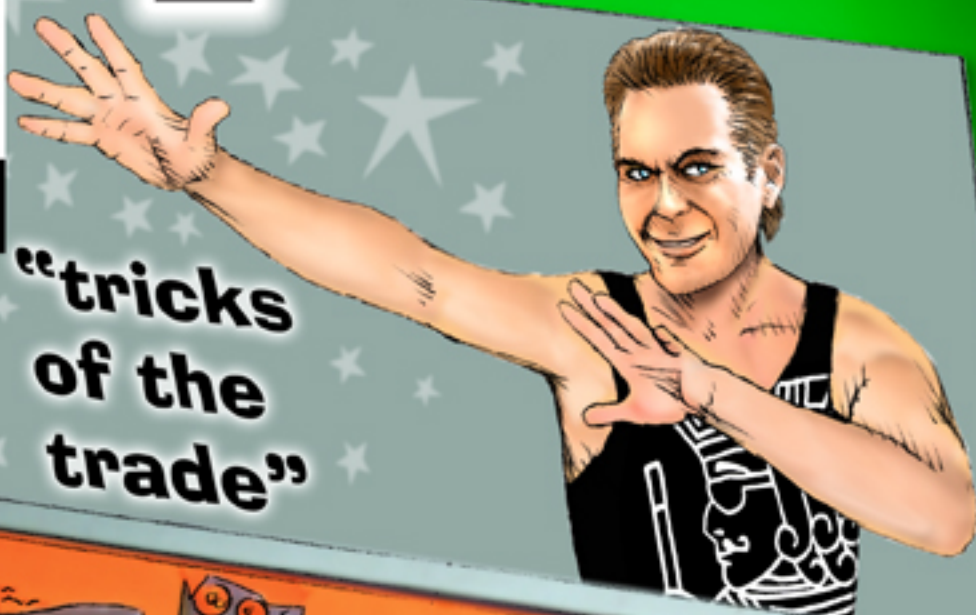


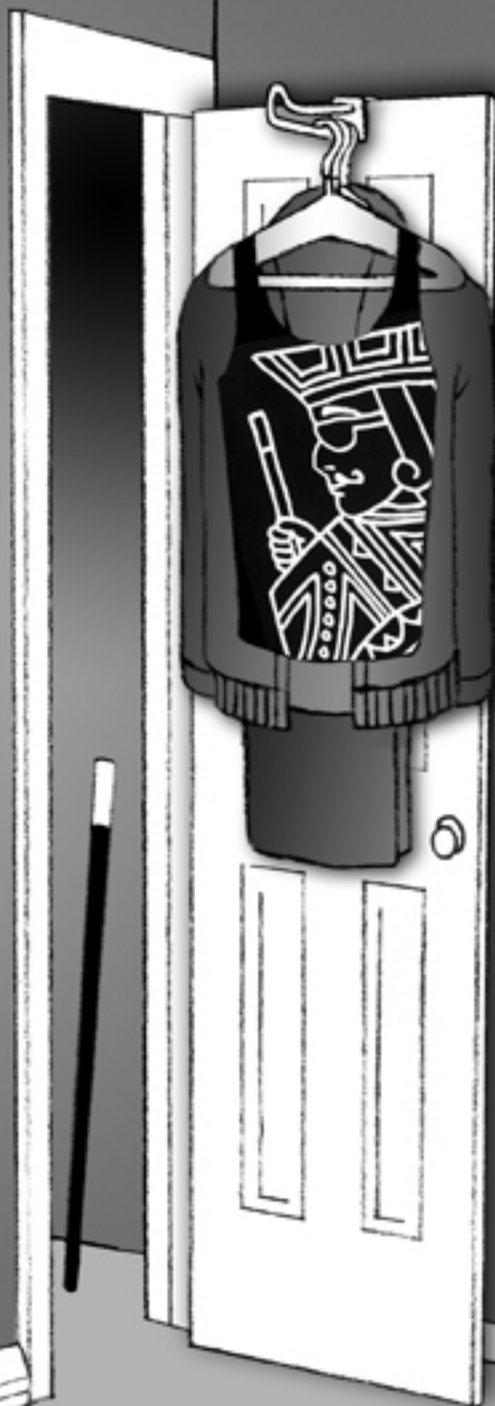


\$3 NO 1



**"tricks
of the
trade"**

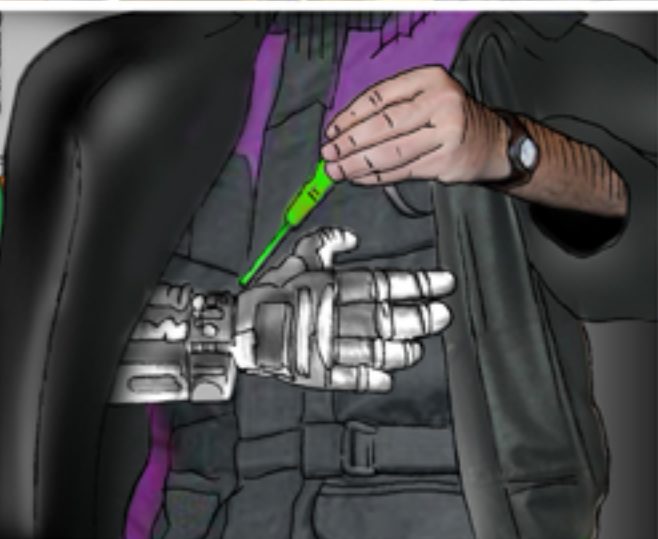








BEFORE THE BREAK WE WERE TALKING WITH
"EXPOZO," WHO MAKES A LUCRATIVE LIVING
EXPOSING THE **SECRETS** OF MAGICIANS. WE'VE
DISTORTED HIS VOICE TO PROTECT HIS
IDENTITY.



BUT COME ON, MAGIC
SHOWS ARE ALWAYS
GOING TO BE
POPULAR, RIGHT?



OKAY, PERI, LET'S TALK ABOUT
THE **AVERAGE** AMERICAN FAMILY...



EVERYONE WORKS SO
HARD THESE DAYS.
TIME TOGETHER WITH
LOVED ONES IS
PRECIOUS.



LET'S SAY YOU DON'T
WANT TO JUST SIT HOME
AND WATCH THE **TUBE**.



LET'S SAY YOU
WANT TO GO **OUT**.

SOMEHOW YOU GET THE **WHOLE FAMILY** TOGETHER...



YOU FILL UP THE GAS
TANK AND PILE INTO
THE CAR...



...AND YOU HEAD OUT
TO THE CITY.



WHERE ARE YOU
GOING TO GO?



TO A MAGIC SHOW?



REALLY?



I DONT
THINK SO...



YOU REALIZE,
OF COURSE, THAT
THERE WAS A
BIG MAGIC SHOW
FOR CHARITY
