“CRASH” [2004/5], directed by Paul Haggis and featuring lots of actors, many of whom give wonderful performances; Don Cheadle, Matt Dillon, Terence Howard, “Ludacris,” Sandra Bullock and many others. The film has been for a long time a top renter on Netflix, and it is rated “R.” It is exactly two hours long. Although the production values of the film look great, the budget was very small and some of those involved used their own apartments and cars.

Like other films made in the last few years, the film uses a number of intersecting plot lines in a way that deliberately relies on coincidences in a short time-frame in order to show the randomness of existence and the layering of a society, especially in a culturally and racially mixed environment like Los Angeles. The layers, of course, include a world of diversity, immigration, family issues, trade-offs, and the like. It also shows the “light” and “dark” elements competing in many individuals. I like the film very much; many people do not. You can come to your own conclusions.