INT. HEART O' THE CITY HOTEL 4

The Big Cop flicks out his cuffs, the other cops holding bead. They've done this a hundred times, they knowthey've got her, until the Big Cop reaches with the cuffs and Trinity moves -It

almost doesn't register, so smooth and fast, inhumanlyfast.

The eye blinks and Trinity's palm snaps up and the noseexplodes, blood erupting. Her leg kicks with the forceof a wrecking ball and he flies back, a two-hundred-fiftypound sack of limp meat and bone that slams into the copfarthest from her.

Trinity moves again, BULLETS RAKING the walls,

flashlights sweeping with panic as the remaining cops tryto stop a leather-clad ghost.

A GUN still in the cop's hand is snatched, twisted, and FIRED. There is a final violent exchange of GUNFIRE and when it's over, Trinity is the only one standing.

(CONTINUED)

4

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CONTINUED:

5.

4

A flashlight rocks slowly to a stop.

TRINITY:

Shit.

5 EXT. HEART O' THE CITY HOTEL 5

Agent Brown enters the hotel while Agent Smith heads forthe alley.

6 INT. HEART O' THE CITY HOTEL 6

Trinity is on the phone, pacing. answered.

The other end is MAN (V.O.)

Operator.

TRINITY:

Morpheus! The line was traced! don't know how.

I:

MORPHEUS (MANV.O.)

I know. They cut the hardline.

This line is not a viable exit.

TRINITY:

Are there any Agents?
MORPHEUS (V.O.)
Yes.
Goddamnit!

TRINITY:

MORPHEUS (V.O.)
You have to focus. There is a phone. Wells and Lake. You can make it.

She takes a deep breath, centering herself.

TRINITY:

All right -MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Go.

She drops the phone.

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7 INT. HALL 7

She bursts out of the room as Agent Brown enters thehall, leading another unit of police. Trinity races to the opposite end, exiting through a broken window onto the fire escape.

8 EXT. FIRE ESCAPE 8

In the alley below, Trinity sees Agent Smith staring ather. She can only go up.

9 EXT. ROOF 9

On the roof, Trinity is running as Agent Brown rises overthe parapet, leading the cops in pursuit.

Trinity begins to jump from one roof to the next, hermovements so clean, gliding in and out of each jump,

contrasted to the wild jumps of the cops.

Agent Brown, however, has the same unnatural grace.

The roof falls away into a wide back alley. The next

building is over 40 feet away, but Trinity's face isperfectly calm, staring at some point beyond the other roof.

COP:

That's it, we got her now.

The cops slow, realizing they are about to see somethingually as Trinity drives at the edge, launching herselfinto the air.

From above, the ground seems to flow beneath her as shehangs in flight, then hits, somersaulting up, stillrunning hard.

COP:

Jesus Christ -- that's impossible!

They stare, slack-jawed, as Agent Brown duplicates the moveexactly, landing, rolling over a shoulder up onto one knee.

It is a dizzying chase up and over the dark plateauedlandscape of rooftops and sheer cliffs of brick. Ahead,

she sees her only chance, 50 feet beyond the point whereher path drops away into a paved chasm, there is!-

10 EXT. WINDOW 10

A yellow glow in the midst of a dark brick building. Trinity zeros in on it, running as hard as she can and -(CONTINUED)

7.

10 CONTINUED:

Hurtles herself into the empty night space, her bodyleveling into a dive. She falls, arms covering her headas the whole world seems to spin on its axis -A10

INT. BACK STAIRWELL A10

And she crashes with an EXPLOSION of GLASS and WOOD, then falls onto a back stairwell, tumbling, bouncing downstairs bleeding, broken -But

still alive.

She wheels on the smashed opening above, her guninstantly in her hand, trained, waiting for Agent Brownbut is met by only a slight WIND that HISSES against thefanged maw of broken glass.

Trinity tries to move. Everything hurts.

TRINITY:

Get up, Trinity. You're fine.

Get up -- just get up!

She stands and limps down the rest of the stairs.

11 EXT. STREET 11

Trinity emerges from the shadows of an alley and, at theend of the block, in a pool of white street light, shesees it!-The telephone booth.

Obviously hurt, she starts down the concrete walk,

focusing in completely, her pace quickening, as the PHONEbegins to RING. Across the street, a garbage truck suddenly u-turns, it'sTIRES SCREAMING as it accelerates. Trinity sees theheadlights of the truck arcing at the telephone booth asif taking aim.

Gritting through the pain, she races the truck, slamminginto the booth, the headlights blindingly bright, bearingdown on the box of Plexiglas just as -She

answers the phone.

There is a frozen instant of silence before the hulking mass of dark metal lurches up onto the sidewalk -(

CONTINUED)

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11 CONTINUED:

Barreling through the booth, bulldozing it into a brickwall, SMASHING it to PLEXIGLAS PULP.

After a moment, a black loafer steps down from the cab ofthe garbage truck. Agent Smith inspects the wreckage.

There is no body. Trinity is gone.

His jaw sets as he grinds his molars in frustration.

Agent Jones and Brown walk up behind him.

AGENT JONES :

She got out.

AGENT SMITH:

It doesn't matter.

AGENT BROWN:

The informant is real.

Agent Smith almost smiles.

AGENT SMITH :

Yes.

AGENT JONES :

We have the name of their next target.

AGENT BROWN:

The name is Neo.

The handset of the pay phone lays on the ground, separated in the crash like a severed limb.

AGENT SMITH:

We'll need a search running.

AGENT JONES:

It's already begun.

We are SUCKED TOWARDS the mouthpiece of the phone, CLOSERand CLOSER, until the smooth gray plastic spreads outlike a horizon and the small holes widen until we FALL

THROUGH one -

Swallowed by DARKNESS.

The DARKNESS CRACKLES with phosphorescent energy, theword "searching" blazing in around us as we EMERGE FROM a computer screen.

The screen flickers with windowing data as a searchengine runs with a steady relentless rhythm.

We DRIFT BACK FROM the screen and INTO - 9.

12 INT. NEO'S APARTMENT 12

It is a studio apartment that seems overgrown withtechnology.

Weed-like cables coil everywhere, duct-taped intothickets that wind up and around the legs of severaldesks. Tabletops are filled with cannibalized equipmentthat lay open like an autopsied corpse.

At the center of this technological rat-nest is NEO, aman who knows more about living inside a computer thanoutside one.

He is asleep in front of his PC. Behind him, the computer screen suddenly goes blank. A prompt appears: "Wake up, Neo."

Neo's eye pries open. He sits up, one eye still closed, looking around, unsure of where he is. He notices the screen.

He types "CTRL X" but the letter "T" appears.

NEO:

What...?

He hits another and an "H" appears. He keeps typing, pushing random functions and keys while the computertypes out a message as though it had a mind of its own.

He stops and stares at the four words on the screen: "The Matrix has you."

NEO:

What the hell?

He hits the "ESC" button. Another message appears:

"Follow the white rabbit."

He hits it again and the message repeats. He rubs his

eyes but when he opens them, there is another message:

"Knock, knock, Neo."

Someone KNOCKS on his door and he almost jumps out of hischair. He looks back at the computer, but the screen is

now blank.

Someone KNOCKS again. Neo rises, still unnerved.

NEO:

Who is it?

It's Choi.

CHOI (O.S)

(CONTINUED)

10.

12 CONTINUED:

Neo flips a series of locks and opens the door, leavingthe chain on. A young Chinese MAN stands there withseveral of his friends.

NEO:

You're two hours late.

CHOI (MAN)

I know. It's her fault.

NEO:

You got the money?

CHOI:

Two grand.

He takes out an envelope and gives it to Neo through thecracked door.

NEO:

Hold on.

He closes the door. On the floor near his bed is a book,

Baudrillard's Simulacra and Simulations. The book has

been hollowed out and inside are several computer disks.

He takes one, sticks the money in the book and drops iton the floor.

Opening the door, he hands the disk to Choi.

CHOI:

Hallelujah! You are my Savior, man! My own personal Jesus Christ!

NEO:

If you get caught using that -

CHOI:

I know, I know. This never happened. You don't exist.

NEO:

Right...

Neo nods as the strange feeling of unrealness suddenly returns.

CHOI:

Something wrong, man? You look a little whiter than usual.

NEO:

I don't know... My computer...
(CONTINUED)
11.

12 CONTINUED:

He looks back at Choi, unable to explain what justhappened.

NEO:

You ever have the feeling thatyou're not sure if you're awake orstill dreaming?

CHOI:

All the time. It's called mescaline and it is the only wayto fly. He smiles and slaps the hand of his nearest droog.

CHOI:

It sounds to me like you need tounplug, man. A little R&R. What do you think, Dujour, should wetake him with us? Definitely.

DUJOUR:

I can't.

NEO:

I have to work tomorrow.

Come on.

promise.

DUJOUR:

It'll be fun. I

He looks up at her and suddenly notices on her blackleather motorcycle jacket dozens of pins: bands,

symbols, slogans, military medals and -A

small white rabbit. The ROOM TILTS.

Yeah, yeah.

NEO:

Sure, I'll go.

13 INT. APARTMENT 13

An older apartment; a series of halls connects a chain ofsmall

high-ceilinged rooms lined with heavy casements.

Smoke hangs like a veil, blurring the few lights there

are.

Dressed predominately in black, people are everywhere,

gathered in cliques around pieces of furniture likejungle cats around a tree.

(CONTINUED)

12.

13 CONTINUED:

Neo stands against a wall, alone, sipping from a bottleof beer, feeling completely out of place. He is about to

leave when he notices a woman staring at him.

The woman is Trinity. She walks straight up to him.

In the nearest room, shadow-like figures grind againsteach other to the pneumatic beat of INDUSTRIAL MUSIC.

TRINITY:

Hello, Neo.

NEO:

How do you know that name?

TRINITY:

I know a lot about you. I've been wanting to meet you for some time.

NEO:

Who are you?

TRINITY:

My name is Trinity.

NEO:

Trinity? The Trinity? The Trinity that cracked the I.R.S. D-Base?

TRINITY:

That was a long time ago.

NEO:

Gee-zus.

TRINITY:

What?

NEO:

I just thought... you were a guy.

TRINITY:

Most guys do.

Neo is a little embarrassed.

NEO:

Do you want to go somewhere andtalk?

TRINITY:

No. It's safe here and I don't have much time.
(CONTINUED)
13.

13 CONTINUED:

The MUSIC is so LOUD they must stand very close, talkingdirectly into each other's ear.

NEO:

That was you on my computer? She nods.

NEO:

How did you do that?

TRINITY:

Right now, all I can tell you, is that you are in danger. I brought you here to warn you.

NEO:

Of what?

TRINITY:

They're watching you, Neo.

NEO:

Who is?

TRINITY:

Please. Just listen. I know why you're here, Neo. I know what you've been doing. I know why you hardly sleep, why you live alone and why, night after night, you sit at your computer. You're looking for him.

Her body is against his; her lips very close to his ear.

TRINITY:

I know because I was once looking for the same thing, but when he found me he told me I wasn't really looking for him. I was looking for an answer.

There is a hypnotic quality to her voice and Neo feelsthe words, like a drug, seeping into him.

TRINITY:

It's the question that drives us, the question that brought you here. You know the question just as I did.

NEO:

What is the Matrix?
(CONTINUED)
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13 CONTINUED:

TRINITY:

When I asked him, he said that no one could ever be told the answer to that question. They have tosee it to believe it. She leans close, her lips almost touching his ear.

TRINITY:

The answer is out there, Neo.

It's looking for you and it willfind you, if you want it to.

She turns and he watches her melt into the shifting wallof bodies.

A SOUND RISES steadily, growing out of the MUSIC,

pressing in on Neo until it is all he can hear as we -CUT

TO:

14 INT. NEO'S APARTMENT 14
The sound is an ALARM CLOCK, slowly dragging Neo toconsciousness. He strains to read the clock-face:

9:

Shitshitshit.

NEO:

15 EXT. SKYSCRAPER 15

The downtown office of Meta CorTechs, a software development company.

16 INT. META CORTECHS OFFICE 16

The main offices are along each wall, the windowsoverlooking downtown. RHINEHEART, the ultimate companyman, lectures Neo without looking at him, typing at hiscomputer continuously.

Neo stares at two window cleaners on a scaffoldingoutside, dragging their rubber squeegees down the surfaceof the glass.

RHINEHEART:

You have a problem with authority, Mr. Anderson. You believe that

you are special, that somehow therules do not apply to you. Obviously, you are mistaken.

(CONTINUED)

15.

16 CONTINUED:

His long, bony fingers resume clicking the keyboard.

RHINEHEART:

This company is one of the topsoftware companies in the worldbecause every single employeeunderstands that they are a partof a whole. Thus, if an employeehas a problem, the company has aproblem.

He turns again.

RHINEHEART:

The time has come to make a

choice, Mr. Anderson. Either youchoose to be at your desk on timefrom this day forth, or you chooseto find yourself another job. Do I make myself clear?

NEO:

Yes, Mr. Rhineheart.

clear.

Perfectly

17 INT. NEO'S CUBICLE 17

The entire floor looks like a human honeycomb, with alabyrinth of cubicles structured around a core ofelevators.

VOICE (O.S.)

Thomas Anderson?

Neo turns and finds a FEDERAL EXPRESS GUY at his cubicle

door.

Yeah.

NEO:

That's me.

Neo signs the electronic pad and the Fedex Guy hands himthe softpak.

FEDEX GUY:

Have a nice day.

He opens the bag. Inside is a cellular PHONE. It seems the instant it is in his hand, it RINGS. Unnerved, he flips it open.

Hello?

NEO:

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 16.

17 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Hello, Neo. Do you know who this

Neo's knees give and he sinks into his chair.

NEO:

Morpheus...

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

I've been looking for you, Neo. I don't know if you're ready to see what I want to show you, but unfortunately, we have run out of time. They're coming for you, Neo. And I'm not sure what they're going to do.

NEO:

Who's coming for me? MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Stand up and see for yourself.

NEO:

Right now?

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Yes. Now.

Neo starts to stand.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Do it slowly. The elevator.

His head peeks up over the partition. At the elevator,

he sees Agent Smith, Agent Brown and Agent Jones leading agroup of cops. A female employee turns and points outNeo's cubicle.

Neo ducks.

NEO:

Holy shit!

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Yes.

One cop stays at the elevator, the others follow the Agents.

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NEO:
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What the hell do they want with me?!
(CONTINUED)
17.
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17 CONTINUED:

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MORPHEUS (V.O.)

I'm not sure, but if you don't want to find out, you better get out of there.
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NEO:

How?!

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

I can guide you out, but you have

to do exactly what I say.

The agents are moving quickly towards the cubicle.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

The cubicle across from you is empty.

NEO:

But what if...?
MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Go! Now!

Neo lunges across the hall, diving into the other cubiclejust as the Agents turn into his row.

Neo crams himself into a dark corner, clutching the phonetightly to him.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Stay here for a moment.

The Agents enter Neo's empty cubicle. A cop is sent tosearch the bathroom.

Morpheus' voice is a whisper in Neo's ear.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

A little longer...

Brown is talking to another employee.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

When I tell you, go to the end of

the row to the first office on the

left, stay as low as you can.

Sweat trickles down his forehead.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Now.

(CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

Neo rolls out of the cubicle, his eyes popping as hefreezes right behind a cop who has just turned around.

Staying crouched, he sneaks away down the row, shootingacross the opening to the first office on the left.

17

18 INT. EMPTY OFFICE 18

The room is empty.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Good. Outside there is a scaffold.

NEO:

How do you know all this?

Morpheus laughs quietly.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

The answer is coming, Neo. There

is a window in front of you. Openit.

He opens the window. The WIND HOWLS into the room.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

You can use the scaffold to get tothe roof.

NEO:

No! It's too far away.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

There's a ledge. It's a short

short climb. You can make it.

Neo looks down; the building's glass wall vertigos into aconcrete chasm.

NEO:

No way, no way, this is crazy.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

There are only two ways out ofthis building. One is that

scaffold. The other is in their

custody. You take a chance either

way. I leave it to you.

CLICK. He hangs up. Neo looks at the door, then back at

the scaffold.

(CONTINUED)

19.

18 CONTINUED:

NEO:

This is insane! Why is thishappening to me? What did I do? I'm nobody. I didn't do anything.

He climbs up onto the window ledge. Hanging onto theframe, he steps onto the small ledge. The scaffold seems even farther away.

NEO:

I'm going to die.

The WIND suddenly BLASTS up the face of the building,

knocking Neo off balance. Recoiling, he clings harder to the frame, and the phone falls out of his hand.

He watches as it is swallowed by the distance beneathhim.

NEO:

This is insane! I can't do this!

Forget it!

He climbs back into the office just as a cop opens thedoor.

Shit!

NEO:

19 EXT. SKYSCRAPER 19

The Agents lead a handcuffed Neo out of the revolvingdoors, forcing his head down as they push him into thedark sedan.

Trinity watches in the rearview mirror of her motorcycle.

TRINITY:

Shit.

20 INT. INTERROGATION ROOM 20

CLOSE ON a camera monitor; a wide angle view of a whiteroom where Neo is sitting at a table alone. We MOVE INTO

the monitor, entering the room as if the monitor was awindow.

