

Déjà Vu

You will never see reality the same way again



by Roland Michel Tremblay

Film Synopsis

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Summary

Deja Vu in 100 Words

Introduction

General Comments

Long Synopsis of Deja Vu

What do we keep from The Matrix?

What do we keep from Groundhog Day?

What do we keep from The Truman Show?

What do we keep from my Dream?

What do we keep from my Deja Vu Report?

Deja Vu in 100 Words

A successful and rich philosophy teacher who is paid to think and publish books by a renowned university is experiencing Deja Vu at an alarming rate. He turns all his attention into understanding the phenomenon but as he thinks some more he gets to uncover something really wrong with his existence. His Deja Vu episodes no longer reflect reality. Events and people are changing everyday, contradicting his previous memories of the events. Understandably it makes him question not only his sanity but also the normal flow of time and the reality we have all come to believe in.

Introduction

This is not a story that is easy to understand and you will have many questions that I am trying to answer afterwards in my general comments and also in my report about Deja vu. Please don't be frightened by the complexity of the story as on screen it can be shown very simply without too many complications.

One of the ways to explain Deja vu is if we have actually lived those moments before. Somehow we must have gone back in time and relived the same events as if in a time loop. Through Deja vu we can remember having lived those events before and we can change what is to come. If we had many Deja vu episodes and could drastically change our future when we go back in time, then tomorrow I could be a theoretical physicist instead of an author. This is the basis of this film.

I suggest the story takes place in a few days and everyday life is different from the previous day. Henry will be a philosophy teacher for the first day and then he will become successively a medical doctor, a parapsychologist, a theoretical physicist and a psychic medium. This should give us the chance to analyze what is Deja vu from different perspectives.

The idea here is that the future, the past and the present are always in movement. As a result one day we are a philosophy teacher and the next day we can be a medical doctor as it is possible to change the future whenever we go back into the past and are aware of the future. Yet, everything seems fine and we don't question this fluctuating timeline. We don't completely remember having lived in the future.

Deja vu is what will get Henry to understand that something is not right, that perhaps yesterday he was not a medical doctor. He remembers events from a different past and can even predict the future to a certain extent, a future very different from his actual life. As he struggles to understand what is going on, he will speak to his wife and colleagues about Deja vu, trying to explain them, wondering if perhaps he is crazy and suffering from hallucinations.

At the end he will be a theoretical physicist explaining Deja vu via Einstein's Relativity and Quantum Mechanics. He will not know exactly what is going on, if perhaps people are trying to deceive him to prevent him from thinking and reaching conclusions about the mechanics of existence. He will look for a way out and might find one somehow...

So the story will start slowly, our man will have some Deja vu and will try to change things, so it is different from his Deja vu. This is all he will do at first. He will get interested in the phenomenon because he will have four Deja vu in the same day. He will talk about it to his class after his second experience.

His third Deja vu episode will show him that something is not right. What he remembers is not what is happening. The person he will meet will not be or say what his Deja vu is telling him. Moreover he will get to know something about that person that there would be no way for him to know. This should be a freaky experience, not only he remembers that the person is not what she says she is, but on top of it he knows things about her he should not know, things he would have seen in the Deja vu.

So in a way the Deja vu is a powerful vision as it is right, he has now a clairvoyance gift, he knows things through some sort of sixth sense. But at the same time he does not want to give credit to the Deja vu as the person is clearly not who he remembers her to be. So he does not know what to make of it.

The next day his life has changed. We follow him and we understand that he is no longer a teacher of philosophy as he was able to change the future somehow when going back in time and reliving the same events.

General Comments

If you wish to read my dream that started this idea (that could even be a film in its own right), and if you want some idea of the content of the film that may not appear below, please read my report trying to explain the Deja vu phenomenon at this URL:

Deja Vu Report HTML: <http://www.themarginal.com/dejavureport.htm>

Deja Vu Report DOC: <http://www.themarginal.com/dejavureport.doc>

Our philosophy teacher needs to experience Deja vu and I thought of an interesting way to represent that on the screen without looking too much like the Matrix, Groundhog Day or The Truman Show. I feel I came up with something new that has never been done before and should be quite interesting on the screen.

The teacher will actually live just before - or while it is happening - a Deja vu episode that will or will not correspond to reality. The way to show the Deja vu will be a split screen. We will have two realities playing simultaneously. Sometimes one of the screens will become full, then the other one will take over. It would show that two realities are playing out at the same time and sometimes they are identical, sometimes they are different, and sometimes they are identical but out of sync.

Of course, as soon as you realize that you are experiencing Deja vu and that you mention it, you can no longer be doing what the Deja vu shows on the second half of the screen. At that point your reality differs from the Deja vu, especially if you do try to change the events so you don't repeat the same actions over and over again. You feel trapped in a time loop and you are looking for a way out. And by doing everything differently, you might just get out of it (or so you think anyway).

