

THE MAGIC OF  
*John Tudor*

**MAGIC THEATER  
STUDY GUIDE**



## John Tudor's Magic Theater Study Guide

### Tricks and Stories

Magic is a secret art. You know you are going to be fooled, but not told the secret. A good magician will let you forget it's a trick, or not even want to know.

One way a magician can let you forget that it's a trick, is by using a story.

As you watch the show, you will see that some parts are just **tricks**, or to make you **laugh**. Some parts tell a **story**, or set a **mood**.

1.) Which parts were your favorite? Which parts were just tricks? Which parts told a story?

2.) Where in the world did the stories take place? When in history did they take place?

3.) What was your favorite story? Describe what it was about. What did it make you think? How did it make you feel?

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### **The Magic Wand**

The next page has a series of simple tricks with a magic wand. The wand can be a wooden dowel, a cardboard tube, or a wand bought at a magic store.

Read the directions carefully.

Pick one or two tricks.

Practice in front of a mirror.

Think of a story you can tell when you do the trick.

Practice some more.

Some tricks are easy, some take skill, all take practice.

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# Magic Wand Kit

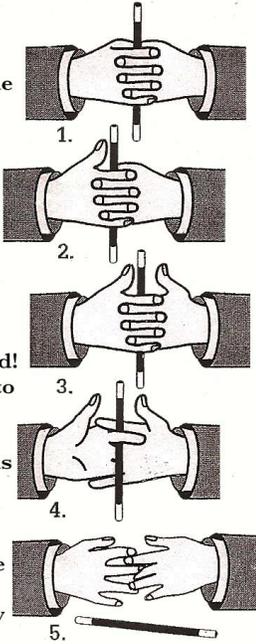
## Magnetized Wand



Place the wand across the palm of one hand with back of the hand toward the audience. Curl your fingers into a fist. Slowly open fingers and wand is magnetized to your hand. Secret: Grip your wrist with your other hand. Don't let audience see your right index finger holding wand in place.

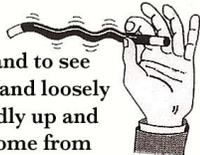
## Sticky Wand

Effect: Similar to the Magnetized Wand but it takes a little more practice.  
1. Hold wand as shown. 2. Lift one thumb. Audience will think that your other thumb is now holding the wand. 3. Lift other thumb. They will be amazed!  
4. Study drawings to see how the trick is achieved. Interlace fingers so that one is folded inside your palms. The wand is held behind hidden finger. 5. To end the trick, pull your hands apart quickly and let wand fall.

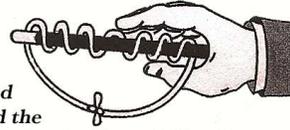


## Rubber Wand

Have your friends touch Wand to see that it is stiff. Then hold Wand loosely as you move your arm rapidly up and down. Movement should come from shoulder. Wand looks like rubber!



## Escaping Wand



Routine: "I'll wind this string around the wand and tie the string in a knot. When I say the magic word, the wand will escape." Wrap string around wand three times. Hold string with your index finger (see drawing). Wind string around the wand three more times, but in opposite direction. Have friend tie a knot. Say "SUPERFUGIO" (Escape in Latin), and pull string straight down. The wand will be free of the string, yet the string is still tied in a knot.

## Balancing Wand



Effect: The wand defies gravity.

Preparation: Pull one tip off, fill the wand about one-third full of sand or table salt. Slide tip back on.

Routine: After holding wand at an angle so the sand flows to one end of wand, place the wand on a table with two-thirds (end with no sand) protruding over the edge. Wand won't fall. Your audience will think that it's weighted at one end. Turn the wand over and place it with the other end on the table.

## Wand From Card Box



Effect: Wand is pulled out of a playing card box.

Preparation: Cut slit in side or bottom of box. Place wand up your sleeve with an end coming through slit, so you can reach it.  
Routine: Enter room with box in hand. Your hand hides wand coming from your sleeve. "Magicians need to keep their magic wands handy. Mine is in this box. Watch this!" Open box, reach in and pull out the wand. Hold the wand in your hand and put the box in your pocket or out of sight.

For More Magic:

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803-351-6070

[www.tudormagic.com](http://www.tudormagic.com)

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## **John Tudor's Magic Theater Study Guide**

### **Learn The Art**

Here are some simple rules to learn magic.

