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Five Years in the Making

Magic Arcana
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Below is a snippet from issue 17 of *The Duelist* magazine, June 1997. For reference, this was right before *Weatherlight* and *Fifth Edition* were released.

The blurb refers to Olle Råde winning the Duelist Invitational and getting to design a card. Well, five years later, the card actually came out in *Judgment - Sylvan Safekeeper*.



So what happened? Why five years? Had he turned in a reasonable idea, the card would have probably appeared in *Stronghold*. But Olle was young and flippant, and he had no real interest in making a serious card. His first submission was *World of Bums*, *Enchant World*. The card had no text. Its only purpose was to destroy other *Enchant Worlds*, which R&D stopped supporting after *Visions*.

His second attempt was some sort of permission spell that went to the top of its owners library upon resolution, instead of in the graveyard. Kind of like a reverse *Memory Lapse*. Needless to say, neither card made it very far.

After Olle saw how cool *Darwin Kastle*, *Mike Long*, and *Chris Pikula* looked on their Invitational cards, he had a change of heart, and submitted something very close to *Sylvan Safekeeper*: a 1/1 for \spadesuit that could make a creature untargetable at the cost of returning a forest to your hand. The card was tweaked to fit in the *Odyssey* block by having it interact with threshold better, and was put into *Judgment*. Quite a wait!

In the art for *Sylvan Safekeeper*, Olle is shown riding a spider. This is an homage to his winning deck at Pro Tour - Columbus (*Ice Age/Alliances* constructed), which became his signature deck.

Olle Råde
 Pro Tour Columbus '96 (61 cards)

Main Deck 61 cards	Sideboard
4 Karplusan Forest 7 Forest 7 Mountain <hr/> 18 lands <hr/> 4 Giant Trap Door Spider 4 Woolly Spider 4 Deadly Insect 4 Fyndhorn Elves 1 Gorilla Shaman	2 Giant Growth 4 Incinerate 1 Jokulhaups 2 Lava Burst 2 Lodestone Bauble 3 Pillage 1 Pyroclasm 3 Stormbind 4 Urza's Bauble <hr/> 22 other spells
	1 Anarchy 2 Essence Filter 1 Icy Manipulator 1 Jester's Cap 1 Jokulhaups 1 Monsoon 1 Primitive Justice 2 Pyroblast 2 Pyroclasm 2 Vexing Arcanix 1 Zuran Orb <hr/> 15 sideboard cards



2 Orcish Cannoneers
2 Storm Shaman

21 creatures



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