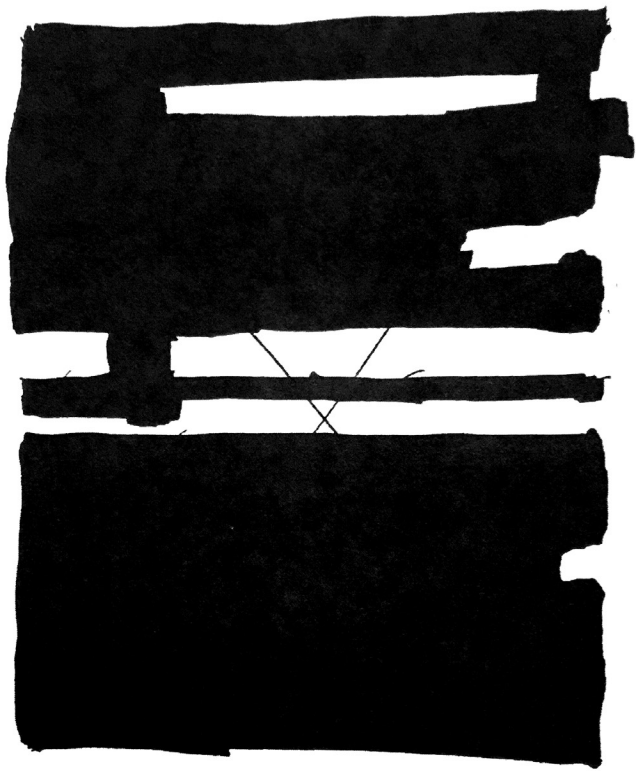


How to know what's really happening

Francis McKee



Preface

This book is about something we all want. Situations erupt around us and we wonder if the reports we receive can be trusted. The people being pursued are terrorists, the targets were innocent, it was a coincidence that one of the people who died had protested against corruption. Meanwhile government leaders declare new security measures and in other news a large trade deal is signed with a major superpower.

Downstairs, in apartment three, there are often muffled moans and furniture seems to be moved constantly. The couple that live there are seldom seen together but both are quiet and invite no conversation.

So, how can you know what's really happening?

Well ... there is a classic solution: for the domestic situation, the private detective; and if you are a state, then an intelligence service. Spies are often very effective though they are expensive and, of course, difficult to trust. Technology can be more

reliable—every keystroke of your intended target may be recorded and posted across the globe to a government database.

If you are a civilian who is worried by that scenario, and wondering what is happening, then there are still some humans such as Edward Snowden who are willing to explain what is going on.

The problem with government intelligence is that it only sets out to discover certain things. It's not helpful, however, to discover the location of a missile system if what you actually want to know is whether you will meet the partner of your dreams on a cruise. At such moments fortune-tellers become much more reliable, trained as they are to sense your fate from the way you place your bag on the floor and fold your arms.

If you are more concerned with the future of the planet or the trajectory of particles through space a scientist may offer some help too. The physicist John Bell pointed out that we are still trying to understand how a particle in Jakarta that is linked to another in Toronto can contain the same information, transmitted quicker than the speed of light.¹

Quantum entanglement is the name given to that particular problem, which suggests that there are ways of knowing that are still beyond our comprehension.

With so much information available and hurtling toward us from every direction, in fact, the burden of filtering and interpretation finally lies with each of us. In a sense we are all now historians and archivists, selecting and compiling various shards of information to form a reading of the world, knowing deep down that there are many counter-histories. In *The Writing of History* (1988) the Jesuit thinker, Michel de Certeau, highlights the subjective bias of our accounts, national and personal, concluding that “the past is the fiction of the present.”²

What de Certeau did not highlight, however, were the conspiracy theories that now permeate our culture. The effort to answer the question of “how do I know what’s really happening?” accelerated after the assassination of John F. Kennedy and it may be a sign of the times we live in now that conspiracy theories circulate so widely.

Beyond the now almost-mundane theories of CIA activity, there are detailed arguments proving the death of Paul McCartney in 1966 (successfully hidden through Ringo's links to MI5). There is proof of alien collaboration in the White House, Kim Kardashian's involvement with the Illuminati, the false flag events of 9/11, the lost cosmonauts of the Russian space program, the disappearance of the Malaysian Airline MH370, the civilization hidden within the Earth's core ... What all of the conspiracy theories demonstrate is our disbelief in the world as it is being presented to us and a burning desire to know what's really happening.

So let's dive in ...