IN TOWN
TONIGHT?



SOLD OUT FOR WEEKS IN ADVANCE
AT **\$50** A SEAT...**5,000 SEATS**...



...NOT TO
MENTION
DONATIONS...



NO MATTER **HOW** YOU
ADD IT UP, THAT'S
A LOT OF **MONEY**.

OUR GOAL



\$50 A POP TO SEE
SOME **STALE** OLD
TRICKS...**GAS**...**PARKING**
...MAYBE NEW DRESS
CLOTHES...A BABY SITTER
...**OVER-PRICED**
CONCESSION
FOOD...

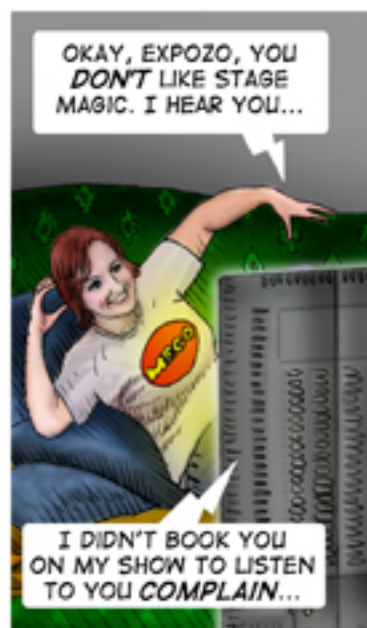


I'M SORRY...



**THERE'S JUST
NO DEFENSE
FOR THAT...**





OKAY, EXPOZO, YOU *DON'T* LIKE STAGE MAGIC. I HEAR YOU...

I DIDN'T BOOK YOU ON MY SHOW TO LISTEN TO YOU *COMPLAIN*...



...WE WANT YOU TO UNLOCK ALL THOSE *JUICY SECRETS OF MAGIC* FOR US.

GOAL



NO PROBLEMO, PERI. LET'S GO DEEP DOWN INTO EXPOZO'S VAULT OF SECRETS.



IN FACT, LET ME *SET THE STAGE* FOR YOU. LET'S *IMAGINE* WE'RE AT A BIG MAGIC SHOW.



EVERYONE TAKES A SEAT...



THE LIGHTS GO DIM.

THE MUSIC RISES.

PEOPLE TURN THEIR HEADS.

DRESSING ROOMS

...AND ENTER THE MAGICIAN.



