



## Turkish Studies

Volume 13/5, Winter 2018, p. 17-27

DOI Number: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7827/TurkishStudies.12927>

ISSN: 1308-2140, ANKARA-TURKEY

Research Article / Araştırma Makalesi

### Article Info/Makale Bilgisi

✍ Received/Geliş: Ocak 2018 ✓ Accepted/Kabul: Mart 2018  
✍ Referees/Hakemler: Prof. Dr. Nesrin KULA DEMİR – Yrd. Doç. Dr. Dilek ÖNDER – Yrd. Doç. Dr. Şahin GÖK

This article was checked by iThenticate.

## MATRIX FİLMİNDE KADER VE ÖZGÜR İRADENİN KAÇINILMAZ SONU

Yasin ACAR\*

### ÖZET

Matrix, Bir düzlemde sıralanan sayı diziminin matematikte ve mühendislikte kullanılan bir terimdir Matrix. Kelimenin kökenine baktığımızda Latince "rahim" anlamına geldiğini görürüz. Rahim bireyin kendini rahatta ve güvende hisettiği, sürekli bir uyku halinin mevcut olduğu, dış dünya ile bağlantısının olmadığı daha da ötesi kendine yarattığı alternatif gerçekliğin bağlamsal olarak hissedildiği en alternatif pozisyon. Bununla birlikte Matrix, bir bilgisayar programının son derece gelişmiş bir formu anlamına da gelebilmektedir. Başka bir ifade ile Matrix bilgisayar dünyasının kendisidir. Modern teknolojiye gelişmeler sayesinde, "dış dünya" olmadan, algılarımızın dış dünyadaki gerçekçiliklerle karşılanabilir. Film sinematopografik olarak farklı kamera açıları, farklı yöntemlerle ön plana çıkmasına karşın, bu çalışma daha çok filmin görülmeyen ya da yorumlanması gereken kısmı olan felsefi bakış açısı ile karakterler üzerinden kader ve özgür irade konuları tartışılacaktır. Karakterlerin seçimi ve özellikle ana karakter olan Neo'nun seçimlerinin önceden belirlendiği mi yoksa gerçekten bütün karar mekanizmasının Neo'nun kendi iradesi ile gerçekleştiği sorgulanılacaktır. Film de yoğunlukta olan dini göndermelerde kader ve özgür irade başlıkları altında incelenecektir. Çalışma da farklı sorulara cevaplar bulunacak ama en önemlisi belirgin olan sorunun araştırılması ve tartışılması ele alınacak ve çıkan sonuca göre cevaplanılacak. Özellikle "Tanrı'ya inanıp O'nun emirlerine uymayı onayladıysak, özgür iradede bahsedebilir miyiz?" sorusuna cevaplar bulmaya çalışılacak.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Alegor, Özgür İrade, Neo, Kader, Gerçeklik, Hakikat



---

## **DISCOURSE OF FATE AND FREE WILL ACCORDING TO THE INEVITABLE END IN THE MATRIX**

### **ABSTRACT**

Matrix is a term used in mathematics and engineering and it is a series of numbers ranked on a plane. The Latin meaning of the Matrix is the womb that the only place in the world where one feels most secure and comfortable, and sleep continuously isolated from the realities of the outside world. Matrix means a highly developed form of a computer-generated program. Thanks to the developments in modern technology, without the "outside world", perceptions can be seen very realistic. There are very special effects and very technological elements in the movie, yet here, it is going to be criticized fate and free will with its philosophical background. This paper will also be motivated by two significant issues; predestination(fate) and free will. Both of them will be examined through both on the symbols and the choices of the characters and the study will be passed over the protagonist in the body part of the article. Neo and certain biblical or religious elements. Finally, addition to the all questions which mentioned next chapters, the study will especially try to respond the questions of, "If we believe in God and we confirmed to obey God's orders, then can we say that we have any freedom of choice? "

