INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE FOR MENTALISTS & MAGICIANS







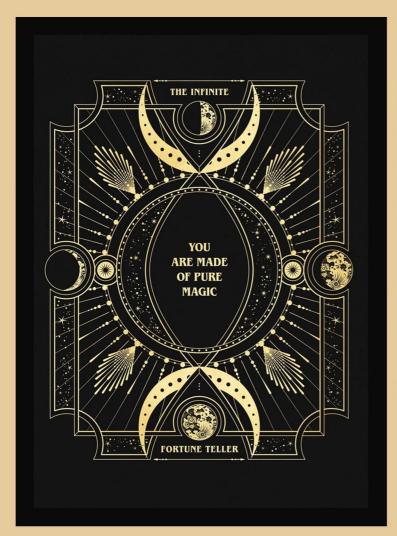


ortune telling is the practice of predicting information about a person's life. The scope of fortune telling is in principle identical with the practice of divination. The difference is that divination is the term used for predictions considered part of a religious ritual, invoking deities or spirits, while the term fortune telling implies a less serious or formal setting, even one of popular culture, where belief in occult workings behind the prediction is less prominent than the concept of suggestion, spiritual or practical advisory or affirmation.

Historically, fortune telling grows out of folkloristic reception of Renaissance magic, specifically associated with Romani people. The rise of fortune telling through cartomancy can be traced back to the late 17th century to a deck owned by John Lenthall. During the 19th and 20th century, methods of divination from non-Western cultures, such as the I Ching, were also adopted as methods of fortune telling in western popular culture.

An example of divination or fortune telling as purely an item of pop culture, with little or no vestiges of belief in the occult, would be the Magic 8-Ball sold as a toy by Mattel, or Paul II, an octopus at the Sea Life Aquarium at Oberhausen used to predict the outcome of matches played by the German national football team.

There is opposition to fortune telling in Christianity, Islam and Judaism based on scriptural prohibitions against divination. This sometimes[when?] causes discord in the Jewish community due to their views on mysticism.





THRILLS OF FORTUNE TELLING: PANDORACON PANEL — 19th Century Fortune Telling

ROBERT SCOTT, PSYCHIC AND PARANORMAL WRITER FOR THE PANDORA SOCIETY, PRESENTED ON 19TH CENTURY FORTUNE TELLING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH AT PANDORACON.

At the scheduled time, the presentation begins. The main methods covered are cards, both Tarot and Lenormand, dice, tea leaf reading, palmistry, and scrying or gazing.

Questions from audience/panel: What do you consider for a soothsayer character in steampunk or fiction?

"Aside from the historical aspects, avoid racial or cultural stereotypes or generalizations, such as gypsies being the fortune teller. Build up a history, such as what led them to be a soothsayer, why it is important to them, or how they became one, and what their tool or specialty might be. Consider what type of technology might be invented to assist them."

Question from panel: What about costume / appearance?

"Well for me personally, my derby has a infinity symbol, taken from the Magician card in the tarot deck. My boots have skull buckles and I got them in the French Quarter. I use a leather holster pouch for my cards. I wear various other pins on my hat and vest. This is not only what I wear to steampunk events, but also very much what I wear to do readings in general, as a personal choice."

Question from panel audience: What about runes?

"Runes weren't really used in divination until Llewelyn published a book on a system. Norse and Ogham runes were used in many ways, but there is no prior history of them being used in divination."

There were three main decks of Tarot at the time.



Originally, Marseilles Tarot was, and is to this day, also a playing card game. It was adapted to fortune telling. The Eteilla 1791on the other hand, was the first deck made specifically for fortune telling. The deck made by Wirth began to add occult esoteric information overlaid and embedded in it, and Kabbalah. It didn't make the scene until 1890.. The Marseilles, Eteilla and imilar Historical and European style decks are read a bit differently than modern decks, as the pip cards aren't fully illustrated., and rely a bit more on intuition. The Marseilles style were originally carved on wood blocks, which were then stamped, inked, and pressed onto the cards. So to create these was a work of crafting as well as art. They also tend to be quite a bit larger than modern standard playing cards. When writing to the time period, There are plenty of images of Marseilles decks available for reference, and they wouldn't have necessarily been referred to as tarot, but also 'cards'. There were a few other Italian decks, but the predominant cards were French. English tarot cards, particularly for divination, didn't come until 1910 with Rider Waite Smith. With the Rider Waite Smith, much more esoteric was hidden, but the minors became illustrated. If writing about Card reading, a card reading doesn't just take a matter of seconds .. Earlier decks are read more reflective and intuitive, and not as intellectual or academic.

