

HOST A

# BIG MAGIC

★ EVENT IN YOUR STORE! ★

IT'S SLEIGHT OF HAND

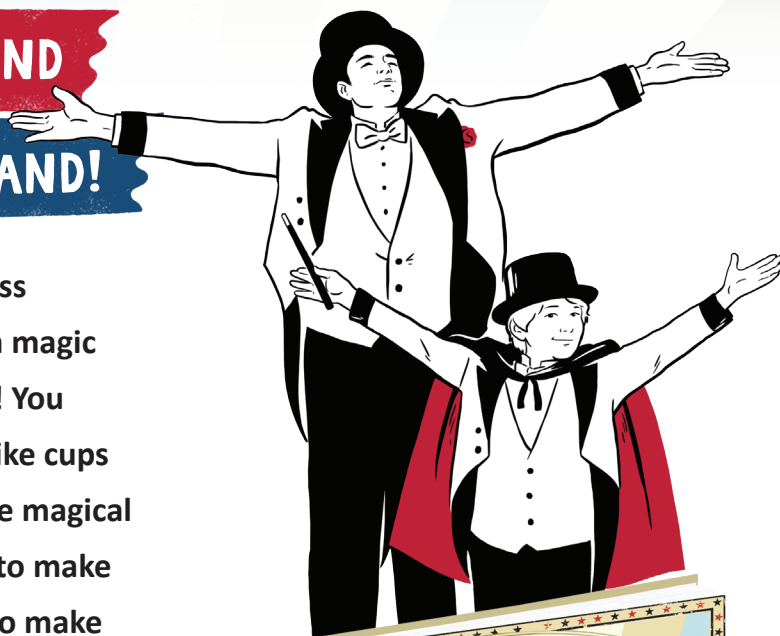
FOR THE SMALL OF HAND!

**Y**ou don't have to be world-class magician **JOSHUA JAY** to host a magic event in your store—it's easy! You need only a few everyday materials like cups and a cardboard box to perform these magical illusions. Kids will love learning how to make candy appear out of thin air or how to make someone vanish.

Email [promotions@workman.com](mailto:promotions@workman.com) for personalized signage and send us your event photos afterward!

## *Activities Include:*

- SIGN THE MAGICIAN'S OATH
- THE AMAZING TUBE OF MYSTERY
- RULES AND WHEN TO BREAK THEM
- HANDY CANDY
- PANDORA'S BOX



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# BIG MAGIC EVENT

## PLACE:

# *The Magician's*

## **OATH**

### *The Magician's Oath*

FROM THE TIME OF MERLIN AND HOUDINI THE GREAT,  
MAGICIANS KEEP SECRETS TO PROTECT THEIR FATE.  
IF YOU TELL THE SECRETS OF HOW TRICKS ARE DONE,  
IT MAKES MAGIC BORING, AND THAT'S NO FUN.  
SO I, \_\_\_\_\_, PROMISE TO  
(your name here)  
PRACTICE A LOT, AND WHEN PERFORMING MAGIC,  
WILL GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT.  
SO ABRACADABRA, I'M READY TO GO,  
I AM NOW A MAGICIAN, ON WITH THE SHOW!

# The Rules

## AND WHEN TO BREAK THEM

**M**agicians talk about the four golden “rules” of magic, but you know what? Some of my favorite magicians and magic effects break the rules. So let’s consider these more like tips; usually it’s good to follow all of them, unless you have a better reason to break them.



