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# OBSCURE SWORD

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RIGHT FLANK | LEFT HAND | SHOULDER GRAB

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## Name:

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"Sword" is a synonym for the knife-edge of the hand, which is often referred to as a handsword. On the first move of this technique your right handsword (sword) is positioned so that it is obscure from your opponent's view prior to delivery. It is this position that gives this technique its name, Obscure Sword.

## Attack:

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The IDEAL PHASE of this technique is from your right flank. Your opponent grabs your right shoulder with his left hand.

## Theme:

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The theme of this technique is Purposeful Defiance. You disguise your first move, and force your opponent to react in a manner which triggers his demise. You wish to convey the notion that you are trying to escape from his grasp. It is a normal reaction for your opponent to pull you back and toward him. When this occurs you literally borrow his force to surprise as well as hurt him.

## Movement:

1. While standing naturally, step forward to 12:00 with your left foot into a left neutral bow (facing straight ahead) with your right handsword cocked to your heart (palm up). Simultaneously **pin your opponent's left hand with your left hand to your right shoulder.** (This should disturb your opponent's balance, shift his weight forward, and check the use of his left hand.) Be sure your opponent does not see either of your hands.
2. Immediately pivot toward 4:30 into a right forward bow while delivering a **right outward handsword to your opponent's throat.** (This should result in your opponent's head being driven back and away from you.)
3. Follow up with a **left front snap ball kick to your opponent's groin,** and plant your left foot back to your Point of Origin with your hands in a fighting position. (The effect of this kick should buckle your opponent's right leg out, and possibly drop him to the ground.)
4. Right front crossover, and **cover out toward 10:30.**

## What If:

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- The environment does not permit you to step forward.
- Your opponent pushes you away after the grab.
- Your opponent follows-up his grab with a right punch.
- Your opponent tries to spin you clockwise.
- Your opponent tries to spin you counterclockwise.

## Technique Notes:

Be sure to Borrow the Force of your opponent's pull.

While we encourage you to disturb your opponent's balance, do not overemphasize this maneuver to the point of sacrificing an effective strike.

Notice the similarities between Obscure Sword and Lone Kimono. Observe the elements that dictate their differences.