



# Everyday Miracles

A Little Book  
of Wonder

---

*Collected and Shared by*  
Ryan Lawrence

*“Dedicated to those who  
still believe in wonder.”  
— Ryan Lawrence*



---

Ryan Lawrence

## Table of Contents



**Introduction**

4

**Eight Principles for Sharing Magic**

5

**The Impossible Knot**

6

**The Linking Paper Clips**

10

**The Cut and Restored String**

12

**The Self-Working Card Prediction**

15

**The Restored Card in the Envelope**

17

**The Vanishing Salt Shaker**

20

**The Vanishing Penny at the Elbow**

23

**Closing Words**

26

**About the Magician**

27

---

# Everyday Miracles



## Introduction

Magic has always lived in the everyday. A coin, a piece of string, a folded slip of paper — all ordinary objects, until someone shows you how to see them differently. Suddenly, the impossible happens in your own hands.

Even the greatest professional magicians began by learning simple tricks like these. In fact, the true masters often return to the simplest and cleanest methods, focusing not on complicated moves, but on the presentation — the story, the mystery, and the connection with their audience.

The wonders in these pages require no special training, no complicated sleight of hand, and no expensive props. What they do require is something far more valuable: a spirit of play, a sense of curiosity, and a willingness to surprise and delight.

Some of these mysteries first appeared in classic conjuring books of the 19th century, treasured and shared among magicians. I've retold them here in my own words, with suggestions for presentation so you can share them easily. Treat them not just as tricks, but as invitations — moments to connect, to create laughter, to spark a little wonder.

As you turn the pages, remember: the real magic isn't in the cards, coins, or paper clips. It's the look on someone's face when the impossible suddenly becomes real.

Welcome to *Everyday Miracles*. Let's begin.

✿ **Eight Principles for Sharing Magic** ✿

1. **Never Reveal the Secret.**  
The moment you explain how a trick works, the mystery vanishes. Guard the secret, and you guard the wonder.
2. **Never Repeat the Trick.**  
Once is magic, twice is a puzzle. Leave them amazed, not analyzing.
3. **Practice Before You Perform.**  
Even the simplest effect deserves rehearsal. Practice until you can do it smoothly and without hesitation.
4. **Presentation is Everything.**  
A trick is only the framework — your words, timing, and personality create the true magic.
5. **Respect Your Audience.**  
Magic is not about fooling people, but about delighting them. Share astonishment, laughter, and joy.
6. **Keep it Simple.**  
Don't rush to add flourishes or extra steps. The strongest magic is often the cleanest, leaving no place for suspicion.
7. **Less is More.**  
One or two miracles, performed well, will be remembered long after a rapid-fire string of tricks is forgotten.
8. **Leave Them Smiling.**  
End your performance on a high note — with laughter, amazement, or warmth. The feeling you create will

---

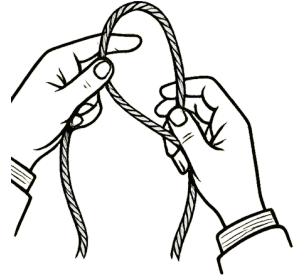
## Everyday Miracles



### The Impossible Knot

**Effect:**

The magician takes a piece of rope (or shoelace, or length of string) and holds one end in each hand. They announce they will attempt to tie a knot in the rope without ever letting go of the ends. After a moment of apparent struggle, the rope is shown with no knot at all — proving the task impossible.



But then, with a clever twist, the magician suddenly produces a perfect, solid knot in the middle of the rope — *without ever letting go of the ends.*

**Suggested Script:**

“People have been tying knots for thousands of years. Sailors, scouts, climbers — but magicians? We like to make things a little more difficult. I’m going to try to tie a knot in this rope without letting go of the ends. Watch closely.”

(Attempt once or twice, clearly failing.)

“As you can see — it’s impossible. But magic, of course, makes the impossible possible.”

(With a sudden motion, the knot appears.)

“And there you have it... the impossible knot!”

**Method:**

- Hold the rope horizontally, one end in each hand.
- Cross your arms over one another (left over right or right over left).

---

## Ryan Lawrence

- Without letting go of the ends, reach down and pick up the rope's middle with your thumbs and forefingers.
- Uncross your arms smoothly while still holding the ends. The action naturally forms a knot in the center of the rope.
- Tug on the ends to tighten, and show the finished knot.

### Notes for Success:

- The trick lies entirely in crossing your arms before you pick up the middle. Done casually, it looks like nothing special — then the knot “magically” appears.
- Practice in a mirror so the move looks smooth and unhurried.
- Ham up the “failure” attempts before the final success — this contrast sells the magic moment.

