

**Magic Roadshow 146**  
**August 2013**

Hello Friends

Welcome to the August issue of the Magic Roadshow. I hope you find something inside that inspires your magic.

I can't say that the past month has been particularly 'magical'. Although it's certainly not been a bad month, I've not attended the first meeting, been to a single lecture, or attended (or made plans to attend) a single convention. I've been a slacker... Oh, I did rent and watch 'The Incredible Burt Wonderstone' the other day.. but I'm not sure if that counts.

I hope summer has been good to you. This has been one of the mildest summers on record in the South. I know some of you have experienced heat waves and the like, but not here. We've had fifteen inches of rain in July alone, and that's kept the temperatures in the 80's for the most part. Hey.. I'm not complaining.

Look for a review next month of "Undiluted Hocus-Pocus.. The Autobiography of Martin Gardner". Due out in October, this autobiography was a work in progress virtually until Martin's passing in 2010. It's quite an amazing compilation of facts and thoughts by not simply a man of magic, but by a man held in the highest esteem by the likes of W.H Auden, Carl Sagen, and Arthur C. Clarke. Definitely put it on your Christmas list...

Comments, questions, rants? EMAIL ME ([Rick@MagicRoadshow.com](mailto:Rick@MagicRoadshow.com))

What say we get on with the (Road)Show?

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The more experienced magicians out there will know that you don't perform card tricks for children... children just don't understand them. However when you focus on pictures drawn on playing cards or using "flash cards" then just the opposite is true.

I learned this effect from Richard Sanders' VHS/pamphlet, Close- Up Assassin, from back in the 1990's. This is a wonderful effect! I play it for children...but in front of their parents. The parents will be as bewildered as the children! I have also played it (many times!) for only adults with a little bit of racy humor\*\* (see the end of this effect) that will get huge laughs...I'll explain both.

I have had literally hundreds of children over the years approach me at whatever restaurant I'm working and say "Do Stickman, do Stickman!" That's how effective this trick is!

Play this effect a couple times and you'll be very excited with the great response you will receive, and you will (as I have), make it a permanent part of your repertoire!

EFFECT: Introduce a deck of cards and have a child pick one...WITHOUT the performer seeing it. Turn your back as the child writes his or her name on the card.

The magician loses the card in the deck and then picks a card himself and shows it to the spectators. He then draws a Stickman on the back and places the child's name on it. Stickman fails three times! Oh no!

With a magic pass over the deck, the Stickman disappears. When the performer looks through the deck, he finds Stickman again...when he turns it over – it is the selected card!

METHOD: When I "play" this effect...I really play it up BIG! I act very animated because this will not only make the trick more fun for the children...but more importantly, you will capture their imaginations - and with NO interruptions!

Bring out a deck of cards. I begin by saying, "Kids! In a minute I am going to show you my buddy, Stickman, but first you need to choose a card and put your name on it!"

Note: I hold the deck so the children can see all of the cards and I instruct them to choose a spot card. How do I do this? I pick out one face card, a King, Queen or a Jack and tell them, "...don't pick a card that looks like this!" They almost always understand. If not, have the parent pick one out for the child.

When they've put their name on the card (the kids will enjoy doing this!), say the Six of Hearts, take the card back and then say (this is for the parents!) "Do you remember the card?" They will say 'yes' to which you reply, "...well it doesn't matter as long as you don't forget your name!"

For those of you who will inevitably say, "Oh man, that's an old joke!" I say, "So what?! The lay people LOVE it!" Remember, performing is NOT ABOUT YOU!

Control the card to the top of the deck. This is an EXCELLENT opportunity for you to practice your Classic or Jiggle Pass! Lay the deck on the table. You may double or triple undercut to the break to bring it to the top.

Here's a little secret...when you place the deck of cards on the table (after controlling the card or cards to wherever), all attention will be brought back to you. This is especially nice for the narcissist magician! But for the more mentally stable magicians (is that an oxymoron?!), it is perfect or "timed misdirection". It works extremely well for many different effects!

