

“RAPPING HAND”

PATTER—PRESENTATION

By

M. S. MAHENDRA

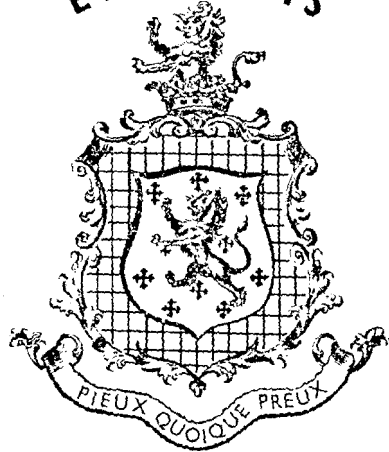


PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY

Abbott's Magic Novelty Co.
Colon • Michigan



EX LIBRIS



WILL ALMA
M.I.M.C. (LONDON)

Ever since the beginning of time, in every part of the world, mankind has tried to answer the question: "IF A MAN DIE, DOES HE LIVE AGAIN"?

This a very grave and serious question and one that should not be answered lightly. I too have pondered over that same question as well as the many million people of our present day who have tried to solve the secret of life after death. In my humble opinion there is no one on this earth who has definitely and positively answered that question.

I have gone out of my way, many, many times during my travels trying to find one grain of evidence which would absolutely convince me beyond a shadow of doubt that it is possible to talk with the dead. I have viewed the work of many so called spirit mediums, and I have seen strange and startling happenings indeed. Some of this apparent phenomena, I could explain as trickery, others I could not explain as such, but must admit that while it might not be spirits, it surely could not be trickery or magic, but some strange phenomena of the human mind or the physical body.

I do not feel that I should be permitted to say to you, a seemingly intelligent audience of ladies and gentlemen, that there is no such thing as life after death. Nor do I believe I can say positively, that there does exist a spirit world that many people are inclined to believe in, for I feel that there are many well learned and intelligent people who do believe in spiritualism. Sir Conan Doyle, Ella Wheeler Wilcox and many other well known writers as well as thousands of other noted people have taken the stand for spiritualism and claim they have conversed with their loved ones. I feel that they are sincere in their beliefs, and I have no intention of ridiculing their religion.

On the other hand, there are other as well known and noted people, who have taken the side of materialism and say, "That once a man dies, that is the end of his existence, both physical and spiritual as well".

I shall not attempt to discuss such a questionable subject that has attracted the attention of the world's greatest intellects, however I do want to tell you about one of my strangest experiences during my travels in the Orient.

It happened in Llassa, the forbidden city of Tibet in which no white person or outsider was permitted to enter for many, many years. It was simply a story told to me, a story which I heard in every corner of the Orient. It was a story told about a very famous spirit medium: Madam Blavatsky, the founder of the Theosophical Society which still exists today. It was said that this Madam Blavatsky always wished to be buried in Tibet, the land of mystery and occultism. Her last wishes were granted by those in power, her body was interred within the sacred walls of Llassa. However as her casket was lowered into the grave, there came a sudden manifestation, a violent tapping on the side of the casket, not as in protest of being buried but as the last demonstration by a very famous medium; trying to prove the existence of life after death.

The workmen who were lowering the casket into the grave became

very frightened and dropped it, fleeing from the scene of her interment. Some of the high priests in the temple heard of it and came to the grave, opened the casket, and strange to say, the right hand of Madam Blavatsky seemed to be alive. It was warm and full of human life. The rest of the body seemed to be dead or dormant. Of course this happened many, many years ago, and it was only a tale, the kind you will hear in every land of mystery such as India and Tibet. But I wanted a souvenir of some sort, a little memento to always remind me of the burial place of madam Blavatsky. So I had a hand carved out of wood from a tree near the burial place of Madam Blavatsky, a hand that was an exact reproduction as near as possible of this famous spirit medium. I have it with me here today and strange as it may seem, when conditions on this earth are favorable we do get strange and startling manifestations from this hand of mystery.