### **STRUCTURED ABSTRACT**

This article has multiple importance. Its importance briefly will be elaborated in this structured abstract which indicates the further complete elaborations of all subtitles in the next part of this article. The first and definitely, the most important thesis/question in this article, is the relation between the fate and the free will also include all the possible/eventual elements that inevitable intervene/will intervene in the daily life of each human being on this Universe. Otherwise said, the main question is how the daily events/elements of our daily lives will influence on our fate one day when each human being will ask him/herself is this my real fate and how I managed to create my positive/negative fate? Previously mentioned thesis/question definitely appeared/appears and will appear forever among all of us because of our positive/negative human nature always to have numerous questions which refer to our acting in the past. It's about a quite normal human habit. Mentioning previously mentioned thesis/question, this paragraph emphasizes the importance of this article as a unit for each reader. Reading this article, each human being will be able to observe the importance of the human acting according to his/her own will, also taking into consideration all the inevitable circumstances which will appear in our daily lives because of a very simple reason. It's about the daily surprises positive/negative imposed by nobody else but by the thing named life in this Universe.

The article represents a scientific unit which has its special importance among each reader and his/her general understanding of what the free will and the fate really mean. This scientific unit tries to explain to our readers how just one single decision in this way or on the other way will predetermine our fate after a certain period of time. This

literary work explains the importance of a single moment when she/he/they has to/have to make a choice based only and only on his/her/their free will in order to create his/her/their fate. Everything in our lives is changing, everything in this Universe is changing from any point of view. Everything happens because of something. In numerous cases it's absolutely impossible to predict the final result of something with 100% certainty but, it's absolutely unimaginable to have only and only numerous questions without any concrete previous action, even risk based on your/our own will in order to improve your/our life/lives or at least to try to do something useful for yourself/your friends/this Universe. From previously mentioned points of view, our scientific unit represents an extremely important thing. Otherwise said, it represents an extremely important engine which will always stimulate/encourage each human being on this Universe to act/take the risk even at the moment when he/she is not able to understand very well all the things which happen around him/her. Just like Neo when his conversation with Oracle for him represents something so confusing, something so unclear but at the end he will be able to save Morpheus, to save a human being/life thanks to his personal decision to accept Morpheus' challenge at the beginning of the film's acting. From this point of view, this article definitely expresses its pacifistic/cosmopolitan spirit, confirming the messages of certain American writers/literary masters that each human being deep in him/herself posses the ability to face with/overtake any eventual problem/challenge in his/her life.

This article as a literary/scientific unit has several sub-elaborations related to important ancient philosophers as well as temporary philosophers whose names will remain present in any intellectual/philosophical/literary discussion/elaboration/essay forever. It's about the immortal philosophers Plato from Greece and Slavoj Zizek from Slovenia. It's about two names whose philosophical/intellectual ability definitely has its own role in the creation of this intellectual work. According to Plato, this world represents something fulfilled with numerous mistakes, copies, and sins. From this point of view, Morpheus 's choice for Neo at the beginning of the film's action represents an opportunity to enter in the human's paradise where everything is so beautiful. It's about Plato's ideal world which will be further elaborated in the next part of this essay. Despite the mentioning of Plato's ideal world, there is one extremely important element which will be elaborated in the further part of this literary work and sends among all of us an extremely important message. It's about the inevitable challenge which each human being will face with sooner or later. Otherwise said, it's about our daily inevitable situations within each of us faces with different elements of the daily mess, dangerous and destitute. The main message sent through the pills is to act, to do something concrete in order to avoid any possible mess, dangerous or destitute. Numerous important details about the elements which refer to the daily mess, dangerous or destitute will be explained in the following part of this literary work. As it was mentioned before, despite the ancient Greek philosopher Plato, Slavoj Zizek is another important name whose ideas are very important in the creation of this essay. This philosopher offers other choices, different from the red and blue pill offered by Morpheus. It's not about our escape from the real world into the virtual/alternative world but it's about other/third possibility within the reality will be the first and the illusion

will be the second thing. Very often, because of the human weakness, the human being is willing to escape in his/her virtual world where everything seems to be so perfect but it's not. Otherwise said, the best thing for each human being is to stay in the reality and to face with any problem, with our potential human weakness which can create to us numerous unwanted problems leaving us without possible solutions.

