Gladiatoria

Techniques of the Dagger and Techniques of Pinning in English translation



c. 1450

Translated by Jeffrey L. Forgeng

biggins Armory Sword Guilo



Here begin six thrusts of the dagger which lead to all the limb-wrestling, which leads to all techniques involved in the dagger, and the counterresponses that pertain to them.

If he thrusts from above at your face with his dagger, then catch his right hand by the wrist in your left hand, and twist his arm outwards, thus countering his thrust. If you wish to bring him to wrestling, then release your dagger and grasp with your right hand from below on his right elbow and jerk inwards against the chest; thus you break his arm or he must fall. That is the first technique of the dagger as you see illustrated above.

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The second technique of the dagger: if he thrusts at your chest from above, having rushed upon you so that you cannot get to your dagger, then catch his hand behind his dagger with your right hand, and throw your left arm over his right arm, and set your left hand in front on your chest, and press your right hand well to you; thus you break his arm or throw him down before you as you see illustrated above.



The third technique of the dagger: if he thrusts right at your body from below, and you cannot get to your dagger, then grasp from above with your right hand on his wrist behind his dagger, and with your left hand from below on his elbow, and lift his arm up on your left shoulder; thus you break his arm, or carry him wherever you want to, as you see illustrated above.

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The fourth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from above at your face, then release your dagger and catch his hand behind the dagger in your left hand, and grasp with your reversed right hand on his blade; thus you take away his dagger and bring it wherever you will, as you see illustrated above.

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The sixth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from his left shoulder to your neck, then catch his hand behind the dagger with your left hand, and grasp with your right hand on his blade, and lift upwards, thus taking away his dagger; and stride with your left foot outside behind his right foot, and push with your right hand on his chest; thus you throw him as you can see illustrated above.

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The seventh technique of the dagger, one of the five parryings: if he thrusts at your face from above, then catch the thrust on your dagger between your hands; when you have parried his thrust, then grasp briskly with your left hand from below on his right elbow, and stride with your right foot outside behind his left foot, and lift his arm well upwards; thus you throw him backwards as you see illustrated above.



The eighth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts forcefully from below to your body, then fall on his blade with your dagger between your hands, thus parrying his thrust; and grasp with your left hand on his wrist behind the dagger, and pass with your right foot outside in front of his right foot, and grasp with your right hand on the left side of his neck; thus you can well throw him down as you see illustrated above.

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The ninth technique of the dagger: if he has his right foot forward and thrusts from his left side to your chest, then catch the thrust on your blade between your hands, and grasp with your left hand on his arm behind the elbow, and push well away from you so that he turns his back toward you, as you see illustrated above.



The tenth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from above to your face and you cannot get to your dagger, then lay your right hand crosswise on your left and catch the thrust on your arms, and grasp with your left hand around his wrist behind the dagger, and with your right hand upwards on his blade, thus taking away his dagger, as you see illustrated above.

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The eleventh technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from below on the right side to your chest, and his left foot is forward with strength, and you have lost your dagger, then fall again with your hands crosswise from above on his dagger and grasp with your left hand above on his hand behind the dagger, and grasp with your right hand on his blade, and press downwards, thus taking away his dagger, as you see illustrated above.



The twelfth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from above to your visor, then catch his right hand behind his dagger with your left hand, so that his blade is outside on your arm, and stride with your left foot inside his left foot, so that you can well thrust at him and take away his dagger, as you see illustrated above.

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The thirteenth technique of the dagger: if you have both thrusted at each other from the left side, and each has parried the other's thrust, then stride with your left foot outside his right foot, and grasp through with your left hand under the arms of both of you onto the blade of your dagger, and jerk hard toward you, as you see illustrated above.



The fourteenth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts down from above with his full strength at you, then come from your right side with parrying of his thrust, afterwards push his right elbow with your left hand, so that he turns his back toward you, and go through with your dagger from behind through onto his legs; jerk toward you, and grasp with your left hand behind on his neck, thus casting him before you, as you see illustrated above.