Audience / Panel Questions: How do you store your cards / silk / anything "special"?

"I store them, as much as possible in their original box, or in a cloth bag, or typically in my leather pouch. I don't do silk, as its not particularly protective in any way. If I really need to protect from weather, I'd use a ziploc bag as well."Here is a close up, and showing more cards from my favorite Marseilles deck, Jean Dodal. Tradition was that the year and maker was placed on the 2 of coins. Tarot has went from artwork, to a game, to fortune telling, to a game, to more refined divination, a map of spiritual development, a tool for magical use, a metaphor of the world and creation, a game, an intuitive tool and trigger, and a tool even used by counselors, psychologists. Tarot can be used for also inspiring the creation of a story or writing. Madame Marie Marie Anne Adelaide Lenormand (1772–1843) was a French professional fortune-teller of considerable fame during the Napoleonic era, and likewise, Victorian. Madame Lenormand highly influential on the wave of French cartomancy that began in the late 18th century. She was stated to have advised the leaders during French Revolution, and also wrote on the subject, all in French, of course. The cards shown were created later, and named for her based on her methods.

Crystal balls or crystal gazing in one way was imported from Buddhists as a meditation, focus insight meditation tool, this continues today. The idea is to use the crystal as a means to have emptiness and clearness of mind, which then allows better insight and clarity of what is "real". Crystal for gazing or scrying is typically less clear, more foggy. Scrying is also done with raw crystal chunks, dark crystal-ballgems, dark glass, or water. Scrying was used by Nostradamus to write the quatrains. Also, John Dee used scrying to developic his Enochian Angelic systems. To gain images via scrying takes 30 minutes to an hour to even receive any images, and they begin as fog or mists taking form. True scrying does not look like someone watching the ball and getting television like images. So when writing about gazing, be sure to draw it out. Crystal balls make also a lovely decoration, as well as I have experimented with using it as a "magnifier" to other tools I use. Don't let sun hit it, you'll end up with a fire.

Audience / Panel question: I heard something about keeping a crystal ball covered with a black cloth? What's that about?

"There are different methods of personal choice or superstition, but there is nothing about care of it that's particular". However also, any device used for spirit communication, as we discussed, you'd want to block or shut out, as any 'gate' goes both ways.

A popular mind reading magician, Aaron Calvert starts his "Awaken" show by correctly deducing what several members of his audience are thinking, as all good mentalists should. However, the main part and highlight of his performance is his hypnosis. This seems like the reason why he draws such a huge crowd at midday, as massive queues flock to his sizable venue, everyone fascinated and eager to be hypnotized.



AARON CALVERT AMAKEN

Calvert begins his hypnosis segment with a bi-tonal sound that, combined with his verbal prompting, is designed to lull the susceptible members of his audience into a state of hypnosis. The benefits of this segment are not entirely lost on those of us who are less susceptible. The tone used is quite relaxing, and Calvert's voice is pleasant and calming. The success of this segment is, of course, dependent on Calvert finding enough suitable audience members to hypnotize. Calvert leads them on to the stage and puts them through a series of tasks to demonstrate that they are indeed under his sway. None of these tasks are difficult or embarrassing, and this portion of the act comes off more as a pseudo-scientific experiment to demonstrate Calvert's abilities rather than a spectacle to entertain the audience at the expense of the participants—a welcome approach.

Calvert also makes an effort to include a flashier bit of hypnosis in his show. He guides one of his hypnotized subjects to pop a balloon through the power of negative thought. Here he again exhibits his care for his audience, making sure to calm his participant from this state of heightened negativity before restoring her mind to her own control.

