

Stuff I'll keep

As I get older I tend to spend less on new, current magic. Maybe I'm getting more discriminating or maybe I'm just cheaper. I think people my age tend to denigrate all new stuff and that's not fair. Actually, there's some very fine material being released which is, unfortunately, drowning in a sea of rancid manure. These are some items that I have either seen or acquired over the past year or so and I think are worth your money:

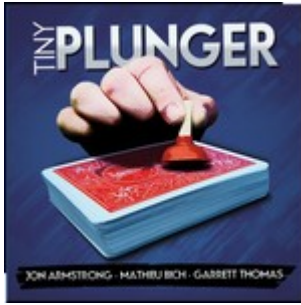


Confidences by Roberto Giobbi -

I like the scholarly work of Roberto Giobbi. He is an author that takes his work very seriously. I hope that anyone reading this that has the slightest interest in card magic has the entire Card College series on his shelf. It certainly is on mine. His *Daily Agenda* is one of my all-time favorite books. I can't say that there are 366 gems in it, but I guarantee you that over half of the entries are well worth your consideration. A ratio we seldom see anymore.

This is his most recent effort. The book is physically small, approximately 5" x 7". There are approximately 265 pages. There are only 11 items, that they are covered in depth. I have particular fondness for his chapter on Tally-Ho and his *Thoughts on Controls*. The latter running over 75 pages.

To me, this book is more valuable than any DVD I have seen recently. Do yourself a favor and grab this small volume. It's some of his best work.



Tiny Plunger-

I didn't plan on liking this. This screams of the kind of cutesy pie crap that gives i/m gas. One reason this works is because the prop, in itself, is very interesting and unusual. As I understand it these were originally devised as sort of an easel for a cell phone. You can find them everywhere - eBay, your local magic shop, your local cell phone shop and of course China. Jon Armstrong's routine is clever and amusing. It will play well far a reasonably intelligent adult grouping. This is not a trick for the kiddies. One reason I like Armstrong's routine is he doesn't play it as a great mystery but still makes it a fuller without insulting the intelligence of his audience. It's one of the best I've seen in a long time. Unfortunately, this trick requires a table. Something that is seldom available in many venues that we work. I didn't care for Blich's Material on the DVD, but that is a personal preference. I didn't care for his presentation are some of the material that he used. That's just me, you may find it terrific.

Do yourself a favor and grab this. I think it's going to be a near classic.