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

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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 Shepherd
Hudson Hawk
The Ipcress 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
Many conspiracy theories have been presented concerning the September 11, 2001 attacks, many of them claiming that President George W. Bush and/or individuals in his administration knew about the attacks beforehand and purposefully allowed them to occur because the attacks would generate public support for militarization, expansion of the police state, and other intrusive foreign and domestic policies by which they would. A number of conspiracy theories exist with regard to the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy. Such theories began to be generated soon after his death, and continue to be proposed today. This is a list of conspiracy theories that are notable. Many conspiracy theories relate to clandestine government plans and elaborate murder plots. Conspiracy theories usually deny consensus or cannot be proven using the historical or scientific method and are not to be confused with research concerning verified conspiracies such as Germany's pretense for invading Poland in World War II. Since conspiracy theorists are a very diverse group, it is expected that many will not agree with this listing; however, it is my belief that the individuals listed here represent the major figures in the genre of conspiracy theory. Candidacy and ranking were determined using three criteria. His theories concerning an ancient earth and reptilian humanoid shape-shifters have made him by far one of the most talked-about conspiracy theorists of our time. Despite his obvious New Age overtones and often bizarre theories, the views of David Icke have attracted individuals from all age groups across the religious and political spectrum. He is best known among conspiracy theorists as the producer of the highly regarded film America: Freedom to Fascism.