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# Hello Children

## Where was the first magic performed?



The first magic was performed in ancient Egypt. The Egyptian magician Dedi, who lived about 2700BCE, gave a performance in which he decapitated two birds and an ox and then restored their heads. Other Egyptian magicians were noted for their skill with the trick of the cups and balls. In this trick small balls seem to pass invisibly from one inverted cup or bowl to another. Finally, they are converted into larger spheres or such unexpected items as oranges or live baby rabbits. One of the greatest box-office attractions in the history of magic was the feat of appearing to saw a woman in half. In the first performance of this act in London in 1921, the British magician Percy Tibbles, whose professional name was P.T. Selbit, cut through a box that contained a woman assistant. She emerged unharmed.

The word rune comes from a Gothic word meaning secret. A rune is any one of the characters of the earliest written alphabet (as seen on this runestone). Runic characters were probably first used by pagan priests in making charms and magic spells.

**FACT FILE**



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