

Ex Libris by Joaquin Ayala, Ph.D.

Hello everyone and welcome to the Ex Libris article for November 2020! I am back this month to follow up the September article where I talked about *Pocket Power* by Jarle Leirpoll. This month I will focus on another lecture book by the other Norwegian magician I mentioned in that article.

This month we are looking at *Stand-Up Coin Power* by **Eivind Løwig**. It is a 48-page, saddle-stitched soft cover booklet, self-published by Eivind in 1997.

Eivind Løwig (pronounced roughly like EYE-vind Luh-vig) is a Norwegian magician specializing in coin magic, and that is exactly what his part of the co-lecture with Mr. Leirpoll focused on, and these are the accompanying lecture notes. In this book you will find some fun and neat ideas – in fact, *this* is the work that initially sparked my interest in coin magic.

In all there are thirteen items in the book (12 effects and 1 concept with three applications), all of which were designed for the stand-up performer and none which require a table of any sort. A few of them require a standard “gimmick” but two of them you can easily make yourself and the third, if you do not already own one, will cost not more than \$20-25/USD, if that much at any magic shop.

The material ranges from easy to difficult, but there is nothing really knuckle-busting here. My two absolute favorite effects are *Flaming Coin*, where you produce a coin, which changes into a BiC style lighter, and finally the coin is produced from the flame of the lighter.

Vanishing Fistful of Money is exactly what it sounds like – a handful of loose change vanishes in an instant (you do have to make the gimmick for this, or have one made, but it is not hard). For me, the real meat here was what Eivind calls *The Pentium Concept*. What that is, is a *system* for switching coins, vanishing them and even producing them. Any combination of one, two or all three can be used and you can tailor it to your needs. It does not have a clothing requirement, but it does require you to wear a certain accessory or what some might consider a piece of “jewelry” – nothing special. It allows you to end clean and you can even do it in your underwear (if that is your thing)!

To this day this is one of my favorite books on coin magic because it was all new to me when I first saw the lecture, and I remember every bit of it. That speaks to the power of the material in here (as well as the skill and personality of the performers/lecturers). All of the plots have been around

for a while, and some have been done to death, but Eivind (unbeknownst to my uneducated self at the time) made some very nice changes and additions to them in order to make them friendly for the stand-up performer. Things like his *E.L. Coins Across* uses just three coins, and it can be combined easily with his *Vanishing Coins Across* (where the coins vanish before they can even go across!).

I highly encourage you to seek out a copy of this book – the hard copy comes up every now and again at various shops, but it is readily available from Jarle Leirpoll at www.leirpoll.com, where you can also find products and books by Jarle himself.

That is all for this month folks – with next month comes the end of the year already (or perhaps, finally!) and with it, the last article for 2020. It will NOT be on a book of tricks or magic effects, but a biography of a very fascinating person – a magician, of course. Stay tuned and until then, HAPPY THANKSGIVING to our readers in the U.S.A.! - J.M.A.