The last element which has to be discussed as a part of this structured abstract refers to the importance of the ancient Greek city Delphi where the ancient Greeks were asking Oracle about their fate/destiny, the term is known as astrology which is known even nowadays and uses the stars in order to predict someone's fate/destiny and the importance of the so-called shamans. It's about certain persons whose abilities to predict someone's destinies are known in other non-European cultures. All previously mentioned elements also played another important role in the creation of this intellectual unit. It seems that all previously mentioned elements which refer to ancient Greece and certain non-European cultures definitely can be recognized in Matrix's Oracle. Matrix's Oracle can be compared with previously mentioned elements from different points of view and definitely unifies all previously mentioned elements.

And in the final chapter, it will be ensured that the thesis presented does not leave any question marks in the reader's mind. And Findings, solutions and discussions will be made a final.

**Keywords:** Allegory, Free Will, Neo, Predestination, Reality

## Introduction

“If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, ‘Let us go after other gods,’ which you have not known, ‘and let us serve them,’ <sup>you</sup> shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the LORD your God is testing you, to know whether you love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him.(The Bible, “Deuteronomy” 13:1-5)

## What is The Matrix?

Matrix is a term used in mathematics and engineering and it is a series of numbers ranked on a plane. The Latin meaning of the Matrix is the womb that the only place in the world where one feels most secure and comfortable, and sleep continuously isolated from the realities of the outside world. In the film, people are cultivated in tubes that are artificial uteri, and the energy for artificial intelligence is obtained from these people. In this context, tubes in which Neo's existence symbolizes a uterus. There are lots of meanings of Matrix in different sources but thanks to Morpheus, it can be understood the meaning of Matrix in the movie; “The matrix is the world that has been pulled over your eyes to blind you from the truth... The truth that would set the human mind free” (Morpheus)

Matrix is a dystopia created by artificial intelligence in the Trilogy. The skyscrapers, cars, modern look and all the other details that audience sees in the Matrix are only perceptions that are watched in his mind. In terms of the movie, the movie indicates how there is no difference between illusion and truth. The most discussed subject of the movie is the destiny and free will, which is also

the subject of the article. In this context, first of all, the most important thing that we need to define what fate and free will are.

### **Predestination and Free Will**

Fate represents an unavoidable and inevitable thing in our daily lives. It is a predetermined thing in each human being. The term fate very often means something negative and confronts with the free will. This element, free will, represents a way of acting which does not refer to fate. It is an element that reflects the free acting of each human being according to one's free choice. However; everyone is able to choose his/her path in her /his life without other preordained elements. One's fate is decided by a complex combination of conditions and factors. This combination of conditions and factors has decisive moments of its fulfillment. The first moment is the time of the person's birth. It's about the conditions as well as circumstances within a person comes on this world. The second moment represents a constant combination of the newly created conditions within a person lives his/her life. Fate or the other name of the fate known as destiny has its own deep symbolical meaning. Otherwise said, fate means that despite all our great plans, the future has already written its plans for our lives. Maybe we do not know it or we do not like to accept it but that's the absolutely true. That's why in all cultures, all human beings have their own ideas that their fate/destiny is already predetermined by supernatural powers which do not belong to the ordinary human beings. Unfortunately, a great number of human beings across this Universe live their misery lives without any serious try to change something. They believe that what is happening to them is because of their fate and can't do absolutely anything. This indifference or maybe better said lack of will to do something is known as fatalistic. Another group of people believes that they can control their fate led by their strong will and determination to act in order to overpass their difficulties and improve their lives.

