

Magic Roadshow #135

September 2012

Hi Folks..

Welcome to a brand new issue of the Magic Roadshow. If this is your first one, I sincerely hope you find something worthy within..

I've made some major changes since the last issue. I hope no one thought I was upset with my loyal readers; I was upset with myself for letting the Roadshow get too far from center. I had thousands of subscribers who were only taking up space and preventing me from writing what I wanted. I was making an effort to 'speak' to everyone, even though a large portion of my subscribers were making no effort to so much as open an issue of the Roadshow.

This has been a very costly venture for me.. in time and effort, not to mention financially. I was mad that I was continually trying to attract these readers, from virtually every corner of the globe, even though I was not prepared to communicate with them, educate them, and spend untold hours explaining the nuances of an effect to them as they were making no effort to educate themselves. I've had 'readers', get mad that I wouldn't send them free dvds on various aspects of magic. I've had 'readers' get mad because I couldn't tell them their future, their career paths, and the name of their future boyfriends or girlfriends.. And worst of all, I used free eBooks to entice these folks to sign up for the Roadshow. (I will still offer these books and others to readers.. I just won't use them as an enticement..)

I want to talk magic. I want to pass on card tricks and mentalism effects. I want readers to share their stories and effects with me.. and countless other fellow performers. And I want to share resources with readers who are interested in expanding their horizons. I know I expand mine with each issue, in part because this Roadshow is a two-way path; I learn as I both search and research, and I am thrilled to share what I find with you.

That said.. there will be a difference between this issue and past issues. Although I'm seldom inclined to try to impress others with my magic vocabulary or range, I'm going to 'talk' just as I would with a fellow magician. If I feel a need to expound on something not easily explained, I'll make a quick video. It will probably be silent as I'm only trying to give you a 'visual' of what I'm writing about.. Plus, my iphone has a 'send to Youtube' button that makes publishing a video simple for folks like me..

The wife and I spent a week at the beach in the middle of August. I got a chance to visit three of my favorite in-state magic shops: Jim Lee at the Myrtle Beach Flea Market, which is a nice indoor market on the south end of Myrtle.. Broadway Magic at Broadway at the Beach, a very well-equipped shop, and Conley's House of Magic at Barefoot Landing, a must-see shop that I visit every trip to or through Myrtle Beach. SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MAGIC SHOPS! .. One day they'll be gone, and you will be sad and sorry..

Guess who's on the cover of the new issue of American Association for Respiratory Care? A long-time friend of magic and the Magic Roadshow, Dr. Bruce K. Rubin. (MD, MEngr, MBA, FRCPC, FAARC. Professor of Biomedical Engineering - Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine Physician in Chief, Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU) Dr. Rubin is the 2012 recipient of the

Now it's time for me to force the bottom card on Bob. I've created a quick video you can watch [HERE](#) to show a very simple way to force the bottom card. It is totally unimportant how you do it, as long as you force the card written on the business card. Heck.. you could perform a double undercut, moving the bottom card to the top of the deck, and then perform a slip cut to force this card -or- whatever you're comfortable with...

Lay the forced card face-down on the table. Tell Bob that he needs to pick about five cards total, and repeat the same general motion you used to force the bottom card, only you're legitimately letting him pick cards from the middle of the deck. Lay each selected card on top of the forced card, lets call it the Seven of Diamonds, until you have a nice little stack of five 'almost' random cards.

Pick up the stack, leaving the Seven on bottom, and tell Bob you are going to eliminate four cards in a very random and fair (liar!) manner.

"First Bob, I don't know if you saw any of the cards, so we need to mix these little buggers up to the extent there's no way anyone in this room could possibly know their order."

Perform a 'Monge Shuffle'. For those of you not up on your Monge Shuffling, hold the cards in your left hand. Pull the top card off into your right hand. Slide the second card off the stack on TOP of the first card. Put the third card UNDER these two cards. Put the fourth card on TOP of the stack, and the fifth card goes UNDER the stack. It's a simple over, under, over, under shuffle. Notice that all the cards ARE actually mixed in this manner EXCEPT the bottom card. The bottom card starts on bottom and ends on bottom.

Perform the Monge Shuffle a second time and then a third time. Personally, after the third time, I slide the top card into my right hand as before and then singularly and quickly put the second, third, fourth, and fifth cards on top of this card. This moves the Seven from the bottom to the top. When all of this is done quickly, it's very convincing. (You can actually leave it on bottom if you want.. it's just that it's easier for me to perform the following with it on top..)

"Now that we've totally randomized the cards, it's time to begin the elimination phase.. I heard Copperfield say that once..."

I'm not a great big fan of the PATEO force, but it seems to work good for me at this point. Again, for those of you not familiar with 'Pick Any Two, Eliminate One', it's a simple elimination process that conveys a sense of fairness.

