

News Item

On Amazon, a Qanon Conspiracy Book Climbs the Charts - with an Algorithmic Push | NBC News

By Ben Collins March 5, 2019

A book that pushes the conspiracy theory Qanon climbed within the top 75 of all books sold on Amazon in recent days, pushed by Amazon's algorithmically generated recommendations page.

"QAnon: An Invitation to the Great Awakening," which has no stated author, ranked at No. 56 at press time, was featured in the algorithmically generated "Hot new releases" section on Amazon's books landing page. The book claims without evidence a variety of outlandish claims including that prominent Democrats murder and eat children and that the U.S. government created both AIDS and the movie Monsters Inc.

The Qanon conspiracy theory moved from fringe parts of the internet in 2018 to achieve national prominence thanks to supporters of President Donald Trump who wore clothes and held signs referencing "Q" at political rallies. The conspiracy theory's rise was followed by a variety of Qanon-related moneymaking schemes that included merchandise for sale that could also be found on Amazon.

[...]

Source: On Amazon, a Qanon conspiracy book climbs the charts — with an algorithmic push