

" N O B O T T O M S " .

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A series of tricks using a bottomless glass.

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Get a wood plug from end of a grocers paper roll. Paint it dead black. Wad up a silk handkerchief and conceal it in the hole in plug. Show glass. Drape a hank over it. Pick up wood plug. Set glass on it. Forefinger underneath pushes concealed silk right up into glass where it expands. Set all on table and vanish a duplicate silk. Take draped handkerchief off glass and missing silk is seen in glass.

Get a plug with hole big enough to hold two hanks. You will need five silks, say three red and two blue. Prepare by tucking a blue and a red into the plug, so that blue will pop out first. Show glass empty, set it on plug and cover with a handkerchief, after first shoving a red silk down near bottom and one red silk near top of glass, with a distinct space between them. Vanish blue silk. Poke silks from plug into glass just before removing handkerchief. The two red silks at the top are shoved together so that they appear as one. The blue silk is in the middle and the red silk at the bottom appears to be the one placed there originally.

A genuine drinking glass is in well of table. Bottomless glass sets on table resting far enough over edge of well so that coins may be dropped right through it. Coins are dropped one at a time. Spectators see them drop into visible glass and hear them land in concealed glass. Now, when glass is given a tossing motion towards audience, coins seem to vanish in mid-air.

Similar to above, except a small drinking glass is hidden inside upper part of vest where it buttons across breast. Hold bottomless glass in your left hand just above concealed glass.

Cover bottomless glass with a hank and set it on table. Drop four or five coins in a second bottomless tumbler held in left hand. Now apparently remove one coin at a time and toss toward covered glass. Each time, an assistant off stage or in next room drops a coin in a genuine glass. The illusion is that you are tossing the coins magically into the glass beneath hank. Retain coins in left hand. Take glass in right hand and invert to emphasize its emptiness. Put it aside. Lift covered glass and set on your left hand over the coins. Remove hank and tip the coins out of glass onto a tray. Borrowed coins may be used.

Load your wood plug with a silk. Show hollow egg with hole in it's side. Keep hole covered. Drop egg into bottomless glass. Cover glass with a hank. Palm egg away as glass is set on plug. Pick up a silk (same as one in plug) and work it into egg, then show silk has changed to an egg. Pick up covered glass and, just before you remove the draped hank. push silk up into glass.

Glass is on table. Count a number of coins into it. Offer them to a spectator. He holds out his hand and your pour out into his hand a rubber lizard, frog or mouse which was concealed in your hand. Coins stay on table and mouse drops through bottom of glass and out of it's mouth.

Take a small balloon of any bright colour. Cut off neck of balloon. Stretch it over a ball of some other colour. Wood ball from multiplying ball set is fine. Show ball, keeping open part of balloon covered. Drop it in glass. Drape a hank over glass. Thumb and fingers unroll balloon from ball through bottom of glass. Hank is taken off glass and tossed out for inspection, while hank and concealed balloon are put away.

A betcha stunt. An egg or other object is dropped into glass while it is standing on palm of hand. A book or other object is laid across the mouth of the glass. You bet you can take the egg out of glass without taking book off or breaking the glass. When they give up, take other hand and just lift glass and book off hand and egg stays in plam of hand.

Pleat some silks into a bundle and tie a thread around them. Leave a loop of thread so bundle can hang on thumb. With back of hand towards audience, bundle hangs concealed in palm of hand. The glass is held by extreme bottom edge. Other hand covers glass with a paper napkin that hangs down completely covering glass. Glass is then set on palm of hand right over the bundle. Break the paper on top of glass, break thread and produce the silks.

Get an old derby hat. Cut a star trap in crown with a razor blade. From a distance it will not show. Show hat empty and put it mouth down on table. Put glass on crown of hat so it is a little to one side of trap. Show a wood or metal ball. Lower it into glass. Cover glass with a hank. Slide glass over it until it comes over star trap. Ball will drop through trap onto table and trap will go back into place. Take hank off. Lift glass off. Lift hat and show ball on table.

Glass is standing on palm. Drop a small ball into it. Drape hank over glass. Now grasp the glass on the outside with the other hand. The hand comes out quickly from bottom of glass with ball in it. It quickly dips into the top of glass and brings ball up at fingertips. Seems as though you reached right through cloth to get the ball out of glass.

Have a regular glass which matches the bottomless glass. Pour water in and out of it to show that it is regular. Set it to back of something on table. Light a candle. Pick up bottomless glass from back of table as though it were the same glass they saw before. Lower it slowly down over the flame and it penetrates the bottom of the glass. Likewise push wand or other objects through the bottom of the glass.