I shall now pass the hand out into the audience for your inspection and examination. I ask that you handle it carefully. Please do not strike it across the back of your chair. A gentleman did that a few evenings ago and almost broke the fingers off the hand. I assure you the hand is carved out of wood just as I state, there is nothing inside the hand, you may examine it to your hearts content, however please handle it carefully. Here, you sir, would you mind examining the hand? I see you are quite used to holding the hands of ladies, so I'll let you hold this one as long as you like. Pass it on as soon as you get tired of holding it, I want several other gentlemen here to sense the thrill of holding this certain lady's hand.

Now then, we have passed the hand for examination. If you were to go into the parlor of a spirit medium, perhaps the very first thing she would have you do would be to place your hands on a table, or if there were to be a group of you, she would have you hold hands or some similar procedure. I shall explain to you later on just why she would have you do this.

It is quite impossible for me to have all of you come up on the stage and hold hands, also it is impossible for me to have a table brought into the aisle of this theatre to allow you to place your hands upon. However I have a small board here large enough for two people to place their hands upon. But first I want someone to examine the board and assure yourself that it is quite ordinary, just run your hands over the surface and see that there are no invisible wires or threads attached to it in any way. Right?

Now then, I shall ask some lady or gentleman to place their hand on the other side of the board, I shall hold the other side, and if conditions are favorable this evening we will perhaps receive some startling proof that the madam is here with us in spirit at least. When we do receive manifestations we usually receive raps, and in the usual spiritualistic code, one rap for no, two raps for yes, and three raps for no or doubtful. Sometimes the madam becomes quite active and full of life, sometimes the hand will actually jump off the board and into some lady's lap. However if this happens this evening, do not be alarmed, it will not harm you.

Now then, do you have a question you would like to ask? Just concentrate on your question so it can be answered by a yes or no. You have it? All right! But first of all lets see if the madam is with us this evening,

Madam Blavatsky, if you are with us this evening, signify your presence by tapping on the board with usual spiritualistic code, one tap for no, two for yes and three for, I do not know or doubtful. (Hand taps twice) Yes, to be sure, madam is with us this evening. Now madam think of your question and we will have the madam answer it. (Hand taps answer, performer using own judgment as to answer.) Sorry, the answer is not favorable or (Yes you are sure to get your wish, etc.)

(Performer answers several people. Not too many. A dozen people in all is plenty to answer. During the progress of the presentation the following or other comedy effects should be interspersed to break the seriousness of the effect, for you do not wish to become too serious. You should neither try to affirm nor deny spiritualism. It will not benefit you to take a decided stand for or against any religion.)

HUMOROUS ANSWERS

There is a lady in the back of the house, I do not wish to reveal her name, however she is thinking so strong of her question that I "Get" her thoughts perfectly. As long as I do not point her out or ask her to raise her hand, I can just as well tell you what she is thinking of. The young lady will know her question when I tell you what it is. She is asking, "Will I marry soon"? (One Tap). No! Oh, I am so sorry Miss, but Madam says you will not be married soon. There is nothing more I can do about it. But tell me Madam, "Would the young lady like to be married soon"? (Hand taps twice very quickly) Yes, she would like to be married soon allright.

Now here is a lady back here very anxious also, however owing to the nature of her question she doesn't want to ask her question in public. This lady wants to know if her husband still drinks. Tell us Madam, does this lady's husband still drink? (Hand taps twice.) Sorry, lady, it seems your husband is still indulging, I wonder if he drinks very much. Tell us Madam about how many drinks does this lady's husband take each day. (Hand starts continual rapping. Performer appears surprised and after about ten raps, says, "Stop, stop, Madam, he's had quite enough by now.")

Now, I want to test Madam Blavatsky's powers. (In the meantime you note a young lady near the aisle who appears to be unmarried and note whether she has a wedding ring or not. If she is with a young man all the better, you can usually tell by the "sweetheart appearance" whether they are married or not.) Now Madam tell us, is this young lady holding her hands on this board married or single? (Hand taps one.) No, that's right isn't it. You're not married, are you? (If she says yes, then your answer is, "Strange, the madam has made a mistake, perhaps you have not been married long enough for madam to know about it". Then try again later on.)

