

Yes, in performing magic and mentalism, apparently you can ignore any such hard work. You need not study save for learning your trick, it might seem. Some might think that unseemly. Others may say this makes magical performers closer to pets performing than an actual actor (and I will not name the director who said this to me.)

My point is simple. Actors spend much time and energy researching their roles. Actors do not walk on a stage or a set playing any part that is different than their actual belief system without careful study of those who sincerely believe in what their character believes.

Most magicians and mentalists who claim they are acting as actors might want to rethink their position. This notion is anything but an easy way out, or an excuse for performing tricks without thought or meaning. Quite the contrary, I'm afraid. I cannot count how many times I have heard performers claim to be experts in Tarot and make statements a beginning student of Tarot would know was wildly incorrect. I have watched people shuffle The Buddha under cups like he was a pea in a three shell game. Many of these same people would be very unhappy however if someone did the trick using a statue of Jesus.

Our lack of understanding another's point of view or set of beliefs causes us to appear ignorant. When we do not study the believer's perspective we surely are ignorant. We certainly cannot accurately portray what a belief is when we are clueless about it.

Just putting on your business card "mystic" or dressing strangely and claiming yourself a "real magician" isn't enough for a real mystic not to see straight through your clear deception. It's offensive really. It's at the very least unkind. Perhaps you need examples you can relate to better?

Imagine a magician claiming to be an expert at gambling, but then shuffles only in overhand shuffles. He has to use both hands to cut the deck, dropping cards all over as he tries to complete the cut. Imagine a layperson that does this claiming to his friends that he is a magician! Do you think he is a magician like he wants his friends to believe? If you are a magician, are you happy with this ignorant portrayal?

Imagine a friend pulling out the old Color Cube trick and after performing the trick in a standard manner he claims he is "a mentalist, like my friend here" as he points to you!

You probably would not care for someone poorly representing to the world your beliefs, as if their sad representation were the actual thing. You might argue that your audience is even more ignorant, so they don't know any better when you portray things you know little about. But you are spreading a false portrayal of another person's sincere belief or lifestyle all the same. That won't matter to you, I suppose, until they wrongly portray to the world your own set of beliefs as if their portrayal is really what you think and feel.

You may reason that you can get by with sloppiness due to ignorance on all counts, but this makes you a proud perpetuator of ignorance. I don't know many people who would choose to do that! Certainly you would not.

What then is the solution? Study well from those who have as their real beliefs that which you wish to portray in any performance, close-up or on stage. Portray his or her actual beliefs and know enough about each belief that every statement and move you make is in line with the real belief.

What's the easier solution? Portray your own beliefs and worldview yourself. Even an atheist or agnostic has beliefs. Better you should portray your beliefs than someone else telling the world what you mean to say. Choosing to portray only what you love, believe and know IS the easier way of performing and acting. Fortunately magic and mentalism are great vehicles for such expression.

All you need to do is do more than mere tricks and speak what you know - not what you think someone else believes. You, and the world, will be better off for it.

A special Thanks to Kenton Knepper for sharing "Does Your Character Have a Background" with the Magic Roadshow readers. You can discover a world of magic and mentalism, professional training and tools at Kenton's website...

<http://www.WonderWizards.com>

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:: Playing Cards and Entertainment - article and videos

Have we become so enamored by technology that we cannot appreciate the design and useful nature of a deck of cards? Can we remember when families spent the night in harmony, playing spades and hearts and other games of entertainment, using nothing more than 52 little pasteboards?

"Old forms of amusement are being eclipsed by today's technologically advanced and visually powerful entertainment industry. Successful comics have now morphed into movies, while board games are simply no match to video games. However, a single army of 54 unique rectangular soldiers has persevered and with the demand generated by casinos alone, the deck of cards shows no intention of surrendering soon. Playing cards have integrated in many aspects of our society with the sole purpose of entertaining."

Thanks to my friend Nicolas Tang for both writing this nice article and pointing me to it... Be sure to look for the three card shuffling videos at the end of the article on page two..

