

## Short Review: “Strange Days” (1995) by Dr. John L. Flynn



**Strange Days** (1995). 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Film Corp., color, 145 min. Director: Kathryn Bigelow. Writers: James Cameron and Jay Cocks. Producers: James Cameron and Steven-Charles Jaffe. Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Angela Bassett, Juliette Lewis and Tom Sizemore.

At the end of 1999, a former cop (Fiennes) is burned-out from hustling virtual reality disks with sexual acts and other events copied from people’s lives. His chauffeur and bodyguard friend (Bassett) tries to keep him functional, while his old torch-song singing flame (Lewis) is pretty much out to burn him down. Meanwhile, he discovers a secret disk that, if revealed, will lead to the end-all Los Angeles’ race riot on New Years’ Day, 2000. This fine film did not receive the attention it deserved. The character development and the entire seedy and splendid L.A. environment are right-on. Fiennes is memorable; the women are superb—Bassett strong and magnetic, Lewis sleazy and sexy. A pity that this film is now dated.

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