The finale of the show, once all of the hypnotized individuals have been released from that condition, is designed to showcase Calvert's ability to predict the group decisions of his entire audience, regardless of each individual's susceptibility to hypnosis. However, it feels a bit rushed—perhaps, on this day, the other sections of the show took longer than expected—and the audience is left a bit confused as to whether Calvert actually achieved his goal or just shuffled things around a bit to make it look like they were in the right place. "Awaken" is certainly an enjoyable show for fans of hypnosis. Any imperfections in Calvert's mentalism are quickly forgotten, for Calvert is a talented performer whose showmanship makes him fun to watch on stage. In any case, an audience coming for hypnotic feats will leave well satisfied with their experience.



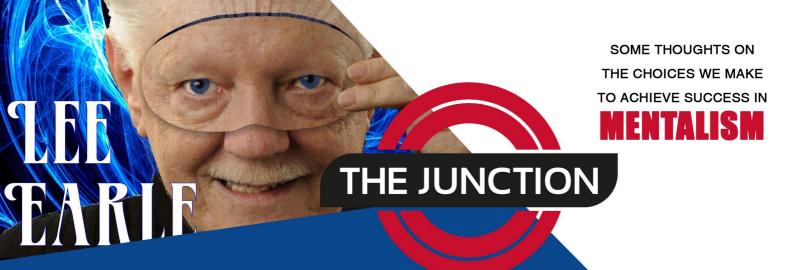


ot reading is a technique used when giving a psychic reading in stage magic performances, or in other contexts. In hot reading, the reader uses information about the person receiving the reading (for example, from background research or overhearing a conversation) which the receiver is not aware that the reader already knows. Hot reading is commonly used in conjunction with cold reading (where no previously gathered information is used) and can explain how a psychic reader can get a specific claimed "hit" of accurate

This technique is used by some television psychics in conjunction with cold reading. The psychics may have clients schedule their appearance ahead of time, and then collect information using collaborators who pose as religious missionaries, magazine sales people, or similar roles. Such visitors can gain a wide understanding of a person from examining their home, where tickets for the show may have been sent in advance. The "psychic" may then be briefed on the information, and told where the person will sit in the audience

For example, if you go to a psychic show, and there is someone chatting you up, or if the psychic asks the audience questions before hand, or even if it inst the psychic, if it is someone else, this could be there accomplice, so when you go up for your reading, or for a medium to talk to your beloved deceased relative, and the medium or psychic says she is talking to your father, you may not remember that you previously were talking to another person in the audience that you mentioned that you wanted to connect with your deceased father, which was the psychics accomplice, and this is how the psychic "tricks" you into believing they are connecting with your family member.

So, when going to a psychic reading, or to a medium so connect with a deceased loved one, remember to not divulge any information to anyone, whether it be the audience, or to the psychic before hand. This way you will know if you are getting and accurate reading or not. Also, if you can ask them questions that you know cannot be researched about you, that no one could possibly know but yourself, then this is another way to know if you are getting correct information.



We stand at a divide in the road. One path is smooth and welltraveled, inviting us to continue our journey in relative ease. The other way is rough and steep, narrow and winding. The road threatens to disappear beneath our feet, presenting us with unexplored vistas and leaving the direction we take seemingly as much to chance as to choice. Sounds sort of like a cold reading script, doesn't it? In fact, it is a colorful analogy of the situation in which most Mentalists find themselves at some point in their lives. They must decide whether to play it safe and remain on proven turf or to take a risk and reap unimagined benefits. It is tempting to take the paved highway, the less challenging route to a comfortable destination. Although jammed with other fellow travelers, many of whom are in search of easy answers and instant gratification, this autobahn is a safe and secure route. Most of us started down Mentalism's road in this manner, sandwiching a psychometry routine or a mind-reading bit between tricks in a conjuror's program. It gave us the assurance that, even if the new stuff blew up in our faces, it was surrounded with sufficient well-practitized material to salvage the performance. Then we got the feedback.