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/5414404/playing_cards_a_source_of_wonder.html?cat=7

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.: Bertram Color Change - Tutorial video

I love color changes, and the Bertram Color Change is one of the most astonishing color changes of them all. Although not as easy to perform as the Erdnase Color Change, it is very do-able with a little practice.

If you can perform a tenkai palm and hold two cards together to appear as one, then you are a perfect candidate for the Bertram Color Change.

This video includes both a performance and a tutorial...

<http://rickcarruth.blogspot.com/2010/06/bertram-color-change-very-nice-tutorial.html>

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.: David Blaine's 2009 TV Special 'What Is Magic' - Complete episode

In 2009 David took his magic and his cameras to New Orleans to see the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. WHAT IS MAGIC was a return to the type of street magic that made David popular in the beginning.

One segment included a couple of stomach punches from the always affiable Kimbo Slice. I'm not sure how Blaine pulled it off, but the hits looked legit to me. Those familiar with magic history remember how Houdini's life was cut terribly short by a punch to the stomach that he reportedly wasn't prepared to receive.

Another segment had David rubbing his fingers across a dollar bill and transposing the spectators face onto the bill. Another had David moving text around the bills.

A third had David walking down the middle of the road (of course) to get to the Grand Canyon, where he performed magic for construction workers and canyon visitors.

All in all, this show was one worth revisiting. You can watch all 44 minutes right now, (well... as soon as you finish reading this issue) by clicking below.... Nothing to download and nothing to sign up for... just enjoy.

<http://streetmagic.info/whatismagic.html>

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.: Scarne Video on StreetMagic.info

I have now set up a web page devoted strictly to this wonderful John Scarne video. I've had a dedicated page in the past, but the internet gremlins crept in and devoured the link, then sailed into cyberspace, never to be seen again.

That was too bad, because this is a full length feature putting the enormous skills of Mr. Scarne on display, and it deserves it's place on StreetMagic.info .. There were some serious card workers who considered John Scarne the Very Best they'd ever seen. After watching this video... I don't know that I can argue with that statement.

This from Wikipedia. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Scarne)

"He was born Orlando Carmelo Scarnecchia in Steubenville, Ohio in the United States of America, and at some point anglicized his name to John Scarne (pronounced /'sk?rni/). He grew up in the New Jersey communities of Fairview and Guttenberg. When he left school after the eighth grade, he learned from a local card sharp how to perform such swindles as The Three Card Monte, and how to cheat in gambling card games by manipulating the cards. Scarne began practicing sleight of hand with the goal of becoming a card sharp, but his Roman Catholic mother dissuaded her son from gambling in general, and cheating others in particular. She persuaded him to practice magic instead. Scarne soon extended his skill at handling cards to learning – and devising – magical effects with cards. He spent a few months learning about crooked gambling devices (including marked cards and loaded dice) at a nearby novelty store. Thanks to his endless practice, Scarne began making money as a magician."

"Gradually, Scarne became quite an expert at not only magical effects, but games of all kinds as well. Articles were written about him in various magazines, and he was hired as a consultant or adviser by various companies, as well as by the US Army, which sent him to bases around the world in order to educate soldiers about the dangers of card and dice cheats. He wrote fifteen books and co-wrote a few more for a total of twenty-eight books on games, such as Scarne on Dice, Scarne's Guide to Modern Poker and Scarne's New Complete Guide to Gambling. He also wrote two autobiographies: The Amazing World of John Scarne: A Personal History (1956), and The Odds Against Me (1966). He served as a technical advisor in the 1973 motion picture, The Sting, and doubled for actor Paul Newman's hands during scenes that involved card manipulations and deck switching."

"Scarne was often proclaimed by experts, magicians and editors of the time as the greatest card manipulator of all time."

So.... there.

<http://streetmagic.info/scarnevideo.html>

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.: Ten Instantly Downloadable Magic Videos.. (\$49.50 worth for Only \$6.95)

The Coin Melt trick.

This amazing illusion separates the molecules within a tabletop to the point where a standard silver coin can pass right through it! Amazing Magic!

Melting Rubber Bands illusion.

