Overview

Conspiracy theories abound, especially when we can either not explain something or do not want to believe the explanation given to us. These theories speak of an unwanted conspiracy that contradicts the facts and/or history as we know it. Most often, these theories involve governments or secret societies.

Michael Barkun, in *Chasing Phantoms: Reality, Imagination, and Homeland Security Since 9/11*, discusses how conspiracy theories become a “matter of faith rather than proof” as they build upon themselves, incorporating contradictory evidence as fact, proving their theories. Thus, it becomes a closed loop unwilling to accept the contradictory nature of some of their evidence.

Some conspiracy theories are only intriguing, such as whether Elvis is still alive and in hiding. Other theories seem like science fiction and arouse our curiosity, such as the Roswell Incident and Reptilian Humanoids running world governments. But others have an impact on our history and possibly our daily lives, such as chemtrails and the hoax theories of 9/11. Each conspiracy theory must be evaluated individually, including the impact it has on our lives.

Before the Internet and social media, most conspiracy theories were shared via word of mouth or printed stories, so they did not disseminate or gather followers quickly. Now, these theories spread quickly, amassing huge groups of followers. What do you believe? What should you believe?

Famous Conspiracy Theories

So many conspiracy theories to choose from, but here are some of the most popular still today.

- 9/11 Faked
- Apollo Moon Landing Hoax
- Area 51/Roswell Incident
- Black Helicopters
- Chemtrails
- Elvis is alive!
- JFK Assassination
- Men in Black
- MK Ultra
- New World Order
- Reptilian Humanoids

Following are sources of information pertaining to Conspiracy Theories to assist prospective game masters, game designers, writers, and storytellers in knowing where to start their research.

Articles

Conspiracy Theories Do they threaten democracy?
By Katel, Peter
Source: CQ Researcher, v19 n37: 885-908

Does it take one to know one?
Endorsement of conspiracy theories is influenced by personal willingness to conspire.
By Douglas, K.M.; Sutton, R.M.
Source: British Psychological Society 2011-04
Books

American Conspiracies: Lies, Lies, and More
Dirty Lies that the Government Tells Us
By Ventura, Jesse

Area 51: An Uncensored History of America's Top Secret Military Base
By Jacobsen, Annie

Climate Change: The Facts
By Moran, Alan

Conspiracies and Secret Societies: The Complete Dossier
By Steiger, Brad and Steiger, Sherry

Critical Path
By Fuller, R. Buckminster

The Da Vinci Code
By Langdon, Robert

Dreadful Sanctuary
By Russell, Eric Frank

Foucault's Pendulum
By Eco, Umberto

Gravity's Rainbow
By Pynchon, Thomas

Hammer of the Gods: The Thule Society and the Birth of Nazism
By Luhrssen, David

Hidden History: An Expose of Modern Crimes, Conspiracies, and Cover-Ups in American Politics
By Jeffries, Donald

History Decoded: The 10 Greatest Conspiracies of All Time
By Meltzer, Brad

Illuminatus!
By Shea, Robert and Wilson, Robert Anton

The Mammoth Book of Cover-Ups: The 100 Most Terrifying Conspiracies of All Time
By Lewis, Jon E.

Mental Liberation in the Age of Thought Control: Deprogramming Satanic Ritual Abuse, MK Ultra, Monarch & Illuminati Mind Control
By Barker, Kerth

The Manchurian Candidate
By Condon, Richard

Mind Wars: A History of Mind Control, Surveillance, and Social Engineering by the Government, Media, and Secret Societies
By Jones, Marie D. and Flaxman, Larry

Ministry of Fear
By Greene, Graham

None Dare Call It Conspiracy: The inside story of the Rockefellers
By Allen, Gary and Abraham, Larry

The Oath of Nimrod: Giants, MK-Ultra and the Smithsonian Coverup (Templars America)
By Brody, David S

Project MK-Ultra and Mind Control Technology: A Compilation of Patents and Reports
By Balthazar, Axel
The Occult Roots of Nazism: Secret Aryan Cults and Their Influence on Nazi Ideology
By Goodrick-Clarke, Nicholas

Proofs of a Conspiracy: Against All The Religions and Governments Of Europe, Carried On In The Secret Meetings of Freemasons, Illuminati, and Reading Societies
By Robison, John

Propaganda
By Bernays, Edward

Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion
By Marsden, Victor E.

