

**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:44 am

Howdy!



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 1:45 am

Hi Susan. Thanks for coming into the chat room. We're expecting lots of Americans this evening as the timing is great for you all over there.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:46 am

Cool!



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 1:48 am

Hi Susan!



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:48 am

Hi!



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 1:48 am

People tend to join the chatroom quite close to starting time, so we'll definitely wait until more people are with us, but I wanted to thank you in advance for your talk.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:48 am

Thanks to both of you!



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:49 am

My husband has some Big Band music playing in the background so I'm working hard to get into the Tudor spirit!



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 1:50 am

I used to run the Warwick University Big Band, and before that I played bass guitar in the band. Love love love swing!



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 1:51 am

Ha! Tim and I are trying to stay awake but you're worth staying up for, I'm looking forward to this.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:51 am

Should be fun! I haven't done one of these before live.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 1:52 am

Good Evening Susan.... and for Claire and Tim.... [https://youtu.be/s\\_2QdFrcTFU](https://youtu.be/s_2QdFrcTFU)



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:52 am

Hi!



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 1:53 am

Thanks Beth. It'll keep us up.



**re**

August 29, 2015 - 1:53 am

Thanks Beth!



**vs**

August 29, 2015 - 1:53 am

Yes, just hit play every time you need a boost.



**vs**

August 29, 2015 - 1:56 am

I actually love Big Band music Susan. I think The Tudors would have loved it too, had it been available.



**in Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 1:56 am

Five minutes to go. We \*did\* send out a reminder to everyone. If they don't pile onto the chatroom then we can just chat amongst ourselves.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:56 am

I'm sure Henry VIII would have been a fan!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 1:58 am

I know this is an insane time for you both Claire and Tim. I do appreciate you both for holding this time so convenient for those of us in North America.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:58 am

What time is it there?



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 1:58 am

I agree. I think he would have been too, Susan.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 1:58 am

3am!



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 1:58 am

We like to have them at a time to suit the expert.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 1:59 am

Ugh! Well, thank you for staying up! I'm usually up til 2 a.m. because that's my writing time.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:00 am

I'm a night owl so it's ok x



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:00 am

I'm just sorry that it's so quiet tonight. Oh well, we can grill you!



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:01 am

I don't understand why all of our American members aren't in the chatroom. But we'll get started anyway...



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:02 am*

I'll start off. What would you say to people who argue that John Dudley manipulated Edward VI (re Lady Jane Grey) and then manipulated Lady Jane, along with her parents?



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:02 am*

To clarify, I mean he plotted with her parents.



**sharonc**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:03 am*

I'm here. Hi Everyone



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:03 am*

Hi Sharon!



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:03 am*

Ummmm... go for it Susan! This could be a fun discussion given how much "regard" Cranmer and Dudley had for each other... lolol



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:03 am*

Hi Sharon!



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:04 am*

It's hard to disabuse people of a notion that they've held for so long, but I would tell them to look at Dudley's words and actions instead of the black legend. I think he was a tired man who had been looking forward to Edward coming of age so he could become an elder statesman.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:04 am*

Hi, Sharon!



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:05 am*

Thanks Susan!



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:05 am*

Interesting thought Susan. I believe Edward was coming into his kingship at the time of his illness. He had more control over things than he is given credit for.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:05 am*

Reading Eric Ives' book about Jane Grey (and about Dudley) was a real eye-opener for me.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:05 am*

Reading Eric Ives' book about Jane Grey (and about Dudley) was a real eye-opener for me.

**Susan Higginbotham**



August 29, 2015 - 2:06 am

Yes, and he had very strong ideas about religion in particular.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:06 am

Good old Ives! I'm going to go again! Which historian do you think sums up John Dudley the best? I saw that Dale Hoak described him "one of the most remarkably able governors of any European state during the sixteenth century", as opposed to Alison Weir's description which isn't at all nice.



**olgah**

August 29, 2015 - 2:07 am

Hi Susan!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:07 am

I really need to read that book. I know Skidmore states Dudley was highly manipulative, giving Edward the impression he was in control. His Edward bio is great, but I do not buy that at all.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:07 am

I think Ives, Hoak, and Loades give Dudley the fairest treatment. As for Weir--well, she has her biases, doesn't she?



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:08 am

Hi Hunter. Thanks for coming - I know I only just told you ... it's appreciated.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:08 am

I think Edward was pretty hard to fool. He seemed to have the right instincts about both of his uncles.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:08 am

Thank you. Yes, I agree re Weir.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:09 am

Shoot me... This is going come off as biased, but I think Cranmer influenced Edward more than Dudley did.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:09 am

I agree.