Fate is the term which has deep as well as strong mythological connections. That is why in the Greek mythology, there are three fates. According to this mythological connection, in the Greek mythology, there were three goddesses and each goddess had own role. Actually the time of the birth, the way of living and the way of dying of each human being was determined by these three goddesses. In many cultures, a great number of people had their own way of reading their fates. This means that in certain cultures peoples were trying to define or to read their destinies observing the stars. This way of understanding/reading his/her destiny is known as astrology. In other cultures in order to get any information about their destinies peoples were asking persons known as shamans. It's about people who were considered to possess special magic or powers. In the Greek culture, the ancient Greeks used to go to Delphi<sup>1</sup> in order to ask Oracle for their fate (Wikiwand, 1998).

Free will is one of the previously mentioned terms in this article. This term actually represents the ability to make choice between two or maybe several actions. If an action is considered to be bad or good that means a certain person had the chance to make his/her choice, had a chance to proceed according to his/her free will. Other things like advice, prohibition or persuasion represent elements which replace the free will until its real appearance. The free will gives the opportunity to each human being to do different things. That is the essential point of the free will. This tool known as free will brings to human beings different results caused by different actions. Otherwise said, according to some unwritten rules, only the actions done according to the human's free will deserve credit or blame. Without the free will, any sense of justice in the positive or negative meaning of the word loses its strength and power. Free will is also a term which has an extremely important place in the question is the choice for Neo between two pills is a right or free choice of himself? The answer to this question can lead us to find the importance of free will and predestination as a crucial part of

our lives. In the very beginning of the movie there is an important conversation between Neo and Morpheus which confirms the clue about to identify the fate issue in the movie:

MORPHEUS: Do you believe in fate, Neo?

NEO: No.

MORPHEUS: Why not?

NEO: Because I don't like the idea that I'm not in control of my life.(The Matrix,1999)

This short dialogue represents the absolute unwillingness of Neo/Anderson to accept his fate: to accept that he is the chosen one. Otherwise said, Neo and his way of thinking how he came in his situation or how he becomes part of Morpheus team, fall into wishful thinking fallacy. Neo maybe does not like maybe rejects to believe in fate because of the implication of what the fate means. Somehow the full believe in the fate sometimes may look scary or a reality which the human being is not willing to accept it. It is caused by the human way of thinking which indicates that he/she is not able to control anymore his/her life. Because of this human often habit/wish to possess control over everything, at one moment our beliefs in our fate seems to be equal to an impossible mission. As human beings, very often we do not like to believe that the exaggerated consume of chocolate or meat can represent real dangerous for our health but, this does not stop us to continue with this consuming, showing our rejection to our possible unfavorable fate.

Sometimes, our readiness to accept our will means to accept the risks of our lives. Accepting these risks reflect our will to give positive or maybe sometimes negative contribution to our choices, regarding our fate. However, this readiness means the creation of our already predetermined human fate which also represents a summation of our all decisions. That is the way how Anderson/Neo at the very end of trilogy finally accepts his predestination as Neo, chosen one.

In the first conversation which occurs between Neo and Morpheus, it shows us that how Neo's decision is manipulated by Morpheus. Just as Neo leans to red pill Morpheus starts his manipulation:

"This is your last chance. After this, there is no turning back.

"You take the blue pill. The story ends. You wake up in your bed and believe... whatever you want to believe.

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

"Remember. All I'm offering is the truth. Nothing more." (The Matrix,1999)

The quotation from above has its deep symbolical meaning because it expresses two extremely important ideas. The first one is Morpheus manipulation with Neo. The second idea is the choice between the free will and the fate reflected in the choice between the red pill and the blue pill. Before to start talking about the importance of the second idea expressed through the pills, it's quite necessary to elaborate Morpheus manipulation with Neo. That's why this paragraph will represent interesting details about Morpheus and his quite successful manipulation with Neo. During the entire film, Morpheus possesses his role of a father. Otherwise said, he has his paternal role. As one of the protagonists in the film, he plays the role of father to Neo. All the time Morpheus with his instructions as well as teaching creates his role of father. It is very clear that since the very beginning of the film until the very end of the film, Neo doesn't have any self-confidence in himself. Morpheus is the man who pushes him to the very limits. Thanks to Morpheus, at one moment Neo absolutely accepts his duty as the chosen one. Despite this paternal role, in Morpheus figure, we can recognize the role of the Satan in Adam's and Eve's paradise. According to the Biblical references, the apple

of the knowledge was that unhappy tool which managed to destroy Adam's and Eve's paradise, making them forget their promise given to God. From this point of view, the difference between the pills, it is the same thing reflected in the Biblical apple of knowledge. The red pill means to stay in the real World while the blue pill represents the alternative reality or ideal World. That real world actually demonstrates the connection between the pills and Plato's ideal world. This connection between the pills and Plato's real world will be elaborated in the next paragraph of this article.