In this incredible illusion, we take two interlocked rubber bands and with just a touch of magic, they completely separate right before our eyes!

King Gone magic illusion!

We show three standard playing cards to our onlooker, then lay them downside on the table. When we ask them to point to the 'King'. To their utter amazement it has vanished, replaced by a completely new card!

The Rising Card trick.

A card is chosen from the deck. The spectator remembers their card and it is then replaced in the pack and thoroughly shuffled. The cards are placed in the box and as if by magic, their chosen card re-appears!!

Card Vanish magic trick.

This card trick is extremely clever. It takes alot of practice to master, but is certainly worth the effort. We take any playing card, wave it in the air a few times and 'Hey Presto!' Gone!! But where in the world is it?

The Spoon Bend illusion.

Take one ordinary teaspoon and see what happens when you stare at it and concentrate like crazy until primal grunts emanate from deep down in a guttural display of illusory magic... the results are truly amazing!!

The Magic Glass illusion.

Take an ordinary drinking glass and add a hankerchief. What do you get? Nothing!! Just a glass and no hanky. With some preparation, this trick will surely amaze your audience.

Hankey Panky Trick

Take a handkerchief from your pocket, stuff it into your closed fist, tap the bottom of your hand and 'Wahlah.. it has gone!' The hanky has simply vanished without any apparent sleight of hand... 'ah, there it is, right back In your hand'.

Card Colour Change magic trick.

How in the world can you change a 'Jack of Clubs' into a 'Jack of Diamonds' simply by flicking it with your finger? This Illusion will leave you scratching your head!! Magic!

The Healing News magic trick.

It looks just like any ordinary newspaper.. and you're right, it is! So how then, does this newspaper completely restore itself after being torn into a hundred little pieces?

All tricks are delivered to you in the form of an Instant Download. Your satisfaction is 100% Respected with my 60 day unconditional Money Back Guarantee! If you aren't 100% satisfied with my video products simply send me an email with 'Refund' in subject box and I will cheerfully refund your full purchase price!

<http://streetmagic.info/10vids.html>

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..: The Magic of Computer Science II - Resource and Tutorial PDF

Here is the follow-up to the wildly popular Magic of Computer Science I. I received so many wonderful comments about the first pdf, published in the Magic Roadshow a couple of issues ago that I couldn't wait to publish a link to this second edition.. If you will, refer to it as "A medley of magnificently magical marvels mischievously manipulating mind mistakes."

This edition contains:

- Magic and computer science
- The joker in the pack
- Are you psychic?
- Mass hypnosis
- The mind-boggling memory experiment
- The numbers game
- The leading ace
- The power of prophecy
- Finale

To quote from The Magic of Computer Science II...

"Magic is about entertainment. It is also about psychology, mathematics and computer science too.

To be a good magician you need to know more than just the secret of how a trick works. Great magicians also have a flair for cognitive psychology: they have a natural understanding of people. They manipulate where you are looking and what you see, what you forget and what you remember... and that includes making you remember things that didn't actually happen.

Scientists are exploring these same issues. They talk about studying attention, memory, cognition and perception. Their experiments manipulate these things to work out how the brain works.

A magician aims to keep secrets, whereas a scientist wants to bring things into the open, and present them for all to see."

<http://www.divshare.com/download/11550192-ec4>

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..: A Spelling Effect..

Here is a nice little spelling effect that's been around for like... forever. But, it still works and there are plenty of folks, magicians and otherwise, who have never experienced it.

Arrange the top ten cards as such: 9-7-6-4-2-10-8-A-5-3

Shuffle the deck in your most comfortable manner to leave the top ten cards intact. An overhand shuffle will work just fine. Perform a false cut and tell your spectator that you want to try a little experiment.

Ten cards are needed, so deal the top ten cards face down onto the table. You have just reversed the order of the cards and put them in the necessary order to complete the effect.

Ask the spectator to name the lowest card in the deck. He/she will say either a Two or an Ace. If they say Two remind them that the Ace is actually the lowest numerical value.