At the same moment, the door opens and the Agents enter.

Agent Smith sits down across from Neo. A thick manila

envelope slaps down on the table. The name on the file:

"Anderson, Thomas!A."

(CONTINUED)

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20 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

As you can see, we've had our eye

on you for some time now, Mr. Anderson.

He opens the file. Paper rattle marks the silence as heflips several pages. Neo cannot tell if he is looking at he file or at him.

AGENT SMITH:

It seems that you have been living two lives. In one life, you are Thomas A. Anderson, program writer for a respectable software company. You have a social security number, you pay your taxes and you help your landlady carry out her garbage.

The pages continue to turn.

AGENT SMITH:

The other life is lived in computers where you go by the hacker alias Neo, and are guilty of virtually every computer crime we have a law for.

Neo feels himself sinking into a pit of shit.

AGENT SMITH:

One of these lives has a future.
One of them does not.
He closes the file.

AGENT SMITH:

I'm going to be as forthcoming as
I can be, Mr. Anderson. You are
here because we need your help.
He removes his sunglasses, his eyes are an unnatural iceblue.

AGENT SMITH:

We know that you have been contacted by a certain individual. A man who calls himself Morpheus. Whatever you think you know about this man is irrelevant. The fact is that he is wanted for acts of terrorism in more countries than

any other man in the world.
(MORE)
(CONTINUED)
21.

20 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH (CONT'D)

He is considered by manyauthorities to be the most dangerous man alive.

He leans closer.

AGENT SMITH :

My colleagues believe that I amwasting my time with you but Ibelieve you want to do the rightthing. It is obvious that you arean intelligent man, Mr. Anderson,

and that you are interested in thefuture. That is why I believe youare ready to put your pastmistakes behind you and get onwith your life. Neo tries to match his stare.

AGENT SMITH:

We are willing to wipe the slateclean, to give you a fresh startand all we are asking in return isyour cooperation in bringing aknown terrorist to justice.

Neo nods to himself.

NEO:

Yeah. Wow. That sounds like a real good deal. But I think I have a better one. How about I just give you the finger - He does.

NEO:

And you give me my phone call!

Agent Smith puts his glasses back on.

AGENT SMITH:

You disappoint me, Mr. Anderson.

NEO:

You can't scare me with this Gestapo crap. I know my rights. I want my phone call! Agent Smith smiles. 22.

20 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

And tell me, Mr. Anderson, what

good is a phone call if you areunable to speak?

The question unnerves Neo and strangely he begins to feelthe muscles in his jaw tighten. The standing Agentssnicker, watching Neo's confusion grow into panic.

Neo feels his lips grow soft and sticky as they slowlyseal shut, melding into each other until all traces of his mouth are gone.

Wild with fear, he lunges for the door but the Agentsrestrain him, holding him in the chair.

AGENT SMITH :

You are going to help us, Mr.

Anderson, whether you want to or

not.

Smith nods and the other two rip open his shirt. From a case taken out of his suit coat, Smith removes a long, fiber-optic wire tap.

Neo struggles helplessly as Smith dangles the wire overhis exposed abdomen. Horrified, he watches as the

electronic device animates, becoming an organic creaturethat resembles a hybrid of an insect and a fluke worm.

Thin, whisker-like tendrils reach out and probe intoNeo's navel. He bucks wildly as Smith drops the creaturewhich looks for a moment like an uncut umbilical cord ---

before it begins to burrow, its tail thrashing as itworms its way inside. 21 INT. NEO'S APARTMENT - NIGHT 21

Screaming, Neo bolts upright in bed.

He realizes that he is home. Was it a dream? His mouth is normal. His stomach looks fine. He starts to take a deep, everything-is-okay breath when -The PHONE RINGS.

It almost stops his heart. It continues RINGING, building pressure in the room, forcing him up out of bed, sucking him in with an almost gravitational force. He answers it, saying nothing.

(CONTINUED)

2.1

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CONTINUED:

23.

21

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

This line is tapped so I must bebrief.

NEO:

The Agents -MORPHEUS

(V.O.)

They got to you first, but they'veunderestimated how important you are. If they knew what I know,

you would probably be dead.

NEO:

What are you talking about? What

the hell is happening to me?

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

You're the One, Neo. You see, youmay have spent the last few yearslooking for me, but I've spentmost of my life looking for you.

Neo feels sick.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Do you still want to meet?

NEO:

... Yes.

CLICK.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Go to the Adams Street bridge.

He closes his eyes, unsure of what he has done.

22 EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT 22

It is just beyond the middle of the night; that time whenit seems there are no rules and everything feels unsafe.

Neo's boots scrape against the concrete. Every pair ofeyes he passes seems to follow him. Rain pours from ablack sky.

As he reaches the bridge, headlights creep in behind him.

He turns just as the car slides quickly to a stop besidehim. The back door opens.

TRINITY:

Get in.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 24.

23 INT. CAR 23

A large man named APOC is driving. Beside him is a

beautiful androgyne called SWITCH, aiming a large gun atNeo. WINDOW WIPERS BEAT HEAVILY against the windshield.

NEO:

What the hell is this?!

TRINITY:

It's necessary, Neo. For our protection.

NEO:

From what?

TRINITY:

From you.

She lifts a strange steel and glass device that lookslike a cross between a rib separator, speculum and air compressor.

SWITCH :

Take off your shirt.

He looks at the strange device and the gun still trainedon him.

NEO:

What? Why?

SWITCH :

Stop the car.

Apoc does.

SWITCH :

Listen to me, coppertop! We don't have time for 'twenty questions.' Right now there is only one rule. Our way or the highway.

NEO:

Fine.

Neo opens the door.

TRINITY:

Neo, please, you have to trust me.

NEO:

Why?

(CONTINUED)

23

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

CONTINUED:

25.

23

TRINITY:

Because you've been down there,

Neo. You already know that road.

You know exactly where it ends.

Neo stares out into the sheets of rain railing against the dark street beyond the open door.

TRINITY:

And I know that's not where youwant to be.

He closes the door.

A23 EXT. DARK STREET A23

A moment later the green street lights curve over thecar's tinted windshield as it rushes through the wetunderworld.

24 INT. CAR 24

Neo grudgingly strips off his T-shirt.

TRINITY:

Lie back.

Trinity aims the device at Neo, its glass snout forming aseal over his navel. Switch snaps a cable into the frontseat cigarette lighter.

NEO:

What is this thing?

TRINITY:

We think you're bugged. Try torelax.

She turns a dial and the machine bears down on Neo's

midsection, the cylinder sucking hard at his stomach.

Neo screams, squinting in pain as Trinity watches theneedle on a pressure gauge climb steadily.

TRINITY:

Come on, come on...

On a small monitor that projects an ultrasound-likeimage, we see Neo's insides begin to slither and churn.

He gasps as something wiggles beneath his skin inside hisstomach. (CONTINUED)

24

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

CONTINUED:

26.

24

SWITCH :

It's on the move.

Shit.

TRINITY:

SWITCH :

You're gonna lose it.

TRINITY:

No I'm not. Clear.

The foreboding word hangs in Neo's ear for a moment whenTrinity squeezes a trigger. Electric current hammers

into Neo and rigid convulsions take hold of him beneaththe flickering car lamp until -Something

finally rockets wetly out of Neo's stomachthrough the extractor's coils.

NEO:

Jesus Christ! It's real?!

That thing is real?!

Trinity lifts a glass cage at the end of the tubing.

Inside, the small fluke-like bug flips and squirms, itstendrils flapping against the clear walls.

She unrolls the window and dumps it out.

25 EXT. CAR 25

It hits the pavement with a metallic tink, reverted backinto a common wire tap, as the car disappears into therainy night.

26 EXT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE 26

The car stops in a deserted alley behind a forgottenhotel.

27 INT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE 27

It is a place of putrefying elegance, a rotting host ofurban maggotry.

Trinity leads Neo from the stairwell down the hall of thethirteenth floor. They stop outside room 1313.

TRINITY:

This is it.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 27.

27 CONTINUED:

Neo can hear his own heart pounding.

TRINITY:

Let me give one piece of advice.

Be honest. He knows more than youcan possibly imagine.

28 INT. ROOM 1313 28

Across the room, a DARK FIGURE stares out the tall windows veiled with decaying lace. He turns and his smile lights up the room. A dull ROAR of THUNDER shakes the old building.

At last.

MORPHEUS:

He wears a long black coat and his eyes are invisible behind circular mirrored glasses. He strides to Neo and they shake hands.

MORPHEUS:

Welcome, Neo. As you no doubthave guessed, I am Morpheus.

NEO:

It's an honor.

MORPHEUS:

No, the honor is mine.

Come. Sit.

Please.

He nods to Trinity and she exits through a door to anadjacent room. They sit across from one another incracked, burgundy-leather chairs.

MORPHEUS:

I imagine, right now, you must befeeling a bit like Alice, tumblingdown the rabbit hole?

NEO:

You could say that.

MORPHEUS:

I can see it in your eyes. You

have the look of a man who accepts what he sees because he is expecting to wake up.

A smile, razor-thin, curls the corner of his lips. (CONTINUED)

28.

28 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

Ironically, this is not far from the truth. But I'm getting aheadof myself. Can you tell me, Neo, why are you here?

NEO:

You're Morpheus. You're a legend. Most hackers would die to meet you.

MORPHEUS:

Yes. Thank you. But I think we both know there's more to it than that.

Neo?

Do you believe in fate,

NEO:

No.

MORPHEUS:

Why not?

NEO:

Because I don't like the idea that I'm not in control of my life.

MORPHEUS:

I know exactly what you mean.

Again, that smile that could cut glass.

MORPHEUS:

Let me tell you why you are here.

You have come because you knowsomething. What you know youcan't explain but you feel it.

You've felt it your whole life,

felt that something is wrong withthe world. You don't know what, but it's there like a splinter inyour mind, driving you mad. It is this feeling that brought you to me. Do you know what I'm talkingabout?

NEO:

The Matrix?

MORPHEUS:

Do you want to know what it is? Neo swallows hard and nods. (CONTINUED) 29.

28 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

The Matrix is everywhere, it's all around us, here even in this room. You can see it out your window or on your television. You feel it when you go to work, or go to church or pay your taxes. It is the world that has been pulled over your eyes to blind you from the truth.

NEO:

What truth?

MORPHEUS:

That you are a slave, Neo. Like everyone else, you were born into bondage, kept inside a prison that you cannot smell, taste, or touch. A prison for your mind.

The LEATHER CREAKS as he leans back.

MORPHEUS:

Unfortunately, no one can be told what the Matrix is. You have to see it for yourself.

Morpheus opens his hands. In the right is a red pill. In the left, a blue pill.

MORPHEUS:

This is your last chance. After this, there is no going back. You take the blue pill and the story ends. You wake in your bed and you believe whatever you want to believe.

The pills in his open hands are reflected in the glasses.

MORPHEUS:

You take the red pill and you stay in Wonderland and I show you how deep the rabbit-hole goes.

Neo feels the smooth skin of the capsules, the moisturegrowing in his palms.

MORPHEUS:

Remember that all I am offering is the truth. Nothing more. (CONTINUED) THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 30.

28 CONTINUED:

Follow me.

MORPHEUS:

29 INT. OTHER ROOM 29

He leads Neo into the other room, which is cramped withhigh-tech equipment, glowing ash-blue and electric greenfrom the racks of monitors. Trinity, Apoc, Switch andCypher look up as they enter.

MORPHEUS:

Apoc, are we on-line? Almost.

APOC:

He and Trinity are working quickly, hardwiring a complexsystem of monitors, modules and drives.

MORPHEUS:

Neo, time is always against us.

Will you take a seat there?

Neo sits in a chair in the center of the room and Trinitybegins gently fixing white electrode disks to him. Near

the chair is an old oval dressing mirror that is cracked.

He whispers to Trinity:

NEO:

You did all this?

She nods, placing a set of headphones over his ears.

They are wired to an old hotel phone.

MORPHEUS:

The pill you took is part of a trace program. It's designed todisrupt your input/output carriersignal so we can pinpoint yourlocation.

NEO:

What does that mean?

CYPHER:

It means buckle up, Dorothy, 'cause Kansas is going bye-bye. (CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 31.

29 CONTINUED:

Distantly, through the ear phones, he hears Apoc POUNDINGon a KEYBOARD. Sweat beads his face. His eyes blink andtwitch when he notices the mirror. Wide-eyed, he stares as it begins to heal itself, awebwork of cracks that slowly run together as though themirror were becoming liquid.

NEO:

Did you...?

Cypher works with Apoc, checking reams of phosphorescentdata. Trinity monitors Neo's electric vital signs. Neo

reaches out to touch the mirror and his fingers disappearbeneath the rippling surface.

Quickly, he tries to pull his fingers out but the mirrorstretches in long rubbery strands like mirrored taffystuck to his fingertips.

MORPHEUS:

Have you ever had a dream, Neo, that you were so sure was real?

A flash of lightning flickers white hot against Neo.

NEO:

This can't be...

MORPHEUS:

Be what? Be real?

The strands thin like rubber cement as he pulls away, until the fragile wisps of mirror thread break.

MORPHEUS:

What if you were unable to wake from that dream, Neo? How would you know the difference between the dreamworld and the real world?

Neo looks at his hand; fingers distended into mirroredicicles that begin to melt rapidly, dripping, runninglike wax down his fingers, spreading across his palmwhere he sees his face reflected.

NEO:

Uh-oh...

TRINITY:

It's going into replication.

MORPHEUS:

Apoc?

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 32.

29 CONTINUED:

APOC:

Still nothing.

Morpheus takes out a cellular phone and dials a number.

MORPHEUS:

Tank, we're going to need the signal soon.

The mirror gel seems to come to life, racing, crawling uphis arms like hundreds of insects.

The mirror creeps up his neck as Neo begins to panic,

tipping his head as though he were sinking into themirror, trying to keep his mouth up.

NEO:

It's cold.

TRINITY:

I got fibrillation!

MORPHEUS:

Shit! Apoc?

Streams of mercury run from Neo's nose.

APOC:

Targeting... almost there.

An ALARM on Trinity's monitor ERUPTS.

TRINITY:

He's going into arrest!

APOC:

Lock! I got him!

MORPHEUS:

Now, Tank, now!

His eyes tear with mirror, rolling up and closing as aHIGH-PITCHED ELECTRIC SCREAM erupts in the HEADPHONES.

It is a piercing shriek like a computer calling toanother computer - Neo's body arches in agony and we are PULLED like we werepulled INTO the holes of the phone, sucked into his screamand swallowed by darkness.

30 INT. POWER PLANT - CLOSE ON MAN'S BODY 30

floating in a magenta amnion.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 33.

30 CONTINUED:

His body spasms, fighting against the thick gelatin.

Metal tubes, surreal versions of hospital tubes, obscurehis face. Other lines like IVs are connected to limbs

and cover his genitals.

He is struggling desperately now. Air bubbles into the

Jell-O but does not break the surface. Pressing up, the surface distends, stretching like a red rubber cocoon.

Unable to breathe, he fights wildly to stand, clawing atthe thinning elastic shroud, until it ruptures, a holewidening around his mouth as he sucks for air. Tearinghimself free, he emerges from the cell.

It is Neo.

He is bald and naked, his body slick with gelatin.

Dizzy, nauseous, he waits for his vision to focus.

He is standing in an oval capsule of clear alloy filledwith magenta gelatin, the surface of which has solidifiedlike curdled milk. The IVs in his arms are plugged intooutlets that appear to be grafted to his flesh. He feels the weight of another cable and reaches to theback of his head where he finds an enormous coaxial

plugged and locked into the base of his skull. He tries to pull it out but it would be easier to pull off afinger.

To either side he sees other tube-shaped pods filled withmagenta gelatin; beneath the wax-like surface, pale andmotionless, he sees other human beings.

Fanning out in a circle, there are more. All connected

to a center core, each capsule like a red, dimly-glowingpetal attached to a black metal stem.

Above him, level after level, the stem rises seeminglyforever. He moves to the foot of the capsule and looks

out. The image assaults his mind.

Towers of glowing petals spiral up to incomprehensibleheights, disappearing down into a dim murk like anunderwater abyss.

His sight is blurred and warped, exaggerating theintensity of the vision. The sound of the plant is likethe sound of the ocean heard from inside the belly ofLeviathan.

(CONTINUED)

34.

30 CONTINUED:

From above, a machine drops directly in front of Neo. He swallows his scream as it seems to stare at him. It is almost insect-like in its design; beautiful housings ofalloyed metal covering organic-like systems of hard and soft polymers.

The machine seizes hold of Neo, paralyzing him as the cable lock at the back of his neck spins and opens.

The cable disengages itself. A long, clear plasticneedle and cerebrum-chip slides from the anterior of Neo's skull with an ooze of blood and spinal fluid. The

other connective hoses snap free and snake away as themachine lets Neo go. Suddenly, the back of the unit opens and a tremendousvacuum, like an airplane door opening, sucks the gelatinand then Neo into a black hole. 30

31 INT. WASTE LINE 31

The pipe is a waste disposal system and Neo falls, sliding with the clot of gelatin.