The thing is, if you were to have many Deja vu you could change your life dramatically in comparison with what would have actually happened. As our teacher is an extreme case and experiences Deja vu many times a day, he gets to change his life to a point where even him would not recognize it a few days later. The Deja vu at that point shows us what would have happened if he had not changed anything in his life because of the Deja vu.

How can he change his life like this, why would he suddenly be someone else tomorrow or that the people in his life are no longer what they were supposed to be? Why this multiplication of different timelines? Good question and important answer for this film.

You see, a Deja vu indicates that somehow we are in a time loop. We live a linear existence up to a point where we go back in time. Could be hours, could be days, could be years. When we go back in time we usually live a very similar timeline unless we get a glimpse of the future, unless we remember something perhaps traumatic, like clairvoyants and mediums can do. At that point you can change the future, you can change who you are, you can influence everyone in your timeline to the point that they too take different decisions.

On this timeline, if you were to have another Deja vu episode when in fact it is the first time that you are living this new timeline, it could tell you instead what was happening in the previous timeline, before you went back in time. This is what is happening here. Both Deja vu and changing the future come from this time loop that brings you back into the past.

Though this could be a normal physical phenomenon, we will make it more interesting by adding another mysterious knowledge to be gained from this phenomenon. Something more spiritual. Understanding this about the existence will give the chance to our teacher to understand much more about the universe we live in.

In my idea we don't repeat the same events over and over again. But from one Deja vu to the other Henry's reality will change. In his Deja vu people will have different functions, different job titles, are no longer there, etc. Though he will

clearly remember having lived this before, in time what he will feel that he experienced is no longer happening in real life. Then, to his horror, he will change, though he will not remember that everything in his life has changed. Only via the Deja vu will he get to understand that he has already lived this life before but he was not a doctor, he was a teacher.

So this is a good twist about Deja vu that differs from reality, making our character question the mechanisms of existence. At one point what Henry will be experiencing is no longer a Deja vu (already seen) but a Jamais Vu (never seen before). He will no longer recognize his reality and actions. He will feel lost because he will remember having lived this in a different way. And while he will try to understand what is going on, he will experience Presque Vu (almost seen), as if the explanation was within his grasps and yet escaping him. He needs to find a way out of these time loops so his life is no longer switching from one timeline to another.

This said, in order to be different from Groundhog Day, he is not going to wake up on the same day every day. He will not relive the same events over and over again. The way to make it look good is that he will appear to live a normal linear life in which he will remember that he has lived that before, and eventually that he lived it differently and that people are no longer who they were. In any case I don't intend to do another cheap version of Groundhog Day. I have a mystery to expose and to understand: Deja vu, and the story is a mean to get some answers.

There will be Deja vu episodes just before and while the real events are taking place, to remind him of another reality while his life is going berserk. Normally he should not be aware that everything has changed slightly from one day to another. The idea is that life is not linear or chronological, even it changes everyday though we are usually unaware of this fact. The Deja vu in this context will help him understand that something is not right with reality, that things are changing even though his memories do not contradict anything from one day to another. The way I explain how this is possible is via a fluctuating timeline due to the effects of relativity and also via the Many-worlds interpretation of Quantum Mechanics. For more details please read [my report about Deja vu](#).

This film is going to be complicated and will not give itself away too easily. Ok, slow starts so the viewer can get into the story before losing patience, and I will try to be as evident as possible so they won't lose it, but it is something special and different and I don't want to compromise on the complexity. Cinema is in great need of more complex stories and this is it. All right, all right, I will try to make it easy to understand, but the viewer will need to be ready to accept that one day our teacher does not wake up in Boston, he is in New York. The other day he is not a philosophy teacher, but a theoretical physicist. One day he is married and the other he is not. Not only that, all this will not seem weird to our teacher, he will accept all these changes as if nothing happened, like if yesterday he was not someone else. Only through Deja vu will he get to understand that something is not right, that yesterday he was not in Boston but in New York instead. The day is not repeating itself, but every day is different even though we continue on some sort of linear and chronological timeline.

So at first only small changes, and then big ones. Just like in dreams, new universes every day that appear completely logical at the time, only to be dismissed as illogical when we wake up.

Long Synopsis of Deja Vu

(More comments about Deja Vu follow)

Introduction – First Deja Vu - Day 1 – Early morning



The film starts in a home hardware store where Henry Williams, a philosophy teacher at a renowned university, is waiting at a counter for something. He is late for his class, he cannot wait any longer and asks the clerk to get going. While he waits he sees a kid, perhaps between 2 and 3 years of age, wandering around the place.

