

Abstract

Intertextuality is a set of relations with other texts, which can include direct quotations, allusions, literary conventions, imitation, parody, and unconscious sources among others. Intertextuality also involves assumptions regarding the reader, the situation being referred to, and its context. This thesis presents aspects of intertextuality in three primary sources. These sources are the script of the motion picture *The Matrix* written by directors Andy and Larry Wachowski, and the books *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass* by Lewis Carroll. In *The Matrix* there are few explicit references to Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass*. However, review writers and researchers about *The Matrix* have suggested that there are many other elements of intertextuality between the *Alice* books and *The Matrix* of a less obvious nature. The thesis presents both the explicit references and the less direct ones, giving evidence from primary and secondary sources. In doing this, it makes use of a construct developed from Gerard Genette's structuralist theory of transtextuality as a framework to present how a web of intertextual relationships is formed between the *Alice* books and *The Matrix*.