**Hunter S. Jones**

August 29, 2015 - 2:09 am

Hi all! Thank you for hosting such a great event, Claire & Tim. Susan is fab!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:09 am

Actually his tutors likely influenced him most of all...



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:10 am

In terms of religion, Beth? I wouldn't be surprised. I think Dudley gave Edward some breathing space, which was appreciated.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:10 am*

Thanks, Hunter!



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:10 am*

Thanks, Hunter!



**sharonc**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:10 am*

Beth, I think Cranmer had a great influence on Edward



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:11 am*

Yes, regarding religion... but religion was politics and politics religion, so there you go. I agree with what you said. Edward Seymour kept his near a prisoner from what I can make out.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:11 am*

I admire Cranmer.



**Admin Tim**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:11 am*

Susan, why do you think that Dudley suffered from depression. You mentioned it in your talk, and it seems like such a modern issue. Can you expand more?



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:12 am*

Yes, that is a great question Tim. I never considered that at all before Susan pointed it out.



**Admin Tim**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:12 am*

(Just an aside ... what a power house of people we have on today! Thanks all for coming!!!!)



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:13 am*

Some of his letters make it sound as if he was suffering from depression--like the one where he says (I'm paraphrasing) that it was really only his children that were giving him the will to live. Of course, he might have been physically ill too.



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:13 am*

Hello everyone. Lots of people have just joined. Please do ask Susan your questions - anything Tudor!



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:13 am*

Physical illness and depression being tied so closely together sometimes. There are a number of mentions in his letters of his various ailments.



**Hunter S. Jones**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:14 am*

What inspired this book, Susan?



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:14 am*

How old was he at the time of Edward's death?



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:14 am*

It really annoys me that the belief that he was a bad father is so prevalent.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:14 am*

I believe he was only in his early 50's, but I would have to cheat and look it up!



**MirellaK**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:15 am*

Hi Susan, I wondered what you thought of the portrayal of Dudley in the 1986 film Lady Jane? I've always found it a little amusing.



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:15 am*

49 I think, although it's rather late here so my adding up can't really be trusted!



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:15 am*

Hunter, Her Highness was originally supposed to be about Frances Grey. Then I read Jane Dudley's letter begging for her husband's life, and that got me to researching more about Dudley, and Jane Dudley and her family wormed their way into the novel! Almost took it over in parts!



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:16 am*

It's been a while since I've seen "Lady Jane," but I vaguely remember the film sort of leaving out the fact that he was executed!



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:16 am*

I loved "Her Highness", Susan.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:17 am*

Not to mention Jane Grey giving all of the royal wardrobe to the poor, and the special beating room Evil Frances had for Jane--oh, dear!



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:17 am*

Thanks, Claire! It was fun to write.



**MirellaK**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:17 am*

He was very much the pantomime villain in it.



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:17 am*

Poor Francis Grey... she is so maligned in history.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:18 am*

Yeah, no one came out very well in that film, except perhaps Guildford. At least he wasn't as nasty as he usually is!



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:18 am*

Yes, she's another that really needs rehabilitating.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:18 am

\*she's\*



**rolandh**

August 29, 2015 - 2:19 am

'Lady Jane' is a good film, except for trying to make her a 'socialist' who gave away the royal treasury to the poor



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:19 am

I thought when I saw "Lady Jane" that it about Margaret Thatcher's England as much as anything. (Not to try to get political, but that seemed to be to be a subtext.)



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:19 am

I thought Leanda did a great job of it. Susan, I am looking forward to your book about Margaret Pole!!! I really am interested in learning more about her.



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:20 am

I'm amazed there hasn't been a more recent Lady Jane film. Tbh Edward's reign really deserves a high quality (and ideally accurate) series or film, so much intrigue. And I absolutely agree re Lady Jane and Thatcher's England.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:20 am

Sadly, there's so much fiction interwoven with Frances's story, and Jane's, especially in books like Mary Luke's "bio" of Jane.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:21 am

Edward's reign has been pretty much neglected. Though given the stereotypes, perhaps it's just as well.



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:22 am

Very much looking forward to reading your Margaret Pole book, is it okay to ask if there are any other Tudors you plan on writing about? (fact or fiction)



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:23 am

What's the release date for your Margaret Pole book?



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:23 am

I vaguely remember there was a Starkey doc on the forgotten Tudors (Edward and Mary) years ago. That's about all I can think of.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:23 am

I don't have anything Tudor-related in the works just now. I'm contracted to write a bio of Margaret of Anjou--gotta work on that once I finish the Margaret Pole book! No release date for it yet, because I had to fatten up the manuscript a bit.

**bethvs**



August 29, 2015 - 2:24 am

What a remarkable life she must have led. I read Susan's outstanding book on the Woodvilles, so I know this will be another great read.