Pick up the face down packet and move the top card from the top to the bottom of the packet as you spell "A". Same with the next card as you spell "C". And lastly.. take the next card off the packet and flip it face up on the table as you spell "C". This card will be the Ace.

Spell 'T-W-O' in the same manner, dropping the 'O' card on the table to reveal the Two. Continue with the 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. You will be left holding one card which you can flip over to reveal the last number.. the number 'Ten'..

The secret to this trick is figuring out a way to make the top ten cards seem random. Try switching decks after you have allowed the spectator to shuffle a deck -or- perhaps you can give the spectator a full deck, let

them thoroughly shuffle it, and then casually place ten palmed cards on top of the deck. It's not easy. But if you use the new Bicycle Prestige plastic cards, they bend very easily and hold their shape well...

Let me know what works for you...

Look for a similar effect using all thirteen cards on my LifeTips site at:

<http://magic.lifetips.com>

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.: 60 MINUTES Exposes Online Poker Room - video

60 Minutes has a storied history of exposing cons and criminals, as well as bringing to light people deserving of being in the spotlight. In this segment they brought a story to light that developed last year as players in a couple of wildly popular poker room noticed a couple of players winning, and playing, as if they could almost 'see' what their opponents held in their hands.

Turns out... they COULD see their hold cards.

A couple of employees of the company had tampered with the code and set themselves up to see what each player held. Naturally, they bet conservatively until the right situation presented itself and then went all in or placed some sort of unnatural bet to win the hands.

Several online players lost tens of thousands of dollars to these unscrupolus employees... until a small group of the players themselves begin an investigation that led to the discovery.

Unfortunately, these 'rooms' are not located in the United States and do not fall under the governments scrutiny. So, as the Romans say... "let the players beware" ... or something like that.

<http://streetmagic2.blogspot.com/2010/06/60-minutes-exposes-online-poker-rooms.html>

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.: Magic Week on David Letterman - All Five Videos - Now on Magic Roadshow

Each year David Letterman features five close-up magicians, one each day for a week. Recently he featured, in order of appearance, Jason Randal, John Carney, Johnny 'Ace' Palmer, Steve Cohen, and Michael Ammar.

One of the follies indulged by magicians everywhere is 'who performed the best?'. I'm not going to get into that arguement. I'll let you form your own opinions. Just remember, each performer has their own style and a very short time in which to spotlight it.

I will say this... and I have preached this point in several effects published in the Magic Roadshow.. when using double sided (double stick) tape on playing cards ALWAYS press your finger onto the tape ten or twenty times to remove some of the 'sticky-ness' to help the cards separate properly at the necessary moment. Otherwise, the cards will 'pop' as they come apart, assuming that they actually come apart as they should.

I really enjoyed his performance anyway, always do. Oh, who am I talking about? Watch and see...

<http://rickcarruth.blogspot.com/2010/06/5-days-of-magic.html>

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.: Carolina Close-up Convention

October the 1st and 2nd has been established as the dates for this years Carolina Close-up Convention. I was there last year and I'll definitely be there this year as well..

Look for a lineup featuring Jon Armstrong, John Guastafarro, Cody Fisher, Karl Hein, Caleb Wiles, and Chris Mayhew.

The convention always begins on a Friday and ends Saturday night. Not really long, as conventions go, but when you're dealing with a specific type of magic, like close-up, it's plenty long and full of great lectures and performances.

Our friend Scott Robinson has sent me some specifics, and I've put up a page just for this years convention.

Go ahead and mark October 1st and 2nd on your calendar. I have, and I'll see you there...

<http://streetmagic.info/carolinacloseup.html>

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.: Special Offer On FAMILY MAGIC I & II

SALE--Save 28% off the combined price of "FAMILY MAGIC I & II: 105 Easy Tricks For My Family" (and your family too)
By Ed Glassman

This is 2 great magic books combined into one volume. Amazon.com has discounted the price of this book to \$10.65 from \$14.80 - So you can Save \$4.15 .