Fan the cards and ask Bob to point at any two. Pull them up slightly out of the fan and say.. " Now that you've picked two, I'm going to pick one to eliminate." Point at one of the cards, lift it from the deck, and lay it face down on the table. Since you know the location of the Seven in the stack; in the event Bob picks the Seven and another card, you eliminate the 'other' card. Re-square the pack, fan it again, and tell Bob that you will now pick two and he'll eliminate one. Pick two cards, pulling them up from the pack, making sure you DON'T select the seven. Bob will pick one and you'll remove it and lay it on the table.

You're now down to three cards. Bob picks two and you do exactly as before; eliminating one but making sure the Seven stays in the pack.

The following is all about TIMING..

" Well Bob, we're down to two cards. To make things a little different, instead of touching a card, reach out and take one of these cards.."

Watch Bob's hand, and if he's reaching for the Seven say...

"... and what you pick is what we keep"

If he's reaching for the other card, say...

"... and toss it on the table too, leaving us with one last card."

Hand Bob the card and remind him of the randomness of the selection process. Remind him of the thorough shuffling, the picking of five cards from five different locations in the deck, and the extremely fair method you used to eliminate all the cards but one.

"And after all this.. you are left with one card. Turn it over Bob.. the suspense is killing us.. "

Bob turns it over and reveals the Seven of Diamonds. All that's left is for you to let Bob turn over your business card to reveal that you wrote 'Seven of Diamonds' on the back of the card. Your work is done..

I know that the PATEO force of five cards should begin with YOU picking two cards and Bob eliminating one... but I don't like being the one to pick the last card when it's down to two. I would rather my spectator have the last choice. Just my preference..

Of course, you're not limited to business cards, although it's a great way to pass out your card. Write Seven of Diamonds on five or six business cards, fold each one, and let several members of your audience hold them. When all the cards have been eliminated, ask the audience members to open their cards and on the count of three.. call out your prediction simultaneously. This can be done either before or after Bob reveals the identity of the last card. You get the prediction right.. and several members of the audience get your business card.

Another method, if you're partial to marked decks, is to use a marked deck... This would allow you to know the identity of the top card after they have been shuffled to begin the effect. Perform a slip cut as detailed above, select four more cards, and you're off to the races. You can skip the Monge Shuffle, as you can thoroughly shuffle the packet and still know the location of the predicted card when the five cards are fanned. I have been known to use Boris Wild's marked deck, as they are easy to read in a fanned position. The definite advantage of my method is being able to perform it any time, with any deck. All that's needed is a peek at the bottom card, and there's many ways to accomplish this.

Take this effect and incorporate what YOU do best, adapting it to suit your style. You can write your prediction on a board or easel and use over-sized playing cards to make the effect play larger. You can also invite a second spectator to participate, and once you have glimpsed the bottom card on Bob's deck, you can take a second deck, show them to the second spectator via fan, stealthy cutting the match to the bottom card of Bob's deck to the bottom of this deck, and then go through a semi-slow MAGICIANS CHOICE to end with the bottom card (Seven of Diamonds in our example) the only card left face down. (When I know the bottom card, I like to cut the deck into four or five piles, eliminating all but the correct pile. Spread this pile out very loosely on the table, making it look extremely random,

and eliminating down to the last card. Making it look as 'sloppy' as possible is a deal maker.. You're NOT going to fool a fellow magician with a Magicians Choice, but you WILL totally fool a non-magician. Don't underestimate this sleight...

Your now going to concentrate on Bob and his deck, going through the described process to end with him holding a Seven of Diamonds. At the appropriate moment, reveal that both spectators have randomly chosen the same card. Voila...!

Rick Carruth

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Practical Magic from Fellow Magicians - About 50 Effects

These are effect submitted to Practical-Magic.com by fellow magicians, detailing what they perform and how they perform it. Most are geared for children's entertainers. You might find a gem in this bundle. It's my belief that if I can find ONE thing among these 50 or so, then I've made a sterling investment in time and effort. No promises, but worth a look...

http://www.practical-magic.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=category§ionid=5&id=14&Itemid=32

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Heads Off The Match Trick - A Short Video

I love the simple effects that make a spectator do a double take.. This is a quick little effect called the 'Heads Off Match Trick' that's designed to look like you are using invisible thread to accomplish something right in front of the spectators eyes.. Very Simple and entertaining..

<http://streetmagic2.blogspot.com/2012/08/heads-off-match-trick.html>

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THE TRICK THAT CAN'T BE EXPLAINED!

Paul A. Lelekis

Have the deck shuffled by the spectator. Turn the top card face up on the table. If the card is a Jack, Queen or King, place it on bottom or burn it into the middle of deck.

Whatever the card is (Ace through 10) start counting cards onto it, face up, to arrive at the number 13. In other words, if the card is a Six of Hearts (suits do not matter!), count, "...six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve and thirteen!" So there will now be a pile of 8 cards, all face up with the six on the bottom. Turn this pile, FACE DOWN!

Repeat this two more times. You will now have three face-down piles. You may now ask the spectator if she would like you to stop here or deal out another pile. If she opts to deal another pile, do so like above.