"Kids...I'm not going to find your card...I'm going to have my buddy Stickman find it for you!" (Notice I said "...find it for YOU!?")

"First I need to draw Stickman on the back of this card!" Perform a double lift to display another card...let's say it is the King of Spades.

This is the perfect time to have fun with the spectators! Make Stickman look like the child for whom you are doing this.

Turn the double face down and draw a stickman figure on the back of the top card, the signed selection!

Draw one of the outstanding features of the child to make it more personal for them. Use discretion! Perhaps you may draw in freckles or say "...There! Stickman (or Stickwoman!) is skinny...just like you!"

"I'm going to use this Stickman detective to find your selection!"

Turn the double face up to again, to display the KS.

You will now perform The KM Move: Hold the face-up double with the right thumb on the face and the right index finger and middle finger on the bottom, on the right long side of the card.

Next drag the double to your right (the left hand stills holds the deck!) until the left long side of the double, reaches the right long side of the deck.

Simultaneously turn your left hand turns face down, as the right fingers and thumb, "pinch off" the bottom card (the selection with Stickman on it) and your left fingers come into contact with the Stickman card, below, assisting in unloading the card onto the bottom of the, now, face up deck. Right after you unload the card, flick the face-up King with your right thumb. It will appear that NOTHING has happened!

You will now be left with the face-up King of Spades. DO NOT let anyone see the back of this card! It is supposed to have the Stickman on the back!

Phase I:

"Stickman will now perform Houdini's famous Substitution Trunk Mystery!"

At this point, place the King (double!) on the bottom of the deck, and again, perform the unloading technique as described above. This action will “kill” the back of this card so no one can see that Stickman is no longer on there! Just use timing.

Pull the face-down KS to your right (thumb still on face of card!) as you make some kind of sound with your mouth...such as a “popping noise”. The “noise” makes this effect fun and more animated for the kids!

“Look kids! Stickman jumped off of the card! He’s looking for your selection in the deck!” Now turn your left hand, palm up to display the Stickman has jumped onto the back of another card on the deck! This is very strong! Everyone will appear befuddled.

Flip the KS face down onto the table to show that Stick man has “jumped off” of the back of that card.

Immediately turn up another double (with Stickman on the back!) and say, excitedly, “Is THIS your selection?” She will say “No!” and you say, “Oh yeah, your \*name’s not on it!”

Remember...each time that you turn up a double card, there will be a Stickman on the back with an indifferent card showing on the face!

\*The above line will act as sort of a “running joke” each time you “fail”! But this line also reinforces the fact that there is a signature on the selected card!

Phase II:

“Oh boy – Stickman missed! Let’s have him (her) try it again! This time Stickman will use his trapeze act!”

Again, grasp the right long side of the face-up double card with your right thumb on top and the right first two fingers below.

Turn your left hand (with deck), palm down as you slide the face-up double to the right side of the deck and your right fingers, again, “kick off” the Stickman card onto the bottom of the face-up deck as you “flick” the now single card with your right thumb.

Be careful (again!) to NOT show the back of this face-up card...there is NO Stickman on it!

Move your right hand as if the Stickman is doing a “triple flip” in the air and then flick that card, back upward, to show Stickman has again jumped off! Lay this card onto the other card on the table.

Turn the deck back up once again, to show that Stickman has “jumped” over to the deck! Turn another double face up, and AGAIN, show that Stickman has failed to find the selected card!

Phase III:

Turn the double face down onto the deck...again displaying Stickman. AS you apologize profusely for Stickman’s mistakes, push over the bottom, indifferent card with your left middle finger into right hand classic palm – have the RH grasp the deck in Biddle position, effectively hiding the palmed card. This is actually easy to do!

Say, "I apologize for Stickman, kids! Instead, I'm going to squeeze Stickman into a tiny little ball and POP him right off the back!"

Make a popping noise to coincide with Stickman "popping off" of the back of the card! ACTUALLY, you add the palmed card to the top of the deck – thus covering up Stickman! This is another very strong moment!

