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The Two Magicians

Delrio tells of a contest betwixt two Magicians in this manner: The one had stolen a fair and beautiful maid, had mounted her behind him upon a wooden horse, and so rode aloft with him in the air. While they were thus on their journey, the other Magician was at that time at a noble feast in a castle in Burgundy; and being sensible of their flight by the castle, he by his charms compels the ravisher to descend and, to the view of all, presents him in the court of the castle, looking sadly, and not able to stir, together with his blushing prize. But the ravisher was not wanting to himself in this exigency, but privately enchanted him that had thus found him, and, as he was looking from the high window of the castle into the court, he fitted his head with so large and spreading a pair of horns, that he was neither able to pull in his head from betwixt the strong iron bars, nor durst he cast himself down from so high a place. Being therefore thus horned, he was compelled to enter into an agreement with the other, and recalling his charm, suffered him to depart with his prey, involved in a hollow cloud; as also the other suffered him to cast his horns and return to the feast, not without great laughter of the company that was present.

— Nathaniel Wanley, *The Wonders of the Little World*, 1678