Banking through pipe spirals and elbows, flushing upthrough grease traps clogged with oily clumps ofcellulite.

32 INT. SEWER MAIN 32

Neo begins to drown when he is suddenly snatched from theflow of waste. The metallic cable then lifts, pulling him up into thebelly of the futuristic flying machine hovering insidethe sewer main.

33 INT. HOVERCRAFT 33

The metal harness opens and drops the half-conscious Neoonto the floor. Human hands and arms help him up as hefinds himself looking straight at Morpheus.

He smiles.

MORPHEUS:

Welcome to the real world, Neo.

Neo passes out.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

FADE IN:

35.

34 INT. HOVERCRAFT 34

We have no sense of time. We hear voices whispering.

MORPHEUS (O.S.)

We've done it, Trinity. We found

him.

TRINITY (O.S.)

I hope you're right.

MORPHEUS (O.S.)

I don't have to hope it. I know

it.

Neo's eyes flutter open. We see Morpheus' face above us,

angelic in the fluorescent glow of a light stick.

NEO (O.S.)

... am I dead?

Far from it.

MORPHEUS:

FADE TO BLACK.

35 INT. HOVERCRAFT - INFIRMARY 35

He opens his eyes again, something tingling through him.

He focuses and sees his body pierced with dozens ofacupuncture-like needles wired to a strange device.

DOZER :

He still needs a lot of work.

DOZER and Morpheus are operating on Neo.

NEO:

What are you doing?

MORPHEUS:

Your muscles have atrophied.

We're rebuilding them.

Fluorescent light sticks burn unnaturally bright.

NEO:

Why do my eyes hurt?

MORPHEUS:

You've never used them before.

Morpheus closes Neo's eyes and Neo lays back.

(CONTINUED)

36.

35 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

Rest, Neo. The answers are coming.

36 INT. NEO'S ROOM 36

Neo wakes up from a deep sleep, feeling better. He beginsto examine himself. There is a futuristic IV plugged into the jack in his forearm. He pulls it out, staring at the grafted outlet.

He runs his hand over the short hair now covering hishead. His fingers find and explore the large outlet inthe base of his skull.

Just as he starts to come unglued, Morpheus opens thedoor.

NEO:

Morpheus, what's happened to me? What is this place?

MORPHEUS:

More important than what is when?

NEO:

When?

MORPHEUS:

You believe the year is 1997 when in fact it is much closer to 2197. I can't say for certain what year it is because we honestly do not know.

The wind is knocked from Neo's chest.

MORPHEUS:

There is no reason for me to try
to explain it when I can simply
show it. Come with me.
37 INT. HOVERCRAFT 37
Like a sleepwalker, Neo follows Morpheus through theship.

MORPHEUS:

This is my ship, the
Nebuchadnezzar. It's a
hovercraft.
(MORE)
(CONTINUED)
THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 37.

37 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS (CONT'D)

Small like a submarine. It's cramped and cold. But it's home.

They climb a ladder up to the main deck.

38 INT. MAIN DECK 38

Everyone is there.

MORPHEUS:

This is the main deck.
most of my crew.
You know
Trinity smiles and nods.

MORPHEUS:

The ones you don't know. That's
Mouse, Cypher, and Switch. Those
two guys are Tank and Dozer.
The names and faces wash meaninglessly over Neo.

MORPHEUS:

And this, this is the Core. This

is where we broadcast our piratesignal and hack into the Matrix. It is a swamp of bizarre electronic equipment. Vines of coaxial hang and snake to and from huge monolithic battery slabs, a black portable satellite dish and banksof life systems and computer monitors. At the center of the web, there are six ecto-skeleton chairs made of a poly-alloy frame and suspension harness. Near the circle of chairs is the control console and operator's station where the network is monitored.

MORPHEUS:

You want to know what the Matrix is, Neo? The answer is righthere. He touches the back of Neo's head.

MORPHEUS:

Help him, Trinity.

Neo allows himself to be helped into one of the chairs.

He feels Morpheus guiding a coaxial line into the jack atthe back of his neck. The cable has the same kind of

cerebrum chip we saw inside the plant.

(CONTINUED)

38.

38 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

This will feel a little weird.

There are several disturbing noises as he works theneedle in.

We MOVE IN as Neo's shoulders bunch and his face tightensinto a grimace until a loud CLICK fires and his ears poplike when you equalize them underwater.

He relaxes, opening his eyes as we PULL BACK to a feelingof weightlessness inside another place -39

INT. CONSTRUCT 39

Neo is standing in an empty, blank-white space.

MORPHEUS:

This is the Construct.

Startled, Neo whips around and finds Morpheus now in theroom with him.

MORPHEUS:

It is our loading program. We can

load anything from clothes, toweapons, to training simulations.

Anything we need.

Morpheus walks past Neo and when Neo turns he sees thetwo leather chairs from the Hotel Lafayette set up infront of a large screen television. Sit down.

MORPHEUS:

Neo stands at the back of the chair as Morpheus sits.

NEO:

Right now, we're inside a computerprogram? Morpheus smiles.

MORPHEUS:

Is it so hard to believe? Your clothes are different, the plugsin your arms and head are gone. Look at your hair, you were bald a moment ago.

Neo touches his head.

(CONTINUED)

39 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

39.

It's what we call residual self image. The mental projection of your electronic self. Wild, isn't it?

Neo's hands run over the cracked leather.

NEO:

This -- This isn't real?

MORPHEUS:

What is real? How do you definereal? If you're talking aboutwhat you feel, taste, smell, orsee, then real is simplyelectrical signals interpreted byyour brain.

He picks up a remote control and clicks on thetelevision. On the television, we see images of the Twentieth Century city where Neo lived.

MORPHEUS:

This is the world you know. The world as it was at the end of the Twentieth Century. It exists now only as part of a neural-interactive simulation that we

call the Matrix.

He changes the channel and we see a very different cityas we enter the television.

MORPHEUS:

You have been living inside adreamworld, Neo. As in Baudrillard's vision, your wholelife has been spent inside themap, not the territory. This is

the world as it exists today.

In the distance, we see the ruins of a future cityprotruding from the wasteland like the blackened ribs of a long-dead corpse.

MORPHEUS:

'The desert of the real.'
Beneath us, the water is gone.
(CONTINUED)
40.

39 CONTINUED:

We TURN AND DESCEND, SPIRALING DOWN TOWARD the lake bed which is scorched and split like burnt flesh, where weFIND Morpheus and Neo. Neo clings to the chair, tryingto get his bearings.

MORPHEUS:

We have only bits and pieces of information. What we know for certain is that, at some point in the early Twenty-first Century, all of mankind was united in celebration. Through the blinding inebriation of hubris, we marveled at our magnificence as we gave birth to A.I.

NEO:

A.I.? You mean artificial intelligence?

MORPHEUS:

Yes. A singular consciousness that spawned an entire race of machines. I must say I find it almost funny to imagine the world slapping itself on the back,

toasting the new age. I say almost funny.

He looks up and his sunglasses reflect the obsidianclouds roiling overhead.

MORPHEUS:

We don't know who struck first. Us or them. But we do know it was us that scorched the sky. At the time, they were dependent on solar power. It was believed they would be unable to survive without an energy source as abundant as the

As we DESCEND INTO the circular window of his glasses, there is a flash of lightning.

MORPHEUS:

Throughout human history, we have been dependent on machines to survive. Fate, it seems, is not without a sense of irony.

41.

40 EXT. FETUS FIELDS 40 On the flash, we PULL BACK from the darkness which reveals itself to be the black eye of a fetus.

MORPHEUS:

The Machines discovered a new form of fusion. All they needed was asmall electrical charge toinitiate the

The fetus is suspended in a placenta-like husk, where itsmalleable skull is already growing around the brain-jack.

MORPHEUS:

The human body generates morebioelectricity than a 120-voltbattery and over 25,000 B.T.U.'sof body heat.

The husk hanging from a stalk is plucked by a thresherlike farm machine.

MORPHEUS:

There are fields, endless fields where human beings are no longerborn; we are grown. We RISE UP, the field stretching in every direction to the horizon, lightning tearing open the sky as aharvester sweeps past us.

A40 INT. POWER PLANT A40

From the yawning black of the waste port, we begin toPULL BACK as it snaps shut.

Red amniotic gel flows into the pod below us, poolingaround a tiny newborn that suckles its feed tube.

MORPHEUS:

For the longest time, I wouldn'tbelieve it. But then I saw the fields with my own eyes, watchedthem liquefy the dead so theycould be fed intravenously to theliving and standing there, facingthe efficiency, the pure,

horrifying precision, I came torealize the obviousness of the truth.

Still PULLING BACK, we see the image of the power plantnow on the television as we return to the white space of the construct.
42.

41 INT. CONSTRUCT 41

Morpheus steps INTO VIEW as he clicks off the television.

MORPHEUS:

What is the Matrix? Control.

He opens the back of the television remote control.

MORPHEUS:

The Matrix is a computer-generateddreamworld built to keep us undercontrol in order to change a humanbeing into this.

He holds up a coppertop battery.

NEO:

No! I don't believe it! possible! It's not

MORPHEUS:

I didn't say that it would beeasy, Neo. I just said that itwould be the truth.

Stop!

NEO:

Let me out! I want out!

42 INT. MAIN DECK 42

His eyes snap open and he thrashes against the chair, trying to rip the cable from the back of his neck.

NEO:

Get this thing out of me! Easy, Neo.

TRINITY:

Easy.

Dozer holds him while Trinity unlocks it. Once it's out, he tears away from them, falling as he trips free of theharness.

NEO:

Don't touch me! Get away from me!
On his hands and knees, he reels as the world spins.
Sweat pours off him as a pressure builds inside his skullas if his brain had been put into a centrifuge.

NEO:

I don't believe it!
believe it!
I don't
(CONTINUED)
43.

42 CONTINUED:

CYPHER:

He's going to pop!

Vomiting violently, Neo pitches forward and blacks out.

43 INT. NEO'S ROOM 43

He blinks, regaining consciousness.

Neo is stretched out on his bed.

The room is dark.

NEO:

I can't go back, can I? Morpheus is sitting like a shadow on a chair in the far corner.

MORPHEUS:

No. But if you could, would youreally want to? Deep down, Neo knows that answer.

MORPHEUS:

I feel that I owe you an apology. There is a rule that we do not free a mind once it reaches a certain age. It is dangerous.

They have trouble letting go.

Their mind turns against them.

I've seen it happen. I'm sorry.

I broke the rule because I had to.

He stares into the darkness, confessing as much tohimself as to Neo.

MORPHEUS:

When the Matrix was first built there was a man born inside that

had the ability to change what hewanted, to remake the Matrix as he saw fit. It was this man that

freed the first of us and taughtus the truth; as long as theMatrix exists, the human race will

never be free.

He pauses.

(CONTINUED)

44.

CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

When he died, the Oracle

prophesied his return and envisioned that his coming would hail the destruction of the

Matrix, an end to the war and

freedom for our people. That is

why there are those of us thathave spent our entire livessearching the Matrix, looking forhim.

Neo can feel his eyes on him.

MORPHEUS:

I did what I did because I believe the search is over.

He stands up.

MORPHEUS:

Get some rest. You're going toneed it. For what?

NEO:

MORPHEUS:

Your training.

44 INT. HOVERCRAFT 44

There is no morning; there is only darkness and then thefluorescent light sticks flicker on.

45 INT. NEO'S ROOM 45

Neo is awake in his bed, staring up at the lights.

door opens and TANK steps inside.

The

Morning.

TANK:

Did you sleep?

No.

NEO:

TANK:

You will tonight. I guarantee it.

I'm Tank. I'll be your operator.

He offers his hand and Neo shakes it.

Tank doesn't have any jacks.

He notices that

(CONTINUED)

45.

45 CONTINUED:

NEO:

You don't have...

TANK:

Any holes? Nope. Me and mybrother Dozer, we are one hundred percent pure, old-

fashioned, home-grown human.

Born free. Right here in thereal world. Genuine child of Zion.

Zion?

NEO:

TANK:

If this war ended tomorrow, Zion is where the party would be.
It's a city?

NEO:

TANK:

The last human city. place we got left.
The only
Where is it?

NEO:

TANK:

Deep underground. Near the earth's core, where it's still warm. You live long enough, youmight even see it. (he smiles)

Goddamn, I got to tell you, I'mfairly excited to see what you arecapable of. I mean if Morpheus isright and all. We're not supposed to talk about any of that but ifyou are, well then this is anexciting time. We got a lot to doso let's get to it.

46 INT. MAIN DECK 46

Neo is plugged in, hanging in one of the suspensionchairs. (CONTINUED)

46 CONTINUED:

TANK:

46.

We're supposed to load all these operations programs first, but this is some major boring shit.
Why don't we start with something a little fun?
Tank smiles as he plops into his operator's chair. He begins flipping through a tall carousel loaded with microdiscs.

TANK:

How about some combat training? Neo reads the label on the disk.

NEO:

Jujitsu? I'm going to learn jujitsu?
Tank slides the disk into Neo's supplement drive.

NEO:

No way.

Smiling, Tank punches the "load" code. His body jumpsagainst the harness as his eyes clamp shut. The monitors

kick wildly as his heart pounds, adrenaline surges, andhis brain sizzles. An instant later his eyes snap open.

NEO:

Holy shit!

TANK:

Hey, Mikey, he likes it! Ready for more?

NEO:

Hell yes!

47 INT. MAIN DECK 47

CLOSE ON a computer monitor as grey pixels slowly fill asmall, half-empty box. It is a meter displaying how muchdownload time is left.

The title bar reads: "Combat Series 10 of 12," file

categories flashing beneath it: "Savate, Jujitsu, Ken Po,

Drunken Boxing..."

Morpheus walks in.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 47.

47 CONTINUED:

How is he?

MORPHEUS:

TANK:

Ten hours straight.

machine.

He's a

Neo's body spasms and relaxes as his eyes open, breathhissing from his lips. He looks like he just orgasmed.

NEO:

This is incredible.

fu.

I know kung

Show me.

MORPHEUS:

48 INT. DOJO 48

They are standing in a very sparse Japanese-style dojo.

MORPHEUS:

This is a sparring program,

similar to the programmed reality of the Matrix. It has the same basic rules. Rules like gravity.

What you must learn is that theserules are no different than the rules of a computer system. Some of them can be bent. Others can

be broken. Understand?

Neo nods as Morpheus assumes a fighting stance.

MORPHEUS:

Then hit me, if you can.

Neo assumes a similar stance, cautiously circling untilhe gives a short cry and launches a furious attack.

It is like a Jackie Chan movie at high speed, fists andfeet striking from every angle as Neo presses his attack,

but each and every blow is blocked by effortless speed.

49 INT. MAIN DECK 49

While their minds battle in the programmed reality, thetwo bodies appear quite serene, suspended in the drivechairs.

Tank monitors their Life Systems, noticing that Neo iswildly and chaotically lit up as opposed to the slow and steady rhythm of Morpheus. 48.

50 INT. MESS HALL 50

MOUSE bursts into the room, interrupting dinner.

MOUSE :

Morpheus is fighting Neo!

All at once, everyone bolts for the door.

51 INT. DOJO 51

Neo's face is knotted, teeth clenched, as he hurls himself at Morpheus.

MORPHEUS:

Good. Adaptation. Improvisation.

But your weakness isn't yourtechnique.

Morpheus attacks him and it is like nothing we have seen.

His feet and fists are everywhere, taking Neo apart. For every blow Neo blocks, five more hit their marks until --

Neo falls.

Panting, on his hands and knees, blood spits from hismouth, speckling the white floor of the dojo.

MORPHEUS:

How did I beat you?

NEO:

You -- You're too fast.

MORPHEUS:

Do you think my being faster, stronger has anything to do withmy muscles in this place? Neo is frustrated, still unable to catch his breath.

MORPHEUS:

Do you believe that's air you arebreathing now? Neo stands, nodding slowly. Again.

MORPHEUS:

Their fists fly with pneumatic speed.

49.

52 INT. MAIN DECK 52

Everyone is gathered behind Tank, watching the fight, like watching a game of Mortal Kombat.

MOUSE:

Jeezus Keeerist! He's fast! Look at his neural-kinetics! They'reway above normal! 53 INT. DOJO 53

Morpheus begins to press Neo, countering blows whileslipping in several stinging slaps.

MORPHEUS:

Come on, Neo. What are youwaiting for? You're faster than this. Don't think you are. Know you are.

Whack, Morpheus cracks Neo again. Neo's face twists with rage as the speed of the blows rises like a drum solo.

MORPHEUS:

Come on! Stop trying to hit meand just hit me.

Wham. A single blow catches Morpheus on the side of thehead, knocking off

his glasses.

54 INT. MAIN DECK 54

There are several gasps.

MOUSE:

I don't believe it!

55 INT. DOJO 55

Morpheus rubs his face, then smiles.

NEO:

I know what you're trying to do -MORPHEUS

I'm trying to free your mind, Neo,

but all I can do is show you thedoor. You're the one that has to step through. Tank, load the jump

program.

50.

56 INT. HOVERCRAFT 56

Apoc and Switch exchange looks as Tank grabs for thedisk.

