The Trick Bridge

* A piece of writing paper: three glasses

THE TRICK: The magician takes a sheet of strong writing paper and places it over two glasses or books that are a few inches apart, forming a bridge between them. He tells the other players that he can place a glass upright on this bridge and challenges any other person in the room to try it first. When they do, they soon find out that the paper is not strong enough to hold the weight of the glass. Then the magician successfully performs the trick.

THE SECRET: He takes the same paper and folds it several times lengthwise, creating a pleatlike effect. This strengthens the sheet of paper considerably, and it is easily able to bear the weight of the glass. It’s wise to use unbreakable plastic glasses for this trick.