Set glass on table. Drop some object into it. Cover with handkerchief. Slide glass across table and as it passes over black art well the object will drop into it. Later glass is uncovered and the object has vanished.

A betting stunt. Hold glass up and bet that you can pour a quart of water in it without glass overflowing or without stopping. Take a quart of water. Hold glass over pail and water runs right through into pail. (Of course the audience does not know in advance that the glass has no bottom)

Pleat a length of rope. Put it inside coat pocket and bring one end down sleeve. Show glass and put on palm of hand. Put a paper napkin over glass and snap a rubber band around it. As you adjust napkin, work end of rope out of sleeve. Break paper on top of glass and reach in and get rope. Start pulling rope out of glass until it is all produced. Stand sideways so that the rope coming out of the sleeve is not seen.

Use laquer to paint a plastic bottomless glass opaque. Take a piece of paper and write a prediction on it with a pencil and put pencil behind ear. (Write anything you wish as no one will ever see it). Pleat it and fold small, winding a rubber band round it. Hold glass on palm and drop prediction into it. Put glass in prominent place as prediction is palmed off. Take pencil from ear and put in pocket with prediction. Say you have predicted something over which you have no control. Your assistant watches closely as you ask someone to call out a number, a name of a city, a colour etc. Assistant goes off stage and writes this information on a paper which is folded to look like the original prediction. Assistant brings this out with a wand and puts on table. Pick up wand and palm paper at same time. Call up spectator and hand him wand. Take glass down and put it over prediction. Ask spectator to wave wand over glass, then take wand from him. Have him hold out his hand and pour prediction into it. He opens it and reads aloud.

Have a thumb writer on thumb. Ask someone to stand up and you will predict how much money he has in his pocket before he counts it. Take a visiting card and pretend to write on it. Put it in glass and it wedges in place. Cover glass with hank. Hold glass on palm of hand and thumb goes up inside glass under cover of hank. Ask person to count his money. When he calls out the amount, you write the amount with the thumb writer.

on the card. Quickly whip hank off glass, pull card out and hand it out.

Wet the inside of glass with strong ammonia. A few drops of Hydrochloric Acid in a saucer. Keep glass and saucer far apart. Put a book on top of glass and set glass in saucer and it will immediately start filling up with smoke.

Have a sealed envelope and scissors on the table. Glass held by thumb and first finger of left hand. A silk concealed by curled second, third and little finger. Duplicate silk picked up with right hand by the very tip of one corner and spread across mouth of glass. As you tuck it in with right hand, the palmed silk is loaded in also. The two silks will appear as one. Glass set on table. Envelope picked up and ends snipped off. It is pressed open. Spectators allowed to see through it. It is then put over glass like a tube for cover. Roach in, remove silk, vanish it then lift off envelope and show it has returned.

By cutting a disc of celluloid, smearing it with vaseline and pressing it on the bottom of the glass, liquid may be poured in and out of it as proof of it being ordinary. The disc is stolen away in the act of drying the glass.

A complete mind reading act. Have audience write questions on a number of slips of paper and fold them small. Have glass on palm of hand and pass through audience. They drop questions in glass. Hold glass always in sight and go to back of stage. Pour questions into a pie pan. But palm off a few questions from bottom of glass and transfer glass to other hand so that it can be seen to be empty. Hand with palmed questions goes to pocket for match. Leave questions in pocket as match box is brought out. Questions set on fire. Match box put back in pocket and questions again palmed and brought out. Other hand picks up a foot square black cloth with a small hole in middle. It is spread over hand that holds questions. Keep hole hidden. Crystal ball set over hole. Questions are unfolded with hand underneath cloth and can be read by gazing into crystal. Of course you have only answered a few questions but the audience think you have burned them all.

Wad up a small silk and put it in centre of a bandana handkerchief. Encircle this with a rubber band. Show a duplicate silk and wad it up and drop it in glass on outstretched hand. Throw Bandana over glass so audience cannot see wadded up silk concealed in bandana. Stretch bandana tightly over mouth of glass by twisting on parts of bandana which hang below glass. Concealed silk will gradually appear to penetrate the bandana. The rubber band and wadded silk in glass will drop into hand and can be concealed in bandana as it is taken away.

Glass is set on a spectators hand. He will not notice that it has no bottom. At finish of a trick with an egg, the egg is

cracked and emptied into glass. The glass is lifted off his hand leaving broken egg in his hand. Have a towel handy to wipe his hand.

Hand glass and a pitcher of water to a spectator. Tell him to pour a glass of water. He does and it goes right through the glass. Oooops! Wrong Glass. Then hand him a regular glass.