The first Deja vu starts, the screen splits into two. On the left screen Henry gets an interest in that kid, he's not sure why. He asks him to come over, wants to know if he's lost, wonders where mummy and daddy are, and that Louis should go find them. He tells him to be very careful.

On the right screen however, where Henry never asked the kid to come over, we can see Louis doing the plane in the shop and get close to a pedestal sink on demonstration. We can see him put his little hand over the sink and the whole thing falls over him. The screen gets back to normal.

After Henry spoke to Louis, the kid goes straight to the sink which, in this reality, has not fallen yet. The clerk is back and asks Henry if this is what he wanted. When he sees Henry fascinated by the kid, he asks if everything is OK. Henry says something's wrong, he has the feeling something horrible will happen to that kid.

Suddenly we get a close up of the little hand of Louis reaching out for the sink, and Henry's hand at the very last second preventing him from touching the side of the sink. Suddenly the parents of Louis arrive on the scene and are not pleased that a stranger has touched their child. Henry apologizes but explains to the manager now present that this is very irresponsible to have such a dangerous installation in a shop. It was going to fall over the kid. The manager laughs at this statement, as the sink falls over by itself. The kid asks: how did you know? And Henry's answer is: Deja vu. And now I'm very late for class!

Second Deja vu – Day 1 - Morning

The second experience will simply be a normal Deja vu and Henry will not react until the Deja vu is finished where he will say: strange, I feel I have done this before, again.



Henry has a lot of money and has written many books. He walks over the grass to reach the pavilion where his class is waiting for him. He meets along the way one of his students. The screen splits into two where on the left we see real life and on the right we see a Deja vu. For this whole Deja vu both realities are identical (the only time for the whole film. The meaning is that Henry needed to change something but he did not. He will get a chance at the end of the film to act differently on that very moment).

The young man is handing over his latest paper and tells the professor that this is not fair, he did not deserve F. Henry is not pleased with him and tells him that he has no future in this university or any other. When Esteban points out that he wants to do a Masters Degree, the teacher laughs hard, saying that there is no way this will happen, he will make sure of it. When the student asks what he will do in the future as a career, Henry states that there is a burger place at the entrance of town and that perhaps one day he will become the Manager, if he works more seriously than he studied in his life. The split screen ends at that point to become one, the Deja vu is finished. He will say: strange, I have the feeling we already had this conversation before. Esteban will say: yes, in my nightmares.

Once Henry enters the class room with the student he drops his books on the table while Esteban goes and sit down. Henry states to his class that something strange just happened to him, he just experienced Deja vu twice and it is getting tiresome as last week he visited a town he never went to, still he could clearly remember having seen it before. Of course he will talk about the home hardware experience.

So he launches into a discourse about Deja vu. Apparently some Freudians believe that the Deja vu phenomenon is a repressed memory escaping the unconscious. It represents a desire to have a second chance, to set things right. More scientific: it's more likely that we are talking about neurochemistry, a glitch in the brain's ability to process recognition and memory. It does not mean that the memory is authentic.

He will admit that he is not a psychologist or a specialist of the brain and cannot comment on these theories. From the philosophy's point of view, Deja vu could be interpreted as a higher power giving you the chance to learn from your mistakes. It makes you go through some experiences again to see if this time you can pass the test and learn whatever it is you have to learn from your existence. When Esteban asks him what this higher power could be, the teacher says: God, destiny, or perhaps a higher self awareness? He's not sure.

Third Deja Vu – Day 1 – Late morning

The third time he will feel weird physically until he will decide to speak about it. From there the Deja vu will be a bit different and out of sync with reality.

Henry is going back to his office but on his way there he meets a woman called Elizabeth telling him that Charles the dean is looking everywhere for him, that he should go to his office immediately.

Once in the dean's office, the screen splits again for the third Deja vu. The images will be identical until suddenly Henry decides to act against the Deja vu and leaves hurriedly. The right image on the screen (the Deja vu) will show him having a normal meeting with the dean as if nothing had happened.

They discuss the marketing of his new philosophy book expected to be a bestseller. The publisher of the University Press is eager to get the ball rolling and is waiting after the final version. We will hear the voices of both screens at the same time, perhaps the voices on the right (the Deja vu) could be more distant. We will have to alternate the voices so no one speaks over the other.

On the left screen, Henry will be in a state of panic. He will tell the dean that he has lived this before, that this is a Deja vu. At that point the synchronicity of both screens falls apart and as the dean and Henry stop to consider the question of Deja vu, on the other screen we see that the meeting is proceeding on as normal, they speak about the book and George the publisher.

So, on the right we hear the dean explaining that George is awaiting the final draft of his latest book and they are in a hurry to get it out there. The meeting ends well and Henry will then leave the office saying that the book will be sent to George that same day.