Note: As I add the indifferent card to the top of the deck to hide the Stickman, move your hands face up and face down to act as if you are trying to "pull" Stickman off of the back of the card...these movements will hide the addition of the card and will appear as if you pulled Stickman off of the card! Have fun with this!

Phase IV:

The deck in your LH will appear as if the Stickman has been "picked" right off of the card!

Hand the Stickman in your right fingers to the child and say "...be careful you don't drop Stickman!"

\*\*"Now pick up Stickman by one of his legs and throw him at the deck!"

You now riffle the end of the deck for the child and tell him or her to throw Stickman into the deck! The child will happily comply!

When he/she "throws" Stickman at you, act as if the child missed the deck! "Oh no! You missed!" Pretend to pick up Stickman off of the floor and as you hand it back to the child, say, "Oh no...I think you broke his little leg!"

This will get BIG laughs from everyone present...especially the children!

Hand Stickman back to the child and prepare for a quick Pass (insert your left pinkie into the middle of the deck somewhere as you instruct the child to "throw Stickman more carefully"! This is the point when you make the Pass!

It's important to control the "flow" of the effect at this point! Children will often "grasp Stickman" very quickly and toss him before you can do the Pass...so control the kids and the patter at this point!

After performing the Pass, (centralizing Stickman in the middle of the deck), have the child throw Stickman at the deck again. This time praise the child for his/her great throw! "Perfect! You threw Stickman right into the middle of the deck!"

Spread the deck (face-down) at this point to show that Stickman is in the middle of the deck!

Pull the Stickman card out from the deck and build the suspense..."Let's see if Stickman has found your card" (turn card over)..."Yes! Stickman did it! He found your card! Yea!!" Jump around and yell...and so will the children!

This is a GREAT effect for the kids! They LOVE IT!!

**\*\*Racy Humor -** If performing this for adults only at Phase IV above, when you “hand” Stickman to the spectator and say, “Now pick up Stickman by one of his legs and throw him at the deck...”

As she picks up the imaginary Stickman, say “No no! Uhh...that’s NOT his leg!” (Big laughs here!) “Why do you think they call him Stickman?!”

(If this type of humor is too racy for you – then don’t do it! But let me tell you...the laughs and nervous giggles are HUGE at this point and well worth your time!)

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Paul Lelekis is an award-winning magician and lecturer, having published many effects, one-man parades and mini-parades in respected publications like The Linking Ring. When not performing professionally, Paul has conducted dozens of close-up lessons, lectures, and classes for literally hundreds of fellow magicians. Please check out some of Pauls other compilations at:  
<http://www.lybrary.com/paul-a-lelekis-m-163788.html>

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### 25 Trick You Can Perform With A Stripper Deck - Video Tutorial

As I mention below, I regularly use a Split Spades stripper deck even when performing normal routines. Here's a free 25 minute video, brought to you by Royal Magic, that details a big bunch of quick effects you can achieve with a stripper deck.

I think we sometimes forget how enjoyable, and how simple, magic can be. We are the ones who make it harder with the belief that, unless it's a knuckle-buster, it's not worthy of our repertoire. All I can guarantee you is this.. One day you'll be fooled SO BAD by one of the 'name' magicians you'll give your right arm for the secret. And when you find out he's using this long lost gimmick called a Stripper Deck to perform his miracles, you'll wonder.. "...now why didn't I think of that?" .. and you'll run to the nearest dealers table to buy a couple.....

<http://www.etricks.info/2013/07/25-tricks-with-stripper-deck.html>

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### Suggestion For Using A Stripper Deck - Video

I regularly use a DB Split Spades stripper deck, even for common effects. I've found the edges to be superior to Bicycle cards.. a result of sharper blades being used on the DB cards as a result of the shorter runs.

Watch this short video for a suggestion of a simple technique to separate a deck of cards and set it up for a trick requiring the deck to be separated. Although it's certainly not new, it IS a good reminder that there are viable tools around that could make life easier...

