

100 IMPORTANT BOOKS
Of THE 20th CENTURY
From Magic, Inc.

This is a list of books that I think are the most important books published in the 20th Century. At one time I tried to conduct a survey of various magicians dealing with books, but this proved to be impossible. So with some thought, I developed the list on my own. There are several criteria that were used in the selection process:

- 1) The book had to be first published between 1900 and 1999. (I am aware that the actual century is from 1901 and 2000, but using 1900 to 1999 has a symmetry to it.) So a book published in 1890, translated into English and published in 1910 would not make the list.
- 2) No reprints were to be used. Thus a book published in 1850 and then a new edition published in 1920 would not make the list.
- 3) The book had to be in English. It could be an English translation, but the original book had to be published in the 20th century.
- 4) If the book is in a series, then the series would count as one book. Thus the Tarbell Course is one book entry as is the four books on Dai Vernon published by L & L.

Here is my list for the most important and influential books published in English in the 20th Century:

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| Abbott, David P. | Behind the Scenes of a Medium.
Chicago: Open Court Publishing, 1912 |
| Allerton, Bert. | Close Up Magician.
Chicago: Magic, Inc., 1958 |
| Ammar, Michael. | A Manual of Magic Psychology.
Ammar, Michael, 1980 |
| Anderson, George. | It Must Be Mind Reading.
Chicago: Magic, Inc., 1949 |
| Anderson, Gene &
Frances Marshall. | Newspaper Magic.
Chicago: Magic, Inc., 1968 |
| Annemann, Theodore. | 202 Methods of Forcing.
New York: Max Holden, 1933 |
| Annemann, Theodore. | Jinx. (3 Vols) |

- Brooklyn, New York: D. Robbins, 1963
- Annemann, Theodore. Practical Mental Effects.
New York: Max Holden, 1944
- Armstrong, Bruce ed. Encyclopedia of Suspensions & Levitations.
Alberta, Canada: Micky Hades, 1976
- Baker, Al. Magical Ways and Means.
Minneapolis, MN: Carl Waring Jones, 1941
- Baker, Al. Pet Secrets.
Minneapolis, MN: Carl Waring Jones, 1951
- Bamberg, Theodore. Okito on Magic.
Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc., 1962
- Bobo, J. B. Modern Coin Magic.
Minneapolis, MN: Carl W. Jones, 1952
- Burger, Eugene. Experience of Magic.
Washington, DC: Kaufman & Greenberg,
1989
- Burger, Eugene & Robert Neil. Magic & Meaning.
Seattle, WA: Hermetic Press, 1994
- Burger, Eugene. Performance of Close-up Magic.
Washington, DC: Kaufman & Greenberg,
1987
- Burger, Eugene. Secrets & Mysteries for the Close up
Entertainer.
Chicago, IL: Philip R. Willmarth, 1982
- Burger, Eugene. Spirit Theatre.
Washington, DC: Kaufman & Greenberg,
1986
- Chavez, Marian. Encyclopedia of Dove Magic.
Brooklyn, New York: D. Robbins, 1979
- Christopher, Melbourne. Illustrated History of Magic.
New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, 1973
- Clarke, Sidney. Annuals of Conjuring.

- London: George Johnson, 1929
- Close, Michael. Workers. (5 Vols)
Michael Close, 1990 +
- Corinda, Tony. Thirteen Steps to Mentalism.
Brooklyn, New York: Thomas W. Simpson,
1960
- Devant, David. Secrets of My Magic.
London: Hutchinson & Co., 1936
- Dewey, Herb. Psycho Babble.
Herb Dewey, 1996
- Downs, T. Nelson. Modern Coin Manipulation.
London: Downs Magical Co., 1900
- _____. The Art of Magic.
Buffalo: Downs Edward Co, 1909
- Elliott, Bruce / Jay Marshall. Phoenix. (4 Vols / 2 Vols)
Brooklyn, New York/ Chicago:
Tannens / Magic, Inc, 1942+
- Erdnase, S. W. Expert at the Card Table.
Chicago: Fredrick Drake, 1902
- Fitzkee, Dariel. Magic by Misdirection.
Pamerory OH: Lee Jacobs, 1944
- Fitzkee, Dariel. Showmanship for Magician.
Pamerory OH: Lee Jacobs, 1943
- Fitzkee, Dariel. Trick Brain.
Pamerory OH: Lee Jacobs, 1944
- Fulves, Karl. Magical World of Slydini.
Brooklyn, New York: D. Robbins, 1979
- Fulves, Karl. The Best of Slydini.
Brooklyn, New York: D. Robbins, 1976
- Ganson, Lewis. Art of Close-Up Magic. (2 Vols)
London: Harry Stanley, n/d