So Henry on the left states that he knows that the meeting is about his book and that he does not give a damn about it. George can wait as far as he is concerned. He needs to get out of the office immediately, he feels trapped in a time loop of some sort and wants to free himself. He gets out and slams the door while the other screen shows Henry closing the door softly with a smile. We see the dean completely taken aback from what just happened on the left, while on the right he is pleased and picks up the phone to contact George.

Outside the office the Deja vu continues. Henry on the left is walking like a madman, trying to do things differently to escape the Deja vu. On the right he walks normally with a big smile at the prospect of his latest book already being considered a bestseller.

No matter what Henry does on the left to escape the Deja vu, the same happens on the right. He stops for water, he opens Elizabeth's door, the woman we saw before, to talk to her about Deja vu. On the right she opens the door to find out

about what the dean had to say. At that point the synchronicity of both screens is not exact. On the right Elizabeth drops a pen on the floor and Henry gets down to pick it up, at that moment we hear a shot and Elizabeth receives a bullet in her chest. As the dean comes out of his office to find out what is happening, he too gets shot by Esteban.

Quickly on the left screen, where these events have not happened yet, Henry pushes Elizabeth back in the office saying: get down! But as he pushes her she still receives a bullet in the forehead, and the dean also gets shot. On both screens we see Esteban shooting himself.

Day 1 - Afternoon

Henry is now outside, the screen is no longer split. He jumps in his car and the wheels are screeching. We can see in the background many police cars, ambulances and journalists. He rushes home.



Fourth Deja Vu – Late Afternoon

Once home he is visibly shaken. Trying to forget he opens books where he hopes to find some explanation about Deja vu.

The fourth Deja vu will already show that elements of his reality are no longer quite right, people changed somehow and they do unexpected things compared with the Deja vu.

The screen splits again for the fourth Deja vu. While he is looking at his books, on the right screen we see a woman called Marianne entering the room saying: you're here already? I was not expecting you for a few hours after what I heard

on the news. The woman says that as her personal assistant she would like to know if there is anything else she can do with his book before sending it to the publisher. She has done all the corrections and needs to get back to her husband Martin. Henry says that after the shooting, George will not be expecting the book anymore. The screen gets back to normal.

At this point in real life Marianne enters the room, she is in fact his wife and knows nothing about his new book. She calls him baby and wants to know what he would like to eat tonight. Henry feels unbalanced, he asks her if she is his wife or his personal assistant. She is in shock, of course she is his wife. He is not happy, he threatens her, telling her that this is no joke. From his Deja vu she was his personal assistant, not his wife. He asks her if she knows a Martin. She breaks down crying: how did you know? He answers: do you mean you are having an affair with a certain Martin? She says: so you did not know? A lucky guess, I guess, he says.

So he takes her in his arms and adds: don't worry, worst things happen every day, like the shooting for example. What shooting? What are you talking about? He then realizes that she has not been watching the news and she does not know yet. So he opens the TV where we can see photos of Esteban, Charles and Elizabeth, and scenes of where the shooting took place. Oh my God! she says. And that's nothing, says Henry, that bullet was meant for me.

So they discuss what he said to the kid before and how he feels responsible. And then she says that perhaps his girlfriend just left him and he had other problems. At that point the TV confirms that the girlfriend of Esteban just left him the day before. As Marianne virtually just said it, they both look at each other thinking about the coincidence. He says: how did you know, Deja vu? She answers: A lucky guess, I guess.

So he goes back in his office while Marianne still watches the news. He sits down and starts thinking. He goes to get a medical book about the human brain, hoping that this is where he will find the answer. He sits down huffing and puffing, saying that he wished he was a specialist of the brain and not just a philosophy teacher, then he might find the answers he is looking for.

Fifth Deja Vu – Day 2 – Early Morning

As Deja vu shows that perhaps there is a time loop in which from the future we go back in time and are able to act differently, then the second time around we can be someone totally different. Somehow Henry took advantage of this somewhere along the way, and instead of becoming a philosophy teacher he became a medical doctor.

The next day Henry is a specialist of the brain, as if being a philosopher could not help him understand Deja vu and somehow he decided he needed some new skills to help him understand.

So Henry wakes up and gets ready to leave the house. The screen is split again for the fifth deja vu. On the left in real life he gets all his medical instruments in order and on the right he is preparing his books. We see him in his car on the left going to a hospital while on the right he goes to the university. On the right we see the police barriers around where the shooting took place, and Henry looking at this being sorry. Then the screen gets back to normal.

Once inside the hospital, Henry meets Elizabeth, the woman of yesterday. She is now a nurse. She tells him about Ms Winterbottom, a patient recovering from surgery. He wants to know if she is OK after yesterday's brain operation.