57 INT. CONSTRUCT - ROOFTOP - DAY 57

Morpheus and Neo are again in the white space of the Construct. Beneath their feet, we see the jump programrush up at them until they are standing on a rooftop in acity skyline.

MORPHEUS:

Let it all go, Neo. Fear.

Disbelief. Free your mind.

Doubt.

Morpheus spins, running hard at the edge of the rooftop.

And jumps. He sails through the air, his coat billowingout behind him like a cape as he lands on the rooftopacross the street.

Shit.

NEO:

Neo looks down at the street twenty floor below, then atMorpheus an impossible fifty feet away.

Okie dokie.

No problem.

NEO:

Free my mind. Right.

He takes a deep breath. And starts to run.

58 INT. MAIN DECK 58

They are transfixed.

MOUSE :

What if he makes it? No way.

APOC:

Not possible.

TANK:

No one's ever made their first jump.

MOUSE :

I know, but what if he does? He won't.

APOC:

(CONTINUED)

51.

58 CONTINUED:

Trinity stares at the screen, her fists clenching as shewhispers.

TRINITY:

Come on.

59 EXT. ROOFTOP 59

Summoning every ounce of strength in his legs, Neolaunches himself into the air in a single maniacalshriek!-

-- but comes up drastically short.

His eyes widen as he plummets. Stories fly by, the ground rushing up at him, but as he hits, the ground givesway, stretching like a trapeze net. He bounces and flips,

slowly coming to a rest, flat on his back.

He laughs, a bit unsure, wiping the windblown tears from his face. Morpheus exits the building and helps him to his feet.

MORPHEUS:

Do you know why you didn't make it?

NEO:

Because... I didn't think I would? Morpheus smiles and nods. 60 INT. MAIN DECK 60 They break up.

MOUSE:

What does it mean?

SWITCH :

It doesn't mean anything.

CYPHER:

Everyone falls the first time, right, Trinity?

But Trinity has already left.

Neo's eyes open as Tank eases the plug out. He tries to move and groans, cradling his ribs. While Tank helpsMorpheus, Neo spits blood into his hand.

(CONTINUED)

52.

60 CONTINUED:

NEO:

I thought it wasn't real.

MORPHEUS:

Your mind makes it real. Neo stares at the blood.

NEO:

If you are killed in the Matrix, do you die here?

MORPHEUS:

The body cannot live without themind.

61 INT. NEO'S ROOM 61

Trinity enters from the hall, carrying a tray of food.

TRINITY:

Neo, I saved you some dinner -She

sees him passed out on the bed. She sets the traydown and pulls the blanket over him.

She pauses, her face close to his, then inhales lightly,

breathing in the scent of him before slowly pulling away.

62 INT. HALL 62

Trinity steps out of Neo's room to find Cypher watchingher.

CYPHER:

I don't remember you ever bringingme dinner. Trinity says nothing.

CYPHER:

There's something about him, isn'tthere?

TRINITY:

Don't tell me you're a believernow? (CONTINUED)
53.

62 CONTINUED:

CYPHER:

I just keep wondering if Morpheusis so sure, why doesn't he takehim to the Oracle? She would know.

TRINITY:

Morpheus will take him when he'sready.

She turns and he watches her walk away.

63 EXT. CITY STREET - TRAINING PROGRAM - DAY 63

Morpheus moves effortlessly through a crowded downtownstreet while Neo struggles to keep up, constantly bumpedand shouldered off the path.

MORPHEUS:

The Matrix is a system, Neo, andthat system is our enemy. But when you are inside and you lookaround, what do you see; businessmen, lawyers, teachers,

carpenters. The minds of the verypeople we are trying to save. But until we do, these people are still a part of the system and that makes them our enemy.

A cop writing a parking ticket stares at Neo from behindhis sunglasses.

MORPHEUS:

You have to understand that most

of these people are not ready tobe unplugged and many of them areso inured, so hopelessly dependenton the system that they will fightto protect it. A beautiful woman in a red dress smiles at Neo as she passes by.

MORPHEUS:

Were you listening to me, Neo? Or

were you looking at the woman inthe red dress? I was...

NEO:

(CONTINUED)

54.

63 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

Look again.

Neo turns just as Agent Smith levels a gun at his face. Neo screams.

MORPHEUS:

Freeze it.

Everything except Morpheus and Neo freezes.

NEO:

This -- this isn't the Matrix?

MORPHEUS:

No, it's another training program designed to teach you one thing; if you are not one of us, you're one of them.

NEO:

What are they?

MORPHEUS:

Sentient programs. They can move in and out of any software still hardwired to their system. That means that anyone that we haven't unplugged is potentially an Agent. Inside the Matrix, they are everyone and they are no one.

Neo stares at the Agent.

MORPHEUS:

We've survived by hiding from them, running from them, but they are the gatekeepers, they're guarding all the doors, holding all the keys, which means that sooner or later someone is going to have to fight them.

NEO:

Someone?

MORPHEUS:

I won't lie to you, Neo. Every single man or woman who has stood their ground, who has fought an Agent, has died. But where they failed, you will succeed.

(CONTINUED)

63

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CONTINUED:

NEO:

Why?

MORPHEUS:

I've seen an Agent punch through aconcrete wall. Men have emptiedentire clips at them and hitnothing but air. Yet their strength and their speed are stillbased on a world that is built byrules. Because of that they willnever be as strong or as fast asyou can be. Neo scratches his head.

55.

63

NEO:

What? Are you trying to tell methat I can dodge bullets?

MORPHEUS:

No, Neo. I'm trying to tell youthat when you're ready, you won'thave to. Morpheus' cell PHONE RINGS and he flips it open.

TANK (V.O.)

We got trouble.

64 EXT. SEWER MAIN 64

The Nebuchadnezzar blisters by, trailing a swirling, supercharged, electromagnetic wake.

65 INT. COCKPIT 65

Morpheus slides into the copilot's chair next to Dozer.

MORPHEUS:

Did Zion send the warning?

DOZER:

No. Another ship. Big Brother Ithink, they're running a parallelpipeline. Morpheus scans the decayed landscape of the sewer mainthat rolls by as Neo and Trinity squeeze into the cockpitbehind him. An ALARM BEGINS TO SOUND. (CONTINUED)

65

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

CONTINUED:

56.

65

DOZER:

Shit, Squiddy's sweeping in quick.

MORPHEUS:

Set it down in there.

NEO:

Squiddy?

TRINITY:

A Sentinel. It's a killingmachine designed for one thing.

DOZER:

Search and destroy.

Neo feels the ship rock to the side as it squeezes into atiny supply line. 66 EXT. HOVERCRAFT 66

The Nebuchadnezzar sets down, almost wedged into a pipethat barely accommodates its size.

67 INT. COCKPIT 67

Morpheus clicks the intercom.

MORPHEUS:

How we doing, Tank?

68 INT. MAIN DECK 68

Tank works furiously at the operator's station as theceaseless WHIR of the ship's TURBINES GRIND TO a HALT.

The main deck is plunged into dark silence. The rest

of the screw stands behind him as he whispers.

TANK:

Power off-line. E.M.P. armed and

ready.

Tank's fingers curl around a small key that glows a dimred.

69 INT. COCKPIT 69

Neo leans into Trinity's ear.

(CONTINUED)

57.

69 CONTINUED:

E.M.P.?

NEO:

TRINITY:

An electromagnetic pulse. It

disables any electrical system in the blast radius. It's the onlyweapon we have against themachines.

Dozer looks up.

Now we wait.

DOZER:

THROUGH the cockpit's windshield, the vast cavern of thesewer main yawns before them. Strands of green haze curlround mossy icicles that dangle into a pool of churningfrozen waste. Neo begins to angle around Dozer butMorpheus grabs him.

MORPHEUS:

Don't move. It'll hear you.

Neo freezes and they wait. Without the Nebuchadnezzar'sheating systems, the temperature in the cockpit begins torapidly drop. The crew members huddle together, theirbreath freezing into a uniform cloud as it gets colderand colder.

Dozer quietly reaches to brush away the frost on thewindshield and as his hand clears a swath -They

see it.

In the darkness, a shifting shadow of mechanized death.

It is beautiful and terrifying. Black alloy skinflickers like sequins beneath sinewy coils and skeletalappendages.

Neo can feel the hairs on the back of his neck rise as it silently glides over them with shark-like malevolenceuntil it disappears into the darkness.

In the frozen little room, everyone breathes a littleeasier.

70 INT. HALL 70

The ship is quiet and dark. Everyone is asleep.

58.

71 INT. MAIN DECK 71

The core glows with monitor light. Cypher is in theoperator's chair as Neo comes up behind him.

CYPHER:

Whoa! Shit, Neo, you scared thebejeezus out of me.

NEO:

Sorry.

CYPHER:

No, it's all right.

Neo's eyes light up as he steps closer to the screensthat seem alive with a constant flow of data.

NEO:

Is that...?

CYPHER:

The Matrix? Yeah.

Neo stares at the endlessly shifting river ofinformation, bizarre codes and equations flowing acrossthe face of the monitor.

NEO:

Do you always look at it encoded?

CYPHER:

Have to. The image translatorssort of work for the construct programs but there's way too muchinformation to decode the Matrix.

You get used to it, though. Your

brain does the translating. I

don't even see the code. All I

see is blonde, brunette, and

redhead. You want a drink?

Neo nods and he pours a clear alcohol from a plastic jug.

CYPHER:

You know, I know what you'rethinking 'cause right now I'mthinking the same thing.

Actually, to tell you the truth,

I've been thinking the same thingever since I got here.

He raises the glass.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 59.

71 CONTINUED:

CYPHER:

Why, oh why, didn't I take thatblue pill?

He throws the shot down his throat. Neo does the same

and it almost kills him. Smiling, Cypher slaps him onthe back.

CYPHER:

Good shit, eh? Dozer makes it.

It's good for two things:

degreasing engines and killingbrain cells.

Red-faced, Neo finally stops coughing. Cypher pours himanother.

CYPHER:

Can I ask you something? Did he happen to tell you why he did it? Neo looks up, unsure.

CYPHER:

Why you're here?

NEO:

... Yeah.

CYPHER:

Gee-zus! What a mindjob. You're here to save the world. You gottabe shitting me. What do you sayto something like that?

Neo looks down at his drink.

CYPHER:

I'm going to let you in on alittle secret here. Now don't tell him I told you this, but thisain't the first time Morpheusthought he found the One.

NEO:

Really?

CYPHER:

You bet your ass. It keeps himgoing. Maybe it keeps all of usgoing.

NEO:

How many were there? (CONTINUED) 60.

71 CONTINUED:

Five.

CYPHER:

Since I've been here.

NEO:

What happened to them? Dead.

CYPHER:

All dead.

How?

NEO:

CYPHER:

Honestly. Morpheus. He got themall amped up believing inbullshit. I watched each of them

take on an Agent and I watchedeach of them die. Little piece ofadvice: you see an Agent, you dowhat we do; run. Run your assoff.

Neo gulps down another shot.

NEO:

Thanks... for the drink. Anytime.

CYPHER:

Cypher nods as Neo heads for the ladder. Sweet dreams.

CYPHER:

A71 INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT A71

CHAMBER MUSIC and the ambiance of wealth soak the restaurant around us as we watch a serrated knife saw through a thick, gorgeous steak. The meat is so perfect, charred on the outside, oozing red juice from the inside,

that it could be a dream.
We hear a voice that we recognize immediately.

AGENT SMITH:

Do we have a deal, Mr. Reagan?
A fork stabs the cube of meat and we FOLLOW it UP TO the face of Cypher.
(CONTINUED)
THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 61.

A71 CONTINUED:

CYPHER:

You know, I know that this steak doesn't exist. I know when I put it in my mouth, the Matrix is telling my brain that it is juicy and delicious. After nine years, do you know what I've realized? He shoves it in, eyes rolling up, savoring the tenderbeef melting in his mouth.

CYPHER:

Ignorance is bliss.

Agent Smith watches him chew the steak loudly, smackingit between his teeth.

CYPHER:

Mmm so, so goddamn good.

AGENT SMITH:

Then we have a deal?

CYPHER:

I don't want to remember nothing. Nothing! You understand? And I want to be rich. Someone important. Like an actor. You can do that, right?

AGENT SMITH :

Whatever you want, Mr. Reagan.

Cypher takes a deep drink of wine.

CYPHER:

All right. You get my body back in a power plant, reinsert me into the Matrix and I'll get you what you want.

AGENT SMITH:

Access codes to the Zion mainframe.

CYPHER:

I told you I don't know them. But I can give you the man who does.

AGENT SMITH:

Morpheus.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 62.

72 INT. MESS HALL 72

CLOSE ON breakfast, a substance with a consistency somewhere between yogurt and cellulite.

TANK:

Here you go, buddy. Breakfast of champions.

Tank slides it in front of Neo and takes a seat with the other crew members enjoying breakfast.

APOC:

You mean the breakfast, lunch, and dinner of champions.

MOUSE :

If you close your eyes, it almostfeels like you're eating runny eggs.

APOC:

Or a bowl of snot.

MOUSE :

But you know what it reallyreminds me of? Cream of Wheat. Did you ever eat Cream of Wheat?

SWITCH :

No, but technically neither did

you.

MOUSE :

Exactly my point, because you haveto wonder, how do the machines know what Cream of Wheat reallytasted like? Maybe they got itwrong, maybe what I think Cream of Wheat tasted like actually tastedlike oatmeal, or tuna fish. It

makes you wonder about a lot ofthings. Take chicken for example. Maybe they couldn't figure outwhat to make chicken taste like which is why chicken tastes likeeverything. And maybe -

APOC:

Shut up, Mouse.

Neo scoops up a spoonful.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 63.

72 CONTINUED:

DOZER:

It's a single-celled proteincombined with synthetic aminos, vitamins, and minerals.

Everything your body needs. We grow it in a vat.

MOUSE :

Oh no, it doesn't have everythingthe body needs. He sidles up to Neo.

MOUSE :

So I understand you've runthrough the Agent trainingprogram? You know, I wrote that program.

APOC:

Here it comes.

MOUSE :

So what did you think of her?

NEO:

Of who?

MOUSE:

The woman in the red dress. I designed her. She doesn't talk much but if you'd like to, youknow, meet her, I could arrangea more personalized milieu.

SWITCH :

The digital pimp hard at work.

MOUSE :

Pay no attention to thesehypocrites, Neo. To deny ourimpulses is to deny the verything that makes us human.

Morpheus enters.

MORPHEUS:

I want everyone on twelve-hourstandby. We're going in. I'm taking Neo to see her.

With that he turns and leaves.

(CONTINUED)

72

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

CONTINUED:

64.

72

See who?

NEO:

The Oracle.

TANK:

A72 INT. MAIN DECK A72 Everyone is strapped into their chairs. Tank is at the operator's station.

TANK:

All right, everyone please observethat the no smoking and fastenseat belt signs have been turned

on. Sit back and enjoy yourflight.

He strikes the enter key and we RUSH CLOCKWISE OVER thechairs, each body reacting as we...

CUT TO:

B72 INT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE - ROOM 1313 B72
SPINNING COUNTER-CLOCKWISE AROUND an old PHONE that RINGS

inside the empty room until we SPIN FULL CIRCLE and FINDeveryone now standing there.

Morpheus answers the phone.

MORPHEUS:

We're in.

73 EXT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE - DAY 73

The door opens and for the first time since his release, Neo steps back into the Matrix. He squints at the sunwhich seems unnaturally bright. He is the only onewithout sunglasses.

Apoc and Switch remain at the door as the others enterthe alley.

MORPHEUS:

We should be back in an hour.

Cypher opens the driver's door of an old car as Trinity,

Morpheus and Neo cross to the car, Cypher glances aboutquickly, then drops something inside a garbage can.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 64A.

73 CONTINUED:

It is a cellular phone and we see its blue display as theline connects. $74 \, \text{INT. CAR} \, 74$

Neo sits beside Trinity in the back. He cannot stopstaring as the simple images of the urban street blurpast his window like an endless stream of data rushingdown a computer screen.

MORPHEUS:

Almost unbelievable, isn't it?

Neo nods as the car continues to wind through the crowdedcity. (CONTINUED)

65.

74 CONTINUED:

NEO:

God...

TRINITY:

What?

NEO:

I used to eat there... Really goodnoodles...

He is speaking in a whisper, almost as if talking tohimself.

NEO:

I have these memories, from myentire life but... none of them really happened.

He turns to her.

NEO:

What does that mean?

TRINITY:

That the Matrix cannot tell youwho you are.

NEO:

But an Oracle can.

TRINITY:

That's different.

NEO:

Obviously.

He turns to the window for a moment and then turns back.

NEO:

Did you go to her?

TRINITY:

Yes.

NEO:

What did she tell you?

TRINITY:

She told me

She looks at him and suddenly she is unable to speak oreven breathe. (CONTINUED)

66.

74 CONTINUED:

What?

NEO :

The car suddenly jerks to a stop.

We're here.

MORPHEUS:

Neo, come with me.

Neo and Morpheus get out of the car.

the rearview mirror at Trinity.

Cypher looks into

CYPHER:

Here we go again, eh, Trin?