We didn't anticipate how much more reaction the unpracticed Mentalism would get in comparison to our polished prestidigtation. Audiences ignore the magic tricks we've practiced for years, preferring instead the fantasy of telepathy and premonition. Imagine what their reaction would be if we really worked at it? We are back at the fork in the road. To navigate the rocky trail, we must lighten the load and jettison old habits. Many of those assets which served us so well in the conjuring mélange are now liabilities which must be cast aside. In their place, we learn to develop an entirely new set of skills. People skills. We discover an entirely new dynamic with the audience; not one of confrontation but of cooperation. They become, if we do everything right, anxious for us to succeed.

Our triumph is theirs as well, validating their innermost thoughts (some would say fantasies, irrational beliefs, or superstitions) about the possibility of this "sixth sense" we all hear about. The bumps in the road are the price we pay for knowledge acquired along the way. These lessons teach us about finding and marketing to new venues or developing presentations that we can deliver without violating our personal ethics. Those who have trod the rocky path assure us it is the only route to the summit, but well worth the trip. I walk with Robert Frost and choose the road less travelled.



Detectives often follow their hunches," remarks the Mentalist, "which will sometimes lead to the evidence necessary for an arrest. Usually those 'gut-feelings' can be traced to an intuitive assessment of subtle clues. At other times, the investigator appears to be nothing less than clairvoyant." He places on the table before him a set of cards from the parlor game CLUE. Next to them, he places a small manila envelope marked, "Evidence - Handle With Care" and remarks, "Let's see if someone here can apply those same psychic perceptions."

Introducing the cast of characters by way of narrative the performer begins, "A harbinger of the howling tempest to come, the foreboding sky darkened as the six suspects-to-be assembled in the dining room." Showing the faces of the game cards in illustration of his story, the Mentalist continues, "Mrs. White, bearing a tray of cheese and crackers from the kitchen, arrived to find professor Plum reading a volume borrowed from the library. "Mr. Green, his fingers still damp from watering the ferns in the conservatory, exclaimed, 'Look who I found in the hall, the lovely Miss Scarlet! I took the liberty of escorting her here.' The dowager, Mrs. Peacock, sniffed and said, 'I would have thought the lounge would be her preferred destination. By the way, has anyone seen Colonel Mustard?' "As if on cue, a booming parade-ground voice announced, 'Sorry I'm late. I found the billiard room an irresistable attraction. Where is our host, Mr. Boddy?'"

The performer explains, "It was at that point that a bolt of lightning from the storm flashed across the sky. The room went dark. Thirteen minutes later, the lights came on to reveal the corpse of Mr. Boddy sprawled on the ballroom floor. A search of the house led to the following potential murder weapons: A revolver, a lead pipe, a knife, a candlestick, a wrench, and a length of rope. Spreading each of the three packets of face down game cards, the performer asks, "With no knowledge of the evidence envelope's contents, engage your clairvoyant senses to guide your hand to a selection. Withdraw one each; a room, a suspect, and a weapon." Each freely selected card is placed face down on top of its packet. After all three have been chosen, they are all turned face up. They are, in this instance, the wrench, the library, and Colonel Mustard. The contents of the envelope are emptied onto the table; a small wrench, a library card, and a single serving packet of mustard! How? The cards which match the envelope's items are secretly marked on their backs. If an unmarked card is chosen by the participant, the marked card is secretly cut to the top of its packet to position it for a subsequent double lift and turnover.

when

we talk about metal bending we are talking about one of the most visual and incredible mentalism experiment of all times.

This effect is being made famous by Uri Geller in the seventies, Geller infact claimed to be a psychic who could bend metal with the power of his mind, and from that moment on a lot of people discovered this ability and increased it and made it better.