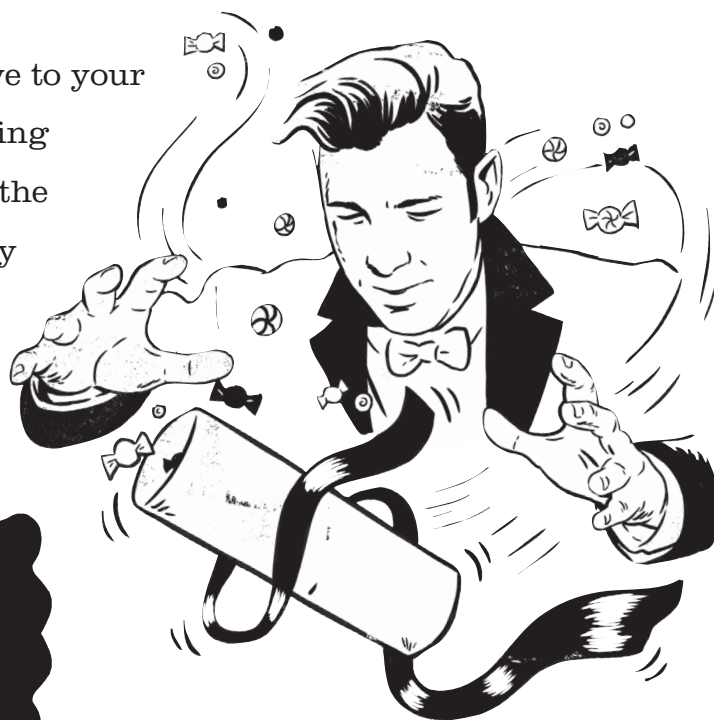
- 1 NEVER REPEAT AN EFFECT.** When you repeat an effect, you give the audience another chance to figure it out.
  - 2 NEVER SAY WHAT YOU WILL DO BEFORE YOU DO IT.** This is a good idea most of the time. You never want to give too many hints of what you’re about to do, or they might figure out how you did it.
  - 3 NEVER TELL HOW THE EFFECT IS DONE.** This one IS a rule. You must *never* reveal your secrets! (Repeat your Magician’s Oath right now if you need to.)
  - 4 PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.** Not just for magic, but for everything! And I have always preferred the saying “PERFECT practice makes perfect.”
- \* LIE.** Now my favorite secret: You know when parents or teachers or friends tell you, “Don’t lie”? Well, in magic, we get to break that rule every time we perform. Lying is usually a bad thing; it isn’t allowed at school or at home, where lies usually end up hurting someone’s feelings. But I am giving you special, secret permission to lie . . . during your magic show. You see, magicians have to lie. It’s part of the job. “*The coin is in my hand.*” (No, it isn’t!) “*Ladies and gentlemen, an empty box.*” (There’s a girl in that box!) “*With this blindfold on, I can’t see a thing.*” (You can secretly see *everything*.) We must tell these small lies to amaze our audiences. So, even though lying is usually a nasty habit, we get to enjoy telling teeny, tiny lies in front of lots of people.



# THE AMAZING TUBE OF MYSTERY

## OR DOOM, OR WHATEVER





**Y**ou hold up an empty tube and wave to your audience through it—clearly nothing inside. Then, you wave your hand over the tube and cause silk streamers and candy to appear . . . all from that same empty tube . . . The Amazing Tube of Mystery . . . or Doom . . . or whatever!



### *HOW IT WORKS*

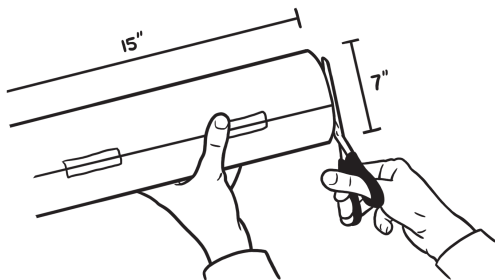
THE TUBE HAS A SECRET COMPARTMENT YOU CAN ONLY SEE FROM ONE SIDE, AND THAT COMPARTMENT IS FILLED WITH THE THINGS YOU WILL PRODUCE.

### *What You Need*

-  TWO PIECES OF POSTER BOARD  
(12 X 18 INCHES)  
*Make sure both pieces are the same color.*
-  SCISSORS
-  MASKING OR CLEAR PACKING TAPE
-  MARKER

#### SILK STREAMERS

You can actually fill the secret compartment with whatever you like: napkins, popcorn, or even candy. If you're using any loose items, just make sure you use at least one handkerchief or cloth to pack everything tightly.



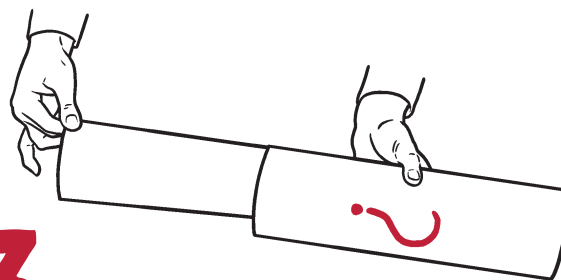
# 1 SETUP

First make the tube, which is really *two* tubes, one inside the other. For the outer tube, trim the first piece of poster board so you can roll it into a tube about 7 inches wide and 15 inches long. (You can make the tube smaller or wider, depending on how much stuff you want to produce.) Tape the tube along the edge. Trim the second piece of poster board so that it's slightly smaller and more tapered (cone-shaped) than the first: One end of the smaller tube should match the width of the end of the big tube (7 inches), but the other should be about 3 inches across. This is the inner tube. Tape it along the edge.