### **Plato's theory of ideal world and Matrix**

*The Matrix* has a very rich menu in terms of philosophical currents. It seems that the movie is reversed Plato's theory of ideals (Plato, Grube,1943:511) as an immortal philosophical name managed to express he truly believes in a better world, according to him an ideal world very different from our daily world. According to Plato, we live in the world of perceived phenomena, and everything in this world is nothing but a bad imitation of the true and perfect in the world of ideas. In other words, the world of phenomena is a kind of virtual world like Matrix. According to Plato, each thing has its own perfect form which is not visible to our human eye. This perfect form by Plato was named the ideal form. It is about forms which are absolutely unchanging and has their purist form quite different from the forms in our human world. Again, according to Platonic philosophy, we can only grasp the world of ideas through our minds, while Morpheus and his team reach out to the "matrix" by means of intellectually fictional minds(via pay phones).

This Universe where live all human beings it is not the real one. During his entire life, Plato was more than convinced of the existence of a better, perfect, ideal world which exists somewhere far away from our Universe. In Plato's eyes, our Universe is fulfilled with numerous imperfections copied by the ideal world. Without any doubts Plato refers to the heaven/paradise. Previously represented ideas have strong connection with the red and the blue pill also, reflecting the existence of our Universe and the possibility to meet the other perfect, ideal world. The red pill represents the world that we know, the world where the human beings live for centuries. It is about the world fulfilled with so many imperfections, injustices even double lives. Anderson later known as Neo lives his double life on this Universe. As it was mentioned somewhere above in the previous paragraphs, Anderson is a loyal citizen who regularly pays his bills as well as taxes while on the other hand he lives his second live as a hacker. His double life represents previously mentioned imperfections always present in Plato 's mind. The blue pill represents that perfect/ideal world quite elaborated in Plato's theory about that ideal world. It is about a world where everything is so perfect, without the numerous imperfections from our world, where the fate seems to be so strongly present among the human beings from that perfect world. This ideal world reflects Plato s ideal circle also known as perfect circle. It is about circle which exists somewhere beyond our human Universe and represents a model for all circles. The immortal Plato uses the term form indicating the essence of any particular object. He absolutely believes in the existence of the previously mentioned form for each particular item. That is why according to Plato, the world of perfection can be reached only through the pure thought, not through the senses. It seems that the pure thought represents the tool through which the human being is able to reach the ideal world. In the matrix Morpheus actually offers to Neo that perfect world. Through this offer may be observed previously mentioned Morpheus manipulation with Neo where Neo just appears to have pure thoughts at the moment when he will choose the blue pill, will choose his fate. Plato also believes in the existence of the perfect human being whose highest form is represented through the goodness. Again, its realization is possible only through the pure thought. As it was mentioned in one of the previous paragraphs of this article, at the very end of the matrix, Neo accepts his fate and the fact that he is the chosen one. At that moment his thought is more than pure reflecting his figure with Plato s strong belief in the perfect human being in that ideal world.(Plato, Grube 1974:512)