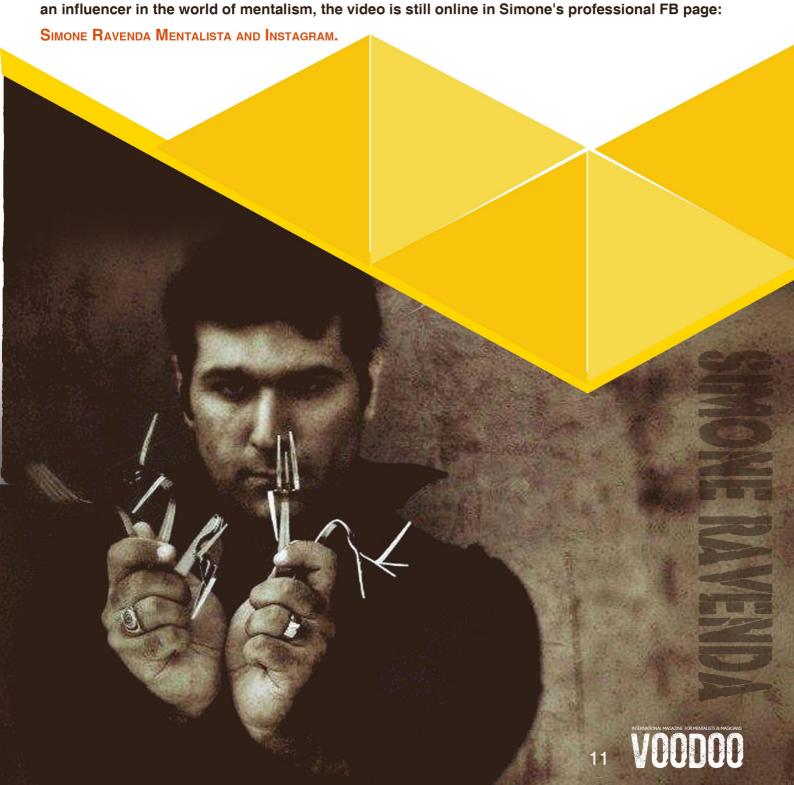
In Italy there is a guy who fused his personal brand with this experiment, we are talking about one of the best metal benders in the world:

SIMONE RAVENDA.

Simone infact is well recognized world wide as one of the best in this kind of effects such psycho kinesis and metal bending. He discovered this ability 15 years ago casually, while he was watching a special on television about the famous psychic Geller, from that moment on he tried for several months and nothing happened, until he discovered the secrets of this "power", immediately he understood how powerful was and from that instant on he decided to discover everything he possibly could about PKMB (psycho kinesis metal bending).

is bent spoons, forks, coins, keys are now all over the world, Uri Geller in person has one spoon which is being bent and signed by Simone, in 2013 Uri was in Saint Vincent for the Masters Of Magic convention, after his speech, Uri was on stage making picture and signatures for the people who was present, the moment he reached Simone, he said to Uri: "may i please be the last one?" Uri said ok, so after everybody it was Simone's turn, and after the picture he said to Uri: "Mr Geller, i probably will not see you anymore in my life, may i please bend a spoon for you?", Geller after a smile said yeah of course! So Simone made his metal bending routine in front of Geller and Uri in person asked him if he can sign it, Simone said is being an incredible moment.

Some months later Uri sent a video to Simone saying this: "Hi Simone, this is Uri Geller, your spoon bending is amazing! Is better... than when i do it". Simone said that having such a gift from Geller in person worth more than anything, for sure one of the most precious gifts i ever recived from an influencer in the world of mentalism, the video is still online in Simone's professional FB page:



BUT WHAT MAKES HIS METAL BENDING SO COOL & LEGENDARY?

Well a lot of little things according on what Simone said to us, first of all you have to belive totally in what you are doing if you do this experiment and you treat it as a little magic trick this experiment will not work as good as if you take it seriously.

Then all the techniques must be applied perfectly, we will not talk about the real techniques behind this effect in this article but these techniques must be applied in the right way and in the right moment. Then you must be able to create a legend of mystery behind this effect, you have to create an "aura" of mystery, Simone has a spoon bent and twisted as pendant, and this is another strategy to create "the legend", everybody ask him what is the meaning of that pendant, so he has the opportunity to say: "this is the very first spoon i've bent with my mind" creating with this sentence a layer of wondering and mystery and having the opportunity to perform a metal bending routine with a spoon taken from a bar or a restourant.