He smiles as she turns to the window.

75 EXT. BUILDING 75

Tenement-like and vast, it is the kind of place wherepeople can disappear.

76 INT. BUILDING 76

Morpheus nods to a blind man who nods back.

opens and Neo follows Morpheus inside.

An elevator

77 INT. ELEVATOR 77

The idea of learning one's fate begins to weigh upon Neowith a steadily growing unease.

NEO:

So is this the same oracle that made the, uh, prophecy?

MORPHEUS:

Yes. She's very old. She's been with us since the beginning.

NEO:

The beginning?

MORPHEUS:

Of the Resistance.

NEO:

And she knows what? Everything?

MORPHEUS:

She would say she knows enough. (CONTINUED)

67.

77 CONTINUED:

NEO:

And she's never wrong.

MORPHEUS:

Don't think of it in terms of right and wrong. She is a guide,
Neo. She can help you find thepath.

NEO:

She helped you? Yes.

MORPHEUS:

NEO:

What did she tell you?

MORPHEUS:

That I would find the One. DING. The ELEVATOR opens.

78 INT. HALL 78

The long dark hall beckons. Neo follows Morpheus out of the elevator and the DOORS RATTLE shut behind him. With

every step, a disturbing sense of inevitability closes inaround him. At the end of the hall, Morpheus steps to the side of adoor.

MORPHEUS:

I told you that I can only showyou the door. You have to stepthrough it. Neo blows out a breath. His hand reaches but stops, hovering over the spherical handle. He backs away.

NEO:

Morpheus, I don't think this is agood idea. Why?

MORPHEUS:

NEO:

I told you I don't believe in thisstuff. No matter what she saysI'm not going to believe it, sowhat's the point?

(CONTINUED)

68.

78 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

What do you believe in?

NEO:

What do I believe in? Are youkidding me? What do you think? The world I grew up in isn't real.

My entire life was a lie. I don't believe in anything anymore.

MORPHEUS:

That's why we're here.

NEO:

Why? So I can hear some old ladytell me, what? That I'm this guythat everybody's been waiting for?

That I'm supposed to save theworld? It sounds insane.

Unbelievable. And I don't care

who says it, it's still going to sound insane and unbelievable.

MORPHEUS:

Faith is not a matter of reasonability. I do not believe things with my mind. I believe them with my heart. In my gut.

NEO:

And you believe I'm the One?

MORPHEUS:

Yes I do.

NEO:

Yeah? What about the other five guys? The five before me? What about them?

Morpheus tries to hide his heart being wrenched from hischest.

NEO:

Did you believe in them too?

MORPHEUS:

I believed what the Oracle told me... no, I misunderstood what she told me. I believed that it was

all about me.

This is difficult for Morpheus to admit.

(CONTINUED)

69.

78 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

I believed that all I had to do

was point my finger and anointwhoever I chose. I was wrong,

Neo. Terribly wrong. Not a dayor night passes that I do notthink of them.

After the fifth, I

lost my way. I doubted everythingthe Oracle had said. I doubted myself.

He looks up at Neo.

MORPHEUS:

And then I saw you, Neo, and myworld changed. You can call it an epiphany, you can call itwhatever the hell you want.

It doesn't matter. It's not

about a word. It's about this.

So I can't explain it to you.

All I can do is believe, Neo,

believe that one day you willfeel what I felt and know what

I know; you are the sixth andthe last. You are the One.

His eyes blaze.

MORPHEUS:

Until that time all I am askingfrom you is for you to hold on towhatever respect you may have forme and trust me.

Neo feels a rush from Morpheus's intensity, theunadulterated confidence of a zealot.

All right.

NEO:

He reaches for the handle which turns without him even touching it. A WOMAN wearing white opens the door.

Hello, Neo.

PRIESTESS (WOMAN)

You're right on time.

79 INT. ORACLE'S APARTMENT 79

It seems particularly normal.

PRIESTESS :

Make yourself at home, Morpheus.
(CONTINUED)
70.

79 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

Thank you.

PRIESTESS:

Neo, come with me.

She leads Neo down another hall and into what appears tobe a family room. There is another woman in white sitting on a couchwatching a soap opera. Scattered about the room are a

half dozen children. Some of them are playing, others are deep in meditation. All of them exude a kind of Zen calm.

PRIESTESS :

These are the other Potentials.

You can wait here.

Neo watches a little girl levitate wooden alphabetblocks. Closer to him, a SKINNY BOY with a shaved head

holds a spoon which sways like a blade of grass.

In front of him is a pile of spoons bent and twisted intoknots. Neo crosses to him and sits. The boy smiles andhands Neo the spoon which is now perfectly straight.

SPOON BOY (SKINNY BOY)

Do not try to bend the spoon.

That is impossible. Instead, onlytry to realize the truth.

NEO:

What truth?

SPOON BOY:

That there is no spoon.

Neo nods, staring at the spoon.

NEO:

There is no spoon.

SPOON BOY:

Then you will see that it is not the spoon that bends. It is onlyyourself. The entire room is reflected inside the spoon and as Neostares into it, it slowly begins to bend until -

A hand touches his shoulder.

PRIESTESS :

The Oracle will see you now.

Spoon Boy smiles.

71.

80 INT. KITCHEN 80

An OLD WOMAN is huddled beside the oven, peering insidethrough a cracked door.

NEO:

Hello?

ORACLE (OLD WOMAN)

I know. You're Neo. Be right with you.

NEO:

You're the Oracle?

ORACLE:

Bingo. Not quite what you were expecting, right? I got to say I love seeing you non-believers. Always a pip. Almost done. Smell good, don't they?

NEO:

Yeah.

ORACLE:

I'd ask you to sit down, but you're not going to anyway. And don't worry about the vase.

NEO:

What vase?

He turns to look around and his elbow knocks a VASE from the table. It BREAKS against the linoleum floor.

ORACLE :

That vase.

NEO:

Shit, I'm sorry.

She pulls out a tray of chocolate chip cookies and turns. She is an older woman, wearing big oven mitts, comfortable slacks and a print blouse. She looks like someone's grandma.

ORACLE:

I said don't worry about it. I'll get one of my kids to fix it.

NEO:

How did you know...?

She sets the cookie tray on a wooden hot pad.

(CONTINUED)

72.

80 CONTINUED:

ORACLE:

What's really going to bake yournoodle later on is, would youstill have broken it if I hadn't said anything.

Smiling, she lights a cigarette.

ORACLE:

You're cuter than I thought. I see why she likes you.

NEO:

Who?

ORACLE:

Not too bright though. She winks.

ORACLE:

You know why Morpheus brought youto see me? He nods.

ORACLE :

So? What do you think? You think you're the One?

NEO:

Honestly? I don't know.

She gestures to a wooden plaque, the kind every kitchenhas, except that the words are in Latin.

ORACLE:

You know what that means? It's

Latin. Means, 'Know Thyself.'

I'm gonna let you in on a little

secret. Being the One is justlike being in love. Nobody cantell you you're in love. You justknow it. Through and through.

Balls to bones.

She puts her cigarette down.

ORACLE:

Well, I better have a look at you.

Open your mouth. Say, 'ahh.'

She widens his eyes, checks his ears, then feels theglands in his neck. She nods, then looks at his palms.

(CONTINUED)

73.

80 CONTINUED:

ORACLE:

Okay, now I'm supposed to say, 'Hmmm, that's interesting but...'
Then you say -

NEO:

But what?

ORACLE:

But you already know what I'mgoing to tell you.

NEO:

I'm not the One.

ORACLE:

Sorry, kid. You got the gift butlooks like you're waiting forsomething.

NEO:

What?

ORACLE:

Your next life, maybe. Who knows?

That's how these things go. Neo almost has to laugh.

ORACLE:

What's funny?

NEO:

Morpheus. He almost had me convinced.

ORACLE:

I know. Poor Morpheus. Without him we are lost.

NEO:

What do you mean, without him? The Oracle takes a long drag, regarding Neo with the eyesof a Sphinx.

ORACLE:

Are you sure you want to hearthis?
Neo nods.
(CONTINUED)
74.

80 CONTINUED:

ORACLE :

Morpheus believes in you, Neo, and no one, not you or even me canconvince him otherwise. He believes it so blindly that he sgoing to sacrifice his life to save yours.

What?

NEO:

ORACLE:

You're going to have to make achoice. In one hand, you willhave Morpheus's life. In the other hand, you will have your own. One of you is going to die. Which one, will be up to you.

Neo can't breathe.

ORACLE:

I'm sorry, kiddo. I really am.

You have a good soul and I hategiving good people bad news. But don't worry, as soon as you walkoutside that door, you'll startfeeling better. You'll remember

that you don't believe any of this fate crap. You're in control of your own life, remember?

He tries to nod as she reaches for the tray of cookies.

ORACLE:

Here, take a cookie. I promise bythe time you're done eating it, you'll feel right as rain.

Neo takes a cookie, the tightness in his chest slowlybeginning to fade. 81 INT. SITTING ROOM - DAY 81

Morpheus rises from a couch as the priestess escorts Neo out. When they are alone, Morpheus puts his hand onNeo's shoulder.

MORPHEUS:

You don't have to tell anyone whatshe told you. What was said was said for you and you alone.

Neo nods and takes a bite of his cookie.

82

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/22/98

INT. CAR

75.

82

Neo and Morpheus get in the car.

MORPHEUS:

Let's qo.

Cypher looks into the rearview mirror at Neo.

CYPHER:

Well, good news or bad news?

MORPHEUS:

Not now, Cypher.

Cypher slaps the car in gear and pulls into traffic.

Trinity looks at Neo who is staring at the final bit ofcookie. He puts it in his mouth and chews.

TRINITY:

Are you all right?

NEO:

... Right as rain.

83 OMITTED 83

84 INT. ROOM 1313 - DAY 84

Mouse's CELLULAR RINGS.

MOUSE :

Welcome to Movie-Phone.

TANK (V.O.)

They're on their way.

85 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY 85

As they get out of the car, Cypher smiles at Neo.

CYPHER:

Like the man says, welcome to thereal world.

Cypher, following the others into the hotel, nervouslyglances around, wiping the sweat from his forehead.

86 INT. MAIN DECK 86

Sweat rolls down Cypher's face and neck. At the operator's station, Tank is typing rapidly.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/22/98 75A.

86 CONTINUED:

TANK:

What is that...?

87 INT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE - DAY 87

Light filters down the throat of the building through acaged skylight at the top of the open elevator shaft.

Six figures glide up the dark stairs that wind around the antique elevator. (CONTINUED)

76.

87 CONTINUED:

Neo notices a black cat, a yellow-green eyed shadow thatslinks past them and pads quickly down the stairs.

A moment later, Neo sees another black cat that looks and moves identically to the first one.

Whoa.

NEO:

Deja vu.

Those words stop the others dead in their tracks.

88 INT. MAIN DECK 88

The monitors suddenly glitch as though the Matrix had anelectronic seizure.

Oh shit!

TANK:

Oh shit!

89 INT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE - DAY 89

Trinity turns around, her face tight.

TRINITY:

What did you just say?

Nothing.

vu.

NEO:

Just had a little deja

TRINITY:

What happened? What did you see?

NEO:

A black cat went past us and then I saw another that looked justlike it.

TRINITY:

How much like it? Was it the same cat?

NEO:

It might have been. I'm not sure.

Trinity looks at Morpheus who listens quietly to the RASPING breath of the old BUILDING.

What is it?

NEO:

(CONTINUED)

89

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

CONTINUED:

77.

89

TRINITY:

A deja vu is usually a glitch inthe Matrix. It happens when theychange

something.

She also listens as the staccato BEAT of HELICOPTER BLADES GROWS ominously LOUD.

90 INT. MAIN DECK 90

Tank sees what was changed.

TANK:

It's a trap!

91 INT. STAIRCASE - DAY 91

Morpheus looks up the stairs as he hears a HELICOPTER.

MORPHEUS:

Come on!

Apoc slaps a gun into Neo's hand.

APOC:

Something to ward off evilspirits.

Neo nods, stuffing it into his belt.

92 INT. BASEMENT - DAY 92

Heavy bolt cutters snap through the main phone cable.

93 INT. ROOM 1313 - DAY 93

Hearing the HELICOPTER, Mouse goes to the draped windowsas his CELLULAR RINGS. He answers it.

TANK (V.O.)

They cut the hardline! It's a

trap! Get out!

Mouse yanks open the curtain.

MOUSE :

Oh no.

The windows are bricked up. Mouse spins as the RUMBLE of combat BOOTS BUILDS, then explodes into the room.

94

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

INT. MAIN DECK

78.

94

Tank watches helplessly.

TANK:

No, no, no.

95 INT. STAIRS - DAY 95

Morpheus stops as Mouse's SCREAM is drowned out by thereport of MACHINE GUN FIRE.

96 INT. ROOM 1313 - DAY 96

Mouse sails backwards as BULLETS POUND him against theblood-spattered brick window.

97 INT. MAIN DECK 97

Mouse's body thrashes against its harness, blood coughingfrom his mouth in one final spasm, then lying perfectlystill. The flatline ALARM softly cries out from the lifeMONITOR.

98 OMITTED 98

99 INT. STAIRWELL - DAY 99

Flying downstairs, Morpheus stops, hearing POLICESWARMING below.

A99 INT. HALL - DAY A99

He turns and rushes down the hall of the eighth floor.

At the end of it, he finds the bricked-up windows.

CYPHER:

That's what they changed. We're

trapped. There's no way out.

The sound of heavy BOOT-STEPS close around them with themechanical sureness of a vice.

MORPHEUS:

Give me your phone.

TRINITY:

They'll be able to track it.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 79.

A99 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

We have no choice.

Morpheus rips off his jacket.

100 INT. MAIN DECK 100

Tank answers the call.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Tank, find a structural drawing ofthis building and find it fast.

101 INT. HOTEL LAFAYETTE - DAY 101

Flashlights probe the rotting darkness as the policesearch every floor.

102 INT. MAIN DECK 102

The diagram windows onto the screen.

TANK:

Got it.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

I need the main wet-wall.

103 INT. ROOM 1313 - DAY 103

Agent Smith stands over Mouse's dead body, his hand goingto his earpiece.

104 INT. ROOM 808 - DAY 104

Morpheus is guided by Tank.

TANK (V.O.)

Now left, and that's it in front of

you.

MORPHEUS:

Good.

105 INT. ROOM 1313 - DAY 105

Agent Smith hears the LINE CLICK dead.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98

80.

105

CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

Eighth floor. They're on theeighth floor.

A105

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY A105

Agent Brown listens to his earpiece.

106

INT. STAIRWELL - DAY 106

Boots clatter up the marble staircase.

A106

INT. HALL - DAY A106

Cops flood the eight floor, rushing everywhere.

107

INT. ROOM 808 - DAY 107

Several cops sweep through the room. It is empty. As

they pass the bathroom, we see a man-sized hole smashedthrough the plaster and lath.

108

INT. WALL - DAY 108

They are inside the main plumbing wall, slowly wormingtheir way down the grease-black stack pipes. Above them,

light fills the hole they made to get inside.

109 INT. HALL - DAY 109

Agent Brown and Agent Smith stand over Morpheus's jacket.

AGENT BROWN:

Where are they?

110

INT. ROOM 608 - DAY 110

The cops search in silence, straining for a clue, whenone hears SOMETHING STRANGE near the bathroom.

111

INT. WALL - DAY 111

Cypher has slipped and is wedged between the wall andseveral thick supply pipes.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 80A.

112 INT. ROOM 608 - DAY 112

The COP leans in, his ear almost against the thinmembrane of plaster separating them. He can hear

WHISPERS, HISSES and a GRUNT when -

The wall suddenly bulges, shatter-cracking as the Coprealizes -

COP:

They're in the walls!

113 INT. WALL - DAY 113

Trinity pulls Cypher free just as the Cop OPENS FIRE,

BULLETS PUNCHING shafts of light like swords into the boxof soot-black space.

Neo finds his GUN first and begins BLASTING wildlythrough the plaster and lath.

114 INT. ROOM 608 - DAY 114

The Cop spins out of the bathroom for cover, Neo'sBULLETS SPLINTERING the door jamb.

(CONTINUED)

81.

114 CONTINUED:

About to whirl back in, he freezes as something seems to seize hold of him. The Cop's body starts to spasm and his M-16 falls to the ground, long shadows springing upfrom the mounted flashlight.

115 INT. WALL - DAY 115

Neo listens for a moment, the gunfire quiet, when hehears FOOTSTEPS RISING FAST.

Two arms suddenly smash through the wall, punching Neoback against the iron stack pipe, fingers gouging intohis neck.

CYPHER:

It's an Agent!

Just as Neo's throat is about to collapse, Morpheusexplodes through the tattered plaster and lath, diving ontop of Agent Smith.

The two men crash to the wet terrazzo floor.

Before Agent Smith can find his weapon, Morpheus is onhim, pinning him in an iron grip.

In the crawlspace, Trinity tries to scramble up pastCypher.

TRINITY:

Morpheus!

Morpheus squeezes Agent Smith's throat.

MORPHEUS:

Trinity, you must get Neo out. Do you understand? He is all that matters.