The Rise of the Fourth Reich: The Secret Societies That Threaten to Take Over America
By Marrs, Jim

The Romanov Prophecy
By Berry, Steve

The Roswell Incident
By Berlitz, Charles and Moore, William L.

Rule by Secrecy: The Hidden History That Connects the Trilateral Commission, the Freemasons, and the Great Pyramids
By Marrs, Jim

The Thirty-Nine Steps
By Buchan, John

Unacknowledged: An Expose of the World's Greatest Secret
By Greer, Steven M and Alten, Steve

The Unseen Hand: An Introduction to the Conspiratorial View of History
By Epperson, Ralph

Games

Conspiracy: A Spy Game of Bluffing and Betrayal - Tabletop Game
Conspiracy Theory - Tabletop Game
Conspiracy X - RPG
Dark Conspiracy - RPG
Delta Green - RPG
Deus Ex: Invisible War - Video Game
Feng Shui - RPG
Guide to the Technocracy - RPG
GURPS Illuminati - RPG
Hidden Invasion - RPG
Illuminati: The Game of Conspiracy - Tabletop Game
Illuminati: New World Order - Tabletop Game
Illuminatus - Tabletop Game
It's Just a Theory - Tabletop Game
Men in Black: The Roleplaying Game - RPG
The Merchant's Guide to Rokugan - RPG
Over the Edge - RPG
Paranoia - RPG
Secret Hitler - Tabletop Game
Secret Societies of Théah - RPG
A Study in Emerald - Tabletop Game
Unknown Armies - RPG
The X-Files - Tabletop Game
The X-Files - Video Game

Cinema

24 - TV Series
All The President's Men
Angels and Demons
Antitrust
The Arrival
Blow Out
The Bourne Identity
Burn Notice - TV Series
Capricorn One
Changeling  
The China Syndrome  
Conspiracy - TV Series  
The Conspirator  
Conspiracy Theory  
The Da Vinci Code  
Enemy of the State  
Eraser  
The Fugitive  
Futureworld  
The Good Shephard  
Hudson Hawk  
The Ipdress File  
The Insider  
The Interpreter  
Invasion of the Body Snatchers  
Jacob's Ladder  
JFK  
The Last Boy Scout  
Manchurian Candidate  
The Man Who Knew Too Much  
Marathon Man  
Men in Black  
Mercury Rising  
Minority Report  
National Treasure  
Nixon  
The Parallax View  
The Pelican Brief  
The Philadelphia Experiment  
The Prisoner - TV Series  
Seven Days in May  
Silkwood  
Sneakers  
Soylent Green  
The Stepford Wives  
Syriana  
They Live  
Three Days of the Condor  
Valkyrie  
Wag the Dog  
The X-Files - TV Series and Movies  
Zootopia  

Locations  
Area 51  
http://www.area51.org/  
Conspiracy Con  
http://conspiracycon.com/  
HAARP  
https://haarp.net/  
Mantauk Air Force Station  
http://www.illuminati-news.com/montauk-history.htm  
Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza  
https://www.jfk.org/  
The Watergate Files  

People  
Gary Allen  
Jack T. Chick  
Steven M. Greer  
David Ray Griffin  
Morris K. Jessup  
Alex E. Jones  
David V. Icke  
John A. Keel  
John Lear  
Jim Marrs  
Jordan Maxwell  
William L. Moore  
Geraldo Rivera  
John Robison
Gordon then gives us an insight into the world of conspiracies where we talk about Madeline McCann and if there is more to the missing girl’s story than meets the eye? Why were Kate and Gerry McCann named as suspects? Who or what is the “Tapas 9″?