ANOTHER STRATEGY IS, AS HE CALLS IT, "THE RANDOM COIN BENDING".

Simone does not perform a lot of coin bendings as professional effect or routine but the only place he performs coin bendings in are normal places like bars or restourants after receiving the change from a coffee or a drink, he does that because doing like that does not give the feel and the "taste" of a performance, is just a normal moment, Simone infact says that metal bending is a lot stronger when is not done in a professional enviroment, but done casually, he loves to bend a coin after receiving the change because is such a random moment, and the lady which recives the bent coin, usually freaks out cause she doesn't feel this experiment as a magic trick, but as a psychokinetic experiment, made by a random guy, in a random moment.

An intimate evening of laughter and disbelief awaits!

ANOTHER WELL KNOWN WORLD WIDE METAL BENDER IS MORGAN STREBLER, MORGAN ALWAYS SAID ABOUT SIMONE THAT HE'S FOR SURE ONE OF THE BEST MENTALISTS AND METAL BENDERS IN THE WORLD, HE SAW FOR THE FIRST TIME SIMONE'S BENDINGS IN ANZIO (ROME) IN 2016 WHILE HE WAS DOING A WORKSHOP AND FOR SIMONE IS BEING A VERY COOL MOMENT, INFACT MORGAN WITHOUT KNOWING IS BEING ONE OF SIMONE'S MOST INFLUENCIAL TEACHER FOR THIS EFFECT.



ANOTHER ADVICE SIMONE LOVES TO GIVE TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO PERFORM

PKMB IS: GO SLOW.

Always remamber you are bending a metal object with your mind so you are NOT performing a magic trick in people's head, you are doing psychokinesis! So go slow in your bendings, they should look as real as possible, and think in your head that you are bending those objects with your mind powers, if you really think that all your body and your will, will act in the right way.

Simone for sure made a legend with this experiment and he's a master in metal bending, almost every country in the world has one of his bent metal object, Italy, Germany, UK, Russia but even outside Europe, USA, Africa, Emirates, Japan, Thailand, China and a lot more.

Actually he's writing a book about PKMB for the mentalism comunity, he still doesn't know when it will be ready but he hopes before 2021, in this book you will find everything about this experiment, not just the techniques but all the most impossible and incredible strategies for making this effect a real miracle which will be in people's mind forever!

He loves to give these impossible objects as a souvenir so he will be remembered forever, and when you are inside people's mind and heart you will really be immortal.

THE STATE OF THE S







THE THIRD EDITION OF "THE MAGIC FOR A SMILE"

WAS RECENTLY ON STAGE.

THE THIRD GALA OF THE MAGIC OF CERVIGNANO.

One of the most important things for him is not "never stop learning" but "always keep learning" Maybe is the same sentence, maybe is not.. up to you. International Mentalist for your event — with Simone Ravenda.









AWARDS & ECOGNITION





Larry & Raven

Named Mentalist of the Year by APCA





SHANE BLACK















BEST WEDDING ENTERTAINER 2011, 2012, 2014, 2017, 2019 BEST CORPORATE ENTERTAINER FINALIST 2011 & 2015

MULTI-AWARD WINNING MENTALIST & MIND READER FOR WEDDINGS, CORPORATE EVENTS & PARTIES



CHARLIE CAPER

Charlie Caper calls himself a magician, but Artifice Intelligence is less of a magic show and more an excuse for Caper to demonstrate a variety of robots and other machines that he has clearly spent a lot of time building. It is easy to see why, as they are incredible. Artifice Intelligence loses nothing from this focus, as Caper creates a compelling storyline out of his creations.

The magic that Caper does perform often makes use of the robots. It does, at times, almost become a commentary on that stale magical trope of the beautiful assistant, and her relationship with the magician who she assists. The robots steal the show. A particular highlight is the butter robot, which conveys an astonishing breadth of emotion for what appears to be one of the more simple of Caper's machines.

