Blade Runner

Viewing Journal #2

[Media Theory]

PROMPT: First, read the following excerpt from media theorist Scott Bukatman's book about *Blade Runner*. Then, write a response in which you cite evidence from today's viewing to either agree or disagree with the following excerpt.

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"The brilliance of *Blade Runner*…is located in its visual density. Scott's 'layering' effect produces an inexhaustible complexity, an infinity of surface to be encountered and explored, and unlike many contemporary films, *Blade Runner* refuses to explain itself…central issues were left un- or under-explained. Where are the 'of-world colonies'? Who goes there, and for what reason? Why does the city seem simultaneously crowded and empty? When and why were replicants created? When were they outlawed on Earth, and why? How does that 'Voight-Kampff test' work? The viewer of *Blade Runner* is forced to make constant inferences in order to understand the detailed world that the film presents" (Bukatman 16-7).