<http://www.MagicBlog.info>

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## THE AMATEUR CONJUROR

© 2013 By Ed Glassman

An exclusive feature for the Magic Roadshow

### COLUMN 32. 'ARITHMETICAL CHICANERY'

©2013 by Ed Glassman

This trick is taken from my book: "Family Magic I & II: 105 Tricks For My Family" (and yours too) available from CreateSpace (Click here- <http://www.createpace.com/3434093> )

I am going to take some time off from writing this column and will resume in November. Before I go, I would like to share something that I discovered quite recently, though perhaps you knew it all along, that is, I get the same enthusiastic and baffled and mystified reaction whether I perform a simple-to-do trick or a very complicated one.

So why, I now wonder, did I spend all that time learning and practicing heavy sleight of hand when a parcel of simple tricks would accomplish my goal of entertaining my family and friends. Alas.

Of course this approach won't work if you want to impress and mystify magicians, but I am a simple amateur conjuror with simple goals.

#### A SIMPLE TRICK

Consider this straightforward and easy arithmetical trick. I ask the spectator-volunteer to hold up the deck so I can see the cards but he cannot see them. I point to a card and ask him to remove it from the deck and place it face-down before me without looking at it. I ask the spectator to remove any card he wishes (though not a 10 or a picture card) and place it face-down before him.

I instruct him to double the value of his card, add 2, multiply the result by 5, and subtract 7. I ask him to tell his final number, and I announce that the first digit matches his card, while the second number matches my card. Sure enough. Wow.

#### SO HOW CAN YOU ACCOMPLISH THIS MAGICAL TRICKERY?

It will help if you answer the following questions:

How can the final number predict the value of his and my card?

Why did his calculation seem simple?

Good luck to you if your thinking produced useable ideas. The wizard flies by, waving. I did the trick this way...

#### THE SECRET

When I chose my card, I chose any '3' from the deck. Using the arithmetical steps I described will always produce a number with two digits. The first digit will always match the spectator-volunteer's card, the second will always equal 3, the card I chose.

This trick works itself. Just do it the way I described. The mathematics always works.

## MAGICAL PRINCIPLES

### ARITHMETICAL, MATHEMATICAL, SELF-WORKING TRICKS

Self-working arithmetical tricks that always work out allow the magician to rest between more demanding tricks, and provide a delight for fans of 'No Hands Card Tricks.'

Such tricks sometimes appear more eerie than they deserve, a terrific boost for the idea that easy-do-tricks can provide as impressive and baffling a trick as do more elaborate ones.

## CALCULATING CHICANERY

Numbers don't lie; nor do they mislead. Calculations like the one in this trick fit into the world of 'No Hands Card Tricks.'

This trick easily converts into a telephone trick. See my book: "25 AMAZING MAGIC CARD TRICKS EASILY PERFORMED OVER THE TELEPHONE (FAMILY MAGIC-3)," available from Amazon ([http://www.amazon.com/Amazing-Tricks-Easily-Performed-Telephone/dp/1468117343/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1325949371&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Amazing-Tricks-Easily-Performed-Telephone/dp/1468117343/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1325949371&sr=1-1)) and CreateSpace (<http://wwwcreatespace.com/3754072>).

SEE YOU IN November...

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Slydini on Cavett - A VERY Special Bonus For Roadshow Readers..

Read the article in the NYTimes and then watch the two half-hour videos of Slydini in his element. These videos are probably the Best Videos available of one of the TRUE legends of magic...

David Cavett said... "Years later, when I had a show on PBS, I went to see the late Doug Henning's evening of magic on Broadway. Backstage in his dressing room after the show, I barely noticed a smallish man standing to one side. Suddenly he said what sounded like, "You D. Cava?" I horripilated. Before me stood the god I haven't mentioned yet. There, in the flesh, stood Slydini.

Instant gooseflesh. He'd been one of the giants in the Pantheon of magic for decades; I would sooner have dreamed of meeting Beethoven.

This legendary conjurer, born Quintino Marucci in Italy, found close-up magic wanting and simply re-invented it ("I wanted to take out all the phony-looking stuff"). He toured the world, working in several languages.