#### **1. Keep the Secrets!**

Magicians don't ever tell their secrets! Even though people will ask and tell you that they want to know, don't tell because the audience will be very disappointed when they find out; disappointed in the magic and in you.

**DO NOT reveal the secrets.**

#### **2. Practice!**

Nobody is ever great the first time they try something, so keep trying.

**DO NOT** try to perform magic tricks you learn for anyone without practicing them first! Practice before a mirror or video camera, to develop your skills.

#### **3. Don't be Boring!**

Relax and let the real you shine through. **DO NOT use the magic to be smart-alecky or cocky about what you know and the other person doesn't.** Don't force your magic on **people, and be sure it's interesting to watch.**

#### **4. Other Rules**

- A. Be sure you are ready. Set up before hand so that you will give a good show:
- B. Don't tell the spectators what you are going to do before you do it.
- C. Don't repeat the tricks twice in a row for the same people.

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### The History of Magic

Magic is international, as magicians from every part of the globe have created unique illusions to entertain.

It started with the ancient Egyptians. Magicians are seen on the walls of the Pyramids, using cups and balls, and live birds.

Ancient Greek magicians did special effects in temples. Chinese magicians used colorful silk, and metal rings. In India, they ran swords thru a boy in a basket, who magically survived. Native American magicians made plants instantly grow under a blanket. In Japan, it was done with delicate paper and flowers. African magicians caused dolls made of straw move as if alive.

Magic grew in Europe in the Middle Ages with street and circus performers, cards became their favorite tool. Eventually, magicians went *onstage*, for bigger audiences.

The Frenchman Robert-Houdin modernized the art, as he levitated his young son. The Golden Age of Magic featured large American touring shows, like the escapist, Houdini. When these big shows declined, magic moved to vaudeville, then to nite clubs.

Modern performers took “close up” magic to new heights. Magicians learned to perform on television, then the internet, and the ancient art was reborn!

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### **Further Resources (Books & websites)**

#### **Magic Books**

In the library, the Dewey Decimal System number is for *magic* is 793.8.

To learn *about* magic - recommended books are:

**The Illustrated History of Magic**, Milbourne Christopher, 1973.

ISBN-13: 978-0786716883

**Escape! The Story of The Great Houdini**, Sid Fleischman, 2008.

ISBN-13: 978-0060850968

**Hiding the Elephant: How Magicians Invented the Impossible and Learned to Disappear**, Jim Steinmeyer, 2004.

ISBN-13: 978-0786714018

To learn to *perform* magic - recommended books are:

**The Amateur Magician's Handbook**, Henry Hay, 1950.

ISBN-13: 978-0785802044

**The Mark Wilson Course in Magic**, Mark Wilson & Walter Gibson, 1975.

ISBN-13: 978-0762414550

**Now You See It, Now You Don't**, Bill Tarr, 1980.

ISBN-13: 978-0394722023

#### **Magic Websites**

**magicalwisdom.com** - The world's finest magic school.

**itricks.com** - Magic news, videos and podcasts.

**magictimes.com** - News, magic on TV listings, special products.

**allmagic.com** - Tricks, sleights, handling, and presentation.

**mymagic.com** - Listings of magic videos.

**magiccastle.com** - The world famous magic club.

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### **Magic Organizations**

Here are the two main magician's organizations, where you can learn and meet other magicians in their local clubs.

#### **The Society of American Magicians**

The S.A.M. is the world's oldest and most prestigious magic organization and is for all people interested in the art of magic. This includes collectors, historians, hobbyists, and enthusiasts, as well as professional performers. Houdini, Blackstone, David Copperfield, and more than 47,000 other magicians worldwide have helped to preserve, elevate, and advance the art of magic as S.A.M. Compeers. **Has an excellent young magician group, S.Y.M.**

**[magicsam.com](http://magicsam.com)**

#### **The International Brotherhood of Magicians**

The world's largest organization dedicated to the art of magic, with members in 88 countries. Since 1922, their official publication, *The Linking Ring*, has linked magicians throughout the world. Local branches of the I.B.M., known as Rings, meet each month in hundreds of locations. The *Annual Convention* features top professional magicians in our spectacular evening shows.

**[magician.org](http://magician.org)**

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