**Hunter S. Jones**

August 29, 2015 - 2:24 am

What led to the book on Margaret Pole?



**sharonc**

August 29, 2015 - 2:24 am

Looking forward to both of those books.



**rolandh**

August 29, 2015 - 2:24 am

There's so much written about John Dudley's 'negative' qualities. What were his good ones (if any)?



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:24 am

The Margaret of Anjou book sounds very exciting too!



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:24 am

I do have the beginnings of a novel about Anne Stanhope. Novel-wise, I'm sort of waiting to see what my editor at Sourcebooks says.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:26 am

He was a devoted family man, loyal to Henry VIII (which is notable since one of the first things Henry did as king was to arrest and later execute his father), and loyal to Edward VI. I think he would have proved loyal to Mary if she had let him live.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:26 am

I'd love to read a novel on Anne Stanhope, she appears to have been such a strong woman.



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:26 am

Susan, you say that you don't know how serious John Dudley's conversion to Catholicism was at the end of his life. If you had to come down on one side or the other, what do you guess - political or religious?



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:27 am

It amazes me there isn't more Ann Stanhope fiction! She was such a fascinating personality.



**rolandh**

August 29, 2015 - 2:27 am

Despite the 'bad press' about Anne Stanhope, Mary Tudor liked her and was close to her.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:28 am

I would say political if I had to choose. I think he converted in hopes that if Mary wouldn't spare his life, she would at least spare his sons'.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:28 am



Hmmm... loyal to Mary? That is an interesting thought. Wow... that would be the flip-flop of all time, second only to Richard Rich. I would hope he would remain civil disobedient, but then we really do not know what his true religious faith was (if religious at all). He is a bit of a mystery that way.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:30 am*

He actually left off celebrating the mass very early. I think he and his wife were definitely on the Protestant end of the scale.



**Admin Tim**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:30 am*

Claire has just reminded me that there is the beautiful Dudley carving in the Tower of London. [http://speedy.theanneboleynfiles.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/dudley\\_carving\\_anne\\_boleyn\\_files\\_500.jpg](http://speedy.theanneboleynfiles.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/dudley_carving_anne_boleyn_files_500.jpg)



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:30 am*

He was not alone in converting either. I agree his family was the priority. You really can't judge decisions made at the edge of an ax. The man had a wife and children.



**rolandh**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:31 am*

I think Dudley converted merely to save his life. I think he said something like it was better to be a living dog than a dead lion, if I'm not mistaken.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:31 am*

There's a great letter about Anne Stanhope's grandsons being made to read an improving passage in Latin to her (for their benefit, not hers). Reading the letter without knowing the date, you would think they were about five--and they were in their late teens! She was a tough lady.



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:31 am*

I think he did it for his family.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:33 am*

The "life of a dog" reference is in his letter begging for his life. Not sure if he used the living dog/dead lion phrase, though.



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:33 am*

Who can blame him? Let's get real. Tim, that carving is amazing.



**MirellaK**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:33 am*

I think pragmatism must have played a crucial part in his conversion, he's never struck me as a potential candidate for martyrdom.



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:33 am*

I know Loades questions the authenticity of that letter too.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:34 am*

Yes, that carving was probably done by his son, who died shortly after being released from the Tower.



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:34 am*

Yep who would have ever thought the last man standing in disobedience would not be Dudley. I am sure people were stunned by the course of events.



**Admin Tim**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:34 am*

It's one of the best carvings in the room. A talented family.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:34 am*

I tend to think the letter was genuine. It sounds sort of like his voice, and we do know his wife was trying to save him.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:35 am*

Sadly, when I was at the Tower I didn't know much about the Dudleys, so I didn't pay as much attention to the carving as I should have. Next time!



**Admin Tim**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:35 am*

Hindsight ...



**MirellaK**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:35 am*

Have you found examining the father has given you any new thoughts about his son's intentions towards Elizabeth I? (was he in love with her do you think?)



**Admin Tim**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:35 am*

Hindsight ...



**MirellaK**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:35 am*

Have you found examining the father has given you any new thoughts about his son's intentions towards Elizabeth I? (was he in love with her do you think?)



**bethvs**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:36 am*

There are a few Dudley family carvings correct?



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:37 am*

There's the "IANE" (Jane) one which is said to have been carved by one of them, perhaps Guildford.



**Susan Higginbotham**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:37 am*

I believe that Robert did love Elizabeth.



**Claire**

*August 29, 2015 - 2:38 am*

The main Dudley carving is amazing with its use of plants/flowers to symbolise each of the Dudley boys.

