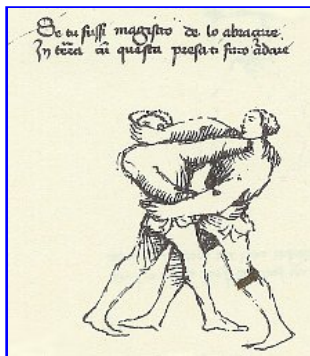


Fiore dei Liberi: *Flos Duellatorum*, 1410 (Pisani-Dossi, F. Novati, Bergamo, 1902)

1 abrazare - grappling

1.1 gioco de magistro primo - first master plays

1.1.4 gioco quatro - fourth play - shoulder grab => face pull via long guard to iron gate



*Se tu fussi magistro de lo abraçare
In terra cum questa presa ti faro andare.*

**Even if you claim to be a master of grappling
I'll make you go to the ground with this hold (prese).**


Interpretation: The couplet clearly indicates the power behind this technique, which will adequately "vanquish" the *zugadore* with relative ease with this particular hold (*prese*). Again, similar to the previous two plays, the end result of this particular technique is to throw the *zugadore* to the ground. [Click on the images view a larger image of the same.](#)

Application: In this particular scenario, the *zugadore* manages to grab hold of the scholar's hip or belt (the individual wearing the garter). The intent of the *zugadore* is to throw the scholar to the ground, however, the counter deployed by the scholar will in fact, reverse the fortunes of the *zugadore* and have him thrown to the ground.



When the scholar notices that his hip or belt has been grabbed by the *zugadore*, he immediately compresses the *zugadore*'s right arm using the scholar's arm, in particular, his elbow to manifest the compression while he grabs the *zugadore*'s hip or belt. The scholar's hand should be quite "deep" in that the hand should reach the small of the *zugadore*'s back. Once the placement has been achieved, the scholar will pull in his right hand, while placing his right arm against the *zugadore*'s throat and grabbing his face and pushing his face towards the rear. This action can be described as a "scissor's" like movement in which the *zugadore*'s right hip is pulled into the scholar while the *zugadore*'s head is pushed to the right causing a twisting action on the body of the *zugadore*. This creates a significant imbalance and the *zugadore* finds his way to the ground.

example applications

Section	Play	Carta
abrazare	4	 Training Video: Boars Tooth => Long Guard

Translation and interpretation by David M. Cvet. For queries on Liberi's 1410 treatise (Pisani-Dossi version), contact [David M. Cvet](#) or [AEMMA](#).
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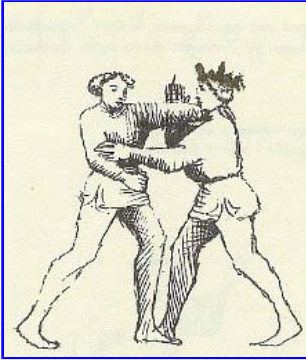
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Fiore dei Liberi: *Flos Duellatorum*, 1410 (Pisani-Dossi, F. Novati, Bergamo, 1902)

1 abrazare - grappling

1.1 gioco de magistro primo - first master plays

1.1.1 gioco primo - first play - shoulder grab => boar's tooth



*Cum questa presa in terra andare ti farò
O uero el braço senistro ti deslogarò.*

**With this hold I will make you go to the ground
Or else I will dislocate your left arm.**

Interpretation: The first line of the couplet tells us that the hold, which is a *dente di zengchiar* or "boar's tooth" initially had the intent of throwing the *zugadore* to the ground, however, as the second line of the couplet reveals, is that should the *zugadore* put up a struggle, the end result would be a dislocated left arm. In either case, the master has the advantage. [Click on the images view a larger image of the same.](#)

Application: The Master upon receiving a collar grab with the left hand of his *zugadore*, the Master fully expects a strike from the right hand, and immediately suppresses the inbound strike by grabbing the inner elbow to incapacitate the strike, while concurrently deploying at *dente di zengchiar* with the intend of exploiting the "arm bar" (straight arm of the *zugadore*) and attempt to throw him down. However, should the *zugadore* resist being thrown down, the Master simply revises his initial object and turns his attention to attacking the arm bar resulting in its dislocation. The Master does NOT take a step to deploy the *dente di zengchiar* and therefore, his initial placement of his feet are the opposite of those of the *zugadore* allowing him to advance with a step to grab the collar.



example applications

Section	Play	Carta

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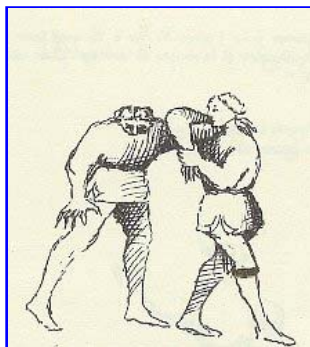
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Fiore dei Liberi: *Flos Duellatorum*, 1410 (Pisani-Dossi, F. Novati, Bergamo, 1902)

1 abrazare - grappling

1.1 gioco de magistro primo - first master plays

1.1.2 gioco secundo - second play - boar's tooth over => takedown



*Cum la bocha la terra ti faro basaré
O in la chiaue de soto ti faro intrare.*

**With the mouth I will make you kiss the earth
Or I will wrench you with a lower key.**


Interpretation: It is clear from the first line of the couplet that Fiore plans to throw the *zugadore* to the ground, planting his face on the earth. However, as with most if not all Fiore plays, if the initial plan isn't working, there is always something else that can be done, and in this case, the scholar can deploy a lower key to achieve an alternative conclusion. [Click on the images view a larger image of the same.](#)

Application: The illustration depicts a scholar, who has now learned of the *dente di zengchiar* from the Master in the previous play. He is deploying the *dente di zengchiar* with the intent of throwing the *zugadore* to the ground by planting his face into the earth. Should the initial plan not work, in all of Fiore's plays, there is always an alternative, and in this case, a lower key to achieve an alternative conclusion.