You now have four face-down piles. Ask if she wants another pile dealt out or remain as is. She may continue to have you deal out piles until the cards are exhausted – or remain at three piles or four piles. The only stipulation is that you have at least three piles dealt out..

If you wish to just go all the way through the deck instead of stopping at 3 or 4 piles, continue counting out piles until either the cards are exhausted or you don't have enough cards to complete a pile. Keep the leftover cards in your hands.

Ask her to remove any face down piles she wishes but she must leave three piles on the table! Collect all of the other cards (except the three tabled piles!) into your hands. Then have her turn the top card face up, on two of the three piles.

Deal out 10 cards into a face down pile. Then count down cards using the number of one of the face-up cards onto the growing pile. Now count down the number of cards of the other face-up card.

Count the number of cards remaining in your hand. Whatever that number is, will match the value of the top card of the third pile!

As a kicker, have the spectator repeat the trick (with your guidance!) and she will come up with the same outcome – the number of cards remaining in your hand matches the top card of the third pile!

NOTE:

The above procedure is the mechanics of this trick only. I justify using only the Ace through Ten in the counting procedure by saying, "...I don't use the Jacks, Queens or Kings because I'm not into slave labor!"

As I begin this effect, I speak of medieval Europe and that the numbers 10 and 13 had special significance to these peoples. "The number 13 refers to the 13 annual lunar cycles of the moon and the number 10 refers to the Ace through 10 which represents everything else in their world – actually in their entire Universe!"

(This may be b***s**t, but it more than suffices for the lay audience.)

I used to use the Jacks, Queens and Kings in the counting procedure, but this "steers" the spectators into thinking that a mathematical principle is involved (it is!). Also the lay has "trouble" with attributing 11, 12 and 13 as the corresponding values for these "people cards" – so I exclude them.

I present this effect as, me, teaching a cool card trick to the spectators, that is "self-working"! Trust me you will have their UNDIVIDED ATTENTION! I usually get someone who asks me to 'teach them a trick'. This is your cue!

Fran Ferry - Serendipity Unfolds

" I've been performing magic since I was ten years old. After college, I taught photography at UMass Amherst, taught guitar, made guitars, wrote music books and children books, published short stories, and now I am a full-time magician."

"Once I discovered that magic was my real passion, I left my other hobbies behind and traveled around the world performing magic. In many countries, I found that an interpreter wasn't unnecessary -- the magic is a universal language that speaks for itself."

As far as adventures go, there have been many. Here's a brief story. Imagine having the staff that Dunninger had, with all their resources. Then, imagine a situation where all that serendipity fell into your lap, allowing you to perform an absolute, mind boggling mentalism routine COLD.

This is what happened to me: A local magician had a stomach virus that kept him pretty much locked in his bathroom. This was on a Saturday. He called me just as I was leaving to do a show in Connecticut. He told me that he had a show booked in Mass. for that night, and couldn't possibly make it. He implored me to take it. I said that I could, as I was doing a six year old's birthday party, and I would be done by three in the afternoon. The locations in Ct. and Ma. are only a half hour away from each other.

He really emphasised that I could NOT under any circumstances contact the woman who was giving the party to her husband for his 40th surprise party beforehand. He was a lawyer, and had NO clue that this was happening. My friend said that if I called and he picked up the phone, he might be tipped off. I told him I was good with that...

So, I did the kid's party, and I was having cake and ice cream with the parents afterwards. I had done a party for one of the parents kids, or otherwise I would not have stayed. In the course of the conversation, one of the women asked me if I had any more gigs that day. I said, as a matter of fact I did. She mentioned the couples names, and asked me if it was them. I went out to my car to check my booking sheet. It WAS them. I asked the woman how she knew the couple. She said that she didn't know the husband, but she DID know his wife. She went on to say that she ran a clothing store in CT, just at the border with Mass.

She told me that the wife came into the store a month before to buy clothes for the party. When I asked her what she bought, she said.. "a blue, business skirt with three buttons down the side. She also bought two other dresses; one was black and white paisley, and one was white with big yellow and red flowers on it."

I asked her if the woman bought a blouse. She said that she was going to, but being unable to find one, went out into the mall looking for one. She came back and said she couldn't find what she was looking for, and bought a silver lame blouse at the store. I asked her what her name was - Susan. She told me the manager usually takes care of this customer, and the manager's name was Nancy. She said that

Nancy was sick with the flu that day. I asked her how she paid for her purchases, and she said that she was initially going to pay for them with AMEX, but changed her mind and used Master Card. I made her promise that under NO conditions was she to EVER tell this woman that she met me, if the woman should come back into the store.

Having written ALL this down, off I went to the party. I arrived, explained that I was there to fill in for the scheduled magician, who was ill. They were delighted that I was there, and shortly thereafter I did my show. I did my standard parlor show, with volunteers from the audience. I do MOAB, and card in box, with a Kennedy box. That is further confounding, as I put it in a clear, plexi case, and I put two hair scrunchies around the Kennedy box. I announce that I am picking a volunteer, and it will be someone I DON'T know, so DON'T say their name. After telling them I have a present for them in the box, inscribed with their name, they are usually amazed. A card selected/card shuffled/mercury folded, and away I go.

