Poe and Richard Parker
In 1838, Edgar Allan Poe released a book called "The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym of Nantucket" which tells of the four crewmen of a whaling ship who had to draw lots to decide whom they would eat after days of hunger. The lot fell on the cabin boy named Richard Parker.

Forty-six years later, a disaster at sea caused legal furor because three crewmen ate their cabin boy named Richard Parker after drawing lots.

The King and the Restaurant Owner
The Italian monarch, King Umberto I, had dinner one day at a restaurant owned by someone who was a dead ringer for him. As they talked about it during the meal, they discovered that both of them were born at the exact same date, had a wife named Margherita, and his restaurant opened the same day Umberto became king.

One day in July of 1900, the restaurateur died as a result of a mysterious shooting accident. While the king listened to the news, an assassin shot and killed him on that same day.
7 Wild Historical Coincidences

Anne’s Childhood Book
In the 1920s, American novelist Anne Parrish was browsing some bookstores in Paris and found a book that contained her favorite childhood stories. She picked it up and showed it to her husband while telling him how similar it was to her childhood book.

When her husband opened it, she found Anne's name and address written on the flyleaf. The book was indeed Anne’s childhood book.

The Titanic Disaster Predicted
Fourteen years before the Titanic’s maiden voyage, author Morgan Robertson released a book named, ‘The Wreck of the Titan,’ about an 800-foot liner that hit an iceberg in the North Atlantic around midnight in April.

This was the exact circumstances as the Titanic, which met the same fate as Robertson’s Titan.
7 Wild Historical Coincidences

The Falling Baby
In 1930, a man named Joseph Figlock was walking along the streets of Detroit when a baby fell from an apartment above and landed onto him. Both the baby and Joseph were safe and unhurt.

After a year, Joseph was walking along the same street and the exact same baby fell onto him. Like before, both of them survived the ordeal unharmed.

Wilmer McLean and the Civil War
Wilmer McLean lived on a road between Richmond, Va., and Washington, D.C., that when the Civil War broke out, the war happened literally outside his doorsteps.

When General Beauregard needed headquarters, he picked McLean's house. The man decided to move to Clover Hill, Va., which later became the Appomattox Court House. When General Lee signed his surrender to General Grant, the house where they met and ended the Civil War was in McLean's house.
7 Wild Historical Coincidences

Died on the Fourth of July
The Fourth of July seemed to be a bad day for Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. Both of them were America's founding fathers who drafted the Declaration of Independence. The Continental Congress approved the document on July 4, 1776. The weird thing was Adams and Jefferson died on July 4, 1826, 50 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The Deus Ex Twins
A video game engineer forgot to add the Twin Towers in the game's New York skyline. To "amend" the mistake, the game explained that they were missing due to terrorist attacks. The game was released in the year 2000.
Twin School
A middle school in Lincolnshire, England holds the distinction of having the most sets of twins in attendance at one time - 20 sets of twins total.

Source: www.answers.com/article/1185697/7-wild-historical-coincidences-too-crazy-to-believe

Note: Title says "7 Wild Historical Coincidences...", but slideshow shows nine.

Assembled: March 17, 2015 by Milo Schield