For Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī what separates condemned sorcery (siḥr) from the lawful science of incantations (‘ilm al-ʿazāʾim) is not ontology, i.e. the physical mechanisms behind them, but rather ethics, the practical ends to which they are used. This picture builds on Ibn Sīnā’s psychology of the soul as the foundation for both magic and miracle. In his highly influential primer al-Ishārāt wa-l-tanbīḥāt [The pointers and reminders], Ibn Sīnā offered a scientific explanation for extraordinary phenomena (umūr gharība). Ibn Sīnā’s language of the strange finds in the psyche a physical basis for paranormal causation. This talk addresses the afterlives of Ibn Sīnā’s treatment of the strange and wonderous through the many meanings of ʿajāʾib wa-gharāʾib in collections of natural history and handbooks of practical magic.