Subject: Priory of Sion
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 14 Aug 2005 13:13:26 GMT
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I was watching a special on the Discovery Channel last night, because I dig that sort of thing. I am fascinated by all the tales of intrigue, but I like a good mystery best when it is historically accurate. Maybe that's why I picked the name Audio Round Table, since it ties back to the Knights Templar. The name also implies a discussion place for people that seek the truth, higher enlightenment, a sort of audio nirvana. So that's fun and all.I like investigating things like this. Everyone has a belief system, in fact, usually several. Some believe in a particular messiah or champion, others believe only in science. But everyone has a belief system, which is really a mental model of their world. To me, religion is just a model of the universe, just like science. "Religion" is just a label, just like "science" is, both are models of the laws of the universe. Some models are better than others, they do a better job of describing that which the observer wishes to understand. At least, that's my view.But my focus here is on the Priory of Sion. I was thinking about our recent discussions about fraud, and I couldn't help but mention this here. The Priory of Sion is a fraud. Its creator, Pierre Plantard, even admitted it. So why the fuss about the Da Vinci Code? I mean, I love stories like that, about the Knights Templar, the Illuminati and secret knowledge. But there are enough real truths to uncover that one doesn't have to fabricate them to make a good story.It's kind of disgusting, really. Not bad, turn your stomach disgusting like but just stupid. To learn the truth of what part Mary Magdalene may have played in Jesus' life, that's interesting to me. Comparing the various religious thoughts of the area, Zoroastrian, Hebrew, Christian, Islam, that's interesting. The Qumran and Nag Hammadi texts are interesting. Comparing them with canonized texts and hypothesizing why the canonized texts were chosen over the uncanonized ones is interesting. To know the role of the Knights Templar is interesting, to know why they were killed. The mysteries and artwork of the Rennes-le-Château are fascinating. What isn't interesting, is fabricating a story, or basing a book on a known fake. That's not interesting at all.What makes this particularly distasteful to me is the following thought: A few hundred years ago, Galileo tought Copernican theory, that the Sun is the center of the solar system and the Earth orbits it. He used his telescope and observed many things that verified the theory and disproved the older Ptolemaic System, and so published what he found. The Vatican filed an Inquisition and imprisoned him for it, censoring his work and attempting to discredit him. They did not apologize for their mistake for hundreds of years, until 15 years ago.Galileo was guilty of no fraud, and in fact, discovered an important truth. If you consider God to be the creator of the Universe, then you must surely see that to understand the Universe better is to better know the nature of God. Galileo saw the nature of God more clearly than the Pope or anyone in the Vatican. They owe him a debt, because his model of God and the Universe was better than theirs, he taught them wisely. And in fact, the Vatican itself was guilty of fraud, of using subterfuge, faked evidence and false testimony to make their case. Similarly, here in the Priory of Sion, the Da Vinci code and all those like it we see another popular deception, and a lot of money is made pushing this fraud.Now I'm not saying that I think it's bad that the book was written. I'm not really saying anything. It isn't the kind of thing I think is particularly ugly, no more than a good fiction novel. I'm just thinking out loud here. It's funny to me, how easily deceived most people are, and how willing they are to buy a story just because it fascinates them or gives them an emotional charge. Oddly enough, once you hook a man with a story, he'll defend it even without any real knowledge. That's how propaganda works. Paint the first picture in the public mind, paint it vividly and repeat it often. Fact is invented out of thin air.Fiction:Priory of Sion websiteA

Hermeticist's Point Of View, a Pierre Plantard interviewFact:Priory of Sion, exposedThe Priory of Sion HoaxThe Grail Quest and The Destiny of ManThe Knights TemplarThe Nag Hammadi Library, religious texts from Nag HammadiThe Book of Thomas, probably the most famous of the Nag Hammadi textsThe Book of Philip, an interesting text, mentions Mary Magdalene and her relationship with JesusThe Gospel According to Mary Magdalene

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Subject: Re: Priory of Sion
Posted by Manualblock on Sun, 14 Aug 2005 14:34:27 GMT
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But Wayne; the Da Vinci Code is a novel aint' it? Like Moby Dick or All Quiet on The Western Front. Dan Brown never claimed this was true did he?Also the Science vs Religion as a model of the world; they call it Science because it can be proven experimentally,no? I mean thats the definition of Science, it describes behaviours that can be repeated in a laboratory.I don't think another model of the world could have gotten us to the moon; or made color TV. Right?Science is Science and Religion is a social club. You belong to this one I belong to that one. No one belongs to Science; they do it.The best person to discover is Joseph Campbell, I know he writes about myth and the human archetype of belief but he manages to put it all in perspective. Where these belief systems originate and what they mean.And a person who'se theories have been discredited to some extent is about to make a huge comeback in research into human behaviour; Sigmund Freud.

