

Beat—Magicians

Magicians have lived in and visited the city since its founding, though few knew of their real power. Now the old crowd stubbornly pretend to be powerless, the younger set practice openly, and actual frauds take advantage of the gullible.

DEDICATED: Simple tricks are quick to learn, but deeper knowledge requires immense physical and mental dedication.

SPECIALIST: Magical skill doesn't carry over between specialties. Most focus on one trick; learning many takes a lifetime.

REVEALED: The Great Reveal was publicized worldwide; returning to secrecy would require decades of effort to discredit it.

BACKLASH: Drawing on too much magic can cause harm to brain or body. Only the most skilled know exactly when to stop.

FRAUD: Real magicians once hid among frauds; now, those who've never bothered to learn seek profit by claiming real power.

TRANSITION: The role of "Magician" is changing; new generations will have very different ideas about magic.

TRADITION: Magicians hold to strict rules and traditions, often with reason; younger ones are more likely to rebel.

DIVIDED: Not everyone is happy being forced to act in the open; some forms of influence only work in secret.

SECLUDED: The most dedicated focus on magic over everything else; fearing distraction, many have gone into hiding.

INSTRUCTORS: Some are excited to share knowledge. Traveling magic shows have become both school and entertainment.

RESTRICTIONS: Control over magical secrets helped destroy dangerous cults; now info is widespread it's much harder.

ENFORCERS: For centuries magicians have enforced secrecy. The secret is gone, but those skilled at deadly cover-ups remain.



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HARRY HOUDINI

POWERFUL: Founder of the Society of American Magicians; runs national hotline "to track expositors and other undesirables."

TRICKY: Before the Great Reveal, worked to discredit those who claimed real magic, fabricating proof of fraud.

RESOURCEFUL: Runs NY's most selective magic shop, has vast personal library.

