

# KEYS TO MAGIC'S INNER WORLD

**Create Or Own A Piece Of Its History**

Written by  
**JOHN BOOTH**

Additional Content by  
**MEIR YEDID**

**First Softcover Edition**



Published by  
**MEIR YEDID MAGIC**

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# FOREWORD

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John Booth's *Keys To Magic's Inner World* was mostly written in the 1990s. Before the web became common and before many online auction sites started offering magic collectibles.

Collecting and selling magic has become an industry and the history of magic has become better understood.

Many of the collections discussed in this book have grown, changed hands, or have been sold.

For the greatest example, all we need to do is look at David Copperfield's Museum which now houses the largest, most impressive, and most important magic collection in history. Here I am with David at his recreation of Tannen's Magic Shop where I used to work.



Although a lot has changed, a lot has also stayed the same. All the advice found in this book is still relevant today and the stories will inspire you to respect the history of magic, become a collector, and even become a part of magic history.

Perhaps the most important part of the book is the chronicling of the history of magic collecting in the United States where you will learn about the early collections and collectors and how it all evolved into the industry that it is today.

When I purchased Ray Goulet's Magic Art Book Co. in 2005 it included two John Booth books, this one and his *Fine Art Of Hocus Pocus*. The Keys sold out quickly, so I decided to reprint it in an affordable softcover edition.

In laying out this new edition I was also able to add some new photographs of some current collectors with their specialties. I encourage you to seek them out and listen to their stories as they describe what they accumulated.

Meir Yedid  
February 2025

PS: I want to apologize to all my fellow collectors who are not included in this book. I basically asked a few friends who I am in regular contact with or ones who happened to contact me or place an order while I was working on the book, to submit a photo with their collection.

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