This volume contains 2 excellent books, "Family Magic-I" and "Family Magic-II," in one amazing MONEY-SAVING volume that will carry you with clarity into the world of magic & chicanery, one amateur magician to another, with a combined total of 105 bewildering easy-to-do magic tricks, at least 90 of which require no prior skill. You may easily perform them for members of your family, especially your children & grandchildren, parents & grandparents, sisters & brothers, cousins, nephews & nieces, aunts & uncles, teenagers, even strangers & friends.

The Author is my friend - Ed Glassman, Ph.D... Ed has been an amateur magician since High School. On his 80th birthday, his love for magic increased, and since then, he performed extensively for his family. As he put it: "I started doing magic as a teenager, and learned a few easy-to-do sleights. On my 80th birthday, I decided to share magic with my family. I wanted them to have some magic in their lives. This book stems from that desire...

Contact Ed through his website: <https://www.createspace.com/3434093>

-BUY IT NOW-

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/redirect.html?ie=UTF8&location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.amazon.com%2FFamily-Magic-II-Edward-Glassman%2Fdp%2F1450599990%3Fie%3DUTF8%26s%3Dbooks%26qid%3D1278300677%26sr%3D1-6&tag=stremagi-20&linkCode=ur2&camp=1789&creative=9325>

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.: Magic on Ellen Degeneres - Four Nice Videos

Ellen Degeneres loves magic. The great thing about her love is she has an amazing venue to highlight the performances of her favorite performers.

James Galea, Jason Randal, and David Blaine are featured on the four videos I've selected to post on the StreetMagic site for your viewing pleasure. ;-)

Each performer does a very good job of representing those of us who probably won't be invited to perform on Ellen's show. Oh well...

Over twenty minutes of close-up magic on a very visible national stage. You can't buy this kind of publicity.

<http://streetmagic.info/degeneresmagic.html>

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.: 5 Ways to Make Money From Your Mentalism and Magic Skills

David Pascal

If you have the skills then you can earn a full time living from your mentalism and magic. Let me say from the outset that what I am talking about in this article are magic and mentalism tricks for entertainment. I am not talking about contacting people in the afterlife or casting spells for fun and profit.

What do I mean by mentalism and magic? Very simply, magic uses sleight of hand whereas mentalism uses sleight of mind. A mentalist may ask someone to think of a number then (pretend to) read their mind and tell them that number. A magician may make an object disappear and then magically reappear somewhere else. You can specialize in magic or mentalism and still earn a good living but you will maximize your earning potential if you can do both.

1. Working the tables at weddings and in restaurants

This is a common, and for some, most reliable way to make money in magic. Traditionally, mentalists do not do as well as magicians in this environment. The reason for this is that at weddings and in restaurants there is usually plenty of alcohol flowing and this impairs the audiences ability to follow complex magic tricks.

The earning potential is reasonable but the work hours can be long. You should have a five minute routine that begins with a quick and impressive opener that grabs attention. Be prepared for rejection and heckling. None of your audience have actually chosen to see a magician (or mentalist) but have been chosen by you approaching their table. Not everyone likes magic and some may see you as a threat, stealing attention away from them.

2. Working on cruise ships and in holiday resorts

Here you can find regular work albeit seasonal work. If you want to go down this route you must be prepared to find other avenues of income during the off-season. To work in this area you need to have a full stage act. You can choose either magic or mentalism. Audiences can be tough and you will be expected to please the crowd if you want to continue working.

3. Creating and publishing your own magic and mentalism books and DVDs

If working in front of a live audience is not for you, you can sell your ideas to other magicians. Typically this means creating books and DVDs that teach others how to perform the tricks and routines you have created. The earning potential varies from a few dollars per ebook to several hundred dollars. How much you earn will depend on how many copies of your product you manage to sell. There is a great deal of competition in this area and it can be difficult for a newcomer to break into the market.

4. Corporate magic and mentalism

Mentalists in particular can earn large incomes working in the corporate environment. For example, businesses exhibiting in large conventions spend thousands of dollars attempting to lure people over to their stands. Skilled mentalists are typically experts in presentation and audience control, a clever reworking of tricks can draw in the crowds. If you can work a message into your act there will always be businesses prepared to pay you for delivering that message.