Well, at the end of my show, I did a seance slate prediction with the three boxes. While I did this routine, I am accustomed to folks whispering to each other how they believe I am doing the routine. I finish this, and say, I know many of you think mind reading is hokum. I agree. Yet, I would like to offer a demonstration of psychometric. This is where I look at an object and try to get a "Read" on it. Oddly enough, sometimes I am incredibly accurate. I invited the wife up to the stage. I should say that this is an old mansion, which had a hidden elevator in the corner of the room.

Once on stage, I reiterate that I have never met her, and that I didn't even know that I would be there this night until I got a phone call two hours ago. Okay, I stretched the time a bit. I noticed that she was wearing the paisley skirt. I had me cheat sheet, visible only to me on my servante. I postured that she should concentrate on where she bought the skirt. I did some suitable concentration, and said, "I'm puzzled. Since you live only ten minutes from the local mall, I would have thought that you had bought it there. Instead, I'm seeing a location in Connecticut. Not too far from here. Concentrate. I asked her.. "Trend something? No, No. Trendy ? No! Corner something,..... and then named the store.. "Trendy Corner" Is that familiar, I asked? She was stunned, and nodded that it was to the audience. I said, that's good. You are really good at getting a good image, I said. I went on to say that I was puzzled by something. I was trying to see the dress she was wearing, but I kept seeing two other dresses. I then described the other two dresses. Again she agreed.

"Now, I said, I want you to concentrate on any other clothes you may have also bought there." I said, "I see you picking up other shirts, but you're not pleased with them. I see you going out into the mall, but not finding anything there that pleased you either. Now I see you picking up a shirt." "Blouse" she corrected me. I asked her to concentrate on the color of the blouse." "I'm puzzled," I ventured. "I don't see a color. I see a shiny blouse, but I also see the word..LAME!" "The cloth is silver, and it's called La-May." she corrected me.

At this point, a little girl aged about 10, from Pennsylvania, jumped up and exclaimed, "You've been stalking her!!" The crowd was in hysterics. She exclaimed, "My husband doesn't know where I shop! This man didn't know he was going to be here until an hour ago." I went on to pretend to fish about for the clerk's name, and named both of them, as well as saying that I "Saw" that the manager, who usually waits on you was sick, and that Lisa waited on you. I also told her that I SAW her start to pay with AMEX, and then decide to pay with Master Card. If that was unclear to her, maybe she could check her billing statement. She said that she didn't have to, as that IS what she paid with. As baffled as she was, she went on to confirm all the statements I said were true.

Well, when I got through, it was DEADLY silence in the room. All of a sudden, the 10 year old jumped up and said, "I've got ONE question for you." "What?" I asked. She immediately grabbed her vest and exclaimed, "Where did I buy my vest?" I said that I had no idea, as this kind of demonstration is best done with adults.

My friend said that they appreciated that he had found a replacement for the party, but they didn't mention my final act. I could not imagine any scenario where such a gift of information would be dropped in any performer's lap. Since I planned to use it for my finale, I was careful to craft my show in a casual manner. Doing this really emphasized the powerful ending. We all have circumstances afforded to us when we are at any venue. A skilled, experienced performer will take those gems and craft them into a memorable event. I'm certain that they will never, ever forget that ending.

Yes, I know I said that it was a short story. It's just a treat to share it with other performers. I've been fortunate in being able to riff on my magical assistants in a good way. Spontaneity is king. The performer who can fly on a shoestring, and bring his audience along for the ride, is a wonderful thing to see. I've watched Mac King do that a ton of times. It's like I walk into a show and exclaim, "This is my world. For just a little while, I would like to share it with you. I am not going to try and fool you. You deserve better than that. So, hang onto your hats. Here we go."

If you go to Youtube, and put Fran Ferry performer in, you'll see a clip a parent did at one of my shows a year ago. I let one of the moms use my camera, (I'm also a professional photographer). After the party, she downloaded them to her husbands Mac. He created a slide show, and put it to music. Then he uploaded it to Youtube before I even left the party. Some people have crazy cool skills.

Thanks for taking the time to read this. That story is just too much fun not to share. It was such a trip. The woman who worked at the clothing store said that all the people who work in an upscale shop like that always remember everything about their clients, especially when they like them. I did another party for this woman, and she told me that she never mentioned that she met me. Too cool.

Every good wish,
Fran

PS.. I mentioned guitars.. I had the pleasure of studying with Chet Atkins. He was a giant. When you meet your heroes, you always hope they are as big as you've made them out to be. I performed 20 minutes of close up for Chet. That was a very small way for me to give something back. When I asked him in class. "How he did a spectacular lick," he turned to me, and said, "This is Fran. He's a magician. I'm going to teach him how I did this lick, (which he repeated faster than the first time), and HE'S going to teach me How he got those coins in my CLOSED hand!!" Man, I was popping my buttons all week. He autographed the first music book I ever had, which was his. He wrote, "To Fran, (How do you spell Conjuror, he asked), a great conjurer, Chet Atkins." Life is about all the special moments you bring joy to people. Try to make someone smile everyday, and you're making the world a better place.

