**C6675 CONSPIRACY THEORY (USA, 1997)**

(Other titles: Complots; Fletcher’s visionen; Ipotesi di complotto; Paranoias letales)

**Credits:** director, Richard Donner; writer, Brian Helgeland.
**Cast:** Mel Gibson, Julia Roberts, Patrick Stewart.
**Summary:** Thriller set in contemporary New York City. New York City cab driver and conspiracy buff Jerry Fletcher (Gibson) tells everyone within earshot about the secret movers, shakers and assassins who really control things. When he tries to put Justice Dept. attorney Alice Sutton (Roberts) in the know, he is run out of her office. Jerry publishes a newsletter outlining his crackpot theories for five subscribers. When his most recent issue includes some particularly wild charges about the CIA, Jerry is abducted and interrogated by a deadly serious Dr. Jonas (Stewart). Jerry escapes and draws Alice into a game of hide-and-seek with Dr. Jonas and other federal agents. Jonas, it turns out, is a renegade CIA employee who once ran the Agency’s mind control program to develop assassins. Jerry was one of his subjects. When the program was shut down, Jonas continued to use his subjects for private assassinations. One of their victims was Alice’s father, a federal judge. A supporting character is a Black disabled Vietnam vet who runs a newsstand where Jerry gets his papers.

Boon, Mike. “Gibson is loony, Roberts is cheery, the paranoid will love ‘Conspiracy theory’” *Calgary herald* (Aug 8, 1997), p. F1.
[Reprinted in *Film review annual 1998*]


Loben, Carl. “Conspiracy theory” *Melody maker* 74/36 (Sep 6, 1997), p. 27.


[Reprinted in *Film review annual 1998*]


[Reprinted in *Film review annual 1998*]


Rea, Stephen. “Paranoia is warranted in this smart thriller” *Philadelphia inquirer* (Aug 8, 1997), Weekend, p. 3.


[Reprinted in *Film review annual 1998*]
Seiler, Andy. “Conspiracy as ‘Theory’ has it, time right for Gibson thriller” USA today (Aug 6, 1997), p. 1D.
Simmons, Sheila. “Help! The paranoids are after Mel Gibson in ‘Conspiracy theory’” Plain dealer [Cleveland] (Aug 8, 1997), Friday, p. 4.
Siskel, Gene. “‘Conspiracy theory’ convincing” Chicago tribune (Aug 8, 1997), Friday, p. A.
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