♠ This is a classic *public-domain stunt* that plays beautifully with the right presentation: it's more about timing and showmanship than skill.



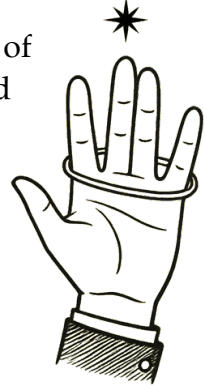
---

## Everyday Miracles

### The Jumping Rubber Band

#### Effect:

A rubber band is wrapped around two fingers of the magician's hand. With just a snap, the band magically "jumps" to the other two fingers — instantly and visibly.



#### Suggested Script:

"Magic doesn't always require cards or coins. Sometimes, it hides in the things we use every day. Like this rubber band. Watch carefully... it's going to move faster than your eyes can follow.

On the count of three, the band will jump from these two fingers to these two fingers... ready? One.. two... three!"

(Snap fingers or simply open the hand, and the band is seen to have jumped.)

"Magic in the blink of an eye."

#### Method:

- Place a rubber band around your **index finger** and **middle finger** of your left hand. Show it clearly to the audience.
- As you display it, secretly stretch the back around *all four fingers* (index, middle, ring, pinky). Keep your fingers bent slightly so the audience only sees it around the first two.
- Close your hand into a loose fist. The band now rests stretched across all four fingertips.
- Open your hand quickly. The band will snap off the index and middle fingers and land around the **ring and pinky fingers** — as if it jumped there instantly.

---

## Ryan Lawrence

### Notes for Success:

- The setup is invisible if you keep your hand angled naturally (palm toward you, back of hand toward audience).
- Practice snapping the hand open smoothly — it should look like the band teleports, not like it's slipping.
- You can reset instantly and do the jump back the other way — but remember the *rule*: never repeat the same trick immediately. Save it for later.

♠ This is one of those *perfect pocket miracles*: no sleight of hand, all science, but it *feels like magic*.



---

## Everyday Miracles

---

### The Linking Paper Clips

#### Effect:

The magician folds a dollar bill (or any paper note) and attaches two paper clips, separated by a small gap. With a quick pull, the clips leap into the air — now mysteriously linked together.



#### Suggested Script:

“Some people say money makes the world go round. I don’t know about that, but I do know money has a strange way of bringing things together. Watch these two paper clips. For now, they’re separate. But when money’s involved... they can’t resist each other.”

(Fold the bill, attach the clips, and pull. The clips fly into the air linked.)

“Just like that — a perfect partnership.”

#### Method:

- Take a dollar bill (or any note) and fold it into thirds, like an accordion:
  - First, fold one end toward the center.
  - Then fold the other end back toward the center, so the bill looks like a “Z” from the side.
- Clip the first paper clip over the outer fold and the middle section. It should sit near one end of the bill.

---

## Ryan Lawrence

- Clip the second paper clip over the outer fold and the other side of the middle section. The clips are separated by the bill, not touching each other.
- Hold the two ends of the bill and give a firm pull. As the folds straight-out, the clips fly off the bill — now linked together.

### Notes for Success:

- The setup is automatic — no sleight of hand, just geometry.
- For drama, angle the clips slightly upward so they *pop* into the air when they link.
- Use larger paper clips for visibility if performing for a group.
- Have a line ready for the reaction — something like, “That’s why they call it a *bond*.”

♠ This trick is almost self-working, yet it looks like pure sorcery. It’s also wonderfully metaphorical (connection, partnership, attraction) — you can frame it in lots of ways depending on your audience.



---

## Everyday Miracles



### The Cut and Restored String

**Effect:**

The magician shows an ordinary length of string or shoelace. With scissors, they cut it cleanly in two. The pieces are tied together — but with a simple tug, the knot vanishes and the string is restored to its original, unbroken length.

**Suggested Script:**

“String is a symbol of connection. It ties us together, holds things in place. But sometimes, those connections get cut...”

(Cut the string cleanly with scissors, showing the two pieces.)

“...and it feels like what was whole can never be whole again.”

(Tie the two ends together. Pause.)

“But the magic reminds us that even when things are broken, restoration is always possible.”

(Pull the knot away — the string is whole again.)

**Method:**

This version uses a simple, **false cut principle**.

**• Preparation:**

- Use a piece of string or shoelace about 18-24 inches long.
- Secretly fold a small section of the string back on itself, holding the loop between your thumb and fingers of your non-dominant hand. To the audience, it looks like you're just holding the middle of the string.

---

## Ryan Lawrence

- **The “Cut”:**

- Invite someone to cut the “middle” of the string — but really, they’re cutting only the folded loop you’ve been holding.
- To the audience, it looks like they’ve cut the string in two, but the long length remains intact.

