

twin films

Jodi

to Mitchell

wow they are gonna freak when they see that

they are gonna be like paul glamatti at the end of the illusionist:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExdUYEVWV2sYw&at_channel=E11D

yeah you have to meet my cat!!!

...



this the one with (redacted, via learned my lesson)????" And they said "SSHHHHH Carly hasn't seen it!" Which was my bad. Which one was David Bowie in, I am wondering, I look this up. It was *The Prestige*, Christopher Nolan was a big fan of his.²

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David Bowie's character was the only real magician in "The Prestige." Christian Bale and Hugh Jackman's top hatted rivals were conjurers of cheap tricks, masters of picking locks and applying spirit gum, but Bowie's Nikola Tesla built machines that could do the impossible. [Jan 11, 2016](#)



I always mix up the *The Illusionist* and *The Prestige*, released mere months apart in the year 2006. I wonder if this is a coincidence. I am not the first to wonder this. I learn there is a phenomenon called "twin films"¹ where very similar movies are released at the same time, something that has happened almost every year since the 1950s. For example, *Harlow* and *Harlow* in 1965, both about the life of Jean Harlow. Possible explanations include espionage, staff overlap, screenplays sent to multiple places, and topics that are relevant.

I came home once when my old roommates were watching one of these (*The Illusionist* or *The Prestige*) and said loudly "is

Bowie plays Nikola Tesla, a "real" magician (do not take him for some conjurer of cheap tricks!³) via his inventions. He meets with stage magician Robert Angier (Hugh Jackman), who asks him to build a machine. Tesla says the machine can be built ("nothing is impossible, Mr. Angier. What you want is simply expensive") but warns him not to do this. He asks, "Mr. Angier, have you considered the cost of such a machine?" Angier replies that price is no object. Tesla says, "Perhaps not, but have you considered the cost?"

{JB}

¹ https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twin_films

² https://www.etonline.com/features/200214_christopher_nolan_cast_david_bowie_the_prestige

³ Gandalf, *The Fellowship of The Ring*