

STARK'S TINE

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Author Note

'Stark's Tine' operates under the assumption that the reader possesses forks, metal or otherwise. The ability to use them is unnecessary, though appreciated.

Abstract

Stark’s Theory of Pointed Cutlery, or simply ‘Stark’s Tine’, is the one and only hypothesis addressing the widespread phenomenon of bent prongs around the globe. The aim of this journal is to shed some light on the issue in order to raise awareness and with the hopes of cultivating a solution.

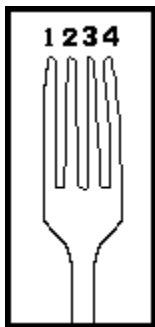
Keywords: Cutlery, conspiracy, cover-up

STARK’S TINE

To follow is the setting out of the discovery, an explanation, and a number of possible theories hoping to solve the puzzle. In order to fully explain the phenomenon I must first lay out the notation necessary to explain it.

[THE TINES]

The forks experiencing the Stark’s Tine condition end in four spikes, henceforth referred to as ‘tines’; they are labelled as follows.



1 & 4: True tines 2 & 3: Trick tines

Tines 1 and 4 are referred to as the **true tines**, and act as the criteria with which to examine tines 2 and 3 – they are treated as the perfect straight to judge all others against.

Tines 2 and 3 are referred to as the **trick tines**, and are the two prongs that the theory revolves around – these are the key with which we must unlock the puzzle.

They are better explained in the transcribed diagram below, from the above tracing to the Griffin-Stark marking – these will be the standard from this point onwards.



The Griffin-Stark diagram translation – picture them as the pierced holes formed by the utensil.

[TINE’S CRUX]

The issue that the entire phenomenon revolves around is this: every tested fork has their 2nd or 3rd tine slightly bent either forward or backward. This is not always immediately obvious – it may be necessary to bite down on the end of the tines, as the higher number of nerve endings in your teeth are better for sensing microspaces such as these.

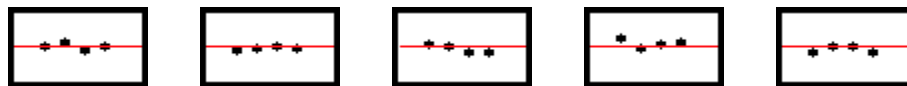
The consequences for these consistent faults are dizzying. The fact of the matter is that it is far, far less likely for every cutlery manufacturing agency to all be experiencing the same error in tine design than it is for them to be forming the forks in the same ways.

Here’s the line: if every fork manufacturer forms their forks in the same manner, then it stands to reason that they all must use the same process and use the same mould. If they use the same mould then all the fork manufactures are owned and puppeted by a single world-spanning cutlery monopoly. Not much is known about this mysterious agency, and it is thusly often referred to as the Dark Monopoly.

[GRIFFIN’S PREMISE]

The popular fanon explanation for the Stark’s Tine phenomenon is benefitted the most from the Stark-Griffin diagrams.

Here are five different arrangements of tines, with the red line marking the baseline:



There is no guarantee that the true tines will always consistently be an accurate baseline with which to regard the trick tines. Griffin’s premise is as follows: it is more likely for the four tines to each be randomly bent out of shape in random directions and degrees of magnitude than

for them all to be perfectly lined up, and any defect is perceived to be following suit of the Stark’s Tine phenomenon due to using the true tines as the natural standard.

Popular objections to this theory are the fact that the true tines are always lined up with one another, detracting from the idea that they are each warped to a random degree. Having said this, if you try to use this argument against me I won’t hesitate to spit on you.

[CONCLUSION]

We will never truly know the reason behind the Stark’s Tine phenomenon – the best we can hope to do is to keep from being beaten down. Don’t let the Dark Monopoly win – your forks are their gateway into your home. In the end, they may not be the last things made crooked.

References

Boch, V. (2020). Red Roses. *Play!*