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gratification, gullibility, and morality, while smart people believe in weird things due to their ability to rationalize without sufficient evidence. In addition to *Why People Believe Weird Things*, Shermer has written several novels. *Why People Believe Weird Things Summary* | SuperSummary For the most part, what I mean by a “weird thing” is: a claim unaccepted by most people in that particular field of study, a claim that is either logically impossible or highly unlikely, and/or a claim for which the evidence is largely anecdotal and uncorroborated. *Why People Believe Weird Things: Excerpt* » Michael Shermer A no-holds-barred assault on popular superstitions and prejudices, with more than 80,000 copies in print, *Why People Believe Weird Things* debunks these nonsensical claims and explores the very human reasons people find otherworldly phenomena, conspiracy theories, and cults so appealing. *Why People Believe Weird Things* » Michael Shermer This is one fallacy among 25 others that Shermer describes that underpin belief in weird things. There are others: the fallacy that the minority view must necessarily be the

right one, the fallacy that a coincidence proves a cause, and such like that underpin those who accept weird beliefs. *Why People Believe Weird Things: Pseudoscience ...* Michael Shermer's "*Why People Believe Weird Things*" is a terrific book. Wow. I cannot emphasize enough what an enjoyable read this book is for anybody tired of being surrounded by people who view the world as some sort of unsolvable supernatural puzzle. Because the world isn't! Sure, we can't explain the entire world. If we could, we wouldn't need science or reason or philosophy or psychology ... *Why People Believe Weird Things: Pseudoscience ...* The problem with having a theory is that it may be loaded with cognitive biases. So one of the problems of explaining why people believe weird things is that we have things, on a simple level, and then I'll go to more serious ones. Like, we have a tendency to see faces. This is the face on Mars. Michael Shermer: *Why people believe weird things* | TED ... In his first book, *WHY PEOPLE BELIEVE WEIRD THINGS*, he takes on subjects including Holocaust denial, psychics, creationism, alien abductions, Satanism, Afrocentrism, near-death

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Full text of Michael Shermer's talk: Why People Believe Weird Things at TED Talks conference. Listen to the MP3 Audio here: Michael Shermer on Why people believe weird things at TED Talks. TRANSCRIPT: I'm Michael Shermer, director of the Skeptics Society, publisher of Skeptic Magazine. We investigate claims of the paranormal, pseudo-science, fringe groups and cults, and claims of all kinds ... [Why People Believe Weird Things - Wikipedia](#)

The problem with having a theory is that it may be loaded with cognitive biases. So one of the problems of explaining why people believe weird things is that we have things, on a simple level, and then I'll go to more serious ones. Like, we have a tendency to see faces. This is the face on

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Michael Shermer: Why people believe weird things | TED Talk

A no-holds-barred assault on popular superstitions and prejudices, with more than 80,000 copies in print, Why People Believe Weird Things debunks these nonsensical claims and explores the very human reasons people find otherworldly phenomena, conspiracy theories, and cults so appealing.

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Why People Believe Weird Things is an eye-opening resource for the most gullible among us and those who want to protect them.

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In the end, Shermer surmises that most people believe in weird things because of instant gratification, gullibility, and morality, while smart people believe in weird things due to their ability to rationalize without sufficient evidence. In addition to Why People Believe Weird Things, Shermer has written several novels.

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Psychologists, sociologists, and anthropologists have all come forward with theories to explain, as Michael

Shermer expressed it as the title of a book, “why people believe weird things.” Shermer,...

In his first book, WHY PEOPLE BELIEVE WEIRD THINGS, he takes on subjects including Holocaust denial, psychics, creationism, alien abductions, Satanism, Afrocentrism, near-death experiences, recovered memories, Ayn Rand, and astrology.

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