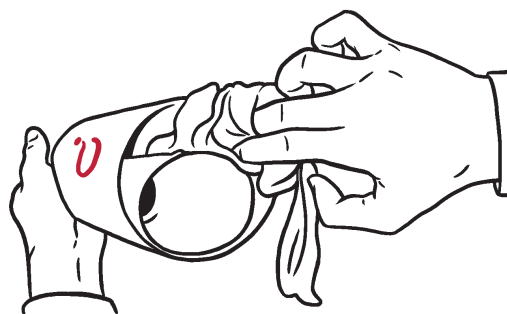
# 2

Decorate the outside of the outer tube with a question mark and you have a Tube of Mystery; decorate it with dark colors and you have a Tube of Doom. Decorate the tube however you like, really!



# 3

Insert the inner, tapered tube into the larger outer tube. Line up the wide ends.



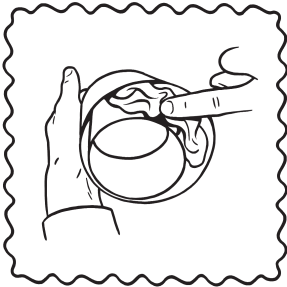
# 4

Stuff the streamers (or other items you wish to produce) into the space between the two tubes. When I perform this effect, I like to use a bunch of thin silk handkerchiefs tied together at the corners.

# 5

When the tubes are assembled and the streamers are in place, your gaff is ready. When you show the audience the end of the

## HIDDEN VIEW



tube, everything looks normal. From your angle, it looks pretty tricky. (Fortunately, you are the only one who sees the tube from this angle.)

# 6

## PERFORMANCE

When you are ready to perform, look through the tube at the audience to show that it's empty. Try to make eye contact with everyone. If you can see the participants looking back at you, you know they can see that the tube is empty. Turn your head left and right, so even the kids on the sides can see.



CONTINUED

# 7

Now hold the tube so the opening is angled straight up and wave your hand over the tube. (You must make the magic motion that “causes” the silks to appear.)



# 8

Reach inside and slowly pull out the items you stuffed in the tube earlier. If you are using a streamer of silks, hand one end to someone in the front row and then slowly walk backward, allowing the streamer of silks to extend so everyone can see.



## SECRET STUFF

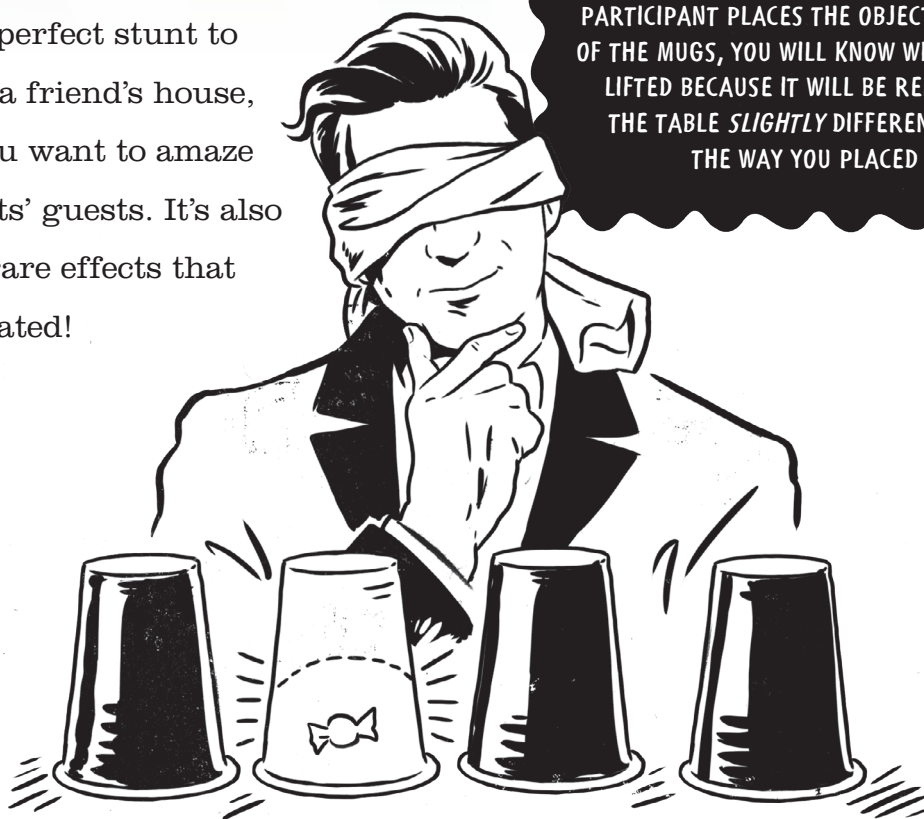
Don't ignore step 7. It is, in many ways, the most important step. As magicians, we sometimes get caught up in how an effect works or making sure we do every step properly. But for our audiences, we're making *magic*, and that means that in every effect we have to take the time to actually do some magic. This might be as simple as waving a hand or a wand, or saying a magic word, or it might require us to close our eyes for several seconds of deep concentration. But we must always pretend to do something to make the magic happen.