Then he takes Elizabeth the nurse to his office hurriedly and tells her there's something wrong with him. He tells her that he is experiencing some Deja vu and something is not right. He feels he should be a philosophy teacher at the University, not a medical doctor specialist of the brain. He says that Elizabeth is also in this other reality or timeline, as the right hand of the dean, not a nurse in this hospital. She laughs, telling him that studying the brain must have somehow wrecked his mind. She reminds him that Charles the director of the hospital is looking for him about his latest book on mapping the human brain. Charles, he says? That's the name of the dean! She says that it should revolutionize the brain as we understand it. Oh God, he says! He asks her what book is that, is it not about philosophy? About Deja vu perhaps? She leaves with a big smile.

He quickly opens his computer and read about his book. It is concerning Deja vu, from a medical doctor's perspective. The director of the hospital enters the room, it is the dean of the university of yesterday. Henry! About your book! Forget the book, replies Henry. Sit down, I need to speak about Deja vu. Charles laughs as this is exactly the topic of his book, so let's talk about it then.

They discuss the book and as far as we can tell, being a specialist of the brain did not help Henry to understand what Deja vu is. Could we be just seeing an event twice because the brain takes some fraction of a second to interpret what it sees? And we feel this is Deja vu, that we lived that before when we did not? Well, in theory it is possible, but considering what Henry is going through right now, it no longer makes any sense.

He has to admit that the book needs to be rewritten but not from the point of view of a medical doctor, but from a paranormal investigator's point of view, as what he is experiencing is definitely supernatural. In this case Charles will no longer wish to publish the book as this will not be right in their curriculum. He warns Henry that he is making a big mistake and that parapsychologists are just charlatans without any credibility.

Then Charles wishes to speak about another matter. A young and promising new graduate called Esteban that was denied working at the hospital because of one person only: Henry Williams. At this sentence, Henry goes white. Ah yes, Esteban... I know something about him, something terrible, I just don't know what. I have a feeling that something is not right with him... and as he says that, Esteban enters the room, Elizabeth at the back saying that he has no right to get in there. Esteban says: who is Henry Williams? Is it you (looking at Charles)? Henry shouts: he has a gun, I'm sure! At that point Esteban pulls out a gun and shoots Charles, Elizabeth and himself. Leaving Henry saying: not again!

Then Henry sits down, saying: a parapsychologist... this is what I need to be to understand what is happening to me.

Sixth Deja Vu – Day 2 - Morning

As Henry says that he wishes to be a parapsychologist, he turns around and there are no more bodies anywhere. He has switched reality once again and no one has been killed yet.

Suddenly as Henry looks out the window, we see that it has all changed from what we could see previously. He will say: where am I? He is no longer in a hospital, he is in a small building where he based his paranormal investigation organization. All around, he picks up books about ghosts, paranormal stuff, etc. The screen splits into three. We see him as a paranormal investigator, a medical doctor and a philosophy teacher, while he is thinking hard to understand what is going on.

At this time enters Charles, our dean/director and now paranormal investigator responsible for the organization. He asks Henry about his book. A book, Henry says. Let me guess, about Deja vu? Yes, yes, it is coming to term. I just need more time. More time for what, asks Charles, it is finished. Yes, it is finished, I know what I am talking about. Sixth sense, clairvoyance, getting information via other means than our five senses. Knowing the future, time loops, going back in time, changing the future, different timelines... that's it! Henry kicks out his colleague who is not happy to leave: what about the book! Henry says that he needs to study theoretical physics, he needs to look into fluctuating timelines, relativity and quantum mechanics. Quantum what? says Charles, before Henry shuts the door.

When alone Henry gets to his library and picks up a book about Physics. Then he appears to be thinking some more. He puts the book on the table and calls Elizabeth to his office. He demands to know if a certain Esteban came to the office recently. Yes, as a matter of fact, this morning! He wanted a job. Henry wants to see his CV, he wants his address.



Day 2 – Late Morning

We see Henry leaving the office with his car, he goes to Esteban's place. Once there he knocks on the door and Esteban let him in. Henry says that he is a parapsychologist working at the Psychic Research Institute and that he is sorry that he missed Esteban this morning. Inside Henry sees his books on the table and Esteban states that he is a big fan of Henry Williams' books, the great paranormal investigator. He wishes to work with him. Then Henry sees a gun in a

drawer and suddenly he panics. He says to Esteban that he will consider his request and that perhaps he will be hired.