Thanks,
Fran
(<http://magic-1.com>)

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Two Free eBooks from MagicShop.co.uk

Two Free Ebooks for Magicians - by Magicians

(1) How to Learn Magic Tricks (2)The Pitfalls of Performing Magic to you Family and Friends

There are many unique challenges facing any magician who wants to perform magic tricks to the people that they know. These free ebooks highlights these problems and goes on to give you practical expert advice on how you can overcome and avoid them. Written by professional magicians, it is essential reading for anyone learning magic.

How to deal with the fact they know you are not magic

How to deal with 'grabbing'

Being the centre of attention

The 'Do another' question

How not to 'spill the beans'

Important tips and advice

and much more

Why you were drawn to that magic trick

All about Instant miracles

Using the creator as a resource

How to get the most from magic forums

The right way to use a practice drill

What they don't tell you in the instructions

Fitting it in to your existing material

How to make it right for you

Important things you will need to change

Video in your training

What you really need to do next

Courtesy of Dominic Reyes. The Magic Roadshow enjoys promoting magic shops from around the world. Although there's nothing in it for the Roadshow, there's much in it for us as magicians.

<http://blog.magicshop.co.uk/>

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Deal of the Month - Super Mentalism Bundle for 4.95

Get Six Great Mentalism Manuscript Downloads for Less Than Five Bucks! Yes, I bought this, and the last effect alone was worth far more than the total cost. You absolutely can't beat this for \$4.95..

(slightly more than three pounds.. for my UK friends.). My friends at Trickshop have the unique ability to find gems among the piles of magic from yesteryear. They repackage and reprint the material to make it topical and sell it to us at a special price.

#1 - Hull's Super Psychic Billet Switch

Hull's Super Psychic Billet Switch is a great way to force the choice (of a famous person, popular travel destination, color, card, number, etc.) for any prediction effect. The process looks completely fair...

#2 - Volta's Miracle Newspaper Test

A young lady from the audience is blindfolded and handed a newspaper and pencil. She is asked to circle any spot on the newspaper she holds, then to remove the blindfold and concentrate on the words contained within the chosen area. From across the room, you are now able to reveal the words she is thinking of with uncanny accuracy. A brilliant and 100% practical methodology which can be applied to other effects.

#3 - An Unbelievable Prediction - Joe Berg

Five cards are freely selected from the deck and the spectator is asked to think of one. You write a prediction on a slip of paper and place it into your pocket. Next, you look at the cards and place one of those in your pocket as well. The remaining four cards are returned to the pack. The spectator now reveals his thought of card and discovers it is missing from the deck! The card and slip of paper are removed from your pocket...it is the thought of card and the slip of paper bears its name!

#4 - Audley Walsh Dream Deck

A pack of cards is handed to any spectator who shuffles the pack and chooses a card, or simply takes a peek. Spectator again shuffles the pack and hands it to performer. Performer ascertains color of chosen card while running through the pack which he then places behind his back. Now, spectator announces name of the chosen card. The moment he names the card, the performer instantly produces it in a novel manner. The clever principle employed provides for the dramatic revelation of the chosen card in various ways, such as being "spelled out," being found reversed in the center of the pack, etc. Miraculous.

#5 - The X-Ray Eye Act

The performer allows any member of the audience to seal his eyes with wads of cotton. This is held in place with pieces of surgical or adhesive tape. A bandage is now placed around the performer's eyes, on top of the cotton and adhesive tape. Impossible as it may appear, the performer demonstrates a number of tests which could only be performed by someone having normal use of their vision.

#6 - The Future Deck - Jack Vosburgh

Imagine the performer jotting down a few words upon the face of one of the cards from his deck. Then he tosses the written on card into the spectator's own hat, never to touch it again. The remainder of the deck is spread face down across the table or floor so that every one is exposed. The spectator points to any one, and this is a perfectly free choice. It is tossed into the hat with the other. The deck is squared up, the spectator himself may dump the cards from their place of safekeeping, and find that you have correctly written on one the identity of the other.

<http://trickshop.com/shop/billet-switch-hull?tracking=4f713ede3e4b0>

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The Best of Doves Books or Dove Month Revisited
Review by Maxwell

Hello all since this is, for lack of a better term, a reboot of the Magic Roadshow I'd like to do something special. A little more than a year ago I did a five week review series of all the dove magic I owned (Which can be found here <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19A2VJmdYyQ&feature=plcp>). So I would like to go through the dove books I own and go over the, in my opinion, great usable material in these books.

Dovetail Deceptions by Senor Torino – (<http://abbottmagic.com/Dove-Tail-Deceptions-abbdveldcp.htm>) Before I go over the effects I have to say that if you're a dove worker you have excuse not to own this book since it is only \$3.50. This should be at least twenty or twenty-five dollars sine you get a full dove act. I have this book as the baseline for my parakeet act. I of course took out the effects that don't work for me. My only problem is that I despise body loads so I have cut the four to only two.