Because of previously mentioned details which refer to Morpheus, Neo, red pill as well as the blue pill in certain parts of different paragraphs, it is necessary to elaborate separately the relation between the free will vs the fate. That's why this paragraph will elaborate separately previously mentioned relation between the free will and the fate. It is about a relation strong connection with the choice between the red and the blue pill offered to Neo by Morpheus. In the Matrix, the fate rules with all questions, rules as well as actions since the creation of the world. Otherwise said, any choice represents just an ordinary illusion because all questions already have its answers and there is no any necessity to explain or to find new answers. While in the Matrix fate rules with all actions, questions as well as answers, in the real world represented through the red pill, humans have their power to change their fate through concrete acting and actions also. In order to make certain changes for their better fate, very often humans make particular mistakes. Otherwise said, the red pill represents a world fulfilled with the mess, dangerous and destitute. In the world of Matrix, the pleasures exist almost entirely and almost represent a computer's construction. In the Matrix, there is another important figure whose name is Cypher. According to this character, even false pleasure is better than no pleasure at all. This detail shows how the fate actually may vary from a person to a person. For Morpheus, Trinity and in the later part of the Matrix even Neo, the free will and the reality also, represent quite important things no matter how unpleasant the free will as well the fate would be.

The Trilogy formed by Morpheus, Trinity and Neo has its own message. It is about the fact that each human being has his/her individual responsibility to make the choice between the real world and the artificial world also known as an alternative reality. The free will and the fate are two elements which are in an almost constant confrontation when it is about Neo and his personality. Even if we would say that Neo represents an example of the free will, still the fate plays a bigger role in Neo's adventure than the free will. After his meeting with Oracle:

Oracle: What's funny?

Neo: Morpheus. He... He almost had me convinced.

Oracle: I know. Poor Morpheus. Without him we're lost.

Neo: What do you mean, without him?

Oracle: Are you sure you want to hear this? Morpheus believes in you, Neo. And no one, not you, not even me can convince him otherwise. He believes it so blindly that he's going to sacrifice his life to save yours.

Neo: What?

Oracle: You're going to have to make a choice. In the one hand you'll have Morpheus' life and in the other hand you'll have your own. One of you is going to die. Which one will be up to you. I'm sorry, kiddo, I really am. You have a good soul, and I hate giving good people bad news.(Matrix Revolution)

Neo bases his hopes, ideas and complete way of thinking about Oracle's statements. Actually, everything what Oracle said, at one moment it becomes true. It seems that after his meeting with Oracle, Neo replaces his free will with Oracle's statements basic totally on Oracle's statements and predictions also. In the discussions/conversations between Morpheus and Neo, Morpheus describes Oracle as a guide, not like someone who knows or is able to predict what will happen in the future. At the end of this trilogy, Oracle even tells to Architect that everything that she told was just her personal opinion or belief about the possible events in the future. This does not mean that she was sure 100 percent of the events in the future. Despite Oracle's personal opinion about the events in the future, she is always right and that is why the people always believe Oracle, watching her as a prophet able to predict the future.



One of the most important worldwide known philosophers Slavoj Zizek also expressed his opinion as well as personal statements about *The Matrix*. His ideas or maybe better said ways of thinking about the matrix and its meaning also, have to be taken into consideration because of one simple reason. Slavoj Zizek is a worldwide famous philosopher who always represents his statements in an excellent elaborated way. That's why this paragraph will demonstrate what Zizek thinks about the Matrix. According to Zizek, the cinema represents that "ultimate pervert art" and in order to approve his statement Zizek uses various examples from different classic films. One of these films is also *The Matrix*. It is a popular science fiction staple, produced by Wachowski's brothers. Zizek uses their science fiction film the Matrix in order to discuss the relationship between the illusion and the so-called reality. In the film, as it was mentioned for several times, Neo can choose between the red pill which leads him in the reality while the blue pill leads him to the fantasy/alternative reality without any possibility for returning. According to the film and its events also, there is a distinct dichotomy between the reality and the fantasy. Furthermore, the matrix represents a reality to wake up to at all. The film even tries to construct some binary codes which would have some connection with the real world. While the film offers two pills which represent the free will as well as the reality, Zizek suggests another, third pill. This pill would be a replacement for the other two pills and would represent the reality of illusion itself. That is what Zizek suggests.

