

MODERN PRACTICAL

Magic

What you do already that counts as magic.



Deb Schaffer
Enchanted Botanicals

MODERN, PRACTICAL MAGIC

Back then, magic was the most natural word we had.
It meant wonder, yes—but also agency.

We mixed glitter into glue and felt powerful. We made wishes
and expected the wind to answer. There was no gatekeeping.
No pressure to do it right. It was just ours.

Somewhere along the way, magic got split into categories. Too
childish. Too serious. Too fluffy. Too dark.
So we tucked it away.

But it never left.

It's still here—in sea glass jars, in kitchen herbs, in candle
flames, in the sound of your own breath. In the small, steady
choices you make without announcing them.

So what does that kind of magic look like now?

Not as a performance.
Just as a return.



The Reframe

Magic didn't disappear.

It grew up.

These days, it shows up less as wishing and more as knowing.
Less as hoping and more as moving.

It looks like discernment. Timing. Preference.

Agency in action.

(Agency, simply put, is the ability to recognize that you have a choice—and to act on it.)

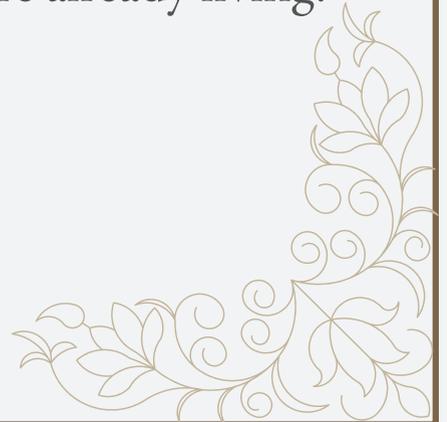
Magic isn't something you add to your life.

It's something you recognize in the life you're already living.

Read on for examples.

Not instructions. Not ideas to copy.

Just proof.



Magic Looks Like Timing

- Being first in line for the bread you already know will sell out.
- Buying the peonies the one week they're perfect.
- Leaving five minutes earlier because you understand the parking situation.
- Doing the thing before it becomes urgent.
- Starting dinner when you know you should, not when you're starving.
- Making the appointment before it turns into a problem.

This isn't luck.

It's attention.



Magic Looks Like Preference

- Choosing the mug you actually like.
- Using the good butter on toast.
- Wearing the earrings because they feel right, not because they match.
- Rearranging a shelf until you can breathe when you look at it.
- Sitting in the chair that faces the light.
- Saying, “No, I don’t love that,” and meaning it.

Preference isn’t indulgent.

It’s information.



Magic Looks Like Redemption

- Turning leftovers into something you want to eat again.
- Fixing a meal instead of scrapping it.
- Making yesterday's mistake useful.
- Salvaging the good part and letting the rest go.
- Knowing when good enough can become satisfying.

This is magic as skill.

Not sentiment.



What This Is (and Isn't)

This isn't manifestation.

This isn't ritual.

This isn't about finding meaning or proving belief.

It's about recognizing competence when you see it.

It's about trusting your read on a situation.

It's about choosing well—and acting on it.



The Return

This kind of magic doesn't ask for an audience.

It doesn't announce itself.

It doesn't need a label to work.

You've been using it every time you:

- Act on a quiet yes.
- Decline something that isn't a whole-hearted YES.
- Move earlier instead of later.
- Choose what actually suits you.

Not as a performance.

Just a return.

