

## ***Ex Libris*** by Joaquin Ayala, Ph.D.

Hello everyone and welcome to the Ex Libris article for September 2020! I hope all of you are feeling well and staying safe, and that you are enjoying the cooler weather lately!

This month I thought I would take a slight departure from our usual “big book” format and focus on something a little different: a *lecture book*! In this case we are going to look at *Pocket Power* by **Jarle Leirpoll**. It is a 64-page, 8.5 x 11-inch saddle stitched softcover book, self-published in 1995.

You may not be familiar with the name of Jarle Leirpoll (pronounced roughly as YAR-luh Lyre-pohl) is a Norwegian magician and television director/producer who, in the early to mid-1990s, went on a lecture tour with another Norwegian magician named Eivind Løwig. This booklet is the set of lecture notes for that tour, and there was also a VHS video companion.

The entire point of the work that Jarle put into this lecture was how to use your pockets and topits to their fullest ability. In this tome you will discover some great effects that use pockets to hold out, switch and ditch to the best of their ability. He teaches you the best and cleanest ways to use the various types of pockets typically found on garments – side pockets, hip pockets, back pockets, jacket pockets, breast pockets, etc., for stealing and loading various items.

Jarle in the real world works in the television and videography industry, so there is a good chunk of this book that is dedicated to magic on television and video – how to make your magic good enough for television, what to be aware of, what to expect, how to prepare for it, creating drama, choreography and much more! These tips were written in 1995 but they are still relevant today!

A couple of standout magic effects in this book are his *Toilet Paper to Egg* (which came with one of the funniest “gross jokes” I have ever heard – “I recommend using white toilet paper for this – if you use brown toilet paper you will get a brown egg...”). His *Norwegian Travelers* makes excellent use of his pocket techniques were 3 signed cards travel to different pockets and the fourth card is found in your fly, with an excellent alternative ending of finding the fourth card folded up in your shoe!

These notes are readily available in many magic shops today and are also available in e-book format from Lybrary.com or directly from Jarle Leirpoll at [www.leirpoll.com](http://www.leirpoll.com) – I highly recommend searching for a copy because even if

you do not use any of the effects, the techniques and the other information included are all very solid and useful in many effects, not to mention the insider perspective on performing magic on video and television. There is value here for everyone!

That is all for this month folks, and I do hope you join me next month because we are featuring a special guest writer for the October article! Keep the magic alive! – J. M. A.