Have about half a dozen palming coins, or half dollars concealed in right hand. Pick up glass and hold it in palm of left hand. Reach up in air with right hand and produce the coins, one at a time dropping them into the glass. When you have dropped them all in, take a glass in right hand and left reaches into the air and produces the coins one at a time, dropping them into the glass. Glass can now be taken in left hand and more coins produced, but you have to quit some time.

Two opaque bottomless glasses. Hold one glass on palm of hand. Person drops his ring in glass. Glass is set on table but ring stays in your hand. Pick up other glass and set it over this ring. Pick up a button hook and reach down in glass and bring up ring on end of button hook.

Have a length of chain and a number of single rings to match. Chain is concealed in left palm as glass is held with same hand. Drop single rings through glass into vested tumbler which is concealed in top of vest. Let bottomless glass snuggle over palmed chain and pour out the links which are now joined together.

Cut a piece of tin which is inserted in bottomless glass, dividing it in half, and you have a mirror glass. A strong black thread (Nylon) is attached to a silk which is placed on one side of mirror. The thread goes through hole in table and down table leg and off stage. At ached silk is behind tin so glass appears empty. Duplicate silk is crumpled and put in front half of glass. Now glass may be picked up and turned round on all sides. Glass reset with attached silk to front. Assistant off stage jerks silk into table when vanish is desired. Silk goes through hole in top and into leg. A vanish without any covering.

This vanish only requires a hole large enough for a thread to pass through. Thread comes from off stage, through hole in table, up through ear compartment of glass back of tin partition and is tied to an elastic band on table. Silk to be vanished is crumpled into a compact ball and band snapped around it. It is put in front compartment. Assistant pulls the thread and silk quickly hops over partition out of sight.

Make a celluloid insert to fit your bottomless glass. Insert is same shape as glass and makes a lining for glass. Load your wood plug with a rainbow silk. Fill glass with confetti and set it on plug. Cover glass with a cardboard tube the should be a couple of inches taller than

glass. Poke up silk which raises insert above top of glass. Carry away insert in tube and reveal confetti has changed to a colourful silk.

Have a double tray with opening in top. Smear bottom edge of glass with vaseline and set down firmly on tray. In front of audience you pour liquid in glass. Cover glass with a tube and slide glass over tray opening. Liquid runs into tray. Lift covered glass from tray and carry forward. When tube is removed, glass is seen to be empty.

Same as above except glass is covered with a phantom tube. Glass as well as liquid has vanished when tube is turned open end to audience.

Bottomless glass makes a neat method of getting rid of dye tube after dyeing silks trick. Glass stands on table over well in table. Paper tube is stood in glass while dyed silks are shewn. Paper is taken out of glass and unrolled. Dye tube has dropped through glass into well.

Have a silk in wood plug. Show a phantom tube empty and set on plug. Tube lifted and there is a glass with silk in it. Glass was in secret compartment of phantom tube. Tube shewn empty. Wand can also be run through it. Silk of course was pushed up out of plug.

A novel penetration is to cap glass with a square of paper and a heavy elastic band. Set glass on wood plug which has been loaded with a silk. Cover glass with a phantom tube which is large enough so opening in double side comes at top. Poke a duplicate silk down into tube. Actually into secret compartment. Poke silk from plug up into glass. Remove tube and shew empty. Reveal silk in glass and paper still intact.

Carry bottomless glass into restaurant. Give to barman to fill as you tell him you always use your own glass. As they fill so many glasses it is second nature. The people will get many laughs as he tries again and again to fill it before getting wise to it.

Rubber ball covered with inverted glass and glass covered with tube. When tube is removed, ball has vanished. Tube is metal and has a bar soldered across horizontally near top. A darning needle is soldered to bar so that it is vertical and point at bottom. Point of needle goes through where audience believes there is a bottom to glass and impales ball so that it is carried away with tube.

Have a rubber band stretched around the extreme top end of glass. A ping pong ball concealed in left hand. Drape a silk over glass and rest glass on left hand. A duplicate ping pong ball is laid on centre

of silk and pushed down into glass. As you do this, work the rubber band off the glass and it will trap ball. Concealed ball in left hand is worked up into glass. Silk is whipped away and ball revealed in glass. An apparent penetration of a silk by a ball.

Attach a celluloid egg with a thread to centre of handkerchief which is used to cover glass. Thread is just long enough so hank can be picked up by any two corners and egg is hidden behind it. Have a silk in wood plug and a duplicate silk on table hiding a hollow egg. Put glass on wood plug. Egg which is attached to hank is dropped in glass and hank thrown over glass. Duplicate silk is picked up along with egg and silk is worked into egg. Egg is shown. Covered glass is picked up and silk worked out of plug into glass. Hank is pulled off glass and egg comes with it and silk is revealed in glass.