Subject: Re: Priory of Sion
Posted by wunhuanglo on Sun, 14 Aug 2005 17:21:16 GMT
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"The Da Vinci Code" is a "novelization" of the book "Holy Blood, Holy Grail" from about 30 years ago. Pretty tough book to plough through, but essentially the same story of conspiracy at the highest levels of the catholic church and it's associated secret societies.Brown's novel uses old tales much like the conspiracy tales based on the Illuminati stories - I can't see condemning Brown for producing a sucessful entertainment vehicle - I think it's incumbent upon the reader to realize it's a novel and not immediatly assume it's entirely factual - I think people who've raised hell about Brown's book are missing their own role in the situation.

Subject: Gospel according to the Maninblack
Posted by Damir on Sun, 14 Aug 2005 17:45:49 GMT
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The history of secret societies, freemasonry, occult, Gnostic, Satanic, etc. "movements" is more or less known. Their "work" from French Revolution to WW2 and today, their symbols, ways to "illuminate" people, their propaganda, lies, "secret & sacred" books are not just ridiculous, but boring.

Subject: Re: Gospel according to the Maninblack
Posted by Manualblock on Sun, 14 Aug 2005 18:17:58 GMT
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When I was a kid my dad told once when I happened to mention JFK conspiricy; he said,"Son, there are no secrets."

Subject: Re: Gospel according to the Maninblack
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 02:19:55 GMT
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You're right. What's creepy is this kind of mass attraction to a fraud is exactly the same kind of thing that Himler did in Germany. He rewrote history saying things like the Great Pyramids of Egypt, Stonehenge and all sort of others were built by ancestors of the "Master Race."The texts found in Qumran are interesting. They are real texts of antiquity and what is said in them is fascinating enough. There is no need to exaggerate them by adding false stories. What's weird is how many people are fascinated by pseudo-science that blurs the distinction between fact and fantasy. This also shows how easily politicians can do the same thing, spreading propoganda that is adopted as public mindsets.

Subject: Re: Priory of Sion
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 02:27:13 GMT
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Himler and the Nazis fabricated stories too. When the public mind is tainted with fantasy like this, the results are the same whether the goal is sinister or not.As I said in my post, I'm not particularly upset about the book. In fact, I enjoy it. I dig stuff like this. But my point is that people are easily deceived by propoganda if it is fascinating or emotionally charged.

Subject: Re: Priory of Sion

Posted by Damir on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 06:55:58 GMT
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One of the important aspects of Nacism is the occult component. Symbols, rituals, mass-hipnotism, they even have "lance which stabed Jesus", many "wizzards and horoscope meisters", etc.

Subject: Re: Priory of Sion
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 12:29:54 GMT
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Yes, that's true.

Subject: The Occult and Nazism
Posted by Damir on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 14:01:28 GMT
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I read something about it years ago, but I`m suprised how many documents threw "Google" search with "The Occult and Nazism". Many serious works, books, films, thesis...It`s interesting those fascinations with negative things... No one would watch the movie about some good people who do good things, without conspiracies, violence, explosions...

Subject: Truth from fiction
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 16:06:53 GMT
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You were right to bring up the point of the Nazi propoganda machine. They are a great example, because their fabrications were so exaggerated it made the falsehoods easy to see. It is also interesting to me, though, how easy it was for them to sell to their population. But it wasn't the Nazi's fascination with spiritual or occult matters that troubled me so much as their propensity to distort facts, to fabricate stories and try to rewrite history. That's the part that's disturbing.I think the texts found at Qumran are very interesting. That's one thing, and the false histories like the Priory of Sion are another. One is historical fact, the other a fabrication. I just think the facts are interesting enough without resorting to some sort of embellishment or fabrication, like to buttress the story or something.The texts such as the Gospel of Philip are an excellent example. It says that there existed a special relationship between Jesus of Nazareth and Mary of Magdala. I think it is natural that maybe when Jesus was walking through Magdala, they may have caught each