When Caper attempts more traditional magic tricks they do at times go awry. Cards and bottles might appear out of turn, and, at the performance reviewed, cups of liquid that were being used as props spilled all over the floor and Caper's clothing. This is written in an ambiguous fashion because Caper performed through these potential mishaps so impeccably that it is difficult to know whether they were genuine mistakes or calculated aspects of his performance, designed to appear to go wrong for effect. If they were honest mistakes it is perhaps even more impressive that Caper managed to play them off so efficiently.

The plot that Caper weaves through Artifice Intelligence is present enough to create dramatic tension, but not so prioritized that it dominates the show. Its foreshadowing and ultimately darkly satisfying conclusion bind the show together. It is charming that after the story has run its course, Caper takes advantage of his stage to deliver a message of hope about the future of technology in society. This does not come across as part of his act, but as genuine social commentary from a man who has evidently spent a large portion of his life fascinated by machines.

Artifice Intelligence blurs the boundary of what can be decidedly defined as magic. It also defies age boundaries, as it is both child friendly and engaging for all age ranges. What Caper has done is use both the magic of magicians and the "magic" of technology to build an unambiguously exceptional show.

ORDER NOW

ITS ALMOST HERE......

SINGLE DEVICE MUCH BOLDER.



DHENDAENAL CONTROL BY ANDROID DEVICE

Telepathic Telephone Book "proven"

Puff'nStuff



A lot of youngsters today haven't even seen a telephone book, so this will be extra entertaining for them. This easy mind reading tricks needs a phone book and two spectators who can calculate fairly fast. First, call on the first audience member and ask them for a 3-digit number. Alternatively, to make your audience more involved, ask three different audiences for one number each and combine them to make one 3-digit number. Write that number down on a sheet large enough for everybody to see. Then, ask another spectator to do the math with this chosen number. For instance, we will use 359 here:

Ask the second spectator to reverse the number: 953

Next, subtract the smaller number from the bigger number: 953-359=594 Then reverse this new number and add it to the last number: 495+594=1089

Finally, ask your audience to look in the phone book. Turn to page 108, then find the 9th entry.

Let the spectator concentrate on finding the name, and when they do, pause for effect. Announce the name that is in the phone book.

The trick to this is regardless of what three numbers your audience are going to choose, the answer will always be 1089. Try it. Any number you reverse and add in the way you did, the result will be the same. This is a good trick when you're hanging out with friends or at an office party, where you just casually say, 'Hey, want to see something amazing? Let's see what to use. Maybe hand me that phone book over there.'Of course, scan that phone book before the party or before you decide to use this trick to know what the 9th entry is on page 108. Remember that name and your trick can't go wrong. If people get amazed with this trick and ask you to do it with another book, just tell them you have used enough power for that one, or you'll pass out. Great excuse to use actually. With this concept of always getting 1089, you can be creative and think of other ways to amaze your audience by applying this easy mind reading tricks.



: a book of telephone telepathy

For sale is a mint condition copy of Lewis Jones "Person To Person - A Book of Telephone Telepathy". First printed in 1991, this is one of the best books ever written on magic over the telephone, which is out of print and very rare.

You'll not only learn extremely creative and amazing routines to predict and discern selected and thought of cards over the phone, but also even a routine using a drawing and a birthday. As promised by Lewis in the introduction, the effects in the book follow these criteria:

- 1. No forcing ever
- 2. Where a spectator is dialing another person, that number is openly displayed before the effects begin (to avoid any suspicion of codes)
- 3. Where a spectator is dialing another person, phone calls can be made by any spectator, but never the performer
- 4. Spectators who are sent to the phone will not be given any instructions other than to make the call in their own way

There are both solo effects, where you perform alone for a spectator at the other end of the phone line, and duo effects, in which you work with an in person spectator and a partner on the phone line.

Effects include:

Trump Call
Out of Sight

Hasterix

All Lies

Bell, Book, and Wangle

Remote Control

A Game of Murder

Televoyance

Dialogic

Ring Master

Transmission Impossible

Contactic

The Line-up Principle

The Buzby Connection

A true hard to find collectible in brand new condition.