UNFORTUNATELY
FOR MOST MAGICIANS,
EVERY AUDIENCE IS
A HOSTILE AUDIENCE.



BUT A GOOD PERFORMER CAN SCOPE OUT THE CROWD AND DETERMINE JUST HOW MUCH OF A **THREAT** HE'S FACING...

AND **ADJUST** HIS GAME PLAN.

TRICK OF THE TRADE NUMBER ONE IS MISDIRECTION.

WHEN A MAGICIAN **GESTURES** WITH ONE OF HIS HANDS...



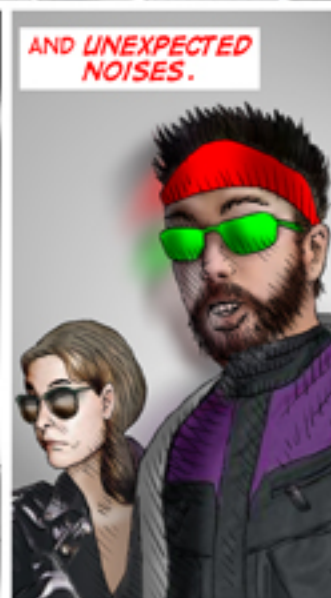
YOU **REALLY** SHOULD BE WATCHING THE **OTHER** ONE.



DISTRACTIONS CAN INCLUDE **SUDDEN** MOVEMENT...

BRIGHT LIGHTS AND SHADOWS...

AND **UNEXPECTED** NOISES.





**TRICK OF THE TRADE
NUMBER TWO IS
CONCEALMENT.**



**TRICK OF THE TRADE
NUMBER THREE IS
MOMENTUM.**



**PROPS
ARE
QUICKLY
CLEARED
AWAY...**

**...ALONG WITH ANY
OTHER
UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**



**THE SHOW NEVER
SLOWS DOWN LONG
ENOUGH FOR YOU TO
FIGURE THINGS OUT...**

**...BEFORE MOVING ON
TO NEXT ACT.**



**TRICK OF THE TRADE
NUMBER FOUR...**



...IS FORCE.

**SOMETIMES A MAGICIAN
WILL ASK YOU TO
PICK SOMETHING...**



**AND YOU MIGHT
THINK THAT
YOU CAN
BEAT HIM.**



**BUT HE ALWAYS
HAS A PLAN...**



**...TO LEAVE
YOU IN
THE DARK.**



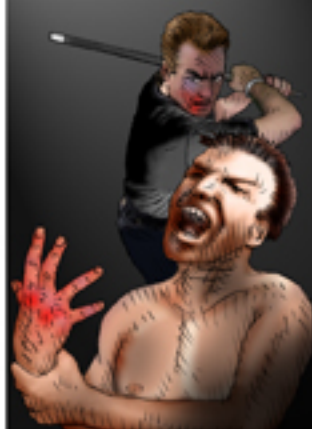
**BELIEVE ME,
WHATEVER
DECISION YOU
MAKE...**



**...WILL BE
EXACTLY
THE CHOICE
HE WANTS
YOU TO
MAKE.**



**AND THEN
HE HAS YOU.**



BUT HERE'S THE BIGGEST TRICK OF THE TRADE OF THEM ALL...

YOU READY? WAIT FOR IT...

WAIT FOR IT...

IT'S THE ASSISTANT.

SURPRISED?

THE BIGGEST SECRET OF A MAGIC SHOW...



NEXT TIME YOU'RE AT A SHOW...

STAGE ENTRANCE
→

FOLLOW HER.



WATCH HER AS SHE GLIDES GRACEFULLY ACROSS THE STAGE...

OR SOMETIMES STUMBLE AND TRIP LIKE A CLOWN...



BUT IT'S ALL PART OF THE ACT. YOU'RE OVERLOOKING SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT...

THAT SHE'S THE ONE SECRETLY OPERATING THE GADGETS THAT MAKE ALL THE TRICKS WORK...



...BEFORE DROPPING OUT OF SIGHT.



EVERYTHING ELSE IN A MAGIC SHOW IS JUST WIRES AND SPRINGS AND GIZMOS. IT'S ALL JUST VARIATIONS OF BASIC KINDS OF TRICKS.



PRODUCTION.



VANISHING.



TRANSFORMATION.



MULTIPLICATION.



SOLID-THROUGH-SOLID.



RESTORATION.



SLEIGHT OF HAND.



PRECOGNITION.



CLOSE-UP WORK.



TELEPORTATION.