In order to understand Zizek, it is necessary to mention his assertion in terms of Lacan's mirror stage theory. In the bases of this theory is located the creation of "I" performed through an identification when a child recognizes oneself in the mirror. This first moment of identification in the mirror represents the first moment of the reality, creating the first symbolic structure in which an individual must operate and "resolve as/his discordance with his own reality". This discordance is caused by the discrepancy between self and the so-called ideal "I" which represents a fiction itself just like the reality represents an illusion itself. After this, a language is created and this language a mandated, equivocal infliction of signifiers that try to define a world which can't be defined. Previously mentioned the third pill has its own meaning. According to Zizek, the third pill means the elimination of the symbolic structures of reality that regulate it, causing the ceasing of the existing of that reality. This third pill offers a new possibility. It is the possibility of recognizing the reality itself as an illusion. The binary framework formed by the two pills in the Matrix actually forms a framework of a mother and a child without any symbolic constraints. This third pill means confronting/facing the triangular force of the father, even more than this like the language and law as creators of the disorder and the cause, disintegrating the reality (Fassbinder,2012).

In a part of the previous paragraphs there for several times there was mentioned the relationship between the free will vs the fate. Despite this numerous mentioning, the main topic of this article refers to that relationship and that's why in this paragraph will be added new details about this relation. In this paragraph will be elaborated additional details about the relation between the free will and the fate. Oracle plays an extremely important role when it's about the relation between the free will and the fate reflected in Neo's choice between the red and the blue pill. The previously mentioned meeting between Neo and Oracle, she seems to be able to predict the future. On the other hand, Oracle tells to Neo that he was unfortunately not the one but maybe in his next life he will be. This meeting as well as a conversation between Neo and Oracle there is a paradox. The paradox in this conversation is that Oracle manages to guess in his statements that Neo will be the chosen one without to really mean it. That's the biggest paradox when it's about this meeting as well as the discussion between Oracle and Neo. She is right in a way in which she was not even thinking seriously. After their meeting, Neo leaves the building quite disappointed because his expectations were to hear he is the chosen one. The very end of the film demonstrates Neo's change of thinking. He is not so disappointed as he was after his meeting with Oracle but he understands and sees with his own eyes that he is really the chosen one. By the way, the very end of the film confirms this fact. Neo dies in order to save Morpheus and wakes up in his next life where does not have any doubts

about his fate and without any doubts or rejecting accepts that he is not Anderson anymore but Neo, the chosen one. Oracle was right not only for Neo as the chosen one but also, for Trinity and her falling in love with Neo. According to Oracle, Trinity will fall in love with the chosen one, with Neo. Again, Oracle manages to guess what will happen. Thanks to Trinity's kiss Neo manages to wake up but, in his next life. Otherwise said, the very end of the film confirms one absolutely obvious thing. All Oracle's statements/predictions become true. Neo is the chosen one who thanks the woman who fell in love with him, managed to wake up and live in his next life. All this happened not because of the free will, but because of the fate. Thanks to the free will the human being has the ability to make choice, to complete an action. Thanks to this possibility to make choice and to complete an action the human being becomes an agent who is able to make choice between the right and the wrong, to make difference between the good and the bad. All this means that the fate was that ruling tool which played the decisive role in his becoming the chosen one. Despite this elaboration of Neo's fate and its importance in becoming the chosen one, there is another important segment which refers to Neo's free will. This segment will be elaborated in the next paragraph of this article.