Neo suddenly glimpses what is happening but is powerlessto stop it.

NEO:

No. No! Morpheus! Don't!

MORPHEUS:

Trinity! Go!

Trinity's fists ball in frustration. She yells down toApoc.

TRINITY:

Go!

(CONTINUED)

82.

115 CONTINUED:

NEO:

We can't leave him!
We have to!

TRINITY:

She grabs his ankle and they begin almost falling, using the lath as a brake, skidding down the inside of thewall.

116 INT. BASEMENT - DAY 116

This part of the basement, a dark concrete cavern, wasthe main mechanical room. There are four enormous

boilers, dinosaur-like technology that once pumped hotwater like arteries. Soldier's blinding lights cut open the darkness asTrinity, Neo and the others crash through the ceiling.

Around them they hear a chorus of short, sharp coughs ofgrenade launchers from gas-masked figures.

Smoke blossoms from the green metal canisters. Trinitynever stops moving. Searching the floor, she finds whatshe needs; the cover of the catch basin.

Cypher watches her pry open the grate, when a gas canbounces near him. Come on!

TRINITY:

Cypher seems to trip as the cloud envelops him.

Trinity watches Cypher disappear into the smoke, thenfollow the others down the wet-black hole.

117 INT. ROOM 608 - DAY 117

Morpheus and Agent Smith remain on the ground, locked ineach other's death grip.

AGENT SMITH:

The great Morpheus. We meet at last.

MORPHEUS:

And you are?

AGENT SMITH:

Smith. I am Agent Smith. (CONTINUED)
83.

117 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

You all look the same to me.

Agent Smith counters Morpheus and slowly begins to pryhis hands from his throat. Striking like a viper,

Morpheus, drives a vicious head butt into Agent Smith'sface. His nose and glasses shatter.

Agent Smith, unfazed, smiles, blood oozing from the shattered bridge of his nose, and returns Morpheus's headbutt with three of his own in pneumatic succession.

Morpheus staggers back, his body going slack when anotherkick buries him deep into crunching plaster and lathe.

Morpheus turns in time to see a wall of men in thedoorway.

AGENT SMITH :

Take him.

The wall of cops rushes Morpheus, filling the tinybathroom until he disappears under the tide.

118 INT. MAIN DECK 118

Tank reaches out to the screen as if reaching forMorpheus.

TANK:

No!

119 OMITTED 119

120 EXT. STREET - DAY 120

A manhole cover cracks open. Two eyes peek out just as aTRUCK RATTLES over it. The THUNDER DOPPLERS away and the

cover opens. Trinity climbs out.

121 INT. MAIN DECK 121

Tank is again at the monitors, searching the Matrix whenthe PHONE RINGS.

TANK:

Operator.

CYPHER (V.O.)

I need an exit! Fast!

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 84.

121 CONTINUED:

TANK:

Cypher?

122 EXT. STREET - DAY 122

Cypher is standing at a public phone. Across the street is the burning paddy wagon that appears to have collidedwith an oncoming car.

CYPHER:

There was an accident. A goddamncar accident. All of a sudden.

Boom. Jesus, someone up therestill likes me.

TANK (V.O.)

I got you.

CYPHER:

Just get me outta here.

TANK (V.O.)

Nearest exit is Franklin and Erie.

An old TV repair shop.

Cypher hangs up and smiles as we hear FIRE TRUCKS in thedistance.

CYPHER:

An actor. Definitely.

123 INT. MAIN DECK 123

The PHONE RINGS. Tank answers.

TRINITY (V.O.)

Tank, it's me.

124 EXT. STREET - DAY 124

All four are moving quickly down a back street.

NEO:

Is Morpheus alive?

TRINITY:

Is Morpheus still alive, Tank?

TANK (V.O.)

Yes. They're moving him. I don't

know where yet.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 85.

124 CONTINUED:

TRINITY:

He's alive.

Again, inevitability seems to cinch around Neo.

TRINITY:

We need an exit!

TANK (V.O.)

You're not far from Cypher.

TRINITY:

Cypher, I thought -

TANK (V.O.)

So did we. I sent him to Franklin

and Erie.

TRINITY:

Got it.

A124

EXT. TV REPAIR SHOP - DAY A124

In a deserted alley, Cypher steps onto a dumpster in frontof a small boarded-up window.

125

INT. TV REPAIR SHOP - DAY 125

Dead machines, eviscerated and shrouded with dust, lay onmetal shelves like bodies in a morgue. Plywood covering small window is ripped off and Cypher crawls inside.

Deep in the back room, a PHONE that has not rung in yearsbegins to RING. 126

EXT. STREET - DAY 126

Trinity sees the TV repair shop.

127 INT. MAIN DECK 127

Tank punches the exit command.

TANK:

Got him.

Cypher's body twitches in its harness, jerking itselfawake.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 86.

128 INT. TV REPAIR SHOP - DAY 128

Neo crawls through the window that Cypher opened.

129 INT. MAIN DECK 129

Tank finishes loading the exit program as Cypher pullsback a heavy blanket, exposing a high-tech rifle.

130 INT. TV REPAIR SHOP - DAY 130

The PHONE begins to RING as the others crawl in.

SWITCH :

God, I love that sound.

131 INT. MAIN DECK 131

Suddenly, a white bolt of LIGHTNING EXPLODES against

Tank's chair, blasting him into the air.

Cypher checks the GUN, unable to believe he missed.

CYPHER:

Shit.

Tank is on his feet, lunging when Cypher FIRES again, square into his chest.

DOZER:

No!

132 INT. TV REPAIR SHOP - DAY 132

The PHONE is still RINGING.

TRINITY:

You first, Neo.

Neo answers the PHONE when there is a CLICK. There is no

signal. Nothing but silence.

TRINITY:

What happened?

NEO:

I don't know. It just went dead.

Trinity listens to the dead line and takes out thecellular.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 87.

133 INT. MAIN DECK 133

The operator PHONE begins to RING. Cypher steps over the SIZZLING BODY of Dozer and looks at the monitor.

134 INT. TV REPAIR SHOP - DAY 134

Every unanswered RING wrings her gut a little tighter,

until -

CYPHER (V.O.)

Hello, Trinity.

TRINITY:

Cypher? Where's Tank?
CYPHER (V.O.)
He had an accident.

TRINITY:

An accident?!

INTERCUT WITH:

135 INT. MAIN DECK 135

He walks over to Trinity's body, staring down at ithanging in its coma-like stillness.

CYPHER:

You know, for a long time, I thought I was in love with you, Trinity. I used to dream about you...

He nuzzles his face against hers, feeling the softness ofit.

CYPHER:

You are a beautiful woman. Too bad things had to work out like this.

TRINITY:

You killed them.

APOC:

What?!

SWITCH :

Oh, God.

Wearing Tank's operator headgear, Cypher moves among thesilent bodies. (CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/22/98 88.

135 CONTINUED:

CYPHER:

I'm tired, Trinity. I'm tired of this war, I'm tired of fighting. I'm tired of this ship, of being cold, of eating the same goddamn goop every day. But most of all, I'm tired of this jagoff and all of his bullshit.

Cypher leans over, talking to Morpheus.

CYPHER:

Surprise, asshole. But you never saw this coming, did you? God, I wish I could be there when they break you. I wish I could walk in just as it happens, so right then, you'd know it was me.

TRINITY:

My God. Morpheus. You gave them Morpheus.

CYPHER:

He lied to us, Trinity! He tricked us! If he would've told us the truth, we would've told him to shove that red pill up his ass!

TRINITY:

That's not true, Cypher. He set

us free.

CYPHER:

Free? You call this free? All I do is what he tells me to do. If I have to choose between that and the Matrix, I choose the Matrix.

TRINITY:

The Matrix isn't real!

CYPHER:

Oh, I disagree, Trinity. I disagree. I think the Matrix can be more real than this world. I mean, all I do is pull a plug here. But there, you have to watch a man die.

She looks up at Apoc, her face going white. (CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/22/98 88A.

135 CONTINUED:

APOC:

Trinity?

He grabs hold of the cable in Apoc's neck, twists it andyanks it out.

CYPHER:

Welcome to the real world, eh

baby?

Apoc seems to go blind for an instant, a scream caught inhis throat, his hands reaching for nothing, and thenfalls dead.

SWITCH :

No!

TRINITY:

But you're out, Cypher. You can't go back.

CYPHER:

That's what you think. They'vepromised to take me back. They'regoing to reinsert my body. I'll

go back to sleep and when I wakeup, I'll be fat and rich and Iwon't remember a goddamned thing.

It's the American dream.

He laughs, his hand sliding around the neck of Switch ashe takes hold of her plug.

CYPHER:

By the way, if you have anythingterribly important to say toSwitch, I suggest you say it now.

TRINITY:

Oh no, please don't.

Trinity eyes find Switch and she knows she's next.

SWITCH :

Not like this. Not like this.

She suddenly feels her body severed from her mind asshe is murdered.

CYPHER:

Yoo late.

(CONTINUED)

89.

135 CONTINUED:

TRINITY:

Goddamn you, Cypher!

CYPHER:

Don't hate me, Trinity. I'm just the messenger. And right now I'mgoing to prove it to you.

He stands over Neo.

CYPHER:

If Morpheus was right, thenthere's no way I can pull thisplug, is there? She turns to Neo, eyes wide with fear and he knows he is next.

CYPHER:

If Neo is the One, then in the next few seconds there has to be some kind of miracle to stop me. Right? How can he be the One if he's dead?

He takes hold of the cord.

CYPHER:

You never did answer me, Trinity,

when I asked you before. Did youbuy Morpheus's bullshit? Come on.

You can tell me, did you? All I

want is a little yes or no. Look

into his eyes, Trinity, those bigpretty eyes and tell me the truth.

Yes or no.

Trinity stares at Neo as a single word falls soundlesslyfrom her lips.

TRINITY:

... yes.

CYPHER:

No!

Charred and bloody, Tank levels the gun.

CYPHER:

I don't believe it!

TANK:

Believe it or not, you piece ofshit, you're still going to burn. (CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 90.

135 CONTINUED:

He FIRES a CRACKLING BOLT of LIGHTNING that knocks Cypherflying backwards.

136 OMITTED 136

137 INT. TV REPAIR SHOP 137

Trinity throws her arms around Neo and for a moment they are alone and alive until the PHONE RINGS.

NEO:

Go. You first this time.

138 INT. MAIN DECK 138

Trinity's eyes snap open, a sense of relief surgingthrough her at the sight of the ship. As Tank unplugsher, she sees his charred wounds.

TRINITY:

Tank, you're hurt.

TANK:

I'll be all right.

TRINITY:

Dozer?

Tank's face tightens and she takes him into her arms.

139 EXT. GOVERNMENT BUILDING - DAY 139

A government highrise in the middle of downtown where amilitary helicopter sets down on the roof.

Agent Jones gets out of the helicopter, flanked bycolumns of Marines. They open the roof access door andenter the top floor maintenance level of the hotel.

140 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 140

Agent Smith stands, staring out the windows at the citybelow shimmering with brilliant sunlight.

(CONTINUED)

91.

140 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

Have you ever stood and stared atit, Morpheus? Marveled at its beauty. Its genius. Billions of

people just living out theirlives... oblivious.

Morpheus is handcuffed to a chair, stripped to the waist.

He is alternately shivering and sweating, wired tovarious monitors with white disk electrodes. Beside him,

Agent Brown sucks a serum from a glass vial, filling ahypodermic needle.

AGENT SMITH:

Did you know that the first Matrixwas designed to be a perfect humanworld? Where none suffered, where

everyone would be happy. It was a

disaster. No one would accept the

program. Entire crops were lost.

Agent Brown jams the needle into Morpheus's shoulder andplunges down.

AGENT SMITH:

Some believed we lacked the

programming language to describeyour perfect world. But I believe that, as a species, human beingsdefine their reality throughsuffering and misery.

Agent Brown studies the screens as the life signs reactviolently to the injection.

AGENT SMITH:

The perfect world was a dream that your primitive cerebrum kepttrying to wake up from. Which is

why the Matrix was redesigned to this: the peak of your civilization. He turns from the window.

AGENT SMITH:

I say 'your civilization' becauseas soon as we started thinking foryou, it really became ourcivilization, which is, of course,

what this is all about.

He sits down directly in front of Morpheus.

(CONTINUED)

92.

140 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

Evolution, Morpheus. Evolution.

He lifts Morpheus's head.

AGENT SMITH :

Like the dinosaur. Look out that

window. You had your time.

Morpheus stares hard at him, trying not to show the painracking his mind.

AGENT SMITH:

The future is our world, Morpheus.

The future is our time.

Agent Smith looks at Agent Brown.

AGENT SMITH:

Double the dosage.

Agent Jones suddenly enters.

AGENT JONES :

There could be a problem.

141 INT. MAIN DECK 141

Tank drapes a sheet over his dead brother.

bodies are covered.

The other

Neo looks at Morpheus, whose body is covered with a cold sweat.

NEO:

What are they doing to him?

TANK:

They're breaking into his mind. It's like hacking a computer. All it takes is time.

NEO:

How much time?

TANK:

Depends on the mind. But eventually, it will crack and hisalpha pattern will change from this to this.

(CONTINUED)

93.

141 CONTINUED:

Tank punches several commands on Morpheus's personalunit. The monitor waves change from a chaotic pattern to an ordered symmetrical one.

TANK:

When it does, Morpheus will tellthem anything they want to know.

NEO:

What do they want?

TANK:

The leader of every ship is giventhe codes to Zion's mainframe computer. If an Agent had thosecodes and got inside Zion's mainframe, they could destroy us.

He looks up at Trinity who is pacing relentlessly.

TANK:

We can't let that happen, Trinity.

Zion is more important than me.

Or you, or even Morpheus.

Trinity sees Cypher's dead body.

she kicks him.

Rage overtakes her and

Goddamnit!

TRINITY:

Goddamnit!

NEO:

There has to be something that we can do. There is. plug.

TANK:

We have to pull the

TRINITY:

You're going to kill him? Morpheus?! Kill

TANK:

Trinity, we don't have any otherchoice.

142 INT. GOVERNMENT BUILDING 142

Morpheus is fighting to hold his mind together.

Agents stand over him.

The

(CONTINUED)

94.

142 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH :

Never send a human to do a machine's job.

AGENT BROWN:

If, indeed, the insider has failed, they will sever the connection as soon as possible, unless -AGENT

JONES:

They are dead. In either case -AGENT

SMITH:

We have no choice but to continue as planned. Deploy the sentinels. Immediately.

143 INT. MAIN DECK 143

Tank kneels beside Morpheus's body.

Neo suddenly sees it perfectly clear, fate rushing at himlike an oncoming train.

TANK:

Morpheus, you were more than ourleader. You were... a father. We will miss you, always.

Trinity can't bear to watch.

tears slip free.

As she closes her eyes, her

Tank closes his eyes and takes hold of the plug.

Neo is paralyzed, his whole life is suddenly suspended bythe finality of this moment hurling at him with the speedof a bullet.

Stop!

NEO:

They both look at him.

NEO:

Goddamnit! I don't believe this is happening!

TANK:

Neo, this has to be done!
(CONTINUED)
95.

143 CONTINUED:

NEO:

Does it? I don't know. This can't be just coincidence. It can't be! Can it?

TANK:

What are you talking about?

NEO:

The Oracle. She told me this would happen. She told me...
Neo stops, his stare fixed on Morpheus.

NEO:

That I would have to make a choice...

TRINITY:

What choice?

He makes his choice. Turning, he walks to his chair.

TRINITY:

What are you doing?

NEO:

I'm going in.

TRINITY:

You can't!

NEO:

I have to.

TRINITY:

Morpheus sacrificed himself so wecould get you out! There's no wayyou're going back in!

NEO:

Morpheus did what he did becausehe believed that I'm something I'm not.

TRINITY:

What?

NEO:

I'm not the One, Trinity. The Oracle hit me with that, too. Trinity is stunned. (CONTINUED)
96.

143 CONTINUED:

TRINITY:

No, you... have to be.

NEO:

I'm sorry, I'm not. I'm just another guy. Morpheus is the one that matters.

TRINITY:

No, Neo. That's not true. It can't be true.

NEO:

Why?

TRINITY:

Because...

Uncertainty swallows her words and she is unable to tellhim what she wants to.

TANK:

Neo, this is loco. They've got
Morpheus in a military controlled
building. Even if you somehow got
inside, those are Agents holding
him. Three of them! I want
Morpheus back, too, but what you
are talking about is suicide.

NEO:

I know that's what it looks like, but it's not. I can't logically explain to you why it's not.

Morpheus believed something and he was ready to give his life for what he believed. I understand that now. That's why I have to go.

TANK:

Why?

NEO:

Because I believe in something.

TRINITY:

What?

NEO:

I believe I can bring him back.
(CONTINUED)
97.

143 CONTINUED:

Trinity stares at him, hovering on the edge that he justjumped off. Her jaw sets and she starts climbing into the chair beside him.

NEO:

What are you doing?

TRINITY:

I'm coming with you.

NEO:

No you're not.