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The fifteenth technique of the dagger: if each of you thrusts at the other's face from above from the right side, and both come against each other with parrying, then push with your left arm from below on his right arm, and grasp with your left hand on his neck, and catch through with your dagger between his legs, jerk toward you; thus you throw him as you see illustrated above.

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The sixteenth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from above to your neck, and you cannot get to your dagger, then catch his arm with both hands, and twist his dagger inwards and his elbow outwards, and set your left foot forward outside his left foot, thus throwing him, as is illustrated above.

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The seventeenth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts at from above, then grasp with your reversed left hand behind his dagger around his wrist, so that his blade is outside on your arm, and stride with your right foot outside of his right foot, and push with your right hand on his neck, thus casting him, as is illustrated above.



The eighteenth technique of the dagger: if he again comes from above with a thrust and his right foot is forward, then again catch his right hand by the wrist behind his dagger with your reversed left hand, so that his blade comes outside over your arm; set your left foot forward, and grasp with your right hand on his knee joint, and pull well toward you, thus throwing him, as you see illustrated above.

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The nineteenth technique of the dagger: if he has thrusted to your chest, then fall with your left hand above on his right arm behind his dagger; press it well downwards and with your left hand twist his blade against his body, and push hard upon it with your chest; thus you jab at him with his own dagger as you see illustrated above.



The twentieth technique of the dagger: if you both have thrusted from above from the right side at each other's faces, and the daggers come on each other with mutual parrying, then go up from below with your left hand on his right arm, and press down with your right hand on his right hand; thus you bring his arm under your left armpit; jerk well toward you so that his right foot comes inside your left foot; throw or thrust upwards at him as you see illustrated above.

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The twenty-first technique of the dagger: if he thrusts at you from above and you cannot get to your dagger, then grasp with your reversed left hand on his wrist behind the dagger so that his blade is outside on your arm, and stride with your right foot, and grasp with your right hand outside on his right elbow,

and jerk well toward you, thus breaking his arm as you see illustrated above.

<?Techniques 22-25 seem to be missing, although there is no gap in the manuscript> <44r>



The twenty-sixth technique of the dagger: if you both have your right feet forward and thrust from above from the left side at each other's faces, and have come to each other with mutual parrying, then hang your dagger with the point down and fall with your right hand inside on his hand behind the dagger, and thrust to the right side of his neck behind his nape, and grasp with your left hand on the point of your dagger, so that you lock his neck, and stride forward with your left foot and jerk him down, as you see illustrated above.



The twenty-seventh technique of the dagger: if he thrusts from above to the face of your visor, and you have failed to draw your dagger, then go up with your right reversed hand, and grasp his hand behind the dagger, and strike it behind his helmet, and with your left hand grasp behind on his nape, thus casting him before you on his face, as you see illustrated above.

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The twenty-eighth technique of the dagger: if he has his right foot forward and thrusts down from above at you with all his might, then catch his arm between his dagger and elbow with your left hand, and grasp with your reversed hand on his blade, and press the point down, and stride with your left foot outside his right foot; thus you cast him or take away his dagger, as you see illustrated above.



The twenty-ninth technique of the dagger, and it is a wrestling from the Change: if he has his left foot forward and again thrusts at you, then grasp with your left hand inside on his left thigh by the knee-joint, and set your right arm on the right side of his neck, and stride forward with your right foot outside his left, and pull his leg well to you, and push away from you above, thus throwing him as you see illustrated above.

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The thirtieth technique of the dagger, and it is the counter to the wrestling of the Change: if he has grasped for your left thigh, and has set his right arm on the right side of your neck, then push with your left hand on his joint behind the elbow, and grasp with your right hand on his wrist behind the dagger, and twist his arm around so that he turns his back toward you; thus you have countered the wrestling from the Change, as you see illustrated above.