- Ganson, Lewis. Dai Vernon Book of Magic.
London: Harry Stanley, 1965
- Ganson, Lewis. Dai Vernon's Further Inner Secrets of Card Magic.
London: Harry Stanley, 1978
- Ganson, Lewis. Dai Vernon's Inner Secrets of Card Magic.
London: Harry Stanley, 1959
- Ganson, Lewis. Dai Vernon's More Inner Secrets of Card Magic.
London: Harry Stanley, 1960
- Ganson, Lewis. Dai Vernon's Ultimate Secrets of Card Magic.
London: Supreme Magic Company, 1976
- Ganson, Lewis. Magic of Slydini.
London: Supreme Magic Company n/d
- Gardner, Martin. Encyclopedia of Impromptu Magic.
Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc. 1978
- Gibson, Walter B. Houdini's Escapes & Magic.
New York: Blue Ribbon Books, 1930
- Ginn, David. Kid Biz.
Scarlett Green Publishers, 1982
- Giobbi, Roberto. Card College. (5 Vols)
Seattle, WA: Hermetic Press, 1995-98
- Goldstein, Phil. Verbal Control.
Phil Goldstein, 1976
- _____ Color Series (5 Vols)
Phil Goldstein, 1970
- Gresham, William Lindsay. Houdini, Man Who Walked thru Walls.
New York: Henry Holt, 1959
- Harbin, Robert. Magic of Robert Harbin.
Robert Harbin, 1970
- Hatton, Henry
& Adrian Plate. Magician's Tricks.
New York: The Century, 1910

Leech, Al.	Don't Look Now. Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc., 1948
Marlo, Edward.	Cardician. Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc, 1953
Marlo, Edward.	Revolutionary Card Technique. (13 Vols) Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc. 1957 +
Marshall, Frances.	The Sponge Book. Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc., 1960.
Marshall, Frances.	Kid Stuff. (6 Vols) Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc. 1958 +
Marshall, Frances.	Success Book. (4 Vols) Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc. 1973
Maskelyne, Nevil & David Devant.	Our Magic. London: Routledge, 1911
Mentzer, Jerry.	Magic with Finger Rings. Jerry Mentzer, 1984
Minch, Stephen, Keith Burns & Bruce Cerven.	Vernon Chronicles. (4 Vols) CA: L & L Publishing 1987-1992
Neil, C. Lang.	Modern Conjures. New York: Lippincott, 1902
Nelms, Henning.	Magic & Showmanship. New York: Dover, 1969
Novak, John.	Art of Escape. (8 Vols) Micky Hades, 1989 +
Ortiz, Darwin.	Strong Magic. Silver Spring, MD: Kaufaman and Greenberg, 1994
Rice, Harold.	Encyclopidia of Silk Magic. (4 Vols) Wynnewood, PA: Silk King Studios 1948-1962
Schnieder, Al.	Schnieder on Zombie.

- Goldshadow Industries, 1981
- Sharpe, Sam H. Conjurer's Hydraulic & Pneumatic Secrets.
Alberta, Canada: Micky Hades, 1991
- Sharpe, Sam H. Conjurer's Mechanical Secrets.
Alberta, Canada: Micky Hades, 1992
- Sharpe, Sam H. Conjurer's Optical Secrets.
Alberta, Canada: Micky Hades, 1985
- Sharpe, Sam H. Conjurer's Psychological Secrets.
Alberta, Canada: Micky Hades, 1988
- Sharpe, Sam H. Neo Magic.
London: George Johnson, 1932
- Starke, George. Stars of Magic.
New York: Tannen, 1961
- Steinmeyer, Jim. Device & Illusion.
Burbank, CA: Hahne Books, 1991
- Steinmeyer, Jim. Jarrett.
Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc., 1981
- Steranko Steranko On Cards
Chicago, IL: Magic, Inc. 1960
- Tamariz , Juan. Five Points of Magic.
Madrid, Spain: Editorial Frakson, 1988
- Tamariz , Juan. Magic Way.
Madrid, Spain: Editorial Frakson, 1989
- Tarbell , Harlan. Tarbell Course. (8 Vols)
Brooklyn, New York: D. Robbins, 1941-1993
- Victor, Edward. Magic of the Hands.
New York: Max Holden, 1937
- Victor, Edward. More Magic of the Hands.
London: Davenport, 1942
- Victor, Edward. Further Magic of the Hands.
New York: Max Holden, 1946

- Waters , T. A. Mind, Myth and Magic.
Seattle, WA, Hermetic Press, 1993
- Wels , Byron G. Greater Illusions of Magic.
Brooklyn, New York: D. Robbins, 1977
- Willmarth , Philip Reed. Jim Ryan Series. (4 Vols)
Philip R. Willmarth, 1981 +
- Willmarth , Philip Reed. Magic of Matt Schulien.
Chicago, IL, Magic, Inc, 1959
- Wilson , Mark. Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic.
Running Press, 1975
- Wonder , Tommy. Books of Wonder. (2 Vols)
Seattle, WA: Hermetic Press, 1996