Get a Jack-in-the-Box. Remove the spring and the body. Drill a hole in bottom of the head so that a rod concealed in centre leg of table will come up through a hole in bottom of box and engage in it. Bottomless glass with mirror partition is set over hole in table through which rod rises, actuated by thread in hand of assistant off-stage. Every once in a while, audience sees "Jack" cautiously raise lid and peek over edge of box to see what magician is doing. Box of course is on top of glass.

A cardboard box with a hole in bottom. A loose piece of cardboard which covers entire bottom of box. One corner cut off so it can be lifted and rested against front of box. A streamer or string of tied silks concealed in table or hollow book. Bottomless glass with mirror partition on top of hole in table or book. Streamer comes up through hole and into glass on side of mirror away from audience. Box is shown empty and set on top of glass. Flap lifted and end of streamer nipped through hole in bottom of box. Box is steadied on top of glass with left hand as right draws out the streamer or string of tied silks.

Have a red silk loaded in the wood plug. Place glass on plug. Cover glass with a phantom tube with open end up. Push green silk down into tube (into secret compartment). At same time work red silk out of plug into glass. Lift tube and show empty and green silk which you just pushed down into tube is now in glass and red. Use as a colour change or get two sets and present a transposition.

Wood plug loaded with flag. Glass has celluloid lining. Set glass on plug. Fill with red, white and blue confetti. Cover with tube. Work silk into glass. Take tube off and lining with it. The red, the white and the blue confetti now changed to a flag.

A Bottomless glass with mirror partition is inverted on table. Hank tucked behind mirror away from audience to deaden sound. Small grocer's sack sets on inverted glass. Chain is in sack and there is a hole in the bottom of the sack so that loose links drop right through onto hank behind mirror. Sack lifted off. Chain tipped out. Sack torn into bits to prove it does not conceal anything. This is for changing loose links into solid chain.

A colour change without any covering. Red silk is in glass back of mirror partition. Blue silk is in front of mirror and a thread leads from it through hole in table, down hollow leg to assistant. Performer grasps corner of red silk and as he pulls it from glass, the assistant pulls blue silk out of sight.

Twelve key rings are passed for examination. As you collect them, they are slid on your wand. Unknown to spectators, twelve linked rings are already on the wand under your left hand. The linked and the unlinked rings are now close together and are all tipped off the wand into the glass at the same time. They are given a stirring motion with the wand and the linked rings lifted out with the right hand at the same time as the left hand slides glass over well in table.

Have a tube with rubber bands (two) stretched parallel and vertically across inside of tube. A silk is rolled into a ball and placed between rubbers. Glass is inverted. Covered with tube. Silk is pushed out of rubbers into glass by first finger. A good production.

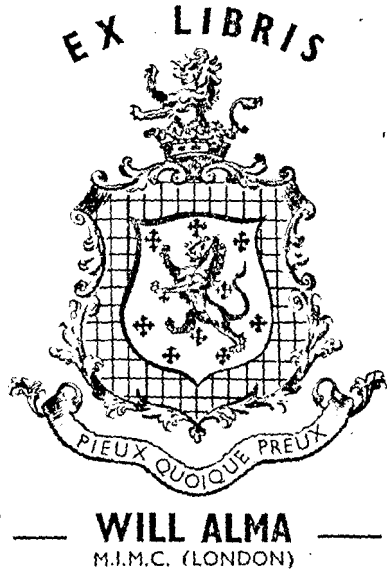
A transposition. You need three small rubber balls (2 red and one green). A red and green handkerchief. Two bottomless glasses and two saucers. Two glasses, a red and a green ball on table. Put one glass on palm of hand. Pick up green ball and drop in glass. Reach in pocket and pull out green hank and red ball which is held concealed in hand. Drape hank over glass. Hand goes under hank and inserts red ball through bottom of glass while green ball drops into hand. Reach in pocket for a rubber band and leave ball in pocket. Snap rubber band round glass and set all on a saucer. Pick up other glass and set on hand. Pick up red ball from table and drop in glass. Reach in pocket for red handkerchief and palm green ball in hand. Drape handkerchief over glass and then hand goes under glass to switch balls. Get rid of red ball as you go for a rubber band. Snap band around glass and set it on saucer. Now command change to take place. Take off handkerchiefs and balls have changed places.

A selected card brought to top of deck. Deck dropped in large straight sided bottomless glass. Glass held in hand and forefinger causes card to rise through bottom of glass.



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WITH A BOTTOMLESS GLASS  
Harold Sterling.

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