What had sounded like "D. Cava" was, of course, my name, and I loved that Slydini knew it. I knew that he refused to do television. A bad experience in Europe, with cameras in wrong places and lousy editing, had soured him on that and, a perfectionist, he wouldn't risk again having his work tainted.

I was thrilled when, having heard I knew magic, he said that maybe I would "be the man to give me what I need" and asked if he should consider doing my show, "If-a you are interested..."



Read the full story here...

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/03/27/conjuring-slydini/>

Watch the two thirty-minute segments of Cavett's shows featuring Slydini

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

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Three Dice Number Prediction...

Spectator throws three (3) dice onto a table - While the magi is turned away.. Spectator is asked to look at the top three numbers and perform the following:

Line the three dice up to create a three digit number.. Spectators choice.

Multiply the first (far left) die times 2.

Add 5

Multiply times 5

Add the number of the middle die.

Multiply times 10

Add the number of the last (right) die.

Subtract 125

Announce the total to the magi..

The magi will now announce the top numbers, in their correct order, of the three dice.

Solution:

Assume the three dice were 3-6-2

$2 \times 3 = 6$

$+5 = 11$

$\times 5 = 55$

$+6 = 61$

$\times 10 = 610$

$+2 = 612$

$-125 = 487$

Magi secretly subtracts 125 (always subtracts 125)

$487 - 125 = 362$

A Special Thanks to my bigger-than-life Texas buddy.. Harold Brosious

<http://www.harbrodojo.com/harbrodojo/Welcome.html>

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Mathemagical Medley... Werner Miller's Monthly Feature

13. Another Color Separation

Only three red cards (e.g. JH, QH, KH) and three black cards (e.g. JS, QS, KS) are used. Start with the reds and the blacks face up in two separate spreads, then place the blacks on the reds, square the cards, and turn the packet face down: (top) r - r - r - b - b - b (bottom). Mix the cards by giving them a Reverse Forward Faro (or simply deal them singly and alternately into two piles, then drop the right-hand pile on top of the left-hand pile). Result: (top) b - b - r - b - r - r (bottom).

Spell "R-E-D". Shift the top card to the bottom ("R"), also the next one ("E"), then remove the new top card ("D"), turn it over, and deal it face up to your left. Now spell similarly "B-L-A-C-K", transferring singly four cards ("B", "L", "A", "C"), and deal out the card falling on the last letter ("K") to your right. Continue this way spelling alternately "R-E-D" and "B-L-A-C-K", thus automatically separating the reds from the blacks.

To achieve the same effect with four reds and four blacks, place the face-up reds on the face-up blacks, square the cards, turn over the packet (b - b - b - b - r - r - r - r), and perform a Monge Shuffle (r - r - b - b - b - b - r - r). Start the alternate spelling with "B-L-A-C-K".

If you want to use five reds and five blacks, place the face-up reds on the face-up blacks, square the cards, turn over the packet (b - b - b - b - b - r - r - r - r - r), and false cut. Start the alternate spelling with "B-L-A-C-K".

#### 14. Red/Black Sandwich

Openly sort out any four red cards and any four black cards. Show them, then place the red cards on top of the black cards (all cards face down). "Milk" off pairs of cards and deal these pairs alternately left and right to get two 4-card piles of mixed colors, the order of the colors identical in both piles: (top) red - black - red - black (bottom).

From the rest of the deck, have one card freely selected by the spectator. The spectator notes and remembers this card, drops it on top of either pile and places the other pile on top of it.

Now deal the cards singly back and forth and finally drop the left-hand pile (5 cards) on top of the right-hand pile (4 cards). The spectator's selection is seemingly lost. (In fact, it is now third from the top: b - b - x - r - r - r - r - b - b.)

Announce that you will need the help of any black card and any red card to find the selected one. Introduce your "helpers" as follows: With the 9-card packet in your left hand, spell "A-N-Y" and deal for each letter a single card off the top down into a new pile, then place all the remaining cards as a block on top of this 3-card pile. In exactly the same way spell/deal now "B-L-A-C-K", then "C-A-R-D", putting all the in-hand cards on top of the dealt cards after each word. Turn the final top card over and place it face up back on top: really a black card.