Now on to the effects. Cane to silk and dove production this sounds like the average trick but it's all in the steal that happens with a great bit of, forgive the term, misdirection. I don't do this effect but it is a very good one. All the steals in this seem very Slydini-esque. Which is sure to piss-off a lot of you but that's the way I see it. Silk to boutonniere though no great mystery I would include this in my act if it were ever sold again. Arabian bead mystery (<http://abbottmagic.com/Arabian-Bead-Mystery-ABBarabianbead.htm>) and dove production. For the classical performer this could go over well. I don't do this for the sole reason that if I pulled out a pearl necklace it would look rather odd. If your act uses an assistant I recommend that she wears the pearls. If any women want to do this act make sure you wear the pearls. This is one of the best dove steals in the book since it has the best misdirection and steal. Probably my favorite trick in the book is the vanishing tobacco trick. You change a cigarette to a cigar (<http://abbottmagic.com/Abbotts-Cig-to-Cigar-ABBcigcigar.htm?categoryId=-1>), then you produce a pipe and pour the tobacco into your fist. Upon opening the hand the tobacco has vanished, then you pour the tobacco from the pipe onto the ashtray. You'll have to buy a pipe and gimmick it yourself.

Come Out Flying (<http://abbottmagic.com/Come-Out-Flying-ABBencofrmpg.htm>)– Glove to doves I occasionally start my parakeet act with this, with a slight difference. In the effect proper the gloves change into a dove. I produce the parakeet from the gloves. I prefer using a parakeet since it is easier to hide in the gloves. My real problem with this is that the gloves are on a pull. As stated before I hate body loads, although this may not technically be a “load” it's still on my body during the act. Dove Cote Fantasy upon showing, for lack of a better word, a bird house inside and out to be empty. Immediately a dove pops out of the opening. There are eight pages devoted to rubber doves, I don't really think any of these are particularly good. If you have a rubber dove already you may want to buy this book for the ideas.

Check back next month for part 2, where I look at Parakeet Magic & “Tops” Treasury of Dove Magic. If you would like to find out more of Maxwell's opinions check out maxwellsmagicreviews on Blip.tv (<http://blip.tv/maxwellsmagicreviews>)and youtube (<http://www.youtube.com/user/maxwellsmagicreviews>).

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Who is Todd Robbins?

If, like me, you're into the Con and con games, then perhaps you've run across Todd Robbins on the internet or TV. I'm familiar with him from both. When I was thinking of publishing something on the Con, he immediately came to mind. I've read his blog and I recommend the site... To quote from his site:

"In addition to being America's #1 Con Man, Todd Robbins has a long list of other accomplishments ... a goodly number of them legal. You may have seen him on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, The Late Show with David Letterman, or Late Night with Conan O'Brien. But it's just as likely you've never heard of him - because Todd is a well-known authority and practitioner of all things deceptive."

"Todd also uses his skills in more offbeat ways. He was one of the more successful participants in an underground experiment known as The Urban Survival Project. Individuals were dropped off in major cities without a dime in their pocket and left to live by their wits for a week. At the end of the seven days, Todd had not missed a single meal, was living in a nice hotel and had almost five hundred dollars on his person.

Additional praise for Todd Robbins includes 'A legend!' (New York Post), 'The Flim-Flam Maestro' (New York Magazine) and 'The Master of Old-World Deception' (New York Newsday)."

<http://www.modernconman.blogspot.com/>

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Australia's Honest Con Man - Encyclopedia of Scams

Here's a nice collection, in wiki form, of a large number of scams and cons; ranging from card scams to short cons, long cons, sales cons, situational cons, and various gambling cons. Yes, there's cons here you can use as part of a magic routine or table hopping gig. Most I was familiar with, as I'm a student of the con and the psychology behind the con.. but there's always those odd ones I'd not run across in my 'library'.

Being part of the wiki community, you can use (republish) any of these pages as long as you do so on a non-commercial basis and provide a link back to the source. Learn about:

- Short Cons: Swindling a mark for the money they have on them
- Long Cons: Sending a mark for larger amounts of money
- Hoax Scams: Scams that never happened.
- Con Artist Jokes: Some funny, some not so funny.
- Cinematic Scams: The best con artist films of all time
- Swindle Bibliography: Essentially reading for any con artist.

Gambling

- Dice: Every thing you need to know about cheating with dice.
- Cards: Manipulating paste boards for beginners.
- Poker Machines: Beating the slots.

- Bar Bets: Never pay for a drink again
- Betting Systems: Dodgy systems designed to beat the odds.
- Pool, Snooker etc: Are you the next hustler? If not, these easy pool hustles are fun.

Plus....