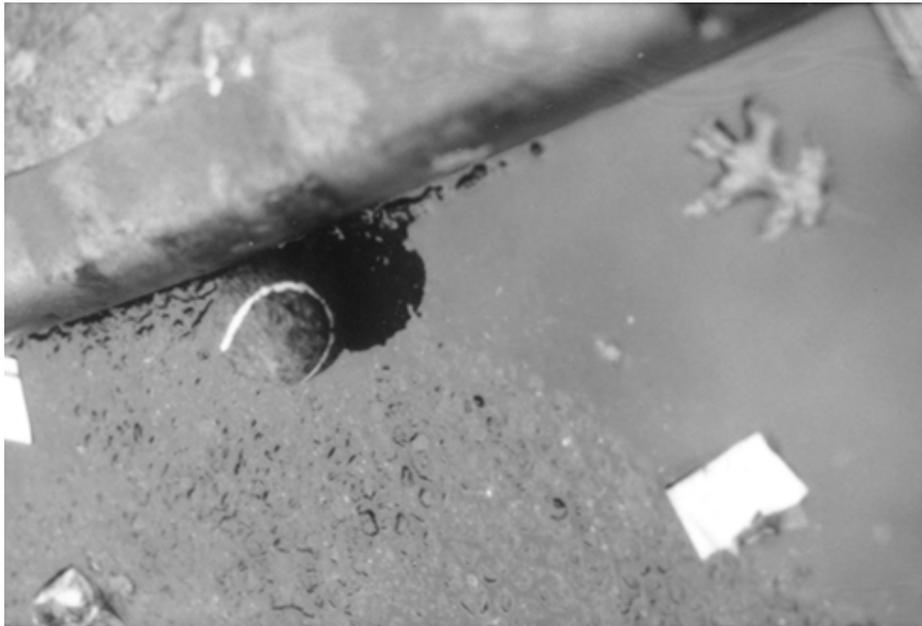
As soon as Henry is out, he calls the police. He tells them that he knows of a dangerous man called Esteban Estevez and that they need to arrest him because he will kill people soon. The chief investigator asks how the great Henry Williams knows about this? Perhaps a little angel told him, perhaps it was his sixth sense? Or was it a ghost? Henry shouts that the kid has got a gun! But as long as he has not done anything wrong yet, there is nothing the police can do. So Henry says that the only thing the police can do is to pick up the bodies afterwards, they certainly would not try to prevent crime. So Henry goes back to his office.

Day 2 - Afternoon

Then we see the police going to Esteban's place. They knock on the door, they ask to see inside, they tell Esteban that they just had a call about his gun. So Esteban confirms that he has a gun but it is not illegal. As we see the police leaving, we also see an angry Esteban picking up his gun and jumping in his car.

Day 2 - Afternoon

Esteban is going back to the Psychological Research Institute and once there, he shoots everyone in sight: Elizabeth, Charles and himself. Henry goes back home, alone and discouraged, not even bothered by what he just witnessed.



Day 2 – Late Afternoon

A young girl is in his home. He is quite surprised and tells her that students are not allowed here, she should take an appointment to meet him in his office at the university. She believes he should see a psychologist if he does not feel well. He is about to throw her out when she tells him that she is his daughter and that he is not a teacher, he is a theoretical physicist! What drugs is he on?

His wife Marianne arrives at this point and she no longer looks like yesterday. She has blond hair. He asks her about their daughter and if she knows a Martin. She never heard of him. He has a long talk with both of them, explaining what is going on from the point of view of Physics as now he has the knowledge.

Henry explains that relativity could account for a fluctuating timeline where the past, the present and the future blend together and that our life is not linear or chronological. In fact we may be trapped in time loops and suddenly reality brings us back in time. And if we can remember the future while back in the past, we can change our timeline and be someone else. Deja vu is a way to know what happened previously, helping us to remember previous time loops.

Then he jumps to the Many-worlds interpretation of Quantum Mechanics. Many different timelines exist, an infinite amount of us inhabiting each new parallel universe. And if we are aware of the different timelines, we can make different decisions in our past and in effect change our future for the better.

Great! Henry says sitting back to think some more. I know now the means by which this is happening. My Deja vu due to a fluctuating timeline where the present, the past and the future are all mixed up together and life is not linear or chronological.

But then he will wonder: is it just a physical phenomenon ruled by physics and there is nothing else to it except the power to remember we have lived this before and that we can change our future? Or is there another purpose or advantage to this? Another higher power in action to take advantage of all this? What have I got to learn in all that?

Seventh Deja Vu – Day 3 – Early Morning

The next day when Henry wakes up, he is not sure where he is. He looks around, rushes to reach the books on the table to see if any of them have been written by him. He picks up a book with his name on it called *Helping Others* by Henry Williams, Psychic Medium. So he is now a medium and he is helping others.

His daughter comes out of her room and he is pleased to see her. Already he grew accustomed to her and he would not want to lose her. Why would he lose her, she asks? Then he understands that some paths he did not take in other timelines were mistakes and now he can see he can make things better in his life. He wants to know if she heard of any killings lately? Who? His colleagues... No, she has not. Right he says, it has not happened yet.

