

**March // Introduction**  
**by Geoff Kanick**

Hello.

I think we should start by going around one at a time and say our names and any part of the address of your childhood home (city, number, street, etc.).

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One of the very first magic books I read was *Now You See It, Now You Don't!: Lessons in Sleight of Hand*. One of the cornerstones of magic is the act of disappearance.

Disappearance happens after appearance, and sometimes before reappearance.

With disappearance, however, the focus cannot exclusively be on only the absence...the gone-ness. Even more important, is that we need to know it is there, to begin with. Before it can disappear. So to explore disappearance, is to explore appearance, and sometimes reappearance.

As I began putting together material for this evening it became very clear that there are many different ways for something to disappear. In the blink of an eye / in a puff of smoke or to slowly fade away. Tonight, I am interested in exploring the ladder.

And lots of things disappear like this.  
All around us.

Stars appear after twilight and disappear with sunrise. Sometimes they disappear behind clouds.  
The moon can do this too.

Coins, Cards, Doves, Silks,  
Hairbrushes, Keys, Pairs of Socks, Rings, Bobby Pins, Puzzle Pieces,  
Rainwater, Restaurants, Earring Backs, Fashion Trends, Shows,  
Clouds, Batteries, Bubbles, Boredom, Wood, Trees, Shorelines, TV Remotes, Mail,  
Icecaps, Money, Patience,  
Friendships, Youth, People.

Some of these will make a reappearance.

Some things disappear and never come back.  
Memories can disappear, which we call forgetting.  
Whole species have disappeared, which we call extinction.

Some injustices have disappeared, but there's still more to do,  
And a responsibility to keep them from reappearing.

I think one deep fear I have, is to disappear and for it to go unnoticed.

It's important to notice disappearance.  
Especially, when it is not instantaneous.

Disappearance is not always permanent.  
Disappearance is not always instantaneous.

Disappearance can take thousands of years.

Nature is disappearing all the time.  
And faster now than it used to.

I saw the sun disappear from 10:15am-10:16am on a Monday on the Oregon Coast. 1 minute 50 seconds I will never forget. I saw it on a lawn that is disappearing into the ocean.

And disappearance doesn't always mean something is gone. Just not visible. Not able to be seen, like the moon behind the clouds, or the stars during the day.

And the act of remembering has the power to make something or someone reappear.

There is an inherent sadness or melancholy in disappearance, as it signals loss.

There's a great quote from a physicist...he says that when you die, every part of you is still there, it's just far less organized.

Maybe a way to think about disappearance is when in our hearts, we asked the question "will it come back?" and we wonder that....perhaps that is a way to think about disappearance.

But within the word disappearance is the word appearance.  
And I would like to thank you all for appearing here tonight.

So thank you.

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Now.

I am going to make a bold proclamation:  
I will disappear tonight.  
I will disappear from all of you.  
And you will wonder if I am going to reappear.

That being said, let us begin.