# HANDY CANDY

**Y**ou are able to find where someone hides a small piece of candy, even when you're blindfolded!

This is the perfect stunt to perform at a friend's house, or when you want to amaze your parents' guests. It's also one of the rare effects that can be repeated!



## HOW IT WORKS

YOU SECRETLY KNOW HOW EACH MUG IS PLACED ON THE TABLE. WHEN THE PARTICIPANT PLACES THE OBJECT UNDER ONE OF THE MUGS, YOU WILL KNOW WHICH ONE SHE LIFTED BECAUSE IT WILL BE REPLACED ON THE TABLE *SLIGHTLY* DIFFERENTLY FROM THE WAY YOU PLACED IT.

## What You Need

### THREE OR MORE MUGS

Use whatever you can find. If you can't find three mugs, use a mug, a cup (one you can't see through), and a bowl.

### CANDY

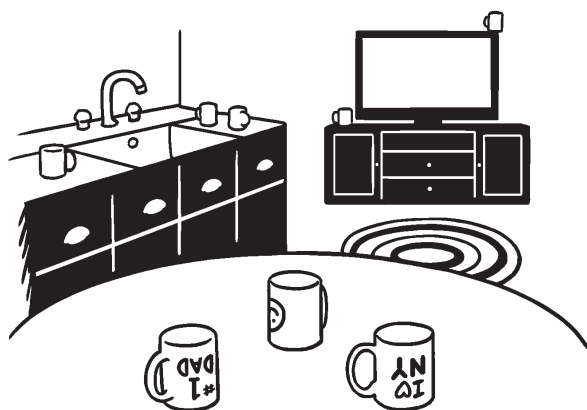
You just need any small object, so if candy isn't available, borrow a stick of gum, a coin, or another item.

### BLINDFOLD (OPTIONAL)

This is completely optional, but it works best to wear a blindfold in a formal show. If you're performing this impromptu, just have someone cover your eyes, or leave the room while they're hiding the candy.

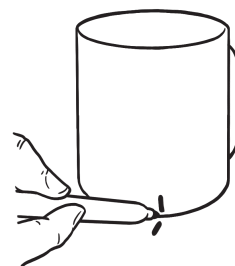
### MARKER

## 2



### 1 SETUP

Set the mugs upside down on a table. Spread them out as much as possible so that there is a lot of empty space between each one. (You can also, for example, place three mugs on the kitchen table, one near the sink, and one on the TV stand.) Note: If you perform this onstage, place a mug on three different small tables, one at stage left, one at center stage, and one at stage right. It's best to space the mugs out because you don't want your participant to touch or move more than one mug.



### 2 PERFORMANCE

When you perform, you must be able to recognize *exactly* how you placed the mugs on the table. There are several ways to do this: Mugs are best because the handles give an easy marker to look for. For example, I always place the mugs so the handle is pointed at an easy-to-find mark on the table, like a scratch or a knot in the wood. If there's a newspaper on the table, place the mug so the handle points toward a photo or headline you remember. Just don't angle the handles *all* the same way. *Note:* If you perform this onstage, you can be bolder. Make a small dot on the edge of the mug and another small dot on the table, as shown. Then, line up the dots before you start.