Sales

- Advance Fee Fraud - Telemarketing - Pyramid Schemes - Stock Market - Door To Door

Situational

- Carnivals - Medical - Internet - S'ex - Historical - Banks - Stock Market

While on the homepage.. be sure to drop down and spot the Con Man Blog. I can get lost in pages like this.. meaning to simply garner a resource and ending up spending a hour or longer reading posts that I wish I had posted.. This stuff is timeless.

<http://scams.wikispaces.com/>

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A Circus Con - My Personal Little Story
R.Carruth

This is a TRUE story. I remember almost every moment like it was yesterday, as I re-lived every moment over and over for days.

I remember the first time I was truly scammed. The county fair came around once a year and I never missed it.. at least not in my younger years. I was 17, just out of high school, and working as a billing clerk for a large local company. My bring home pay each week was \$77.00 and I was quite proud of it..

Although I loved to play pool for money, and frequently played with other peoples money, I was stingy with my own money. Regardless of the payoff, I simply didn't want to risk my hard-earned dough..

Back to the fair... After spending a few bucks on a side show or two, throwing some nickles for a chance to win a bear, and riding something that wouldn't turn me upside down.. I saw a booth completely FULL of amazing tools and toys, including a small motorcycle. People were gathered around and money was flowing over the counter.

As I stepped close enough to see what the game was about, a 'gentleman' behind the counter spotted me and motioned me over. All I could see was a miniature football field painted on the counter and bunches of small, upright pegs behind the barker with clothes pins (like the kind your mothers used to pin clothes on the clothes line) attached, or 'pinned', to the top of each peg. The carny held a handful of wooden rings in his left hand, obviously intended to be thrown or tossed over the clothes pins.

I nodded 'no', as I wanted to watch some of the other participants and get an idea of the purpose of the game. The barker motion again and said "Come on over young man.. this isn't going to cost you a thing.."

I stepped close enough for him to hand me three rings and ask.." You'd like to win that motorcycle wouldn't you? Just go ahead and throw those rings over those pegs.. You got nothing to lose, young man"

That wasn't exactly true..

I threw the rings; and if one missed a peg, he handed me another. After all three were successfully resting over three pins, (they were fairly large hoops), he took one of the clothes pins off and said " Fifty yards!.." He quickly put it back in place and turned toward me, moving a small pawn from a chess set that was setting on the end line (goal line) of the football field to the 50 yard line. He looked at a second pin and said " Ten yards!", and moved the pawn 10 more yards toward the opposing goal line. Checking the third pin, he called " Twenty yards!.." , and moved it 20 more yards.

"Young man, you got twenty more yards to go to get in the end zone. You get in the end zone and that motorcycles yours.. Go ahead and toss another ring. Now, this ones going to cost you two dollars, but as lucky as you are, you probably gonna win on your next throw."

There was absolutely no way I could walk away and leave that little motorcycle for someone else. I gave the Carney two dollars and threw the ring. He looked at the clothes pin and yelled "Five yards!..", turned, and moved the pawn five more yards. I now sat fifteen yards from the end zone.

"This next ring is gonna cost you five dollars.. But how much would that motorcycle cost you?"

I was too close to quit, so I gave him five dollars and tossed ONE more ring.

He looked at the pin and said " Five more yards!", moving the pawn to the 10 yard line. " You not quite as hot as you were, but you only got 10 more yards to go.."

I turned to walk away and the Carney said " Hey, Hey.. Tell you what I'm gonna do. I'm going to give you another throw for five bucks. Suppose to cost you Ten. You can't turn that down."

He was right; I couldn't turn it down. I had seven dollars in this stupid game and was getting ready to invest five more... I tossed the ring and momentarily I had Five more yards. I was five yards from the end zone and torn between tossing one more time or walking away. He helped me come to a decision..

" This is what I'm gonna do.. This next throws gonna cost you ten dollars, but you see that pellet rifle and that little clear box with the hundred dollar bill inside? I'm gonna add that to the haul, and you have to admit that's quite a haul, and I don't doubt that's over five hundred dollars worth of gifts. There ain't no place else in this fair that'll let you walk outta here with that much stuff.."

Like the sucker I was.. I gave him ten dollars. Twenty Two dollars invested and I'm getting ready to ride outta here on a mini motorcycle.

I tossed my ring and he removed the pin it encircled... He didn't yell anything. He turned to me and said... "That's some bad luck.. you got a five yard penalty.." as he held out the clothes pin for me to see

the words.

I wasn't sure how.. but I was sure I'd been fooled .. Sure enough that I turned and quickly walked away. I couldn't figure how I managed to get a five yard penalty on what should have been my last throw. It took me maybe five minutes to figure the scam. I threw a five yard penalty because EVERY clothes pin had either a 'five yard penalty' or 'five yards' printed on it.. The Carney worked fast enough that he didn't show the pins initially. I didn't see the 50 yards or the 20 yards, since who's going to argue with Fifty yards.. right? It wasn't until we got down to the end that he showed me the pin. The game was totally controlled by the Carney, and I'm sure he held back a 'five yard penalty' pin in the event that he needed to do a little sleight of hand from time to time..

