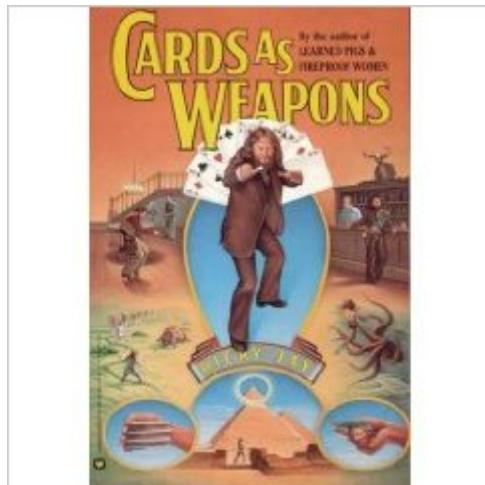


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# Cards As Weapons



## **Synopsis**

The author of the critically acclaimed Learned Pigs and Fireproof Women, a nationally known sleight-of-hand expert, movie actor and magician extraordinaire, presents a stylish parody of self-defense books that demonstrates how ordinary playing cards can be used as a means of protection. Photos.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 130 pages

Publisher: Warner Books; Reprint edition (June 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0446387568

ISBN-13: 978-0446387569

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 23 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #786,657 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #184 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Magic & Illusion #242 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Magic #4416 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Satire

## **Customer Reviews**

It is crazy that I would have to pay over \$200 to own this book! Is it bound in human skin? Does it have the secret of eternal life and youth? As another reviewer noted, reprinting this book will NOT result in frenzied card throwing mobs overturning cars and looting stores. The first press run seems to have come and gone without causing civil unrest on the part of card throwers-I've never met a card thrower in my life. In fact, I've never met anyone who mentioned WANTING to learn card throwing. The audience to whom this book appeals is tiny and nothing will ever change that. Relax, folks. This will turn out to be "too hard" for 9 out of 10 people who try it-all 50 of them. Now, REPRINT THIS BOOK, Please!

Terrific book. Jay's technique really works. Unfortunately I don't have a copy of this book today. Back in 1977 when I was 11 years old I ... acquired ... a copy from my local magic shop. The title was just too irresistible. I studied the book completely in 1977 and, to this day, can remember almost everything I read and learned. Much of the skill is in the muscle memory and I practiced for a long time. I carried around a deck of cards and can remember pelting my brother from across the room

with card after card. At speed these things HURT!! I remember giving it to a friend for his birthday present since I knew the book from cover to cover. I wish I had a copy today but I can't bring myself to pay \$175 for a copy. I can still nail someone accurately with a playing card. Definitely worth studying.

I was introduced to Ricky Jay one morning in the late 1970's while staying home sick from Jr. High school, and watching him on A.M. Los Angelus with Regis Philben and Sarah Purcell. They kept teasing that a guy was going to throw cards through a watermelon!!! I just had to watch! Yes, some cards did stick into a watermelon, (but didn't go through it). They went outside and he threw cards into a 2nd or 3rd story window, and through some newspaper at a distance... COOL! I had to get his book. I was 13 at the time, and was terrified when I finally found the book at the bookstore and what was in it, (the very perky assistant), and nervously hoped the cashier would not flip through the book when ringing me up! While I did carry cards with me for hours at a time, I never really honed my skills beyond the basic across-the-table card flinging which comes in handy when playing cards to this day! It's kinda funny that I still have this book in my library, and I have thought I would eventually let my son read it, "when he's old enough".

The chapters of the book are:

1. History A brief account of the origins of playing cards with some subtle speculation as to when they were first thrown
2. Cards and the Martial Arts A reflective look at the shuriken and other deadly throwing weapons of the venerable Orientals with a lucid parallel to the modern card assassin.
3. Magicians and Card-Scaling Historical accounts of the scaling of cards into the far reaches of small theaters. A feat of skill included in the stage shows of famous magicians, with particular emphasis on Herrmann the Great and the Amazing Thurston.
4. Technique The basics of card-throwing (illustrated); the Herrmann method, the Thurston method, and the Jay method. The hand, the wrist, the grip, and the all important follow-through.
5. Advanced Technique How to throw a card and make it return to the hand. A simulacrum of the Australian boomerang. Also--fancy one-hand throws and catches for the serious student.
6. How to Practice and Stay Fit The hows and wheres of practice; technique to keep the fingers limber and a short medical study of card-thrower's arm and its relationship to tennis elbow, surfer's knobs, and Frisbee finger.
7. Self-Defense A prejudiced enquiry into the advantages of cards over more conventional weaponry. Special sections on self-defense against plastics and humans, and pertinent discussion of cards as pest control. Also, an added bonus: The secret fighting technique against multiple adversaries, the lethal "four card fist." And a second bonus: The consumer's guide to mechanical

card throwing.8. Stunts to Impress One's Friends An effective battery of crowd-pleasing demonstrations from the author's own repertoire. Included are award-winning throws such as: card over a building, the classic card through newspaper, and the kudo-copping "card-cuts-cigarette-in-mouth."9. Personal Anecdotes In which the author recounts with clarity and exaggeration how he has helped the elderly, abetted the police, and assuaged the plight of young damsels with the help of his trusty cards...

This book was published in 1988 by Warner Brothers books. It's paperback, 130 pages, and has over 100 how-to pictures. This book will show you how to throw playing cards farther, faster and harder than you ever thought possible. The chapters of the book are as follows:1. History2. Cards and the Martial Arts3. Magicians and Card Scaling4. Technique5. Advanced Technique6. How to Practice and Stay Fit7. Self-Defense8. Stunts to Impress One's Friends9. Personal Anecdotes10. AfterwordThis books explains such card throws as the Boomerang Card, the Long-Distance Spinner, the Flick, the Back-of-the-hand Flick, the Finger Flick, the Foot Flick, Card Juggling, the Lethal Four Card Fist, the Butterfly Swirl, the Sea Urchin Spin, and the Dolphin Dart. Shows alternative throwing methods such as the Martin Lewis Method, the Thurston Grip, the Jay Grip, and the Herrmann Grip. This is the book that made Jon Wedd famous for his appearance on MTV's "Unfiltered" news show. Ricky Jay held the Guinness world record for card throwing in 1976. He also wrote the book "Learned Pigs and Fireproof Women"

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