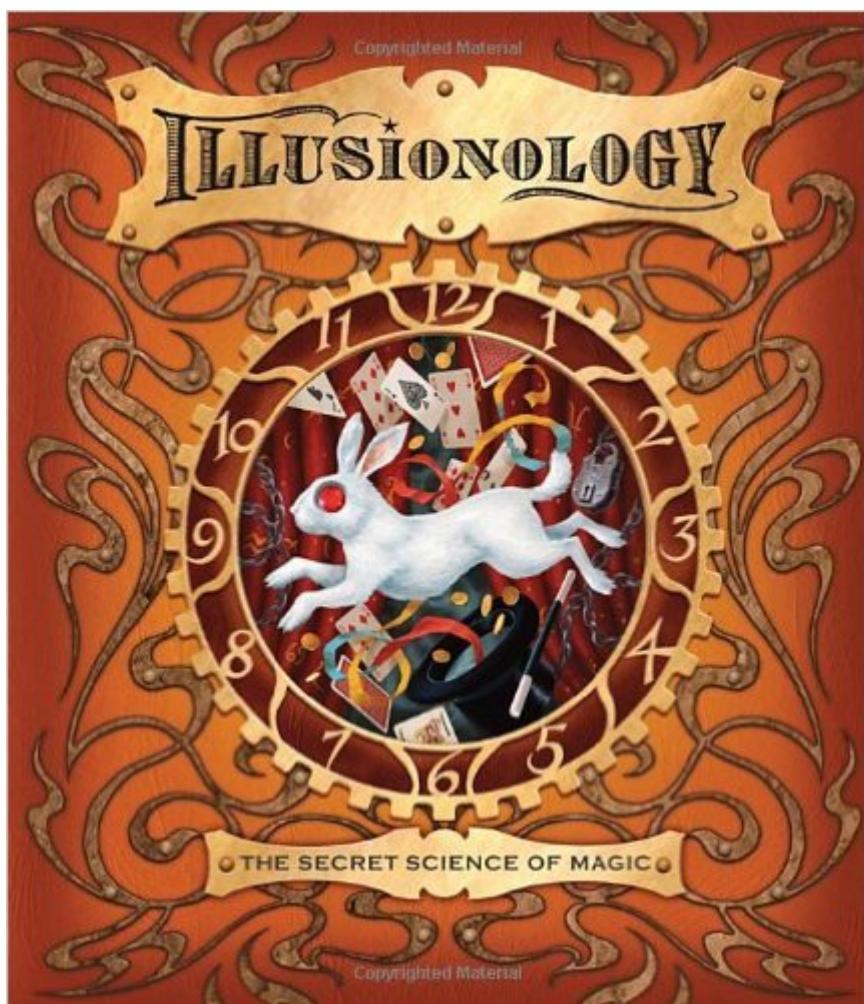


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# Illusionology (Ologies)



## **Synopsis**

Can you trust your eyes? The newest discovery in the "Ology series amazes and thrills as the closely guarded secrets of the illusionologists are revealed! Do you wonder how Harry Houdini performed his amazing escapes? Are you burning to learn the art of making a beautiful woman appear to levitate? Look closely, for the secrets of the world's most famous magicians and illusionists – from the ancient Egyptians through the early twentieth century "Handcuff King" himself – are contained within! More than a fascinating history of magic through the ages, Illusionology is an indispensable guide unveiling step-by-step instructions for more than twenty-five astonishing feats. Master the classic cups-and-ball illusion! Mesmerize your friends with mindreading card tricks! Along with sundry flaps and booklets, readers will find props for their own sleight of hand, including: A magical "dematerializer" A set of trick playing cards A pair of "disappearing spot" paddles A "levitating" card!