other's eyes and been more than friends. One can only speculate, but with what is written in some of the texts found in Qumran, it would seem highly plausible.If the truth is they were romantically involved, I don't see why that should be viewed as bad or heretical. If that is the truth, it's just like the Copernican model of the solar system - A surprise to those who thought otherwise but not something I would think should be threatening to any religious belief system.But one can say all of this without any embellishment at all. The Priory of Sion fabrication isn't required in order to make the hypothesis that maybe Mary had a child. The study of actual writings of the day is more interesting than the fraud. So I guess I'm just wondering outloud, why did they do it?That's my point here. There are accounts in actual writings of the era that make some startling revelations. Some of the Gnostic texts are very interesting, and while the early church found them heretical, I'm not sure they should have been. To tell the truth, I can't help but wonder if the Council of Carthage didn't put a lot of spin on things when they chose what should be cannonized and what wasn't. But it doesn't make it any better to spin things further in modern times, fabricating things to make a case.Truth is truth. If you want to learn how to build an airplane, you must first understand the laws of physics, of gravity and aerodynamics. Alchemy doesn't do much good, neither does sorcery or any other hodge-podge pseudo-science. Then again, from the view of a person in 1000 AD, the flight would most certainly be seen as sorcery. Still, the thing is that truth is truth. The Nazis didn't lose the war because they were incapable, in fact, they were alarmingly capable. They lost the war because they constantly lied to themselves.That's the whole point I'm trying to make. Not whether Gnostic teachings are right or wrong, not whether science is a religion or religion is a science, not whether there are secret truths in the books at Nag Hammadi. My point is that when people put spin on stuff, it's often the spin that is remembered more than the facts. Then you have years, sometimes decades or even centuries that the public memory is infected with a lie. Even if it isn't an intentional deception, and instead is just an entertaining story, sometimes the ideas interwoven in the public mind are as irrational as a flat earth where ships fall off if they get too near the edge.

Subject: Re: Truth from fiction
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 17:25:03 GMT
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Where I disagree is this; the German people were not Nazi's. The Nazi's were a political organisation that came to power as a result of the treaty of Versailles which mandated the surrender of much of the German lands and ability to produce the means of survival. The people were left with no way to manufacture or produce goods and as such became poverty stricken. Their reaction was to enable a hardcore fascist regime to be appointed that promised to rectify these injustices. They shouted "Deutschland Uber Alles" and created a mighty army to take back what was theirs. Unfortunatelly at times like these men with meagre souls and bitter hatreds; supported and manipulated by powerfull and wealthy iconoclasts seeking wealth and fortune gain power because only the most extreme view is able to act quickly and efficiently and when a man feels wronged he will fight to get even. So against the will of the majority of right thinking Germans they put an idiot inpower; someone who spoke simply and firmly about Germanies place in the world and how eachn German must stand up and support the country regardless of whether they did right or wrong.And If you questioned their logic they questioned your patriotism; you were not a good citizen and did not support your country if you protested against the political power of the

party.Therefor the good Germans shut up due to fear of seeming not to support and defend their country. Soon the SS made it a condition of living; that you swear allegience to the Fuehrer and march to the mass meetings to hear a nitwit shout nonsense. The intelligent Germans faded into the background because they were men of thought and the party wanted men of action.This is a long story but very true and accurate.

Subject: Re: Truth from fiction
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 17:53:27 GMT
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Absolutely, not all Germans agreed with Nazis. Not everyone in Afganistan agreed with the Taliban. All Russians were not Communist. But the fact is that propoganda is very powerful, and it has a huge influence on the public mindset.When people are told that their government is doing something for the greater good, most want to believe it, especially if they were already sympathetic or at least neutral to the party in power. If they say that they have newly discovered facts that indicate their history is impressive, people want to believe. If they portray themelves as fair-minded, powerful, attractive and charismatic, they want to believe that too. So my point is that propoganda is extremely powerful, because most people cannot verify the facts that are spoon fed to them by the mass media.

Subject: Re: Truth from fiction
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 18:28:33 GMT
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Good discussion. In the case of the Germans they wanted to believe the rantings of Hitler because he promised them a way out of their shame. So was it the skill and power of the propogandists; or was it a preconcieved set of needs exposed by political oratory. The people wanted this sense of empowerment badly and as a consequence would have sought to believe anything good about themselves. That doesn't require much skill in manipulation when you have an audience of people desperate to believe your message. They were already convinced and willing to accept before he even opened his mouth.So where is the power of persuasion?

Subject: Text`n gospels
Posted by Damir on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 18:44:47 GMT
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Well, IMO - those texts are nothing more then propaganda of one group/sect, almost 2000 years ago. Being old, it doesn`t mean that they are true. For me, the most interesting is so called

"Gospel of Thomas". Many stories from the New Testament are there, expressed little differently, with some unknown details. And there are some fascinating, unknown stuff. But, there are some Gnostic stuff, too. Probably, it is the "collection" of some Christian group, probably little "shaped" through their "attitude"...

Subject: Re: Text`n gospels
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 15 Aug 2005 18:55:39 GMT
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You may not agree with the texts, but they are historical and they are authentic. They aren't a fabrication like the Priory of Sion documents, and that's my point. The Nag Hammadi texts are enigmatic all by themselves.