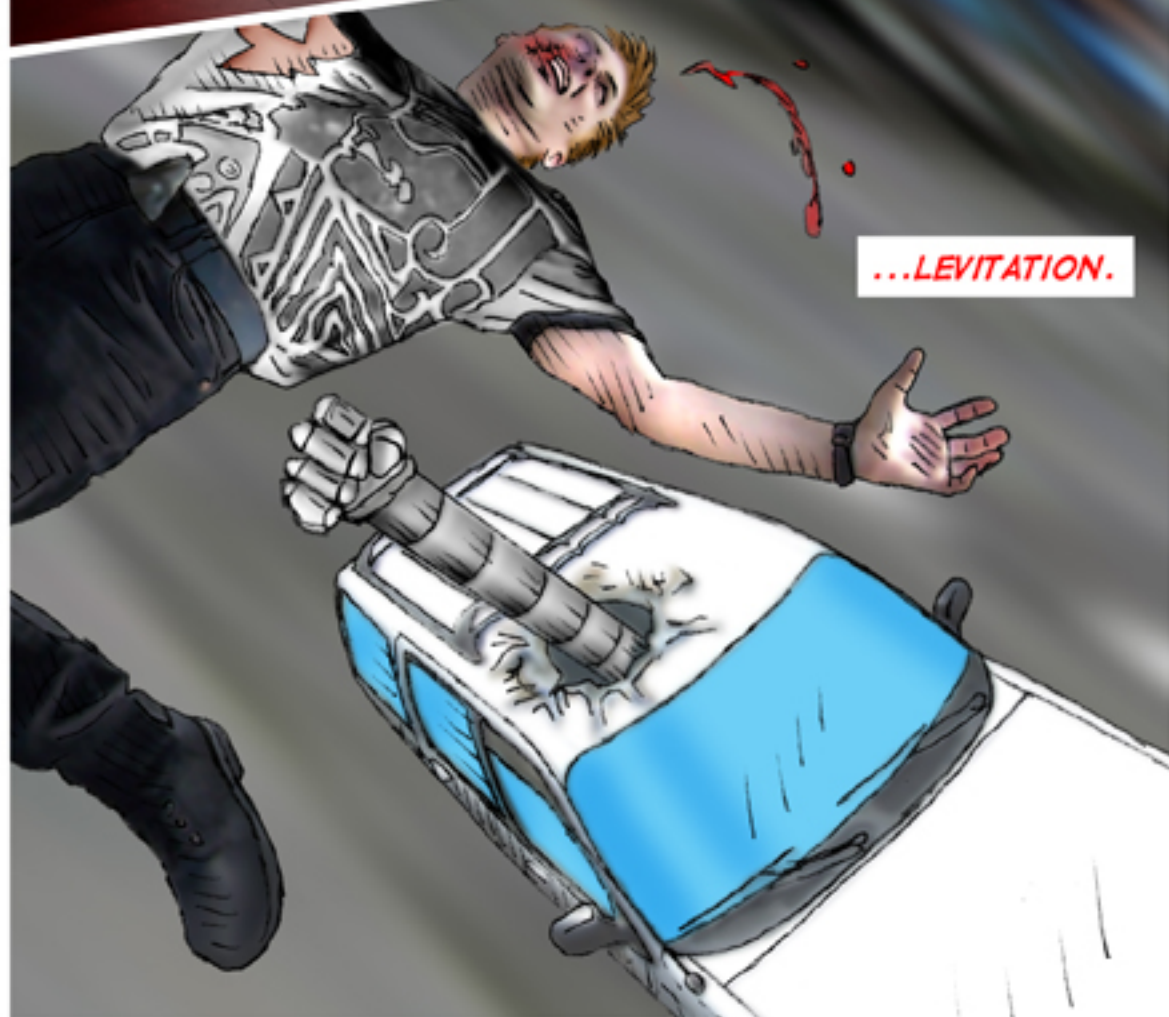
...AND ESCAPE.



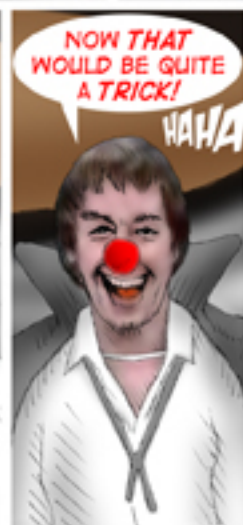
WAIT, I'M
FORGETTING
SOMETHING.



OH YEAH, I
REMEMBER NOW...



...LEVITATION.



GOOD EVENING, THIS IS A
LATE NEWS UPDATE. I'M
SCOTT SQUATCH.

