

Title	Suture
Director	
Date	1993
Area	Philosophy of Mind
Theme	Dualism
Plot Summary	Clay (Dennis Haysbert) travels to Phoenix to meet his half-brother Vincent Towers (Michael Harris), whom he hasn't seen for years. On meeting they are amazed at their resemblance. As Clay says, 'Isn't it remarkable how much we look alike'. Other characters in the film also have trouble distinguishing between the two. In fact they look quite different; apart from anything else, Clay is black and Vincent is white. Vincent, who is responsible for a murder, decides to fake his own death by substituting Clay for himself, since supposedly everyone will think it is Vincent who has died and Vincent will be able to flee and start a new life. He arranges for the car Clay is driving to be blown up. However Clay survives with amnesia and his face is reconstructed by the beautiful plastic surgeon Dr Renee Descartes (Mel Harris). Before the healing process ends, Vincent tries to get to Clay and make sure that this time he really dies. The film explores questions of identity, memory and mind-body dualism. It suggests what the world would be like if dualism were true i.e. because the self is identified with the mind as distinct from the body, one could be taken to be the same person even if the body were radically different.
Key Scenes	
Relevant Text	