In *The Educated Egg*, the magician shows his audience a hard-boiled egg which, he explains, understands English and will follow his directions. He puts the egg into a glass jar filled with water and it begins to sink slowly. As the magician says magic words and commands it to stop, the egg slows up and then hangs suspended in the middle of the water. Then, the magician stirs the water with a wand, saying, "Now, egg, sink!" At once the egg obeys, dropping to the bottom of the jar. The secret is in the way the jar of water is prepared. In advance, the magician makes a strong solution of salt water filling the jar halfway. Then, using a small funnel, he adds fresh water, a little at a time, trying not to disturb the salt water. The water is now in two layers, with the fresh water on top. In the trick, the egg sinks through the fresh water and stops when it reaches the denser salt water. Stirring the water weakens the solution, and the egg sinks to the bottom.