The thirty-first technique of the dagger: if you have both equally seized one another and each has brought his right arm under the left armpit of the other, and each quickly swings the other, when you have brought him in the swing on your left side, then step forward outside his right leg outside before his right leg, and swing well with your right arm*; thus you throw him down on his back as you see illustrated above.

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The thirty-second technique of the dagger: if he has set his right foot outside in front of your right foot, and has grasped you with his right arm under your left armpit, and means to throw you over his right leg, then fall down on your left knee; thus you throw him as he had intended to do, as you see illustrated above.



The thirty-forth technique of the dagger—this wrestling comes out of the counter of the Change: if he has set his right arm on your neck and means to grasp with his left hand for your leg above your knee, and means to throw you backwards, then seize his right hand behind the dagger with your right hand, and throw it on his pelvis, and stride with your right foot so that you come behind his back; grasp with your left hand from behind through his legs on his wrist behind the dagger; then let go with your right hand and grasp with it from outside over his chest; thus you throw him as you see illustrated above.

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Note the thirty-third technique of the dagger: if he has his right foot forward and thrusts down from above to your helmet, and you have not drawn your dagger, then send your left hand over his right arm, so that you bring his arm under your armpit, and stride forth with your left foot behind his legs, and grasp with your right hand from outside into his right thigh, and lift upwards; thus you will throw him as illustrated above.

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The thirty-fifth technique of the dagger: if he has his left foot forward and thrusts down from above with his reversed hand with the dagger, and thrusts at your left shoulder, and he has rushed upon you so that you cannot get to your dagger, then go up from below with your right hand and catch his arm in the elbow and throw your left arm over his right arm from outside and press well down, and stride forward with your left foot inside his left foot; thus you break his arm or throw him, as you see illustrated above.

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The thirty-sixth technique of the dagger: if he thrusts at you from below from his left side and his right foot is forward, then stride with your left foot inside his foot, and leave your dagger in its sheath, and briskly grasp his right hand behind the dagger with your left hand, and go up from below with your right hand on his blade, and twist his point to his chest; thus his grip comes on your chest; thus you crowd his dagger at him as you see illustrated above.

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The first technique of pinning: when it happens in wrestling that you have brought him down on his back, then grasp with your left arm over his neck and knee him between his legs with your left knee, and hold him fast and work with your dagger, as you see illustrated above.

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The second technique of pinning: when you have brought him on his belly with wrestling, then fall on his back with your right knee, and grasp with your left hand on his visor, and lift *hard upward, and work with your dagger, as you see illustrated above.



The third technique of pinning: when you have come to wrestling with him, and have grasped with your left arm in front around his neck, then fall down on your *right knee, and jerk him down onto his back toward you, and work with your dagger, as you see illustrated above.

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The fourth technique of pinning: when you have again brought him onto his back with wrestling, then fall between his legs with your right knee, and press down on his right arm by the shoulder with your left elbow, and lift upwards with your hand by his *bevor (*Part*), and work with your dagger, as you see illustrated above.



The fifth technique of pinning: when it again happens that you have thrown him on his back, then fall down on your left knee outside his left leg above the lower leg*; if he pulls his foot toward him and means to get up again, then send your left hand through his left knee joint from outside, and grasp his right hand by the wrist and hold it fast, and work with your dagger, as you see illustrated above.

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The sixth technique of pinning: when it happens that you have thrown him on his belly with wrestling, then fall down with your right knee beside his right leg, and fall with your left knee on his *arse (*lentter*); if he *lifts himself on his arms, and means to stand up underneath you, then clap his right arm under his chest with your right hand, and grasp with your left hand for his left hand by the wrist, and turn it around behind his back, and hold it fast, and pull out your dagger and work as you see illustrated above.



The seventh technique of pinning: when it happens again that you have brought him on his back with wrestling, then fall with your right knee between his legs, and catch with your right foot over his left instep, thus holding his foot so that he cannot pull his leg to himself; and take his left hand in your left hand, and jerk it behind his helmet, and hold fast, and work to his face as you see illustrated above.