The door bell rings, he welcomes Ms Winterbottom in. She wants to know all about her future and what she should do with her life. The screen splits, we can see that Henry is already seeing what is going on in the life of Ms Winterbottom. He tells her that she has something wrong with her brain and needs to be

examined immediately by a doctor. He also understands she has been having trouble with her son's death, that she is unhappy with her life. He tells her what she should do to change her reality in order to make it better and learn from her experiences in life so she can move on to learn other things.

And then we realize what Henry is now doing, he learns from whatever happens in his life so he can move on to learn more. Being aware of the future gives him the chance to control his life in order to maximize what he needs to learn so his life can change and evolve. This is what he has learnt and now he is exploiting his aptitudes to help others and himself to a better life.

After Ms Winterbottom leaves, he has another Deja vu episode. He can see the young Esteban Estevez walking beside him at the university. It makes him think... the second half of the screen becomes one, we're back to the initial timeline.

Conclusion – Back to Day 1 – Early Morning

We are now back to day 1 where the teacher is in his car getting books ready for his class. On the green, walking towards his class, he meets Esteban who is questioning his F for his essay. There is no more split screens here, Henry appears to know everything already. He invites Esteban to sit down on a bench.

He looks at the essay and asks Esteban why he believes he should get a better mark. Esteban pleads that he has read all his books, that he worked very hard this time, that he was really hoping to get a good mark and to eventually enter into the Masters Degree program, etc.

Henry says: you are right, you have worked hard, it is much better than what you used to give me. You have read my books and other books, I can see. You might have a future after all. My friend, you should not be judged compared with the others, but from what you were and where you are now.

Henry takes a pen, crosses the F and writes A+. He hands the paper to Esteban and adds: don't let anyone tell you that you have no future, always find a way to get there anyway to prove them wrong. Now off you go, or you will be late for my class.

Esteban is over the moon. He starts running and then he turns around and asks: but what about you Mr. Williams? Are you not going to be late to your own class? Then Henry smiles and says that he is now in full control of his life and that he will never be late again, even when he is actually late.

Henry gets in his class and drops his books on the table. He wants to talk about Deja vu. This time he has much more knowledge, he knows the different timelines, he has a good perspective on life. He urges people to be careful about Deja vu and to invite them into their lives. There lays the foundation for a better future. And now he says the class is cancelled because he needs to go home, rewrite his book, marry his assistant and have a baby! He will let them know how it all turns out!

The End

What do we keep from The Matrix?

I believe that the most relevant idea from The Matrix is that we may be living in a world programmed to answer our needs or the needs of others (perhaps God). So even though I don't intend to say that the world our philosophy teacher is living in is a Matrix or a constructed virtual reality, I do intend to mention it as an explanation of what may be going on.

In the Matrix, Deja Vu is just a glitch in the program whenever they change something (suddenly the configuration of reality is no longer the same, there are no more exits, the walls have changed place, etc.). Someone external to the world is playing around with our reality, with the configuration of the universe.

There are two ways of explaining Deja Vu, very quickly. The first one is that it is just a physical and normal phenomenon where relativity of time and space blends together the past, the present and the future constantly changing. In which case no one is controlling the universe or changing its configuration, it just happens as there are time displacements in space and we are sometimes condemned to relive the same events in time loops.

Well, that would not be sufficient in our story as there is a need for something weird about the existence that we need to uncover. So although this is great as a means to explain how it is possible to change the present to a point where it becomes unrecognizable (suddenly we are living in New York instead of Harvard), there is a need for something more. This brings us to the second explanation of Deja Vu.

The second way of looking at Deja Vu is like they explain it in the Matrix. An external force is at work, forcing us to relive certain moments so we can do things differently, learn more from our experience, correct a mistake we made. Who is controlling the machine? Who is forcing us to relive the same moments in a different configuration? Us perhaps, our higher selves. Or some sort of spiritual guide or God or destiny or even aliens if need be.

So our story will have to say that Deja Vu is happening for a reason, a good reason, that we need to find out. Which is to learn from each and every experience of our lives, and we need to do it again and again until we get it right (like in Groundhog Day). And the way this is possible is to change something in our mind whenever relativity changes our fluctuating timeline. In the past we can make different decisions that will affect the present and the future, and the second time around in the time loop we can make different decisions. We feel that going to the right this time is the right decision.

What do we keep from Groundhog Day?