Twenty Two dollars was a lot of money to me.. about a day and a half's work. I watched this Carney make that much in less than ten minutes. After I cooled down, I went back to watch. I saw person after person share the same 'experience' I had.. I saw one come back with the police, and I saw the Carney take a couple of 'five yard' pins off the pegs to convince the cop that there was indeed a chance for the participant to win.. although there wasn't.

As they say.. 'Lesson Learned', and I Learned quite a lot that night. It's funny how something so simple can stick with you for so long.. or make such an impression.

I had never seen an actual psychological con, where the mark was lured deeper and deeper into the con via money and prizes. Oh, I'd played the games that were virtually impossible to win, like throwing at the milk bottles or shooting the center out of a target, but this was a progressive scam that took more and more from the mark as the game progressed. The psychology amazed me... and still does.

What does all this have to do with performing magic? Aside from the secret manipulation of the pins and the audience control, we take their money at the door and seldom have to worry about our 'audience' climbing over the counter and kicking our a-- If you have trouble with stage fright, keep the con man's lifestyle in mind. If you screw up a trick, you have the luxury of being able to move on to the next one... Your noggin's not at risk...

Rick Carruth

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The Principle of Card Effects - A Sample Lesson from Tarbell

In Card Magic are also included the fancy sleights and flourishes that some Magicians use. These really belong to the field of the juggler, however, not to the magician. My aim is to teach you Magic which mystifies and not jugglery which is merely a mechanical accomplishment gained from years of practice.

- The simplified pass.
- 2 - The false shuffle.
- 3 - The double card lift.

4 - The slip change.

5 - The palming of a card.

The mechanical arrangements involved in the effects are:

1 - Production of selected card from closed card case.

2 - The slit corner envelope.

3 - Doubling first card in fan

http://www.lybrary.com/free_ebooks/tarbell_course_sample

Editors note.. I have several New, Hardbound copies of the Complete Tarbell Course.. over 900 pages in length and hundreds upon hundreds of illustrations.

If you're interested.. I'll pass them along for \$58.00 each, postage paid.. At this price they won't last long.. Email me at Rick@MagicRoadshow.com

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Convert Any Picture into a Cross Stitch - Free Online Tool

While we are concentrating on our magic, our significant other sits loyally at our feet and patiently waits for us to show them a mere smidgen of attention. What? This scenario is not repeated daily at your home? Say they swat at your feet instead, telling you to get your lazy a__ out of that chair and cut the grass..

Well, I can't help you with the grass brother; but I HAVE developed a strategy..

My Photo Stitch provides the perfect compliment to your endless practice. Heck, you might even enjoy it yourself. You can download virtually any picture off your computer or digital camera and watch as it's converted into a cross stitch pattern. Print it off and you're ready to offer your loved one the perfect diversion.

Wanna see your head shot converted to a nice cross stitch? Talk nice....

<http://www.MyPhotoStitch.com>

(Thanks to Mike and Gillian for the link)

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How to Make a Wordpress Website - Tutorial

Wordpress is the #1 platform on the planet developers use to create a website.. In most cases if you have a hosting company you have easy access to Wordpress, usually as simple as clicking a button or two and then fine tuning the details. For example, www.EasyMagicTricksTV.com and www.MagicTricksWeb.com are two of my sites that are both utilizing Wordpress.

If you have contemplated creating a blog/website, this is the ideal article for you. It will take you step by step through the entire process.. and you may be quite surprised how simple creating an aesthetically pleasing website can be..

<http://howtomakewebsites.net/about/>

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HUH? (This is my Sweethearts contribution to this Issue..)

Write down your Shoe Size..

Multiply x 5..

Add 50..

Multiply x 20..

Add 1012

Subtract your Year of Birth..

First digit(s) is your Shoe Size and last two your Age..
(If you haven't celebrated your birthday this year, it might be off a year..)

Carolyn Carruth (my speller extraordinaire..)

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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://Magicbookstore.info> (free downloads on page 3)

Not a subscriber? Simply go to <http://streetmagic.info/subscribe.html> and sign up, then download your free ebooks. All I require is your email address and first name.

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Thank you for hanging in there to this point.... I sincerely hope you've picked up something of value along the way. Publishing each issue is a learning experience for me as well, simply through the process of searching the web, looking for resources and web sites of interest...

I encourage you to share your favorite links, videos, and resources with fellow magicians. 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..

You can go to the url below and use the web form to easily send your articles and effects to the Roadshow for publication.

<http://www.streetmagic.info/submit.html>

Email me at Rick@MagicRoadshow.com

A couple of my other sites...

<http://EasyMagicTricksTV.com>
<http://MagicTricksWeb.com>
<http://GetFreeOnlineLinks.info>
<http://SuperLinkList.info>
<http://LasVegasMagicShows.info>
<http://MimosaServices.net>
<http://MetalDetectingForFunAndProfit.info>
<http://MagicBookStore.info>
<http://www.eTricks.info>
<http://www.magicblog.info>

May my next issue find you well..

Rick Carruth / Editor

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

