

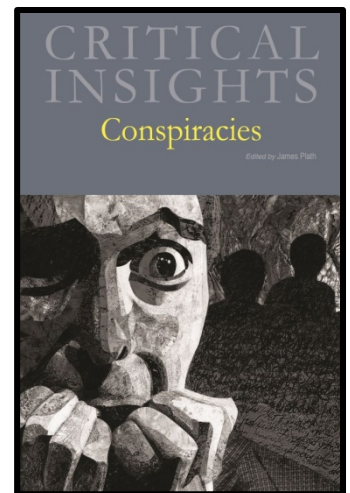
Critical Insights: Conspiracies

CHOICE Editor's Top 75 Community College Resources for November 2020

"The current conspiracy and conspiracy-theory publishing landscape is dominated by those who promote conspiracies, those who debunk them, and those who try to explain why people believe them and how to convince them to stop. This collection differs by offering essays about conspiracy and conspiracy theories in classics and other novels, popular film, and graphic novels. As part of the "Critical Insights" series, the book adheres to the series' standard format: essays are arranged in sections titled "Critical Contexts" and "Critical Readings." Plath's introductory essay provides historical context for conspiracy theories in the US and mentions many of the most persistent (e.g., the moon landing as hoax). Essays run from 14 to 20 pages and conclude with works cited. **Among the cultural texts examined are Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, George Orwell's *1984*, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, Oliver Stone's film *JFK*, Dan Brown's *The DaVinci Code*, the James Bond films, and *The Watchmen*.** The list of resources and bibliography that close out the book include writings from "academics, journalists, experts, [and] professionals" as well as "more biased information." Plath explains that he includes works that "tend more toward propaganda than illumination" because they represent a large part of "conspiracy theory nonfiction currently being published." **Summing Up: Recommended. Lower- and upper-division undergraduates."**

-CHOICE

FULL
TEXT
REVIEW



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