**MirellaK**



August 29, 2015 - 2:38 am

I like to hope so.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:39 am

Guildford is probably the most likely person to have carved the "IANE." It's been suggested that Northumberland carved it in honor of his wife, but he wasn't held in the Beauchamp Tower.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:39 am

Not to sound all sappy, but I think the love story of Robert and Elizabeth is one of the greatest in world history. Susan, do you have a favorite Tudor Era historical figure?



**sharonc**

August 29, 2015 - 2:39 am

Is that a prayer at the base of that carving?



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:40 am

Gosh, there are so many of them I find fascinating!



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:41 am

I have a soft spot for Henry VII, and I really wish we knew more about Jane Seymour.



**Hunter S. Jones**

August 29, 2015 - 2:41 am

Jane is my current Tudor of choice



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:41 am

He certainly is an under appreciated king.



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:41 am

The carving says "JOHN DUDLE – YOU THAT THESE BEASTS DO WEL BEHOLD AND SE, MAY DEME WITH EASE WHEREFORE HERE MADE THEY BE, WITH BORDERS EKE WHEREIN (THERE MAY BE FOUND) 4 BROTHERS NAMES WHO LIST TO SERCHE THE GROUNDE."



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:42 am

Now there's someone I wish had kept a diary! It's interesting to speculate what would have happened if she had survived. I'm not of the "Henry would have got tired of her" school of thought.



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:42 am

It's a riddle.



**sharonc**

August 29, 2015 - 2:42 am

Thank you, Tim



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:42 am

Yes, it's a riddle about how the flowers symbolise the brothers' names, it's brilliant!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:43 am

I am not either. Once she had the heir, she was set so long as the heir lived. Had she lived, Cromwell also would have been untouchable. I truly believe her death was also ultimately his.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:43 am

Dudley gave his sons excellent educations. There's an inventory of one of the sons' books--a great variety.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:43 am

Thanks Tim!



**Hunter S. Jones**

August 29, 2015 - 2:43 am

Four may be symbolic too. Four directions, four seasons, four sons, etc., ??



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:43 am

I'd love to think Jane Seymour was far more canny than she's often given credit.



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:44 am

15 minutes to go with the chat. Keep your questions coming in.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:45 am

Yes, me too!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:45 am

When you think about it, Jane's death changed the entire course of English history.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:46 am

And to think it all could likely have been prevented with modern sanitary standards!



**Hunter S. Jones**

August 29, 2015 - 2:46 am

And, Jane IS intriguing, isn't she?



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:47 am

OMG yes... had people only know to wash their hands. It's sad how many women (and men and children) died due to that one simple piece of knowledge.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:47 am

I really find all of the wives interesting.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:47 am

And that labour! The poor woman must have been exhausted.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:47 am

Yes, think how history would have been affected if Elizabeth of York had lived and borne more sons!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:48 am

True!!!!



**Hunter S. Jones**

August 29, 2015 - 2:48 am

Following Katherine and Anne, the English found her to be so English. They loved her. Or that's what I see when I read between the lines.



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:49 am

Susan, do you have an opinion on the renewed interest in attempts to discover more about the fate of the princes in the tower? I know Philippa Langley wants to search various archives.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:49 am

I believe the realm was just as relieved as the king to have a male heir.... and she also did have many admirable qualities, such as reuniting (such as it was) Henry to his daughters.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:49 am

I'm looking forward to reading David Loades' book on the Seymours.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:50 am

I read his Cromwell bio. It was very good. I have no idea how one person can write so prolifically as he does. Amazing, really.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:51 am

Well, I would hope that Langley has the integrity to present any inculpatory evidence she finds, as well as any exculpatory. I'm all in favor of her looking to see what's there, though.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:51 am

Oh God, not again... lololol



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:52 am

I do wish they would subject the bones in the Tower to modern testing. It would perhaps at least settle the issue of their being spirited away to foreign parts.



**Claire**

August 29, 2015 - 2:52 am

I know she said something about using cold case experts, but there's already that cold case book on the Princes by Mark Gerber, not that I've read it!



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:52 am

Sometimes I wish the CoE would just turn over the remains of the found children and be darn done with it already.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:53 am

GMTA Susan

**Susan Higginbotham**



August 29, 2015 - 2:53 am



**Admin Tim**

August 29, 2015 - 2:53 am

GMTA. great minds think alike;



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:53 am

I'm not generally in favor of digging people up, but I think this is an exceptional case.



**MirellaK**

August 29, 2015 - 2:54 am

I hope so too (re the inculpatory evidence)! I haven't read that book either Claire, it's been sat on my Kindle for ages.



**bethvs**

August 29, 2015 - 2:54 am

I find it so intriguing how passionate people get about the Princes in the Tower. Egads... I stay away from that topic on facebook like the plague.



**Susan Higginbotham**

August 29, 2015 - 2:55 am

Good idea! It brings out the crazies.