### SECRET STUFF

Some participants might ignore your directions and not place the candy under any mug (this happens more if you try the effect twice). So if you observe that every mug is exactly how you placed it, you can amaze everyone in the room by turning to the participant and saying, "*Hey there, I thought I told you to place the candy under the mug. I don't think you listened. I sense you still have it!*" That will really surprise everyone, especially the participant.

# 2

CONTINUED



# 3

Say, *"I like candy. A lot. I mean, I REALLY like candy. And to show you just how much I like it, I will allow you to hide this piece of candy under any one of these three mugs. I'll leave the room while you're hiding it. When you have placed it under any mug, call me back in."* Leave the room and allow the participant to follow your instructions.



# 4

When you return, don't look at the mugs too carefully or someone could figure out the secret. Instead, misdirect their attention by holding your hands above each mug, as if you're "feeling" for where the candy could be. Imagine the candy gives off some kind of energy, and that you can *feel* that energy with your magic powers.



# 5

Walk past each mug, even if you notice the one the participant chose. After you have examined each one, return to the one she chose and say, *"I sense the candy is here."*



# 6

Lift up the mug, show the candy, and . . .

# 7

. . . eat it as your reward!





# PANDORA'S BOX

In this stunning show of conjuring, the magician makes his partner appear from an empty box.

"Pandora's Box" requires nothing more than a partner, a large box, and a little rehearsal.



## HOW IT WORKS

YOUR PARTNER CRAWLS OUT OF AND THEN BACK INTO THE BOX, TIMING IT SO THE AUDIENCE DOESN'T SEE BEFORE HE OR SHE APPEARS.

## What You Need

✂ A LARGE BOX (PLUS A CRAFT KNIFE OR SCISSORS, DUCT TAPE, MARKERS, AND A RULER)

Your partner must be able to both fit in and secretly crawl in and out of the box, so use either a small partner (like a little brother or sister) or a big box.

✂ A PARTNER

✂ LIVELY MUSIC (optional)

# 3

## 1 SETUP

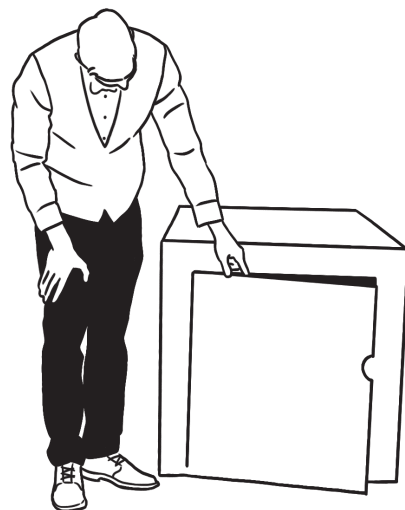
Ask an adult to help prepare the box. Cut off the flaps and place the box upside down on your performance surface (the bottom is open).



## 2

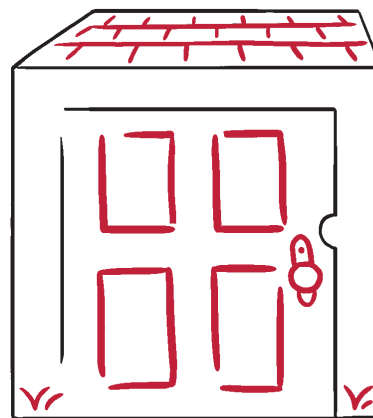
Cut two doors on opposite sides of the box, one that opens to the left and one that opens to the right. Make sure the doors are as large as possible and reach the floor. The doors should take up almost the complete side of the box.

## 3

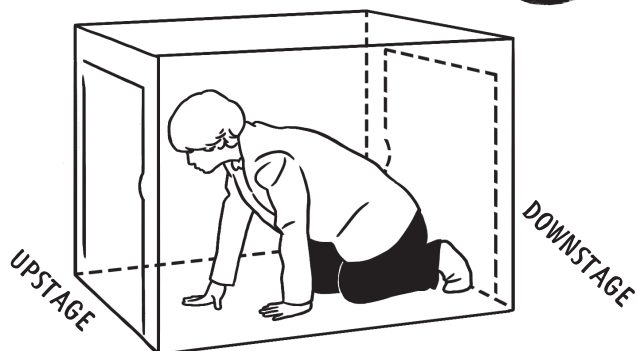


It's important that when you open the doors, they stay open. Some cardboard is very stiff, causing the doors to spring back to a closed position. (If this is the case, cut off the doors completely and then reattach them, hinging them with duct tape.) We'll call the door that is downstage, nearest the audience, the "front door." The upstage door, away from the audience, will be called the "back door."