- **The Knot:**

- Tie the cut loop around the intact string, forming a small knot. To spectators, it appears you’re tying the two halves of the cut string together.

- **The Restoration:**

- Hold the string at both ends.
- Give a firm tug or simply slide the knot away, letting it slip free.
- Show the string whole and unbroken.

### **Notes for Success:**

- Angle management: keep your folded loop small and natural in your fingers so no one suspects.
- The tying phase should be casual — don’t rush, let the audience “register” that the string is really cut.
- The restoration is most magical when you pause, breathe, and then let the knot simply melt away.

---

## Everyday Miracles

### ♠ Why it's great:

- It's symbolic (broken → restored).
- It feels like “real magic,” not just a puzzle.
- Easy enough for beginners, powerful enough that pros still use it in some form.



## The Self-Working Card Prediction

### Effect:

Before a card is selected, the magician makes a written prediction. A spectator freely chooses a number between 10 and 20. After a series of counts and shuffles — completely in the spectator’s hands — the chosen card is revealed to match the prediction.

### Suggested Script:

“People often say magic is about sleight of hand. But sometimes, it’s simply about numbers — and the numbers never lie. I’ll make a prediction right now.”

(Write “Queen of Hearts” on a slip of paper, or place that card facedown as your prediction.)

“Now, name any number between 10 and 20 — the choice is completely yours.”

### Method (The “10–20 Force,” a classic self-worker)

- **The Setup:** Secretly place your force card (e.g. the Queen of Hearts) 10th from the top of the deck.
- **The Choice:** Ask the spectator to name any number between 10 and 20. Let’s say they pick **15**.
- **The First Count:** Hand them the deck. Instruct them to deal **15 cards face down** in a pile.
- **Replace the Pile:** Have them place the dealt pile back on top of the deck.
- **The Digit Sum:** Ask them to add the two digits of their chosen number together (for 15:  $1 + 5 = 6$ ).

---

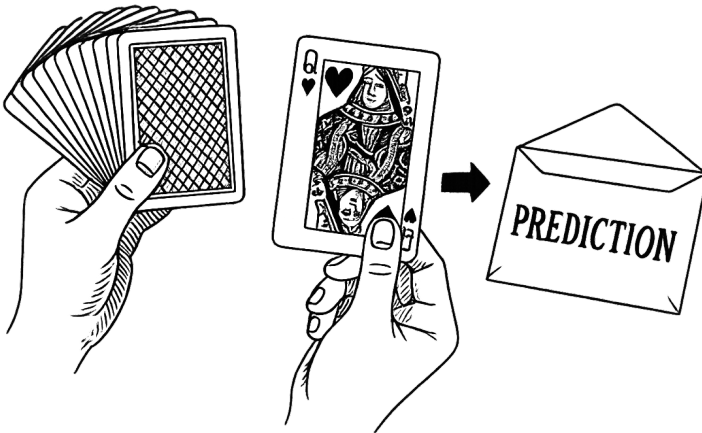
## Everyday Miracles

- **The Second Count:** Have them count down to the 6th card from the top of the deck.
- **The Revelation:** That card will always be the force card (the Queen of Hearts, in this case) — matching your prediction.

### Why it Works:


Because the force card starts at the 10th position, the deal + replacement procedure ensures that the “digit sum” count always lands back on the 10th card. The math is automatic, no sleight of hand required.

♠ This is the true **10–20 Force** handling — elegant, foolproof, and 100% in the spectator’s control.



---

Ryan Lawrence



## The Restored Card in the Envelope

### Effect:

A playing card is torn into pieces and placed in an envelope. The envelope is sealed or simply turned over. When it is opened again, the torn pieces have vanished — and inside is the same card, completely restored.

### Suggested Script:

“Sometimes magic is about finding the impossible in the simplest places. You choose a card. We destroy it. Gone forever. But in magic, even what’s destroyed... can be made whole again.”

(Tear the card, place it into the envelope, turn it over or set it aside.)

“Watch closely. No tricks, no switches... except, of course, the impossible kind.”

(Open the envelope and remove the restored card.)

“And just like that — whole again.”

### Method:

### Preparation:

- Take two identical envelopes.
- Glue them back-to-back so that each opening is on opposite sides.
- To the audience, it looks like one ordinary envelope, but in reality you have two separate compartments.

---

## Everyday Miracles

- **Setup:**

- Place an intact duplicate of the force card (say, the Queen of Hearts) in the hidden compartment.
- Keep this envelope on your table before the trick begins.