There is an extremely important moment when it's about Neo and his free will, the choice made according to his free will. This paragraph will elaborate that also very important moment of his life, of this film. At the moment when he decided to take the red pill which means an alternative reality, refusing the blue pill which reflects the real world, he made this choice according to his free will. This moment of decision wasn't seen by somebody else or could be predicted by Oracle or any other personality in the film. That's why this moment of choice for Neo represents a moment of choice based only and only on his free will. That's why this moment plays so important role in the film and it would be totally unfair to dismiss it as well as to elaborate it. He had the possibility to consume the blue pill instead of the red pill but his choice was the red pill. It was a situation where nobody forced him or predicted in front of him what will happen in the case in which he decides to consume the red or the blue pill. It is quite clear that in this case, everything started with his free will to choose the red pill which led to his fate. Actually, the events which occur in the matrix and refer to the moment of decision for Neo which pill to take it, represent a kind of chain reactions with events. Neo decides to take the red pill, entering in the world of alternative reality where his father and the man who will show to Neo that other world, is Morpheus. Through the vents in the Matrix, we can see that Neo is trained in all possible types of combat, also making part of other useful things. The first thing is his previously mentioned visit to Oracle in order to find out if he is the chosen one and the second is his success when he manages to demolish the agents who are trying the world of the humans. These two vents represent just a part of the numerous useful events which refer to Neo. The previously mentioned two events wouldn't be possible without Neo's choice to take the red pill. His eventual choice of the blue pill would mean returning to his Daily life, his job in the software company, remaining totally unaware of the fact that all this happened to him.

### **Conclusion**

Maybe all interpretations of *The Matrix* which mentioned above is a way of finding the ontological existing of characters in the film. While the ontological method is being investigated, it is tried to determine these uncertainties and to form stable layers of meaning ( Erdem, 2007:255). This meaning represents the fate and free will. Fate is certainly the dominant element in the film, especially on Neo. Characters seem to have little chance to predicate their own futures or maybe they are all pre-determined by ordinance. Intentionally or maybe unintentionally, Neo maybe preferred to choose the red pill in order to choose the alternative reality because of his particular disappointment in himself. His motivation and willpower made of him a real undefeatable leader. It means he managed to obtain all the necessary characteristics in order to become the chosen one. It seems that all his actions at the end managed to define also his fate.

---

However, everything begun with his free will to choose the red pill instead of the blue pill. After his choice, all the events in the film were just an inevitable part of his path toward his final fate. In fact, our choices are like Neo's choices. We always encounter situations that are not our own choice. We are manipulated by something. We all keep up with Morpheus in somewhere. Although we seem to have our own choices, we have no choice at all.

### REFERENCES

- Baudrillard, J. (1994). *Simulacra and Simulation*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.
- Fassbinder, Francois. (2012) *Slavoj Žižek: A third pill*. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-0VMnFmnL0>
- Gibson, William (January 28, 2003). "The Matrix: Fair Cop". Williamgibsonbooks.com. Retrieved August 13, 2012. [https://www.wikiwand.com/en/The\\_Matrix](https://www.wikiwand.com/en/The_Matrix)
- <https://www.wikiwand.com/simple/Fate>
- Taylor, C. and Kraut, R. (1997). *Plato's Republic*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.
- The New Oxford Annotated Bible.(2007).Ed. Michael D. Coogan. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Wachowski, A., Wachowski, L., Reeves, K., Fishburne, L., Moss, C.-A., Warner Bros., Village Roadshow Pictures.Silver Pictures. (1999). *The Matrix*. Burbank, CA: Warner Home Video.
- Wachowski, A., Wachowski, L., Reeves, K., Fishburne, L., Moss, C.-A., Warner Bros., Village Roadshow Pictures., Silver Pictures. (2003). *The Matrix*. Burbank, CA: Warner Home Video.
- Zizek, Slavoj. (1999).The Matrix, or, the Two Sides of Perversion/Lacan Dot Com.” *Inside the Matrix: International Symposium at the Center for Art and Media*, Karlsruhe, [www.lacan.com/zizek-matrix.htm](http://www.lacan.com/zizek-matrix.htm).
- Erdem, Mehmet Dursun (2007). “Ontolojik İncelemeye Dehhani'nin “Eyledi” Redifli Gazeli Örneğinde Yapısalcı Bir Bakış / A Structural View on Dehhani's Gazel with “Eyledi” Redif for Ontological Search”, *TURKISH STUDIES -International Periodical for the Languages, Literature and History of Turkish or Turkic-*, (Tunca Kortantamer Özel Sayısı 1), Volume 2/3 Summer 2007, [www.turkishstudies.net](http://www.turkishstudies.net), p. 254-273.