

News & Info from Roberto Giobbi.

[View this email in your browser](#)

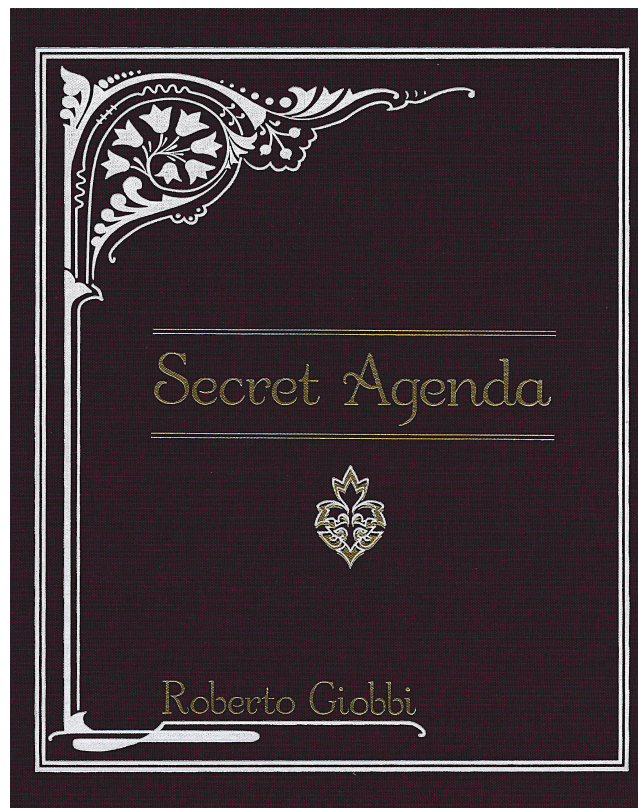


## New E-book & More...

"You've called this *Secret Agenda*. But you should have named it *Gold Mine*. Superb!" (Richard Vollmer)

"I've never read a book like that before in my life - congratulations and thank you!" (Alberto Macciani)

"Last year I've read *Hidden Agenda*. I loved the book so much that I bought *Secret Agenda*. This year I am reading both books!" (Jaron)



### **Secret Agenda is now an E-book**

January is the ideal month to start your study of *Secret Agenda*.

*Secret Agenda*, the book, has been out of print for almost two years now. I therefore made it into an E-book as it is perfect to be read on your portable device,

Smartphone or Tablet: most entries take just one single page.

This E-book comes as a reader-friendly PDF, which is fully searchable. You can open and read it on any of the current PDF-Readers, underline and highlight text, add your own comment, thumbnail your preferred pages etc. Some PDF-Apps such as "PDF Expert" (by Readdle) even allow you to extract individual or groups of pages to create your own "Secret Agenda Favorites" PDF, add your own comments, and write into the body of the text to change it to your requirements. You can thus create your own "Annotated Secret Agenda".

As a Bonus, at the end of the book, I have added an extra PDF of almost 100 pages, which are my personal "Favorites From Secret Agenda"!

Total 520 pages in an easy-to-read PDF.

Order it [HERE](#) for merely € 19.95, that's 5.4 Cents per day.

### **The Session Magic Convention**

This week-end I shall be at the prestigious ["The Session" convention in London-Heathrow](#) ably organized by Andi Gladwin & Joshua Jay (read my report of 2018 [HERE](#)). Please come up to me and say "hello", and bring your books, I shall be happy to sign them for you.

### **Card Magic Masterclass**

Andi, Josh and George from Vanishing Inc. are telling me that my latest work "Card Magic Masterclass" has been well received. Joshua Jay writes, "The Masterclass is getting feedback better than anything we've EVER produced. People LOVE it." For more info, to order and to watch a YouTube Review by Steve Faulkner [CLICK HERE](#). I can only sell you the physical DVD-set (if you mention it on the order form, I shall be happy to sign it to your name); if you want the downloads please order directly from Vanishing Inc. [BY CLICKING HERE](#).

