

## Unsolved Mysteries in Film - Part 3

### **Prometheus**



To understand Ridley Scott's *Prometheus*, one must consider the myth of Prometheus, a titan who put himself in danger in order to secure fire for humanity. You could say that the Engineers are very similar to the titan of old, ingesting the clearly dangerous black goo willingly in order to decompose their bodies and spread their molecules around thus creating life.

Judging by the amount of dead Engineers in the film, it's clear that someone or something didn't agree with what they were doing, similar to how the Gods punished Prometheus for his actions. It is accurate to compare the Engineers to Waylan Enterprises as W.E. has clearly sacrificed a great deal in order to create androids and discover the mysteries of the universe.

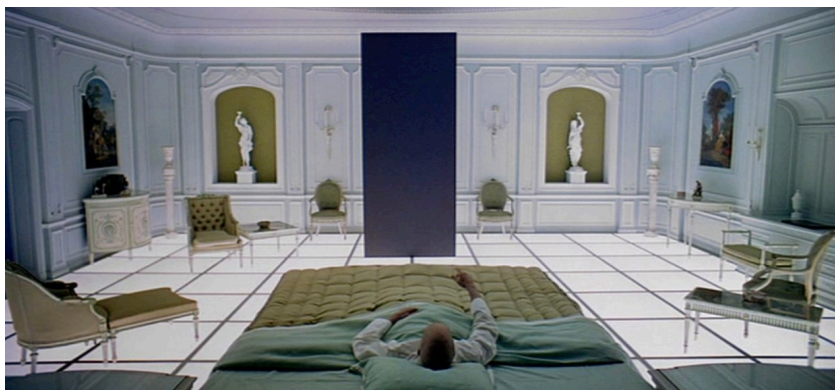


Speaking of androids, David is quite the enigma. He doesn't seem to follow orders as you would expect an android to do. Instead, he wants to satisfy his burning curiosity. David has a weird thing for Shaw in particular. He even spikes her boyfriend's drink with the black goo!

### **2001: A Space Odyssey**

This film also shares its name with another ancient Greek story, Homer's *The Odyssey*. This old poem follows Ulysses on his journey home to Ithaca after the battle of Troy. Ulysses has to brave all sorts of danger (magic, cannibals, sirens) to get back to his wife. He constantly has to keep an eye not only on his enemies, but also his friends, who turn on him throughout the story.

In a lot of ways, Dave from *2001* has a similar tale, braving the dark void of space as well as the trouble from those who should be on his side, such as the evil computer, HAL. Like Ulysses, Dave is not the same 'old Dave' when he finally returns to earth, being tuned into what can only be described as a "Space Baby", and thus the questions begin.



The last 10 minutes of the film are some of the weirdest in cinema history. Dave enters a wormhole and after a crazy, colourful rabbit hole journey pops out in a luxurious room. We see Dave rapidly aging, and in the span of a few minutes, he is old, wrinkled and on his death bed. This is where the monolith re-appears. While the monolith remains somewhat mysterious, it can definitely be said that its main purpose is to advance knowledge and evolution.