When the scholar receives a shoulder grab by the *zugadore*, he deploys a *dente di zengchiar*, by forcefully striking upwards towards the *zugadore's* upper arm to facilitate an arm bar, with the intent of forcing the elbow upwards by having his arm rotated slightly. Then the right arm as illustrated is bent over the arm bar and with the help of the left hand, and a step forward with the right leg, the arm is forced downwards and the *zugadore* will most certainly comply. It is important that the scholar deploying the *dente di zengchiar* remain vertical, and NOT bend at the hips when taking the *zugadore* down.

example applications

Section	Play	Carta
abrazare	1 - 4	 Training Video: Boars Tooth => Long Guard

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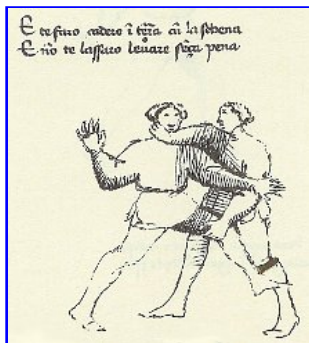
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Fiore dei Liberi: *Flos Duellatorum*, 1410 (Pisani-Dossi, F. Novati, Bergamo, 1902)

1 abrazare - grappling

1.1 gioco de magistro primo - first master plays

1.1.3 gioco terzo - third play - boar's tooth failure => long guard to iron gate



*E te faro cadere in terra cum la schena
E non te lassaro leuare senza pena.*

**And I will make you fall to the ground onto your back
And I will not let you up without feeling pain.**

Interpretation: The first line of the couplet clearly indicates the intent of the scholar (wearing the garter) of throwing the *zugadore* to the ground onto his back. The second line reveals a typical Fiore sentiment that all is not over at the completion of a technique, in that once he is on the ground, there is NO way that the *zugadore* would be able to get back up without receiving more incapacitating blows, such as more punches or kicks. [Click on the images view a larger image of the same.](#)



Application: This play describes the situation in which the previous play where the arm bar "provided" by the *zugadore* goes "soft" which essentially foils the intended *dente di zengchiar* and throw down forward. However, Fiore points out in all of his plays that all is not lost, and that there is always an alternative, provided the scholar is able to identify the queues available and deploy an alternative technique.

In this case, if the *zugadore* having "soften" his arm bar, realizing the potential threat that exists on his arm, the scholar, then deploys an alternative, which in this case is the *posta longa*. This is executed by decreasing the distance between the scholar and *zugadore*, forcibly extending the scholar's right arm, possibly striking the face of the *zugadore* along the way, and with the scholar's forearm against the throat of the *zugadore* combined with the placement of the scholar's body by displacing the centre of the *zugadore*, he begins to fall backwards, and the natural inclination is to raise his (*zugadore*) leg in attempting to regain his balance, and the scholar simply grabs the leg and uses it to facilitate the throw backwards onto the *zugadore*'s back.

example applications

Section	Play	Carta

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Fiore dei Liberi: *Flos Duellatorum*, 1410 (Pisani-Dossi, F. Novati, Bergamo, 1902)

1 abrazare - grappling

1.1 gioco de magistro primo - first master plays

1.1.5 gioco cinco - fifth play - boar's tooth inside and face twist to iron gate



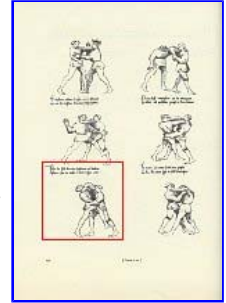
*Per la presa che io ho desoura e ti desota
Faro che la testa in terra ti sera rota.*

**Because of this hold I have above and from below you
From which I'll turn your head towards the dark ground.**

Interpretation: The couplet illustrates a similar intent as the previous play, in which the grab by the *zugagore* is met with his demise with his being thrown to the earth once again. The second line of the couplet reveals a hint with regards to turning the head of the *zugadore* to facilitate the throw down. [Click on the images view a larger image of the same.](#)

Application: The play depicted in the illustration is similar in numerous ways to the fourth play, except the *zugagore* has grabbed the waist/hip of the scholar as opposed to grabbing the waist

with one hand, and the second hand grabbing the shoulder. In this case, the scholar will deploy his right arm to create a compression of the *zugagore's* right arm, as it was done in the previous play. The difference here is that the left hand is used to attack the face of the *zugagore* and push back to create space between the scholar and the *zugagore*. Once a bit of space is created, the twisting of the head clockwise towards the scholar right, while pulling in the *zugagore's* hip will create a shearing motion of his body, resulting in an extremely destabilizing motion and finally being taken down to the ground.



example applications

Section	Play	Carta

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