### **Card College 1&2 - Personal Instruction as Download**

The 4-DVD-Set *Card College 1&2 - Personal Instruction* is now definitely gone and will never again be reproduced physically. BUT you can now download the complete course as MP4 files at a third of its original price (€ 49.95), and you can even have each one of the 23 Lessons individually at € 4.95. So if you are for instance struggling with the Palm or the Top Change, two of the more difficult sleights, get the two lessons for the price of a Starbucks Coffee. I kept the price as low as my dignity allows it and hope it discourages pirated versions.

### **The Secret Newsletter**

Practice and rehearsal are a most important part of success. Not only are they

necessary to reach the degree of mastery, they are the best means I know against stage fright (read my essay on how to overcome stage fright [HERE](#)). I have dedicated a whole chapter on the subject in *Card College Volume 2* (pp. 476), which I called "The Study of Card Conjuring", and I invite you to reread it - I promise you will gain much from it.

Recently a reader asked me about the Hand Strength Exercisers I mention on p. 481, where I recommend "a unit made of heavy spiral spring wound into a diamond shape, which you squeeze together". Unfortunately space limitations in the *Card College* books did not allow me to go into more details, nor to include photos, but today I took one, and here it is:



You should be able to find it in a well-equipped sporting goods store.

While we talk about practice, here is the entry in *Secret Agenda* for November 15 • Seven Tips on Practice:

Here are seven excellent ideas on how to effectively practice and make the process more enjoyable.

1. *Serial practice* (Ascanio): You want to practice a trick that requires a setup. Prepare five decks with the necessary arrangement and set them on a side table. Take the first deck and go through the trick once. When you are done, put this deck aside and repeat with each of the other four decks.
2. *Metronome*: Take a sleight, such as the Elmsley count, and practice in time to a metronome, setting it at different speeds. Do the same thing when practicing a trick. The sleight or trick will feel completely different, depending on the rhythm to which it is performed. This will give you a feeling for tempo. To maintain interest throughout a performance, it is a good idea to vary the rhythm. The first time I heard about using a metronome for magic was in Juan Tamariz's 1979 lecture at Ron McMillan's

convention.

3. *Regularity*: If possible, practice every day, at the same time and in the same place. Even if it is only fifteen minutes a day, it will yield better results than practicing for hours during only a day or two.

4. *Deck of Tricks*: Take a deck and on the face of each card write the name of a trick you would like to keep in your repertoire. Use this as your practice deck when you are at home or when you travel. Cut to a card, look at the name of the trick, and then practice it. If you are in a public place, where practice is unsuitable, practice the trick mentally, going through it in detail in your mind.

5. *Use a deck of cards with sixty-five cards*: Add thirteen extra cards to your regular deck and practice your sleights with it. Then, when you perform with a normal deck of fifty-two, everything will feel easier. This was told to me by Gordon Bruce.

6. *XXXL*: Another approach to this discipline is to use an oversized deck (usually these are produced as promotional decks for companies), or oversized coins.

7. *Vary Card Conditions*: Use five decks in different conditions, from new to well-worn.

I hope you liked that - there are about a dozen more entries about practice and rehearsal in *Secret Agenda* and *Hidden Agenda* (*Hidden Agenda* is only available as a book).

### **Last Word & Request**

If you have read this far, maybe you want to let me know if you would like to receive a mail like this, possibly twice a month, containing one or two product informations, but above all a "Secret Newsletter" section at the end, where I answer your questions and discuss various topics, always practical, I hope. To let me know you can simply answer to this mail. Please understand that I won't be able to get into a correspondence about it, but I appreciate and read all your mails, and if there is an interesting suggestion, I will pick it up and discuss it in one of the forthcoming Newsletters.

More on the next occasion - take care!

Roberto Giobbi

10th January 2019 - Roberto Giobbi

*Copyright © 2020 Roberto Giobbi, All rights reserved.*  
Mailing List from robertogiobbi.com in year 2016.

**Our mailing address is:**  
newsletter@robertogiobbi.com

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

