

Forbidden Book: *The Elvis Wars*

This book is 'forbidden' mostly in the sense that mundanes don't get to look at it. Soldiers on both sides of the War are effectively cleared for the information, although Hell takes the official opinion that the book is the worst sort of angelic agitprop and outright disinformation, **not** to be trusted and certainly **not** to be sought out. This, of course, means that Hellsworn will open the book right up -- which was the Game's intent all along. Talking monkeys are quite predictable that way.

The Elvis Wars is a history of a set of connected campaigns made by Heaven against the Media in the latter half of the 20th Century. Strictly speaking, only the second, fifth and seventh campaigns explicitly involved Elvis Presley, but to most celestials those three sub-conflicts were most representative of the whole. Besides, the causes for the third and sixth campaigns were rooted in events from the second and fifth. In human terms, the Elvis Wars were more about Elvis than the War of Jenkin's Ear was about the ear, but less than the British/Chinese Opium War was about the opium.

The chapters are as follows:

Campaign One: Collapse of Paradigms
Campaign Two: The first Elvis Intervention
Campaign Three: The Fall of Sullivan
Campaign Four: The Spoiler Retreats
Campaign Five: The second Elvis Intervention
Campaign Six: The Disco Atrocities
Campaign Seven: The Graceland Redoubt
Campaign Eight: The ARPAnet Siege
Campaign Nine: The Digital Beachhead

Without going into precise details, the nine campaigns above were either directly or indirectly responsible for the formation of both the SDS and John Birch Society, the rise of talk radio, roughly half the inflation rate between the years 1964 and 1974, the Gulf of Tonkin resolution, the designation of America's first space program as "Mercury," the soft drink Tab, the books *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Watership Down*, the air-traffic controllers strike, the wargame *Ogre* -- and, of course, the creation of the Internet. As such, possession of the book would give a +3 to any roll researching 20th Century American history; of course, nobody in the "mainstream" would be willing to believe the results, but at least the reader will *know* that The Truth Is In There.

Interestingly, the author of the work was apparently a 46 year old Elvis impersonator from Green Bay, Wisconsin who has shown no knowledge of the War either prior to writing this text, or afterwards. In fact, he is a regular five-Force human who blames the entire thing on the combination of a bottle of good scotch, and a rainy three day weekend. Further research into the man's life has so far proven unfruitful; the unofficial consensus by both side's researchers is that the Symphony was clearly just having its little joke.

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