TRINITY:

No? Let me tell you what Ibelieve. I believe Morpheus meansmore to me than he does to you. I

believe that if you are seriousabout saving him then you aregoing to need my help and since Iam the ranking officer on thisship, if you don't like it then Ibelieve that you can go to hell,

because you aren't going anywhereelse.

There is nothing more to say except -TRINITY

Tank, load us up.

144 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 144

Agent Smith sits casually across from Morpheus who ishunched over, his body leaking and twitching.

AGENT SMITH:

I'd like to share a revelation that I've had during my time here.

It came to me when I tried to

classify your species. I've

realized that you are not actuallymammals.

The life signs continue their chaotic patterns.

AGENT SMITH:

Every mammal on this planetinstinctively develops a natural equilibrium with the surrounding environment. But you humans do not.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

98.

144 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH (CONT'D)

You move to an area and you multiply and multiply until every natural resource is consumed and the only way you can survive is to spread to another area.

He leans forward.

AGENT SMITH:

There is another organism on this planet that follows the same pattern. Do you know what it is? A virus.

He smiles.

AGENT SMITH:

Human beings are a disease, a cancer of this planet. You are a plague. And we are... the cure.

A144 INT. CONSTRUCT A144

Neo and Trinity stand in the white space of the constructas he answers his RINGING cell PHONE.

TANK (V.O.)

Okay. What do you need? Besides a miracle...

NEO:

Guns. Lots of guns.

145 INT. MAIN DECK 145

Neo and Trinity's bodies hang motionless in their drivechairs as Tank hits load.

146 INT. CONSTRUCT 146

Racks of weapons appear and they begin to arm themselves.

TRINITY:

No one has ever done anything like this.

NEO:

Yeah?

He snap-cocks an Uzi.

(CONTINUED)

99.

146 CONTINUED:

NEO:

That's why it's going to work.

147 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 147

Agent Smith is again at the window.

AGENT SMITH:

Why isn't the serum working?

AGENT BROWN:

Perhaps we are asking the wrongquestions.

Agent Smith hides his knotting fist. He is becoming angry. It is something that isn't supposed to happen toAgents.

AGENT SMITH:

Leave me with him.

Agents Brown and Jones look at each other.

Now!

AGENT SMITH :

They leave and Agent Smith sits beside Morpheus.

AGENT SMITH:

Can you hear me, Morpheus? I'm going to be honest with you.

He removes his earphone, letting it dangle over hisshoulder.

AGENT SMITH:

I hate this place. This zoo.
This prison. This reality,
whatever you want to call it, Ican't stand it any longer. It's
the smell, if there is such a
thing. I feel saturated by it.
can taste your stink and everytime I do, I fear that I've
somehow been infected by it.

I:

He wipes sweat from Morpheus' forehead, coating the tipsof his fingers, holding them to Morpheus' nose.

AGENT SMITH :

Repulsive, isn't it? (CONTINUED)
100.

147 CONTINUED:

He lifts Morpheus' head, holding it tightly with bothhands.

AGENT SMITH:

I must get out of here, I must get free. In this mind is the key.
My key.

Morpheus sneers through his pain.

AGENT SMITH:

Once Zion is destroyed, there is no need for me to be here. Do you understand? I need the codes. I have to get inside Zion. You have to tell me how.

He begins squeezing, his fingers gouging into his flesh.

AGENT SMITH:

You are going to tell me or you are going to die.

148 INT. MAIN DECK 148

Tank sits down beside Morpheus, whose face is ashen likesomeone near death. He takes hold of his hand.

TANK:

Hold on, Morpheus. They're coming

for you. They're coming.

149 EXT. GOVERNMENT BUILDING - DAY 149

A dark wind blows.

150 INT. GOVERNMENT BUILDING - DAY 150

In long black coats, Trinity and Neo push through therevolving doors. Neo is carrying a duffel bag. Trinity has a large metalsuitcase. They cut across the lobby to the securitystation, drawing nervous glances.

Dark glasses, game faces.

Neo calmly passes through the METAL DETECTOR which beginsto WAIL immediately. A SECURITY GUARD moves over toward Neo, raising his metal detection wand.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 101.

150 CONTINUED:

GUARD:

Would you please remove any

metallic items you are carrying:

keys, loose change --

Neo slowly sets down his duffel bag and throws open hiscoat, revealing an arsenal of guns, knives and grenadesslung from a climbing harness.

GUARD:

Holy shit --

Neo is a blur of motion. In a split second, three guardsare dead before they hit the ground.

A fourth guard dives for cover, clutching his radio.

GUARD #4

Backup! Send in the backup!

He looks up as Trinity sets off the metal detector. It is

the last thing he sees.

The backup arrives. A wave of soldiers blocking theelevators. The concrete cavern of the lobby becomes awhite noise ROAR of GUNFIRE.

Slate walls and pillars pock, crack, and crater

under a hail storm of EXPLOSIVE-tipped BULLETS.

They are met by the quivering spit of a SUB-HAND MACHINEGUN and the RAZORED WHISTLE of throwing knives. Weaponslike extensions of their bodies, are used with the same

deadly precision as their feet and their fists.

Bodies slump down to the marbled floor while Neo andTrinity hardly even break their stride.

151 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE 151

Agents Jones and Brown burst into the room. Agent Smithreleases Morpheus.

AGENT BROWN:

What were you doing?

Agent Smith recovers, replacing his earpiece.

AGENT JONES :

You don't know.

AGENT SMITH:

Know what?

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 101A.

151 CONTINUED:

Agent Smith listens to his earphone, not believing whathe is hearing. 152 INT. ELEVATORS - DAY 152

They get in. Trinity immediately drops and opens thesuitcase, wiring a

plastique and napalm bomb.

Neo hits the emergency stop. He pulls down part of thefalse ceiling and finds the elevator shaft access panel.

102.

153

INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 153

Agent Jones looks at Morpheus.

AGENT JONES :

I think they're trying to savehim.

154

INT. ELEVATOR SHAFT - DAY 154

Neo ratchets down a clamp onto the elevator cable. Both

of them lock on. He looks up the long, dark throat of the building and takes a deep breath.

NEO:

There is no spoon.

Neo whips out his GUN and presses it to the cable, lowerthan they attached themselves.

BOOM!

The CABLE SNAPS.

The counter-weights plummet, yanking Trinity and Neo upthrough the shaft as the elevator falls away beneath them,

distending space, filling it with the sound of WHISTLINGMETAL as they sear to the top.

155

INT. LOBBY - DAY 155

The ELEVATOR hits the bottom.

BA-BOOM!

The massive explosion blows open the doors, fire clouds engulfing the elevator section of the lobby.

156 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 156

The Agents hear the BLAST of FIRE ALARMS.

AGENT JONES :

Lower level -AGENT

BROWN:

They are actually attacking.

Another enormous EXPLOSION thunders above them, shaking the building. The ALARM sounds, emergency sprinklers begin showering the room.

Agent Smith smashes a table.

(CONTINUED)

103.

156 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

Find them and destroy them!

Agent Jones nods and touches his earpiece.

157 EXT. ROOF - DAY 157

The roof-access tower is now engulfed in flames as Neoand Trinity stand amongst a pile of their fallen enemies.

Across the roof, the PILOT inside the army helicopterwatches the last of their ferocious onslaught.

PILOT :

I repeat, we are under attack!

Suddenly his face, his whole body dissolves, consumed byspreading locust-like swarm of static as Agent Jones emerges.

Just as she drops the final Marine, Trinity sees what's coming. Neo sees her, the fear in her face, and he knows

what is behind him.

Screaming, he whirls, guns filling his hands withthought-speed.

Fingers pumping, shells ejecting, dancing up and away, welook THROUGH the sights and gun smoke AT the Agentblurred with motion -Until the hammers click against the empty metal.

Trinity!

NEO:

Agent Jones charges.

... Help.

NEO :

His GUN BOOMS as we ENTER the liquid space of --- BULLET-TIME.

The AIR SIZZLES with wads of lead like angry flies as Neotwists, bends, ducks just between them.

Agent Jones, still running, narrows the gap, the bulletscoming faster until Neo, bent impossibly back, one handon the ground as a spiraling gray ball shears open hisshoulder.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 104.

157 CONTINUED:

He starts to scream as another digs a red groove acrosshis thigh. He has only time to look up, to see AgentJones standing over him, raising his gun a final time.

AGENT JONES :

Only human...

Suddenly Agent Jones stops. He hears a sharp metalclick.

Immediately, he whirls around and turns straight into themuzzle of Trinity's .45 -

-- jammed tight to his head.

TRINITY:

Dodge this!

BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! The body flies back with a flash ofmercurial light and when it hits the ground, it is thepilot.

Trinity helps Neo up.

TRINITY:

Neo, how did you do that?

NEO:

Do what?

TRINITY:

You moved like they moved. I've never seen anyone move that fast.

NEO:

It wasn't fast enough.

He checks his shoulder wound.

TRINITY:

Are you all right?

NEO:

I'm fine. Come on, we have to keep moving.

Neo sees the helicopter.

NEO:

Can you fly that thing?

TRINITY:

Not yet.

She pulls out the cellular phone.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/29/98 105.

158 INT. HOVERCRAFT 158

Tank is back at the controls.

TANK:

Operator.

TRINITY (V.O.)

Tank, I need a pilot program for a

military B-212 helicopter.

Tank is immediately searching the disk drawers.

TRINITY (V.O.)

Hurry!

His fingers flash over the gleaming laser disks, findingone that he feeds into Trinity's supplement drive,

punching the "load" commands on her keyboard.

159 EXT. ROOF - DAY 159

Trinity's eyes flutter as information surges into herbrain, all the essentials of flying a helicopter absorbedat light-speed.

TRINITY:

Let's go.

160 OMITTED 160

161 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 161

Agent Jones throws open the door and enters, walkingthrough the puddles pooling in the carpet. Over the

RUSHING WATER and the ALARMS, Agent Smith hears a soundand understands the seriousness of the attack.

He turns to the wall of windows as the helicopter dropsINTO VIEW -- Neo is in the back bay, aiming the mounted .50 machine gun.

AGENT SMITH :

No.

The GUN jumps and BULLETS EXPLODE THROUGH the WINDOW in aCACOPHONY of CRASHING GLASS as the Agents go for their

weapons.

But Neo is too close, the .50 caliber too fast and BULLETS are everywhere, PERFORATING the room. (CONTINUED)

106.

161 CONTINUED:

Agent Jones is hit first, his body jack-knifing back,

blood arcing out with a sudden flash of light -

Then Agent Brown, his GUN still FIRING as his body falls.

And finally Agent Smith.

Neo stares at Morpheus, trying to will him into action.

NEO:

Get up, Morpheus! Get up!

Neo grabs the climbing rope and attaches one end to hisharness.

162 INT. HALL - DAY 162

Just outside the executive office, three Marines blister with snow-static.

163 INT. EXECUTIVE OFFICE - DAY 163

Slowly, Morpheus lifts his face into the room's rain.

When he finally opens his eyes, they are again dark andflashing with fire. He rises from the chair, snapping his handcuffs just as the Agents enter the adjoining room. Agent Smith stopsand sees Morpheus run past the open door.

AGENT SMITH:

Nooo!

He FIRES SWEEPING ACROSS the sheetrocked WALL in a perfect line.

For an instant, we see the BULLETS SHRED, PUNCTURING the

WALL, searing through the wet air with jet trails ofchalk.

And as Morpheus starts his dive for the window, a bulletburies itself in his leg, knocking him off balance.

NEO:

He won't make it.

Morpheus lunges, out of control -

As Neo spins, every move a whip crack, snapping the otherrope-end on to a bolted bar as -

Morpheus begins to fall, when Neo hurls himself into thewide blue empty space, flying for a moment.

(CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 107.

163 CONTINUED:

The rope snaking out behind him; an umbilical cordattached to a machine. As their two bodies, set in motion, rushing at each otheron a seemingly magnetic course until they collide.

Almost bouncing free of each other, arms, legsscrambling, hands searching in furious desperation,

finding hold and clinging.

Until the LINE ends, SNAPPING taut, cracking theirfragile embrace. Morpheus

tumbles, legs flipping over,

falling down -

The ground deliriously distant as Neo snatches hold of hismentor's still handcuffed wrist.

NEO:

Gotcha!

164 EXT. GOVERNMENT BUILDING - DAY 164

Trinity pulls the copter up and away as Agent Smithstands in the shattered window, aiming his GUN outthrough the curtain of rain.

PONK. PONK. The rear hull is punched full ofholes and smoke and oil pour out like black blood.

TRINITY:

Shit-shit-no!

Neo hears the helicopter begin to die.

NEO:

Uh-oh -

Trinity throws the helicopter towards the roof of thenearest building. Morpheus and Neo cling to one another as they and themachine above them begin to fall.

The ENGINE GRINDS, the chopping blades start to slowwhile Trinity guides the parabolic fall over the nearest roofwhere -Neo and Morpheus drop safely, rolling free as the ropegoes slack. Neo gets
to his feet, trying to detachhimself but (CONTINUED)

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 108.

164 CONTINUED:

The helicopter is falling too fast, arcing over the rooflike a setting sun

The coils of slack snap taut, yanking Neo off his feet, dragging him with ferocious speed towards the edge even as - Trinity lunges for the back door, her gun in one hand, grabbing for the rope with the other -- Neo flies like a skipping stone, hurtling at the parapet, when his feet hit the rain gutter and he levers up just as -

Trinity fires, severing the cord from the helicopter, falling free of it as it SMASHES, blades first into aGLASS skyscraper. Holding on to the rope she swings, connected to Neo, whostands on the building's edge watching her arc beneathhim as the HELICOPTER EXPLODES - She bounces against a shatterproof WINDOW that SPIDERCRACKS

out while flames erupt behind her.

165 INT. MAIN DECK 165

Tank stares at the screen, his mouth agape.

TANK:

I knew it! He's the One!

166 OMITTED 166

167 EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY 167

Neo pulls Trinity up into his arms. Both shaking, theyhold each other again.

MORPHEUS:

Do you believe it now, Trinity? Trinity looks at Neo.

NEO:

Morpheus, the Oracle... she told me -

MORPHEUS:

She told you exactly what you needed to hear. That's all.

Sooner or later, Neo, you're going to realize just like I did the difference between knowing a path and walking a path.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 109.

168 INT. MAIN DECK 168

The PHONE RINGS.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

Tank.

TANK:

Goddamn! It's good to hear your voice, sir!
MORPHEUS (V.O.)
We need an exit.

TANK:

Got one ready, sir. Subway.

State and Balbo.

MORPHEUS (V.O.)

We're on our way -

169 EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY 169

We rush at the roof access door as it suddenly slams openand the three

Agents charge out. But Neo, Trinity andMorpheus are already gone.

AGENT SMITH:

Damnit!

AGENT BROWN:

The trace was completed.

AGENT JONES :

We have their position.

AGENT BROWN:

Sentinels are standing by.

AGENT JONES :

Order the strike.

Agent Smith can't stand listening to them. He moves to the edge of the building, looking out at the surroundingcity.

AGENT SMITH:

They're not out yet.

170 INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY 170

An old man sits hunched in the far corner of the station, shadows gathered around him like blankets.

(CONTINUED)

110.

170 CONTINUED:

Mumbling, he nurses from a bottle of Thunderbird when -A PHONE begins to RING.

Neo leads Trinity and Morpheus bounding over a set ofturnstiles towards the ringing phone inside a graffiti-

covered booth.

Let's go!

NEO:

You first, Morpheus.

Morpheus gets in and answers the phone.

Lost in the shadow, the old man watches as Morpheusdisappears, the phone dropping, dangling by its cord.

His eyes grow wide, glowing white in the dark.

171 EXT. ROOFTOP - DAY 171

Agent Smith stares, his face twisted with hate.

never be free of the Matrix.

He will

He starts to turn from the edge of the building when hesuddenly hears it, his head whipping back around,

staring!-172

INT. SUBWAY - OLD MAN'S POV - DAY 172

Through the old man's eyes as the world begins to RUMBLE.

Trinity hangs up the phone, then turns to Neo.

TRINITY:

Neo, I have to tell you something. I don't know what it means or even if it matters but I feel I have to say it.

The RUMBLE GROWS, the ground beginning to shake.

TRINITY:

I've never told anyone thisbefore. I think I've been afraid to.

Behind her, the PHONE begins to RING.

TRINITY:

When I went to the Oracle, she told me... she told me that I was going to fall in love... But... (CONTINUED)
111.

172 CONTINUED:

The RUMBLE RISES, drowning her voice. Neo is drawn towards her, their lips close enough to kiss when a TRAINBLASTS into the station.

For a moment, they are frozen by the strobing lights of the train until Neo whispers in her ear.

NEO:

Promise me you'll tell me therest?

She nods as he closes the booth. The PHONE RINGS once

more before she lifts the receiver when, In the darkness

of the far corner, Neo sees the old man in the flashingtrain-light as he
becomes -Agent

Smith, raising a fistful of black gun-metal.

No!

NEO:

The GUN FIRES, the BULLET flying at her, BURSTING throughthe PLASTIC WINDOW just as Trinity disappears.

The handset hanging in the air as the BULLET HITS,

SHATTERING the EAR-PIECE.