From Groundhog Day we keep the time loops but not the repeating day because it has been done to death. Tru Calling is a new series in which the main actress is stuck in a time loop exactly like in Groundhog Day, which gives her the chance to prevent murders or untimely deaths occurring. What a great idea! Why had I not thought of that before!? I am being ironic here. Please read my report about Time

Loops and Groundhog Day to get an idea of how many times this idea has been done before:

Report about Groundhog Day - Time Loop - Day repeating itself over and over again - Temporal Causality Loop:

<http://www.themarginal.com/timeloop.htm>

So, clearly we cannot have the day repeating itself. Groundhog Day has destroyed this for us in its success, cult status, and spin offs it created along the way. No matter, it would be hard to do better than them on that topic. So what do we keep from it?

We keep the external power that is forcing Bill Murray to relive his day over and over again. There may be a God or some other intelligence forcing us to relive certain events for whatever reason. To better ourselves, to make it right, to learn something about life. Who? God knows. I don't think we should get to who is doing this, unless it is our higher self. I like this idea. A higher self awareness that is more intelligent and tries for some unknown and perhaps bizarre reason to make us comprehend certain things, learn from certain experiences.

If we are living in our own little time frame, then we are all independent from each other. We are all living in our own little bubble universe in which everyone only exists for our own benefit. In other timelines these people are different, are doing whatever else, but in our own time frame they are this and they change according to our fluctuating timeline disconnected from anyone else.

In effect, we are all living in our own universe where everyone only exists for us, from our point of view. In a different bubble, the one of my father for example, I exist as someone completely different, alien to who I really am. We all experience life from our own point of view and everyone else concord with what we say because they are in our bubble. But in the bubble of my father for example, I am different, I am someone else that to him that I will never know about. There is an infinite amount of different timelines...

What do we keep from The Truman Show?

In my dream (available in my [Deja vu Report](#)) I really did have a feel that my universe was a big cylinder containing the building I was in and some streets outside while it was summer. Outside the building I could see that I was in fact in a huge hangar and it was snowing heavily. So it was like the Truman Show, there were people out there that I felt were only acting in my life for my benefit. I was the only person that anyone had to worry about, just like Jim Carrey in the film. This big cylinder like the Rama ship of Arthur C. Clarke, was it in space? Was it out of space as perhaps everything is just an illusion and there are no such things as planets and the universe with stars? I will get to mention all this in the film.

I think we can also take it symbolically, as dreams often are symbolic. I have to say that my dream suggests that no one can be trusted, everyone is the enemy and is lying to me. They are not who they say they are. They are actors and they don't have a life of their own. They have one in their own time frame or frame of reference but that has nothing to do with me.

In my universe I am the only one who exists, I am building my own timeline as I live, and everyone else follows their own timeline. This is possible according to

the Many-worlds interpretation of Quantum Mechanics which states that a particle can be at many places at the same time and that there are an infinite amount of timelines in which you are just about everything else that you are not in your own timeline.

In my dream, the actors outside the building, that were carrying on with other business not related to my life, were in effect living in their own timeline in which I could be someone else at their service though I am unaware of it.

Not only am I living in a relative universe where I can influence the past, the present and the future, where there is an infinite amount of timelines ruled by unknown laws of Physics, but also there seem to be other laws influencing my world, perhaps spiritual or from the mind. These other spiritual laws might be governed by some higher power that may ultimately be ourselves (our higher self) or God or destiny. In the movie I think I will talk about destiny which seems to have a design for me, and that perhaps I am building my own destiny as I go along, learning from everything that falls before me.

From the Truman show, I believe I need to keep the fact that I have to find the solution, the explanation, the way out. I need to reach those glass doors and see outside my own universe. I need the global picture of my universe and the place I occupy within it. I will find the truth, well, my philosophy teacher will.

What do we keep from my Dream?

My dream that you can read in the [Deja vu report](#) was extremely helpful for me to understand my situation in real life. Even though there may not be many dreams in the film, I believe we could benefit from having one dream similar to mine in which our teacher will try to find the way out so he can have a glimpse of the whole picture. I don't think we need to show the dream, he could just tell someone about it in a few words. But I will see if I want to do that when I write the script.

From the dream I keep the main idea that there is something wrong with reality, that people are changing and they are trying to prevent me from finding the way out. They rally around me to make me forget about Deja vu or the mechanisms of existence.

I should be living blindly, in blissful ignorance, not knowing that I have a higher purpose which is to learn from everything. Perhaps because if I knew too much, there would be no point in living as everything would be transparent and I could no longer feel positively or negatively about anything. I would know everything is fake, virtual, unreal.

What do we keep from my Deja Vu Report?

My Deja vu report will basically feed the ideas my character will have in order to explain Deja vu. Depending on if he is a philosophy teacher or a theoretical physicist he will come up with other ways to explain Deja vu and what is happening to him.

Please read my report trying to explain the Deja vu phenomenon at this URL:

Deja Vu Report HTML: <http://www.themarginal.com/dejavureport.htm>

Deja Vu Report DOC: <http://www.themarginal.com/dejavureport.doc>

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