- **Performance:**

- Have a card freely selected (using your Self-Working Card Prediction setup, this will already be forced).
- Tear the chosen card into pieces.
- Place the torn pieces into the empty compartment of the envelope, and seal or flip it over.

- **The Switch:**

- When you reopen the envelope, casually turn it around.
- Now you access the second compartment — the one with the restored duplicate card.
- Remove it slowly and dramatically.

- **Aftermath:**

- Dispose of the torn card pieces discreetly later.
- Hand the restored card if you wish — it's ordinary.

### **Notes for Success:**

- Use envelopes with no windows or markings, so the switch is invisible.
- A light crease along the center can help you keep track of which side is which.

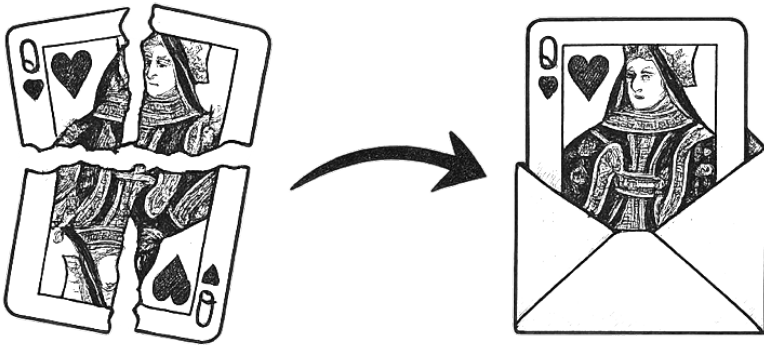
---

## Ryan Lawrence

- Tear the card slowly and dramatically — the *destruction* phase sells the restoration.
- Let the moment breathe before you reveal the restored card. Silence, then astonishment.

### ♠ Why it's great:

- Very simple in method.
- Feels deeply impossible.
- Ties beautifully to the Self-Working Prediction — as if not only did you *foresee* the card, you also *restored* it after destruction.



---

## Everyday Miracles



### The Vanishing Salt Shaker

**Effect:**

The magician places a penny on the table, covers a salt shaker with a napkin, and sets the shaker over the coin. The audience expects the penny to vanish — but with a tap, it's the salt shaker that disappears completely, leaving the penny still in place.

**Suggested Script:**

“Magic often happens when you least expect it. Here we have a coin, and a salt shaker. I’ll try something simple: I’ll make the coin disappear. Watch closely.”

(Cover the shaker with the napkin, place it over the coin.)

“A little tap... and the penny should be gone.”

(Lift the napkin — the salt shaker has vanished instead, and the penny remains.)

“...Wait a minute. That’s not what I planned. I was supposed to vanish the coin... but apparently the salt shaker wanted all the attention!”

**Method:**

- **Setup:** Place a penny on the table. Keep a napkin and a salt shaker nearby.
- **Covering the Shaker:**
  - Drape the napkin loosely over the shaker.
  - Hold the shaker through the napkin with one hand.
  - Set it directly over the penny.

---

## Ryan Lawrence

- **The Secret Move:**

- Pretend to adjust the napkin. In reality, grip the shaker inside the napkin and let it slide down into your lap (or onto your other hand in your lap if seated at a table).
- Keep holding the napkin as if the shaker is still inside — the shape will remain for a few moments.

- **The Reveal:**

- Say your going to make the penny vanish.
- Tap the covered “shaker” with your other hand.
- Whisk the napkin away, letting it collapse flat.
- The salt shaker has vanished, but the penny remains.

### **Notes for Success:**

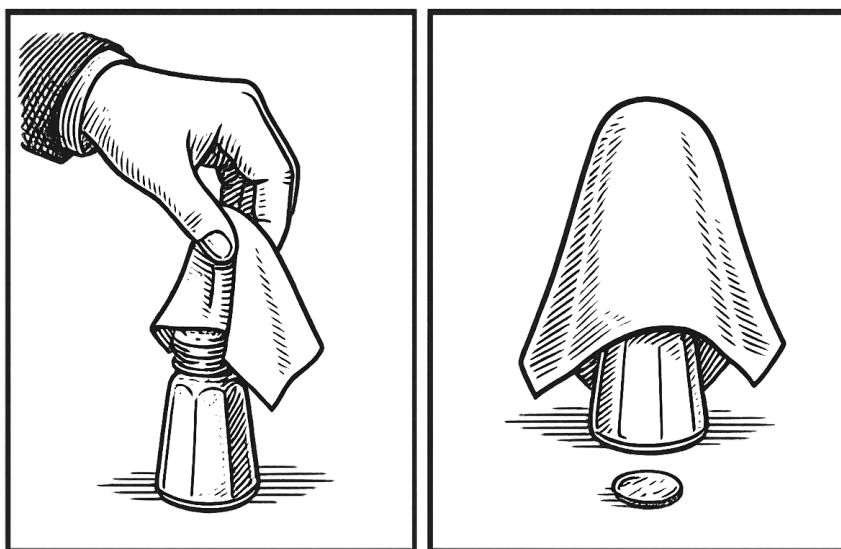
- Timing is everything: drop the shaker casually while adjusting the napkin.
- The penny acts as a *convincer* — it keeps the audience’s focus low, so they never suspect the shaker is the real target.
- Play it lighthearted: the humor of “oops, wrong vanish!” makes the moment more surprising and charming.
- Works best seated at a table. Not sure what to do with the shaker? Slip it into your sock and you can walk away!