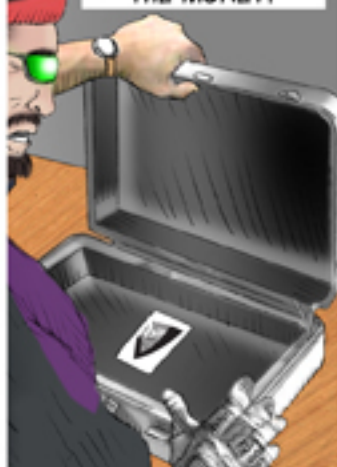


THE LANDSHARK THEATER
WAS **ROBBED** AFTER
CLOSING. A SECURITY
GUARD SUSTAINED
MINOR INJURIES.



BUT THERE'S A **TWIST**
TO THE STORY.

AUTHORITIES CLAIM
THE THIEVES LEFT
WITHOUT
THE MONEY.



THE SUPER CRIMINAL
CIRCUIT MAXIMUS
AND HIS GANG HAVE
STRUCK AGAIN
TONIGHT.

IT'S BELIEVED THE GANG
HAD A **FALLING OUT** AND
TURNED ON EACH OTHER.



MOST OF THE SUSPECTS ARE
IN CUSTODY. LOCAL POLICE AND
DR. ALLURA OF THE **BUREAU**
OF SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE...



...EXPECT TO ANNOUNCE
A **MAJOR ARREST SOON.**



I'LL HAVE MORE
DETAILS AT THE
TOP OF THE HOUR.

PLUS: ARE YOU
ADDICTED TO TOO
MUCH TELEVISION?



OUR HEALTH
EXPERT WILL
HAVE **FIVE EASY**
WAYS TO
QUIT THE **HAB-**



Jack Magic®

Tricks of the Trade

**Created, Written and Illustrated by
Matthew Pak**

Starring

**John Barton as The Magician
Jill Perlstein as The Assistant
and Pocket Silk the Dove as Himself**

Models:

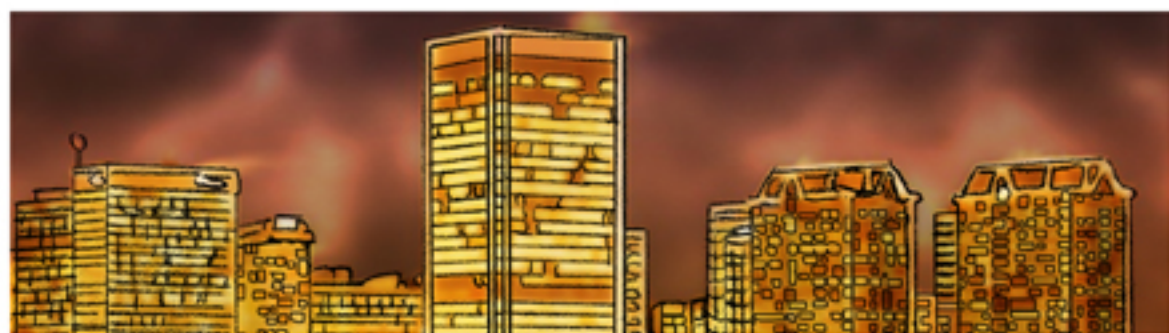
**Elizabeth Caffery, Tom Farrimond, Brent Hardy,
Warner Rogers and Tim Williamson**

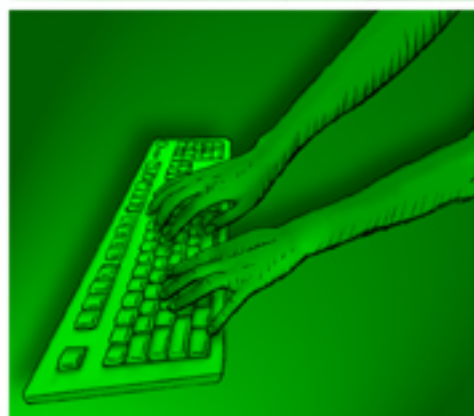
Dedicated with Respect and Admiration to:

**Guy Branum, Dave Meinstein, Laura Foy, Cat Schwartz,
Michaela Pereira, Martin Sargent, Adam Sessler, Morgan Webb,
Dawn Goodson, Eric Acasio, Jonathan Solin, Robert Manuel,
Michael Leffler, Blair Butler, Paul Bonanno, Leo LaPorte,
Ed Marques, Sumi Das, Becky Worley, Jason Cheung,
Chris Pirillo, Laura Swisher, Scott Herriott, Olivia Munn,
Kevin Pereira, Alison Haislip, Zach Selwyn, Wil O'Neal,
Layla Kayleigh, Felicia Day**

**and everyone who ever appeared in front of the cameras or
worked behind the scenes at ZDTV, Tech TV and G4**

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a public service message

