

# Weekly Homework 1

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The Island - Movie Review

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*The Island* commences by illustrating a closed and intimate paradise, where only the special individuals who managed to escape the so-called 'contamination' live. Their world is close to perfection since they are all in fantastic physical shape, their diet is perfectly calibrated for their needs and all the other details in their life are neat and tidy. They all wear white clothes, have an exact quantity of a certain type of food prepared for them at each meal and are at all times monitored through a bracelet. The main protagonists of this movie are Lincoln Six Echo and Jordan Two Delta. Anyway, the purpose of everyone that lived in that utopic decor was going to the so-called 'Island'. Each day there was a lottery for choosing a new person to go to the Island. The Island was seen by everyone as a reward and they were all enormously enthusiastic for when their time would come. Anyway, a strange thing to notice is that everyone in that place only had a first name (like Lincoln or Jordan), followed by two other words. Later on, we find in the movie that those two words are the generation of the product and an identification number.

Before finding out more about this perfect world where only the survivors of the contamination live we can notice for the main character Lincoln, is the first one to doubt that there's no outer world. He keeps on dreaming about going to the island, but drowning on his way. Another clue about something not being right in the utopic world is that Lincoln is seeing the word *renovatio*, the Latin word for renaissance or renovation, in his dream. He starts questioning more and more about what is happening when he also finds a fly inside their building. All the people living there knew that all the flies died during the contami-

nation. There are also some other questions rising inside Lincoln's head like who is putting their clothes in their closet every day, why are they dressed in white, why do they have a proximity sensor for one another, for who are all the vitamins that they are putting in those tubes. It is shown that inside that building there clones produced who were feed with the vitamins from those secret tubes. Every now and then, if a new person was brought with all the others, the officials where says that they've found a new survivor from the contamination.

There were more and more dubious things in Lincoln's opinion, and when Jordan finally won the lottery and was suppose to leave for the island, Lincoln releases that fly that he found. That fly leads him somewhere outside their building, inside a hospital where we see for the first time how a mother gives birth to a child. The child is taken to a female in the waiting room identical to the woman who gave birth, and the woman who gave birth is cruelly killed. This whole scene is seen by Lincoln who realizes that there was actually no island, but only a mirage and every person who left for the island ended up being killed after one's purpose was fulfilled.

The cruel truth is that their world was no more than a highly unethical business, where one could pay for having a so-called 'insurance policy'. Each one's insurance was supposed to help their sponsor when the time came, either with a transplant, with an actual baby or any other component needed.

Anyway, Lincoln finds out about it and together with Jordan they escape and go through a series of events in L.A. trying to find their sponsors. In the meantime, the director of this whole business hires highly trained mercenaries for bringing his two products back. Apparently, there were three generations of poorly made products, Echo generation being one of them. After scanning Lincoln's brain they find out that he managed to create memories similar to the ones of his sponsor and moreover, he had the human-specific curiosity. Anyway, when the clones were created it was noticed that their organs would fail without things like consciousness, emotions or human experience. This seems to be an argument about how each of us is a perfect balance between body and soul. Both Lincoln and Jordan manage to save all the other clones and there's a happy ending afterward.

All in all, I believe that *The Island* is both a movie about how a future where one plays the role of God may have a disastrous ending, but also about how unethical and dangerous

is to play with humans creation. Also, I don't believe that this movie illustrates a nearby future since it looks somehow exaggerated in some aspects, but parts of it like transplanting a particular organ from one's STEM cells can be happening really soon.