---

## Everyday Miracles

### ♠ Why it's great:

- Strong misdirection (audience watches the coin, not the shaker).
- Uses everyday objects — feels spontaneous.
- The “wrong vanish” presentation adds surprise and humor.



## The Vanishing Penny at the Elbow

### Effect:

A penny is placed in the magician's hand. The hand is closed, then rubbed into the crook of the opposite elbow. When the hand is opened, the penny has completely vanished.

### Suggested Script:

"Earlier, I said I was going to make the penny vanish... so let's actually do it this time. I'll place the coin right here in my hand. Now, apparently the best way to make metal disappear is to rub it into your elbow. Don't ask me why — but let's try."

(Rub hand into elbow, pause, then open hand to show the penny gone.)

"...and just like that, it melts away. Not bad for a penny, right?"

### Method:

#### • The Setup:

- Hold a penny at your fingertips in your dominant hand.
- Pretend to place it into your other hand, but actually retain the coin. This is a simple false transfer — close the "receiving" hand as if it holds the coin.

---

## Everyday Miracles

- **The Elbow Rub:**

- With your empty hand closed (apparently holding the penny), begin rubbing it into the crook of your opposite elbow.
- All attention is on that hand and elbow.

- **The Ditch:**

- While rubbing, casually slip the coin into the collar of your shirt (or the neckline if wearing a t-shirt).
- The action of rubbing misdirects everyone's gaze. Nobody looks at your other hand or shoulder.

- **The Reveal:**

- After a moment of rubbing, slowly open the hand that was supposed to contain the penny.
- It is empty — the penny has vanished.

### Notes for Success:

- Sell the illusion by **closing the empty hand firmly** as if the coin is really inside.
- Rub with a little flourish — the sillier the action, the less anyone expects the ditch.
- After the vanish, relax both hands naturally. Don't draw attention to the hidden penny.
- If you want to bring the coin back later, you can retrieve it from your collar as if plucking it from behind your ear.

---

## Ryan Lawrence

### ♠ Why it's great:

- It uses only a penny — the most ordinary prop imaginable
- It feels playful but produces a *true vanish*.
- The bold ditch makes it look cleaner than most coin vanishes.



---

## Everyday Miracles



### Closing Words

Magic is more than sleight of hand — it's a way of looking at the world. It's the belief that the ordinary can hold surprises, that wonder is hiding in plain sight, waiting for someone to notice.

The tricks you've learned here are simple, but their impact can be profound. A rubber band can defy gravity, a coin can vanish, a piece of string can be restored. These are reminders that what seems impossible... often isn't.

The real secret is this: magic lives in the moments you create for others. It's in their laughter, their surprise, their sense of awe. By sharing these small impossibilities, you're giving people a gift — a reminder that the world is more mysterious, playful, and full of possibility than it sometimes seems.

So go out and practice. Perform. Share. And as you do, keep looking at the world not for what it is... but for what it *might* be.

— *Ryan Lawrence*



---

Ryan Lawrence



## About the Magician

Ryan Lawrence, also known as *The Amazing Ryan*, is a multi-award-winning magician with over twenty-five years of professional experience. He is a resident house magician at the Chicago Magic Lounge, one of the country's premier venues for close-up and stage magic.

Ryan has received recognition from both the **Society of American Magicians** and the **International Brotherhood of Magicians**, and has won multiple Chicago-area competitions for his sleight-of-hand performances.

He has produced original shows including *A Vanishing Art* and *Anything Is Possible*, blending storytelling and sleight of hand to create evenings of laughter, astonishment, and wonder. His magic has also supported theatre companies, children's programs, and charitable causes across the country.

Whether performing close-up or on stage, Ryan brings humor, warmth, and unforgettable experiences to every audience.

Learn more at [www.amazingryan.com](http://www.amazingryan.com)