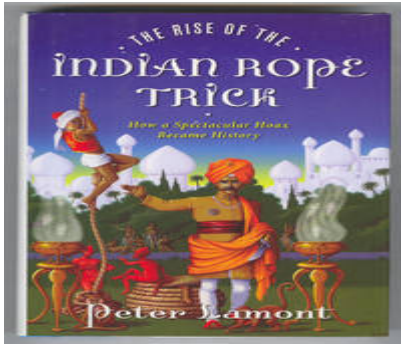


The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History By Peter Lamont A boy climbs up the rope and when the boy gets to the top he vanishes into thin air” explains Peter Lamont winner of the Jeremy Dalziel prize in British History and author of The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick about a tall tale that found its way into legend. Using the original legend as a starting point Lamont who has performed as a magician and psychic explores how easily people will believe stories that are fed to them as truth despite all logical senses and their outright impossibility. The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History For the love of Krishna hire an editor The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History easy read but kind of repetitive through out the book The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History The Indian Rope Trick is almost a cliché: in an open field the boy climbs up a rope that somehow is suspended upright. He collects the pieces puts them into a basket says a few magic words and the boy reappears unharmed! An event attested to even photographed by many travelers and reproduced on stage in varying forms by famous magicians for decades. I like how the guy writes but he seems to spend half the book trying to convince you that the history behind the Indian Rope Trick is worthy of an entire piece of work (which it isn't. ) The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History Peter Lamont has a breezy entertaining writing style but by the end of the book I wasn't persuaded that the Indian Rope Trick hoax was a subject worthy of having an entire book dedicated to it. Perhaps readers who themselves are practising magicians will disagree but I couldn't help thinking the central point of the book could have been made perfectly adequately in a long-form newspaper article length piece: 19th Century American journalist makes up astounding magic trick to generate sales. One of the few books where I'd recommend everyone read the footnotes! Four word summation: wickedly funny disturbingly informative The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History I'm honestly astonished I didn't know about this book before this year; I went to university very close to where the author is (was?) a professor and wrote my dissertation on a closely related subject. The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History A fascinatingly entertaining account of how the Indian rope trick isn't Indian doesn't involve a rope and isn't a trick: The rope trick is one of the most successful hoaxes of all time created by an amateur magician and printed in the Chicago Tribune in 1890. Despite a later admission that the story was false it continued to spread in newspapers and journals throughout the world. Some claimed to have seen the trick performed on trips to India: The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History Reasonably entertaining but the scope here is probably better suited to a long article not a book, There is noise a fight then pieces of the boy fall out of the sky to the ground: There is one problem however which Peter Lamont explains with well researched insights and restrained humor: The Indian Rope Trick never happened! It was derived entirely from a newspaper story written by an amateur magician in a Chicago paper in 1890: The remarkable story just grew and spread to where the Indians themselves had to learn how to create something that resembled it because so many tourists expected to see it, The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History It has it's moments. Chinese Whispers leads to much early 20th Century hunting for the genuine article. The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History Absolutely loved this book could not put it down, It was so full of interesting facts and ideas along with maintaining mystery that it kept my imagination completely engaged, The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History One of the best history books I've read mostly for its personal prose and witticisms: Its loaded with British humor from this Scottish academic Peter Lamont: Nevertheless I'm glad I found it in the end this is a well researched and very witty text on a fascinating subject. A definite must have for the magic library and intriguing even if considered in a purely historical sense: Lamont writes with a mischievous humour which makes its way even into the footnotes and photo captions, The Rise of the Indian Rope Trick: How a Spectacular Hoax Became History



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“A rope rises up into the air. Others added their own spin to the tale. He vanishes at the top. The magnus climbs up after him and also disappears. The magnus reappears sliding down the rope. A marvelous story that Lamont tells in great style. Making a somewhat peculiar topic funny and engaging. Popular history at its best