

## Trickster

While sitting at a magic show a couple of years ago in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, I remember being amazed with the magician and his ability to make objects float in thin air. Or one of the most famous magic tricks of all, “cutting your partner in half, then putting them back together again”. Even though I was old enough to understand that he was not really a magician but an illusionist. He had tricked the audience with his clever techniques, just like how the trickster figure tricks people.

Looking back I can now see that during my childhood, there was a specific feature for us to want to be “tricksters”, with our fascination with magic and magicians. From playing tricks on other people to tricks in other forms, such as cards, etc. I think it may be possible to say that the American culture has a fixation for magic, tricksters, and tricks alone. We are always playing tricks on other people, and the whole thought of it is even played out in movies and television because we need that amusement.

When reading *On the Psychology of the Trickster Figure* I felt that all those explanations of the figure were correct and can be well seen today. However I was just thinking that maybe aspects of its psychology broke off into different groups creating a whole new idea of the trickster figure. Like some of the characteristics they talked about him having throughout and that’s why he functions in the way he does.

However it is possible to suggest that the trickster figure in the Winnebago culture is kind of careless in his actions leading to him always getting caught. Maybe if he was more careful, he would be more successful, but would that be a good think? I feel that it

is okay to play tricks and pranks, but it's usually the other one that doesn't like it because who likes being tricked anyway.

He is always roaming around on one adventure after the other, constantly looking for food and sex is what interpreted. In doing that I see him as being very selfish.