

Did Hollywood predict 9/11?

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9/11 was perhaps the most important event in recent history. Thirteen years after the horrific and spectacular attacks, it continues to shape international politics. The magnitude of these attacks and their devastating consequences did naturally attract many conspiracy theorists.

If you look-up 9/11 on the Internet, you will find all sorts of different theories, explanations, alleged proofs, etc. Some talk of the Illuminati, others of a *coup d'état*, and many question the official version and make a decent case against it.

But did you know that 9/11 was predicted in movies? And not only in movies, but in TV series and cartoons, in comic books and even in advertising?

The World Trade Center Twin Towers were a major New York landmark so it was only logical that they were featured and often “used” by moviemakers and people in the entertainment and communication industries. But the few examples you're about to discover go well beyond that.

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Are they random coincidences or, as conspiracy aficionados would like to see them, the smoking gun of some dark and obscure plan? We will probably never know. Each one of us is free to believe what he or she wants, even the most controversial theory, even the most eccentric explanation.

The most frightening example is a 1979 ad for Pakistan Airlines. The threatening shadow of a plane over the Twin Towers leaves a chilling impression. And the fact that Pakistan was the alleged last refuge of Osama Ben Laden makes the whole thing even more sinister.

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VIA PIA

New York via Pakistan International. Une des quelques compagnies desservant directement New York. Départ d'Orly Sud, offrant les meilleures correspondances avec les villes de province. Une nouvelle preuve de l'efficacité PIA.

PIA est une compagnie internationale au développement spectaculaire : 3 000 000 de passagers cette année, un décollage toutes les 6 minutes. Un succès soigneusement construit sur la satisfaction des passagers.

Pour un vol réussi, vers New York ou 60 autres grandes métropoles dans le monde, partez via PIA.

Great people to fly with.  **PIA**
Pakistan International

But this ad, understandingly so, could be easily dismissed as a coincidence.

I read somewhere that when something happens once, it's an *anomaly*, when it happens twice, it's a *coincidence*, but when it happens three time or more it becomes a *pattern*.

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Here are only a few examples, judge for yourself:



In “Trading Places” (*John Landis, 1980*) we see Eddy Murphy getting out of a car and looking up. Cut to a dramatic shot of the Twin Towers. Cut to a clock showing the time: one hand is on 9 and the other on 11.

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In “Terminator 2: Judgment Day” (*James Cameron, 1981*) there’s a shot where a sign can read: “Caution 9-11”.



In “Super Mario Bros” (*1993*) we see the Twin Towers falling exactly like they did on 9/11.

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In “Independence Day” (Roland Emmerich, 1997), the character played by Jeff Goldblum shows the clock of the countdown to the alien’s attack: it starts at 09:11:01. “Check mate” says Goldblum.



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In "X-Men" #189 (January 1985), we can read: "The Twin Towers of the World Trade Center lie in ruins, thousands are dead, many more injured."



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But the most bizarre example remains the game created in 1990 by Steve Jackson, “Illuminati - New World Order”. Two of its cards are weirdly similar to what happened on 9/11: the attacks on the Twin Towers and on the Pentagon.

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And what to make of this article's illustration about Al Qaeda, published in 1994, showing terrorists sitting in a plane, holding bombs and circling the Twin Towers?

What about the pilot episode of "The X-Files" spin-off: "The Lone Gunmen" (*Chris Carter, March 2001*) where a terrorist hijacks an airliner and plans, via remote-control, to crash it into the World Trade Center?

Whatever all this is, pure coincidence, bizarre ominous predictions or even mysterious conspiracy, one fact remains: no one with a sound mind can believe members of the George W. Bush's administration when they claim that they couldn't see it coming, as former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice did on the aftermath of the attacks: *"I don't think anybody could have predicted that these people would take an airplane and slam it into the World Trade Center."*

We're not stupid enough to believe they were that dumb.