Note: In answering the above and also "phoney" questions you will always bring into play the statement that someone must have their hands upon the board with you, that alone you will not have as much success as when someone else is holding the board as well. In answering the question for the lady about marriage or her husband drinking, you have someone else hold the board for her and bring the attention of the audience to this

fact, that you are not answering the lady who has her hands on the board but the lady in the rear, and that the lady holding her hands on the board is acting as a sort of an assistant or co-medium as it were.

CLOSING TEST

I have also found out something else quite strange about this hand. I have discovered that if a person has a wish he would like to make, that almost in every instance if he asks the Madam about his wish, he is almost sure to get the wish as long as it is possible. So do not wish for a million dollars or anything else so absurd. I myself have wished for that so long I know by now it's impossible. Here young man, you look as if you have something to wish for. (All the time you are working you are watching for just the type for this closer, and he should be of the "pansy" type.) Put your hands on the board and make a wish. Do not tell a soul what it is, but hold your thoughts upon your wish as strongly as you can. All right, got it? Fine. Madam, tell us, will this gentleman get his wish? (Hand starts a continued violent tapping as agitated as possible.) There, there, just take the hand right off the board while it's tapping, it's very good luck to do so. (Force spectator to take the hand. Nine times out of ten he will hesitate or be afraid to take it while it's in motion. However keep after him until he does take it. Then tell him to seal the wish as it were by holding the hand between both his own. Then walk away from him down the aisle so he has to hold it.)

Ladies and gentlemen, you have noted that we did not get either a positive or a negative reply to that question. Instead we got a violent tapping, and this is much better, the young man is sure to get his wish. However I have rather taken advantage of this young man and also of some of you people who have been holding the hand earlier in the evening. It's rather unfair of me to take advantage of you this way, but really, I forgot to mention it before, but a very strange thing has happened about this hand. While in India, it was at Agra, at the famous Temple of Love, The Taj Mahal, that a very interesting and powerful Yogisaw this hand and wanted to use it. I loaned it to him for a few weeks and ever since the day that he brought the hand back to me, a strange and mystic charm has taken possession of that hand. **EVERY PERSON WHO HANDLES THAT HAND OR HOLDS IT BETWEEN HIS HANDS JUST AS YOU ARE THERE NOW, IS BOUND TO BE MARRIED WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DAY HE HOLDS IT.** So now, you're in for it young man, start saving your money, you're going to need it.

NOTE: If the occasion permits, or bookings are profitable enough, a plant can be used at this point. He throws the hand back to you and leaves the theatre in disgust. This actually happened to me many years ago and it was a riot. It suggested the idea of using a plant if permissible.

Performer now returns to stage and continues as follows: Tonight, ladies and gentlemen, you have witnessed strange phenomena which I hope have amused as well as entertained you. And once more we come to that same question. If a man die, does he live again? I still cannot give you a

positive answer to that same question. However instead of taking you into a darkened room where a thousand things could easily happen, instead of presenting this seance upon the stage where the lights can easily deceive your eyes, I have presented in a fully lighted theatre, and in front of your very eyes, so-called spiritualistic phenomena. But please remember, my friends, the most important part of this experiment—that I asked each one of you to place your hands upon the board before I asked for a manifestation. WHY DID I DO THAT? This is the most important part and the very thing your spirit world investigator always overlooks. It is what is known as HUMAN MAGNETIC FORCE. Without this same little-understood phase of the human body, your spirit medium would many times be powerless, for without human hands upon the table, the table would never walk in the parlor of your spirit medium. Without someone to hold his hands upon the planchette or Ouija Board it would be unlikely to write. Likewise if you did not assist me tonight, it is very doubtful if we would have seen the hand move.

However, in conclusion, please note that all that it has required for this evening's demonstration is a hand carved out of wood (As you are saying this, gently tap the hand against the board) and a piece of wood upon which the hand might rest in order to rap. But again please note that without that certain HUMAN MAGNETIC FORCE which every normal person possesses, this hand could not possibly move. I thank you.



Abbott's Magic Novelty Company
Colon, -:- Michigan