## 4

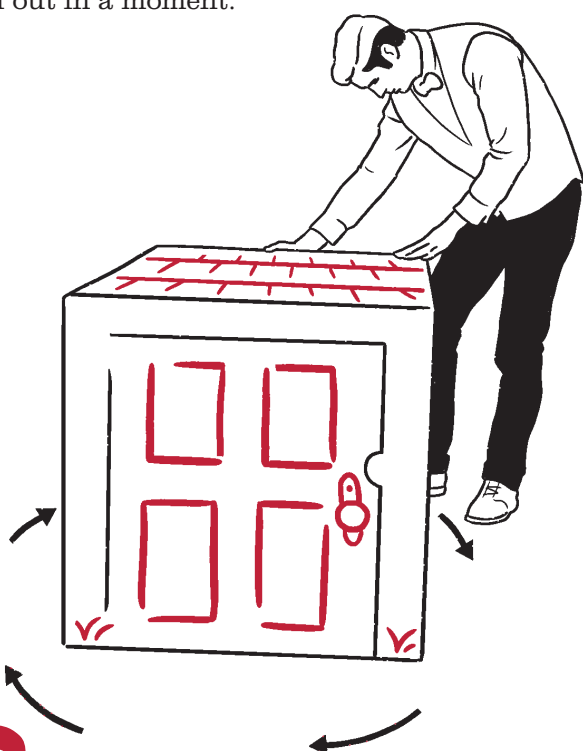


If you want to decorate the box, use markers to make it look like a tiny house with doors and a roof, or simply present the illusion as if it's an ordinary box (and actually, it is!).



# 5 PERFORMANCE

The box begins in the middle of the stage with your partner hidden inside (underneath). He should face the up-stage door, ready to secretly crawl out in a moment.

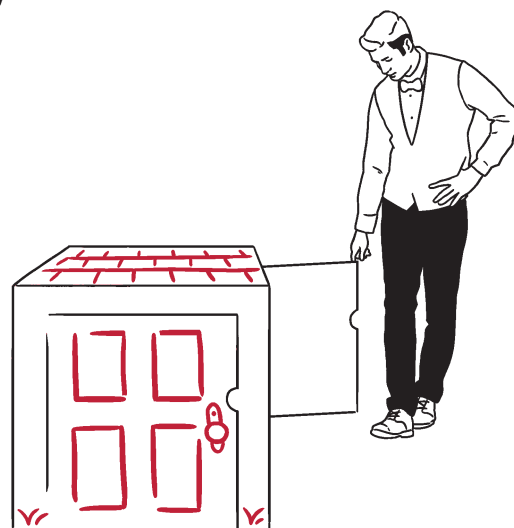


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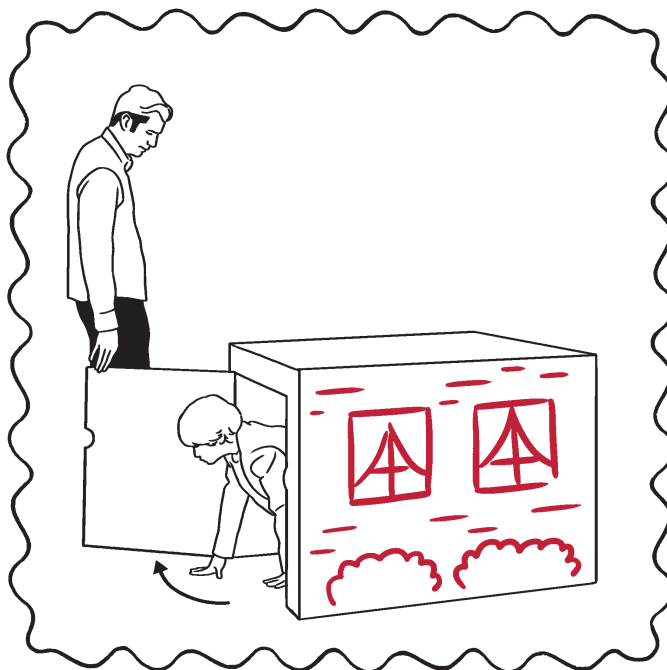
You, the magician, walk out to music and approach the box. Without lifting it, rotate the box all the way around to show off any decorations, as well as the doors in front and behind. Your partner remains perfectly still.