173 INT. HOVERCRAFT 173

Trinity blinks, shivering as her conscious exits the Construct.

Neo!

TRINITY:

TANK:

What the hell just happened?

back!

TRINITY:

An Agent!

You have to send me I can't!

TANK:

174 INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY 174

The destroyed phone dangles in the empty booth. Neo turns to Agent Smith whose gun stares at him like a third eye.

Mr. Anderson.

AGENT SMITH:

112.

175 INT. MAIN DECK 175

Morpheus and Trinity stand behind Tank riveted to thescrolling code.

TRINITY:

Run, Neo. Run.

176 INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY 176

Neo looks at the dead escalator that rises up behind him.

Slowly he turns back and in his eyes we see somethingdifferent, something fixed and hard like a gunfighter's resolve.

There is no past or future in these eyes.

what is.

There is only

177 INT. MAIN DECK 177

Trinity is unable to understand.

TRINITY:

What is he doing?

MORPHEUS:

He's beginning to believe.

178 INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY 178

Neo whip-draws his gun with the flashpoint speed oflightning as!-Smith OPENS FIRE.

GUN REPORT THUNDERS through the underground, both menBLASTING, moving at impossible speed.

For a blinking moment we enter BULLET-TIME.

Gun flash tongues curl from Neo's gun, bullets floatforward like a plane moving across the sky, cartridgescartwheel into space.

An instant later they are nearly on top of each other,

rolling up out of a move that is almost a mirroredreflection of the other -Each

jamming their gun tight to the other's head.

They freeze in a kind of embrace; Neo sweating, panting,

Agent Smith machine-calm. Agent Smith smiles.

(CONTINUED)

113.

178 CONTINUED:

AGENT SMITH:

You're empty.

Neo pulls the TRIGGER. CLICK.

NEO:

So are you.

The smile falls. Agent Smith yanks his TRIGGER.

CLICK.

Agent Smith's face warps with rage and he attacks, fistsflying at furious speed, blows and counters, Neoretreating as -A

knife-hand opens his forearm, and a kick sends himslamming back against a steel column. Stunned, he ducks

just under a punch that CRUNCHES into the BEAM, STEELCHUNKS EXPLODING like shrapnel.

Behind him, Neo leaps into the air, delivering a neck-

snapping reverse round-house. Agent Smith's glasses flyoff and he glares at Neo; his eyes ice blue.

AGENT SMITH:

I'm going to enjoy watching youdie, Mr. Anderson.

Agent Smith attacks with unrelenting fury, fists poundingNeo like

jackhammers.

179 INT. HOVERCRAFT 179

Trinity watches Neo as his body jerks, mouth coughingblood, his life signs going wild.

TRINITY:

Jesus, he's killing him!

180 INT. SUBWAY STATION - DAY 180

Agent Smith grabs hold of him, lifting him into the air,

hurling him against the curved wall of the train tunnel,

where he falls inches from the electrified third-rail.

The Agent is about to jump down and press his attack whenhe hears something. From deep in the tunnel, like ananimal cry; a BURST of HIGH-SPEED METAL GRINDING againstMETAL.

The sound of an ONCOMING TRAIN.

(CONTINUED)

114.

180 CONTINUED:

Neo tries to get up. Agent Smith jumps down onto thetracks and drop-kicks him in the face. The world againbegins to shake, RUMBLING as a TRAIN NEARS.

AGENT SMITH :

Do you hear that, Mr. Anderson?

Agent Smith grabs Neo in a choke-hold forcing him to lookdown the tracks, the train's headlight burning a hole inthe darkness.

AGENT SMITH :

That is the sound of

inevitability.

Neo sees it coming and he starts to fight.

AGENT SMITH :

It is the sound of your death.

There is another METAL SCREECH, much LOUDER, CLOSER, as

Agent Smith tightens his hold. Neo is unable to breathe.

AGENT SMITH :

Good-bye, Mr. Anderson.

The TRAIN ROARS at them, swallowing Agent's Smith'swords. The veins bulge in Neo's head, as he gritsthrough the pain.

He is not ready to die.

NEO:

My name is Neo.

Impossibly, he hurls himself straight up, smashing Smithagainst the concrete ceiling of the tunnel.

They fall as the sound and fury of the TRAIN EXPLODESinto the station. Neo backflips up off the tracks just

as!-

The train barrels over Agent Smith.

Neo stands, knees shaking, when the TRAIN SLAMS on itsemergency brake. With an ear-splitting SHRIEK oftortured RAILS, the train slows, part of it still in the station.

Neo turns, limping, starting to run, racing for theescalator!-

As the train comes to a stop and the doors of the lastcar open; Agent Smith bursts out in furious pursuit, hisglasses again intact.

115.

181 INT. HOVERCRAFT 181

Tank searches the Matrix.

TRINITY:

What just happened? I don't know.

TANK:

I lost him.

MORPHEUS:

He's on the run!-Suddenly, a SIREN SOUNDS.
Oh shit!

TANK:

Morpheus bolts to the ladder.
182 INT. COCKPIT 182
Morpheus climbs into the cockpit.
he sees the sentinels.
On the hologram radar,
Oh no.

TRINITY:

Trinity is behind him. How long?

TRINITY:

Five minutes.

MORPHEUS:

Maybe six.

Morpheus lifts the headset.

MORPHEUS:

Tank, charge the E.M.P. Yes, sir.
TANK (V.O.)

TRINITY:

You can't use that until Neo is out!

MORPHEUS:

I know, Trinity. Don't worry.

He's going to make it.

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183 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY 183

A BUSINESSMAN walks along the sidewalk, wheeling anddealing into his cell phone when it disappears, snatchedby Neo as he flashes by.

MAN (BUSINESSMAN)

What the shit! -- my phone!

The Man turns to call for help and when he turns back, it is Agent Smith. Neo is in a full-out sprint, spinning and weaving awayfrom every pedestrian, every potential Agent. He flipsopen the cell phone and dials long distance.

184 INT. HOVERCRAFT 184

Tank answers.

TANK:

Operator.

NEO (V.O.)

Mr. Wizard, get me the hell out of

here

185 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY 185

Neo dives down an alley, Agent Smith starting to gain.

NEO:

Hurry, Tank! I got some serious

pursuit!

186 INT. HOVERCRAFT 186

The KEYBOARD is CLICKING, Tank searches for an exit.

Trinity screams into the headset.

TRINITY:

Neo, you better get your ass back here! 187 EXT. ALLEY 187

10/ EXI. ALLEY 10/

Agent Smith stops and takes aim.

NEO:

I'm trying, Trinity. I'm trying.
(CONTINUED)
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187 CONTINUED:

A BULLET SHATTERS the image of Neo in a truck's rearviewMIRROR.

188 INT. MAIN DECK 188

Tank speed-reads the reams of Matrix code.

TANK:

I got a patch on an old exit.

Wabash and Lake. A hotel. Room

303.

189 OMITTED 189

190 EXT. OPEN MARKET 190

Neo spins away, turning, and finds himself in an openmarket that teems with people.

He kamikazes his way down the! little avenues lined with vendors and shops, careening through the labyrinth, out of control. And at every turn there is an Agent; appearing from crowds, behind fish counters, tent flaps and crates.

191 OMITTED 191

192 EXT. ALLEY 192

He dives from the maze!down a service alley but it is a dead end.

Neo turns back as the Agents emerge from the market.

NEO:

Uh, help! Need a little help!
193 INT. MAIN DECK 193
Tank frantically scans the monitor like a road map.

TANK:

The door.
194 EXT. ALLEY 194
Neo dives for it but!-(
CONTINUED)

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CONTINUED:

118.

194

It's locked.

NEO:

Kick it in!

TANK (V.O.)

Peeling back, Neo almost kicks the door from its hinges,

lunging from the Agents' BULLETS.

195 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - STAIRCASE 195

Neo springs up the old crooked apartment building stairs.

A195 INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - HALL A195

He is halfway down the hall, running in sharp, longstrides when a door explodes open at the end.

TANK (V.O.)

Shit! The door on your left.

Neo lurches, kicking in an apartment door.

TANK (V.O.)

No! Other left!

He whirls back to his other left, battering through the door which splinters, perforated by BULLETS.

An old woman watches TV as Neo blurs past her and intoher kitchen, where another woman is chopping vegetables.

TANK (V.O.)

That window!

Neo throws it open, leaping for the fire escape just as aknife buries itself in the window casing.

TANK (V.O.)

Down! Down!

B195 EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - FIRE ESCAPE B195

Tumbling down the RATTLING FIRE ESCAPE, Neo leaps the last ten feet into the alley below with Agent Brown rightbehind him.

Neo scrapes himself to his feet, broken and bleeding,

charging for the end of the alley.

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196 INT. MAIN DECK 196

Finger on the monitor, Tank traces Neo's path.

TANK:

That's it! You're almost there!

That fire escape at the end of thealley!

197 EXT. HEART O' THE CITY HOTEL - DAY 197

Agent Smith suddenly pauses as if recognizing something;
the faded NEON BUZZES: Heart O' The City Hotel.

198 INT. HOVERCRAFT 198

Tank loads the exit.

TANK:

I'm going to make the call.

MORPHEUS:

Do it!

Suddenly, the lights go red.

TRINITY:

No.

Morpheus looks up.

MORPHEUS:

Here they come.

199 EXT. SEWER MAIN 199

The sentinels open and shift like killer kaleidoscopes asthey attack, slamming down on the Nebuchadnezzar.

200 INT. HOVERCRAFT 200

The hovercraft booms down as they hit. Morpheus opens the lock on the EMP detonator.

Trinity watches him.

MORPHEUS:

He's going to make it.

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120.

201

EXT. ALLEY - DAY 201

Neo scrambles up the fire escape, BULLETS SPARKING andRICOCHETING around him as Agents Brown and Jones closethe gap.

A201

INT. HALL - DAY A201

On the third floor, he kicks in the window, jumping into the hall. The doors count backwards: 310... 309...

202

INT. MAIN DECK 202

Another SYSTEM ALARM SOUNDS.

TANK:

They've burned through the outerhull.

TRINITY:

Hurry, Neo.

203

INT. HALL - DAY 203

Neo can hear the PHONE RINGING. 305... 304...

Agent Brown reaches the broken window behind him just as Neo grabs the handle of 303, throwing open the door tofind!-Agent Smith, waiting, .45 cocked.

Neo can't move! -- can't think! -BOOM.

204

INT. MAIN DECK 204

Neo's body jerks, and everyone hears it as the LIFE MONITORS SNAP FLATLINE.

Trinity screams. Morpheus stumbles back in disbelief.

(CONTINUED)

121.

204 CONTINUED:

MORPHEUS:

No, it can't be. It can't be.

Lasers suddenly sear through the main deck as thesentinels slice open the hull.

205 INT. HALL - DAY 205

Three holes in his chest, Neo falls to the blue shagcarpeting, blood smearing down the wallpaper. AgentSmith stands over him, still aiming, taking no chances.

AGENT SMITH :

Check him.

206 INT. MAIN DECK 206

Amid the destruction raining around her, Trinity takeshold of Neo's body.

TRINITY:

Neo...

207 INT. HALL - DAY 207

Kneeling beside him, Agent Brown checks his vital signs.

AGENT BROWN:

He's gone.

Agent Smith smiles, standing over him.

AGENT SMITH :

Good-bye, Mr. Anderson.

208 INT. MAIN DECK 208

In tears, Morpheus takes hold of the EMP switch.

Trinity whispers in Neo's ear.

TRINITY:

Neo, please, listen to me. I promised to tell you the rest.

The Oracle, she told me that I'd fall in love and that man, the man
I loved would be the one. You see? You can't be dead, Neo, youcan't be because I love you. You hear me? I love you!

(CONTINUED)
122.

208 CONTINUED:

Her eyes close and she kisses him, believing in all herheart that he will feel her lips and know that they speakthe truth.

209 INT. HOTEL HALL - DAY 209

He does. And they do.

His eyes snap open.

210 INT. MAIN DECK 210

Trinity screams as the monitors jump back to life. Tank and Morpheus look at each other.

It is a miracle.

TRINITY:

Now get up!

211 INT. HALL - DAY 211

Holding his chest, Neo struggles to get up. At the end of the hall, the Agents wait for the elevator when AgentSmith glances back. He rips off his sunglasses, lookingat Neo as if he were looking at a ghost. Neo gets to his feet, all three Agents grabbing for their guns. As one, they FIRE.

NEO:

No!

Neo raises his hands and the BULLETS, like a cloud of obedient bees, slow and come to a stop. They hang frozenin space, fixed like stainless steel stars.

The Agents are unable to absorb what they are seeing.

Neo plucks one of the bullets from the air. We see him and the hall reflected in the bright casing. We MOVE CLOSER UNTIL the bullet fills our vision and the distorted reflection morphs, becoming the "real" image.

He drops the bullet and the others fall to the floor.

Neo looks out, now able to see through the curtain of theMatrix. For a moment, the walls, the floor, even the

Agents become a rushing stream of code.

123.

212 INT. MAIN DECK 212

All three stare transfixed with awe as the scrolling codeaccelerates, faster and faster, as if the machine

language was unable to keep up or perhaps describe whatis happening.

They begin to blur into streaks, shimmering ribbons of light that open like windows, as!-

Each screen fills with brilliant, saturated color images of Neo standing in the hall.

TANK:

How...?!

MORPHEUS:

He is the one. He is the one!

An EXPLOSION shakes the entire ship.

213 INT. HALL 213

Agent Smith screams, his calm machine-like expressionshredding with pure rage.

He rushes Neo. His attack is ferocious but Neo blocks

each blow easily. Then with one quick strike to thechest he sends Agent Smith flying backwards.

For the first time since their inception, the Agents knowfear.

Agent Smith gets up, bracing himself as Neo charges himand springs into a dive. But the impact doesn't come.

Neo sinks into Agent Smith, disappearing, his tie and coatrippling as if he were a deep pool of water.

Spinning around he looks to the others and feelssomething, like a tremor before a quake, something deep,

something that is going to change everything.

Suddenly a SEARING SOUND stabs through his earpiece ashis chest begins to swell, then balloon as!--

Neo BURSTS up out of him. And with a final death scream,

Agent Smith EXPLODES like an empty husk in a brilliantcacophony of light, his shards spinning away, absorbed bythe Matrix until!Only Neo is left.

Neo faces the remaining Agents. They look at each other, the same idea striking simultaneously!They run.

124.

214 INT. MAIN DECK 214

sentinels are everywhere destroying the ship.

TRINITY:

Neo!

215 INT. HALL 215

Again he hears her. He reacts to the RINGING PHONE, rushing toward it even as!-

216 INT. MAIN DECK 216

A sentinel descends towards Morpheus. On the screen we see Neo dive for the phone as!-TRINITY

Now!

Morpheus turns the key.

217 INT. OVERFLOW PIT 217

A blinding shock of white light floods the chamber; sentinels blink and fall instantly dead, filling the pitwith their cold metal carcasses.

218 INT. HOVERCRAFT 218

In the still darkness, only the humans are alive.

TRINITY:

Neo?

His eyes open. Tears pour from her smiling eyes as he reaches up to touch her.

And she kisses him; it seems like it might last forever. FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

219 CLOSE ON COMPUTER SCREEN 219

as in the opening. The cursor beating steadily, waiting.

A PHONE begins to RING.

(CONTINUED)

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219 CONTINUED:

It is answered and the screen fills instantly with the trace program. After a long beat, we recognize Neo'svoice. NEO (V.O.)

Hi. It's me. I know you're outthere. I can feel you now.

We CLOSE IN ON the racing columns of numbers shimmeringacross the screen.

NEO (V.O.)

I imagine you can also feel me.

The numbers begin to lock into place.

NEO (V.O.)

You won't have to search for me

anymore. I'm done running. Done

hiding. Whether I'm done

fighting, I suppose, is up to you.

We GLIDE IN TOWARDS the screen.

NEO (V.O.)

I believe deep down, we both wantthis world to change. I believe

that the Matrix can remain our

cage or it can become ourchrysalis, that's what you helpedme to understand.

That to be

free, you cannot change your cage.

You have to change yourself.

We DIVE THROUGH the numbers, surging UP THROUGH thedarkness, sucked TOWARDS a tight constellation of stars.

NEO (V.O.)

When I used to look out at this

world, all I could see was its

edges, its boundaries, its rulesand controls, its leaders and

laws. But now, I see another

world. A different world where

all things are possible. A world

of hope. Of peace.

We realize that the constellation is actually the holesin the mouthpiece of a phone. Seen from inside.

NEO (V.O.)

I can't tell you how to get there,

but I know if you can free yourmind, you'll find the way.

THE MATRIX - Rev. 3/9/98 125A.

220 EXT. STREET - PHONE BOOTH 220

We SHOOT THROUGH the holes as! Neo hangs up the phone.

(CONTINUED)

126.

220 CONTINUED:

He steps out of the phone and slides on a pair of sunglasses. He looks up and we RISE.

HIGHER and HIGHER, until the city is miles below.

After a moment, Neo blasts by us, his long, black coatbillowing like a black leather cape as he flies fasterthan a speeding bullet. FADE OUT.

THE END: