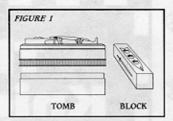


THE TRICK

You, the magician, show your audience the two-piece "tomb" and the rectangular block which has four symbols on it. While your back is turned, a spectator chooses a symbol and puts the block inside the tomb with that symbol faceup, then replaces the cover. You turn around and ask your spectator to concentrate on the faceup symbol. To your audience's amazement, you announce the correct symbol! You didn't even touch the tomb! What's more, you can perform this amazing mind-reading trick over and over again!

THE PROPS

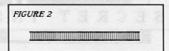
Your trick includes the twopiece tomb and the block with four symbols (see Figure 1).



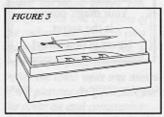
THE SECRET

If you look at the cover of the tomb, you will notice a thin decorative strip that goes all around the cover. This innocent-looking strip reacts to magnets hidden inside the block! The marks the magnets make on the strip clue you in as to which symbol your spectator selects.

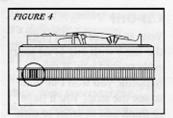
Take an even closer look at this clever gimmick (see Figure 2). Notice that it has a design made up of small vertical lines on a colored background.



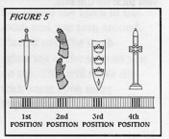
Now place the block inside the bottom part of the tomb with the sword on top (see Figure 3).



Replace the cover and examine the strip again. Can you see, at the far left, the blurring of the dark lines? It may take you a few seconds to notice it the first time, but once you see it, you will soon be able to recognize the mark from a distance (see Figure 4). Your audience, however, will not know what to look for, so the mark will remain invisible to them!



For each symbol on the block that's faceup, the blurred mark will appear in a different position on the strip. Figure 5 shows the symbols on the sides of the block and where their corresponding marked positions are on the strip.



Here's an easy way to remember which symbol corresponds to which position. If you always "read" the strip from left to right: The sword is one item and is in the first position, the gloves are two items and are in the second position, the shield has three crowns and is in the third position, the cross has four arms and is in the fourth position.

Incidentally, it doesn't matter which direction the block is facing when it's inside the tomb — only which symbol is on top. Also, the blurry mark will be in the same place on both sides of the tomb.

THE PERFORMANCE AND "PATTER"

Say the following to your spectator as you perform the trick. The script or "patter" will help you enhance the effect of the trick:

Everyone has heard the famous adventures of the knights in King Arthur's time. They were brave, loyal and well-versed in the art of combat. What many people don't know is that one weapon the knights had at their disposal was the ability to read their opponents' minds and predict their every move. I have trained myself in this ancient technique. Would you like to see a demonstration?

Show your spectator the two-piece tomb and the block with the four symbols.

Here is the tomb of Sir Glenn, never defeated in battle. And on this block are all of his prized weapons: his trusty sword, his magic gloves, his sturdy shield and the cross of the realm. I am going to turn my back. While I can't see, I want you to place the block inside the tomb with any one of the pictures on top. Then put the cover on and concentrate on the picture that's on top.

Here's where you turn around and your spectator follows your directions.

All set?

Turn back to face your spectator and pretend to concentrate while you take a peek at the strip on the side of the tomb. You see the blurry mark in the first position at the far left. This means the sword is on top!

Ahaaa....I'm getting an image. It's definitely a weapon ... something sharp and pointy ... it's the sword, of course!

Now open the tomb and show your spectator the block ... with the sword on top!

Do it again? Sure! A knight wouldn't be a very good warrior if he could only read the enemy's mind once ...

EXTRA-COOL EFFECT

Have a handkerchief or cloth on hand when your spectator has placed the block in the tomb and you turn around. Place it over the tomb (glancing at the strip as you do so). This will make the trick seem even more impossible!

UH-OH!

Your spectator might place the tomb with one of its short ends toward you. If this happens, you won't be able to see the strip! You'll have to think fast in order to turn the trick around. Here's our favorite way: Pick up the tomb and hold it up, saying, "Notice I cannot see through this box!" Or, hold the box to your ear as if "listening" to Sir Glenn's voice! Either way. you'll be able to catch a glimpse of the mark when you pick up the box.



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