# 7

Open the back door first and make sure it stays open. The back of the door will be visible from the audience to the right of the box. It will act as a secret shield.



## HIDDEN VIEW



# 8

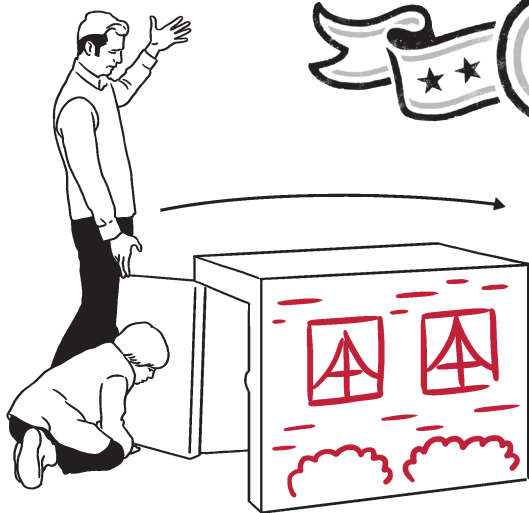
Now your partner secretly crawls out of the box and hides behind the back door.



CONTINUED

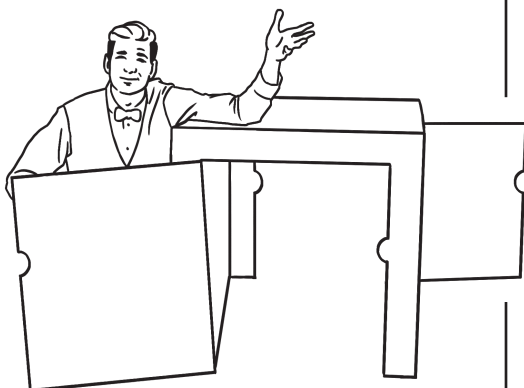
## HIDDEN VIEW

# 9



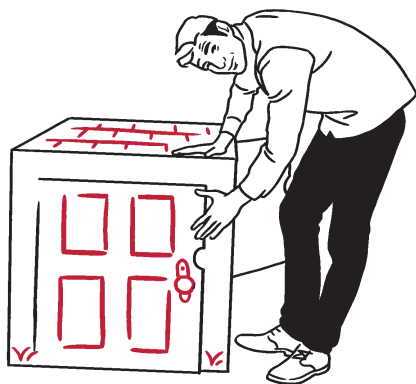
While your partner is crawling, you walk slowly around the box and, once your partner is hidden, open the front door.

# 10



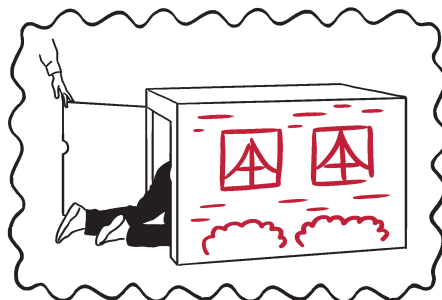
With both doors open, your partner is hiding behind the back door and the audience can now see all the way through the empty box. Nobody's home (. . . yet!).

# 11



Close the front door, and slowly walk around the box to the back.

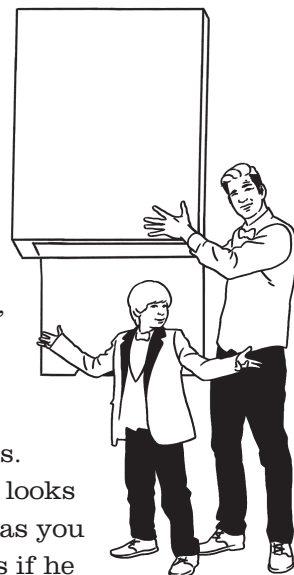
# 12



As soon as the front door is closed, your partner secretly crawls back into the box, and you continue to walk around the box to close the back door.

# 13

Now, after all that buildup, clap your hands together and lift the box upward quickly. As you do, your partner immediately stands. (When you time it right, it looks as though he appears just as you whisk the box away.) It's as if he materializes in a standing position.



## SECRET STUFF

There are endless themes for this illusion. Decorate the box like a doghouse and introduce the effect by explaining that you're upset because your dog went missing. When your partner appears, he could be holding a stuffed animal dog, or dressed in a dog costume, or even holding a real (quiet) dog. If you decorate the box like a dollhouse, you can make a real "live" doll appear!