5. Organizing your own stage show

This is the riskiest method of trying to earn an income from magic and mentalism but even if you do not make a big profit you can go on to earn one. Very simply, organizing a stage show involves booking a venue and selling tickets. If you can sell enough tickets to cover the cost of putting on the show and have money left over then you have made a profit. It is difficult to make large and regular profits this way. If things go wrong you may well end up losing money. Only the big names can make any real money. However, putting on a stage show is a good way of getting yourself known. If you can attract an agent or use the publicity to get a job somewhere else then it is worth the effort.

If you want to start earning money from your magic and mentalism skills then you need to act now. Putting things off any longer is not going to make you any money from your art.

Visit my mentalism and magic website to see how I earn money from mental magic.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=David_Pascal

<http://mental-magic.com>

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.: Telekinesis Psychic Test

This is a simple online test inspired by those who claim to be able to influence coin tossing. The algorithm randomly generates zeroes and ones, instead of heads and tails, and test your ability to influence the

outcome. The laws of mathematics dictate that over a period of time the number of zeroes and ones generated should average 50% apiece.

As the test proceeds over a period of time, the closer the averages will become to an even split. IF you have telekinetic abilities you should be able to influence the algorithm to generate a greater number of one number over the other.

I like this site, as there's nothing to sign up for or download... simply visit and run the test. There are several other online tests as well, including a Zener Card test, a Tarot Card reading, and ESP test, Sensitivity test, and Remote Viewing test..

My advise to you... don't visit this site unless you have time to kill... It's sort of addictive.

<http://www.psychic-experiences.com/psychic-tests/>

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∴ Seth Godin's 'Who's There' - Free PDF
(From our resource archives)

I enjoy anything written by Seth Godin. The internet is full of so called guru's, and most are nothing more than fancy-do salesmen. Seth is the real thing, and he not only writes with authority, but he gives a quantity of his work away to prove that he knows of what he speaks...

Seth's ebook 'Unleashing the Ideavirus' is the most popular, and most downloaded, ebook in the history of the internet. Other ebooks, like 'The Big Red Fez' (#1 on Amazon for close to a year) and 'Purple Cow' (New York Times and Wall Street Journal bestseller) further establish Seth's credibility as an authority on internet marketing.

'Who's There' is another authoritative work, except it's one of the Free ones. If you ever though about having a blog, or have one and don't know what to do with it, then download 'Who's There'.

Seth stresses how to build a blog as an asset. Your asset. His ebook is not about what services to use or how to write your blog. It's about what a bog can do for you and your career, your ideas, and your organization.

To quote Seth...

"I promise this ebook is incomplete. I hope, though, that it encourages you to pay attention to some of the underlying forces at work online and off. And it's small enough to email to your colleagues or to post on your own site. Hey, it's free and it comes with its own carrying case."

If you've ever considered creating your own blog, or already have one, this is one great little read.. It's 100% free, nothing to sign up for and no obligation whatsoever...

http://sethgodin.typepad.com/seths_blog/files/whos_there.pdf

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.: Free eBooks for Subscribers
(All downloads are now available from one location - see link below)

- *Erdnase' "Expert at the Card Table"
- *JP Jacquard's "Easy Mentalism"
- *Hugard's "Royal Road to Card Magic"
- *Hypno Illusions - A Massive Fifteen eBook Download
- *Bullivant's 'Ventriloquism in a Month'
- *R. Carruth's 'Hypnosis Mania'
- *R. Carruth's 'Body Language Magic'
- *Rick Carruth's 'Public Speaking'
- *Magic and Computer Science 1
- *Magic and Computer Science 2

<http://StreetMagic.info/downloads.html>

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I encourage you to share your favorite links, videos, and resources with other magicians from around the world. If you know of a site that has a free ebook or a wide assortment of magic related material, let me know. I'm sure all the other readers will appreciate it..

Please email me at the link below with your resource, link, article, or suggestion..

Email me..

May my next issue find you well..

Rick Carruth / Editor

Senior Professor - Camelard College of Conjuring of Chemmis, Egypt
<http://www.camelardcollege.org/>