## **Book Information**

Series: Ologies

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (40 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

There is a scene in the movie "The Goonies" where the boys, bored on a rainy day, race up to Mikey's attic in the search of "rich stuff." Mikey and Brand's father is the curator of the local museum

and apparently what doesn't make the cut at the museum winds up in the attic. The attic is dark and dusty. The boys are all amusing themselves. Mouth destroys a painting and makes a crude joke. He's Mouth after all. And then Mikey, all alone, finds something amazing. He finds a map to the pirate One-Eyed Willy's treasure. Thus the rainy day mystery begins. The setting, the tone, is all perfect for that initial discovery. The wiping of the dust from the glass, the discovery of the newspaper clipping of Chester Copperpot's search for the treasure and his disappearance. What child doesn't crave this sort of thing? Which I think is why the "ology" books produced by Candlewick Press are so popular. Books such as "Pirateology," "Egyptology" and "Dragonology" have all graced the bookshelves in my classroom and have all been so used and abused by curious hands, they are practically falling apart. The brilliance of the "ology" series is that each book presents itself as a found journal. There are no authors per se. Each book is filled with interactive materials from "dragon skin" to old handwritten notes and letters. The most recent "ology" book is "Illusionology." It is probably my favorite by far. The interactive materials include various magic tricks like playing cards and optical illusions. Though ultimately a work of fiction, "Illusionology" offers real and true facts about the art of magic, why it works, how it works, how your brain is fooled. It introduces real life illusionists and scientists, like Houdini and Tesla and explains their contributions to the art. I'm still reading and rereading "Illusionology" finding new tidbits each time I do. It's fascinating.

I got this as a gift for my step-son for Christmas. At first he just left it in the floor, ignoring its power. After finally answering the book's call, he quickly realized that this book is pretty awesome. I thumbed through it, thinking to myself how much I would have loved this book when I was a kid. A few days after he first opened it, he asked me to come into the living room so he could try a card trick on me. I was thinking he would probably do the trick wrong and I would have to pretend that I was astounded. But he used misdirection and I didn't even realize it, then he was able to pull off 2 different card tricks and it just blew my mind because I couldn't figure out how he did it. Once he explained each card trick, I realized how simple it was. He plans on showing me the levitating card trick soon, so I'm excited. I think I'll get him a cloak with top hat and wand to complete the package. Great book though, easy to understand, bright vibrant colorful illustrations and all kinds of magic tricks to learn. Most of the time it supplies what you need to do the trick within the book. Give it a whirl, it might make a magician out of someone you know too!

This book was a Christmas gift for our daughter and she uses it all the time. It is filled with fun magic tricks and optical illusions that are fun and spark interest in learning new things. I was surprised at

what I learned and found it very interest myself. We have many of the Ology books and this is one of the best. Highly recommend.

If you've ever wondered how illusionists do what they do, this book will explain how the sleight of hand magic works. The book is wonderfully clear and has lots of nifty things to play with. A MUST for anyone curious about illusions.

This book is simply both beautiful and amazing. The first thing you'll notice about this book is its beautiful construction. Its hard cover gives it the appearance of being metallic. Then there is the 3-D picture on the front, depicting the popular rabbit of magic and an array of Magic paraphernalia including cards, coins, lock, chain, ribbons, and even a top hat and magic wand. Then inside, the best of quality in paper, printing, illustrations and color immediately impress you. The book covers all aspects of Magic, including personalities, history, all kinds of tricks and illusions that will tell you many of Magic's secrets, and explain how to do many tricks. The book is filled with pop-ups, pull-outs, and inserts. The tricks are generally quite simple to learn and perform and not the kind that take many hours of practice to accomplish. They can be learned by young kids, and with due diligence, even older people. For example, there is a trick called NUMBER TELEPATHY that one can learn in a couple of minutes that involves having someone choose numbers, manipulating them, then you predicting the outcome. Everyone enjoys Magic, and even wishes they were able to "do" a few Magic Tricks, but when they try to learn them, they get discouraged, mainly because with coins, cards, etc, there is often a skill required that takes lots of practice. Well, here's your chance, whether you are a kid just starting out; or a Grandmother or Grandfather, wanting to entertain the young'uns, you'll find a few tricks that are easy to learn, require no "tools of the trade" or props; and once learned, won't be forgotten. I must warn you however; DO NOT LEND THIS BOOK TO ANYONE, because Magic will come into play. IT WILL DISAPPEAR!!!

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