Repeat the spelling/dealing procedure using the phrase "A-N-Y", "R-E-D", "C-A-R-D", and turn over the final top card as before: really a red card. (The face-up black card is second from the top down, the spectator's card second from the bottom up.)

Give the cards a Klondyke Shuffle (i.e., continuously "milk" off top and bottom card and deal these pairs into a new pile), then ribbon-spread the cards and call attention to the single face-down card "trapped" between the two face-up ones; it is the spectator's card.

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Werner Miller is a retired math teacher living in Austria. He has created literally hundreds of math based magic tricks. His primary interest is recreational math and applying it to puzzles and magic.

He won the 1989 and 1992 Tenyo Magic Competition each with a Flash Dice Routine. In addition, Werner has written extensively for magic publications.. including The Magician, Abracadabra, The Mystery Magazine, and Club 71. Lybrary.com feature a number of books authored by Werner, most in English and some in German. For more (and more elaborate) math-based magic by Werner Miller visit:

<http://www.lybrary.com/werner-miller-m-7881.html>

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Family Magic 4 - 45 Astonishing Magic Card Tricks For Kidz of All Ages

Ed Glassman

Many of you will recognize Ed Glassman as the author of a monthly column in the Magic Roadshow. Ed has generously shared his talent and knowledge with magicians around the world, while simultaneously introducing his card magic to both his family and friends. His latest book, 45 Astonishing Magic Card Tricks For Kidz of All Ages, is a continuation of Family Magic I and II, that introduced us to a wealth of card magic that didn't require great skill and dexterity, but only attention to detail and the ability to carry out an effect in a set manner, without arduous practice.

I know not all of us think alike. Personally, my mind works in a logical manner - with a touch of creativity. I'm not the guy who creates a new effect from scratch, utilizing some previously un-thought-of technique; but I CAN take a basic effect and add my personal twist to it and transform it into something that LOOKS new and interesting. I'm not bragging.. because I know many of you can do the same thing.

There is a constant flow of new effects coming from the 'names' in magic. I see their ads and videos every couple of days, introducing a new effect that some other 'name' magician considers 'absolutely essential' for your repertoire. Although the vids are interesting, it's the copy that's telling.. Invariably, somewhere about the seventh paragraph, the writer reveals that "this effect, discovered in an obscure Marlo manuscript from the 40's" served as the 'inspiration' for this startling new move-sleight-effect-technique.

If that's the case, Ed's new book could be the inspiration behind a year's worth of 'new' effects from some ingenious entrepreneur.

Family Magic 4 is a treatise of card tricks intended to be performable by Kidz, but serving as a reminder to us 'adult' kidz who depend on card magic just how much FUN magic can be...

There are a number of effects using locator cards, forced cards, reversed cards and duplicate cards. Many of these effects are the basis of some of the classics of card magic. John Scarne took some of these effects and converted them into a slightly more complex version, then published them as 'Scarne on Card Magic', one of my all-time favorite magic books and the one that served as my initial inspiration into card magic.

After almost all of the 45 tricks, there is a small section offering a tip or tips for the young magician. If you know a young performer, or have a young performer in your family, this would be an ideal introduction to card magic. This may well be the 'Scarne on Card Magic' in their life.. and how good would YOU feel to know you've introduced a young one to a world of magic.

Family Magic 4 is the one book that YOU will borrow from a young wizard, and both of you stand to expand your horizons. While the younger of you is learning some great basic effects, the older of you two can practice their creativity.

Rick Carruth

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Instant Magic - Impromptu Video Tutorials...

Here's four great videos from Julian Mather at Julian's Magician School, plus a fifth I found on Youtube. This is a follow-up to the impromptu magic videos I published last month, which seemed to strike a chord with a number of you...

Newspaper Mental Magic Effect - A Little Known Fact  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n\\_FWuXeKiAY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_FWuXeKiAY)

Psychic Straw - An Easy Impromptu Effect  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pizHgEpqtls>

Penetrating Matches Trick - A Classic Revisited  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=09oYhkBqXco>

Magic Match Box Trick  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZLIwm7xdOQ>

Match Box Ghost Trick

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6Nz01wU4To>

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I HATE Roulette Wheels

After my wife and I spent the past weekend gaming in my favorite casino, I was reminded of two things; I hate roulette wheels and I love video poker. Unfortunately, every time I play VP I'm reminded of how little I know about the 'proper' intermediate and advanced betting strategies that are necessary to win consistently. If this issue is late.. it's on account of the inordinate amount of time I've been spending at VideoPoker.com.. (This is strictly a FUN site, the best TRAINING site on the internet.. and NOT a betting site..) Check it Out...

[http://videopoker.go2cloud.org/aff\\_c?offer\\_id=1&aff\\_id=1063&file\\_id=32](http://videopoker.go2cloud.org/aff_c?offer_id=1&aff_id=1063&file_id=32)

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Uri Geller the Psychic Spy: I Used Secret Mind Tricks on Russians To Stop Nuclear War..

I love this story from the Mirror. It seems our friend Uri Geller has been up to more than bending spoons.. and a special on the BBC outlines all the secret details.

"HE is most famous for bending spoons but what you probably didn't know is that Uri Geller is actually responsible for saving us from a Third World War and Armageddon.

At least that's how it seems...

And while he is the king of reinvention, from his early days as a nightclub entertainer to a psychic who graced the sofas of 1970s chat shows, even by Uri's standards his latest incarnation is a little bizarre.

In a new documentary, the 66-year-old has been "revealed" to be a spy, a psychic James Bond who fought the Soviet menace armed with nothing but a hard stare and a drawer full of contorted cutlery..."

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/uri-geller-psychic-spy-used-2063744>

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CW Revives 'MASTERS OF ILLUSION' TV show..

Yes, the CW has ordered 13 hourlong shows, reviving the classic 'Masters of Illusion' tv series... Read more at The Hollywood Reporter....

<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/live-feed/cw-revives-magic-show-masters-585645>

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## Hampton Williams - My Favorite Non-Magic Performance of 2012

I watch way too much stuff on TV. Everything from 'Justified' to 'Breaking Bad', 'Pawn Stars' to 'American Idol', and 'Survivor' to 'So You Think You Can Dance'. I even tape 'The Young and the Restless' every day to watch at 2 or 3 in the morning when all my prime time shows are off.

Now that I can reflect on 2012, I can say without a doubt that my favorite moment was watching Hampton Williams perform on 'So You Think You Can Dance'. Although he made it through the audition phase, he dropped out in Vegas, realizing that his style of dance would not bode well when he was asked to tango or two step.

Hampton is an original. He developed a very personal style of dance that is a cross between popping and freestyle hip hop, with a touch of modern dance. What he has done is applicable to any performing art.. be it dance or magic. He has taken a style and, rather than copy a current artist, created his own personal moves and in the process, emotionally moved an entire audience. Thanks to Youtube, his performance has moved hundreds of thousands of others around the world.

This 21 year old kid from Texas created a style that transcended what we perceive dance to be by ignoring the obvious and mundane and embracing the original. He appeared on SYTYCD again this year, bringing his young daughter and wife, and again bringing the audience to tears. Before he could appear in Las Vegas he was involved in an auto accident and fractured his lower back. I understand Hampton has a long road to recovery but fully intends to dance again..

I understand that not everyone will 'get it'.. You are either deeply moved.. or not. I was...

The song is 'My Immortal' by Evanescence. Originally released 10 years ago, My Immortal won a Grammy in 2004, disappeared, reappeared on the charts in 2008 in the UK and went to #1. It reappeared on the charts in Australia and Canada in 2011 and is now back in radio rotation in the USA, thanks in part to Hampton's one and half million Youtube hits...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNHi7Wa7vpc>

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"May my next issue find you well.."

Rick Carruth / Editor

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