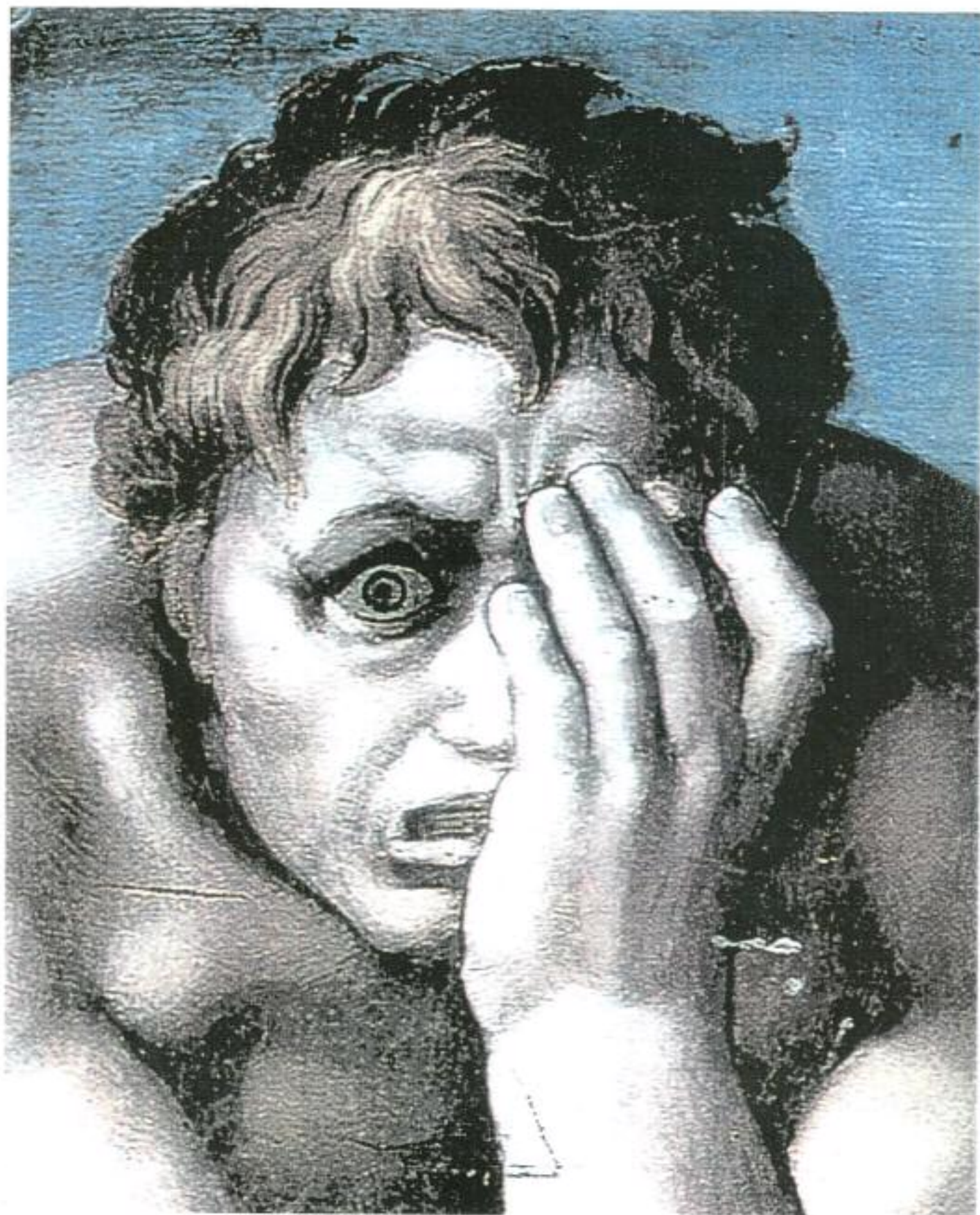


AMAZING TRICKS



JAY SANKEY

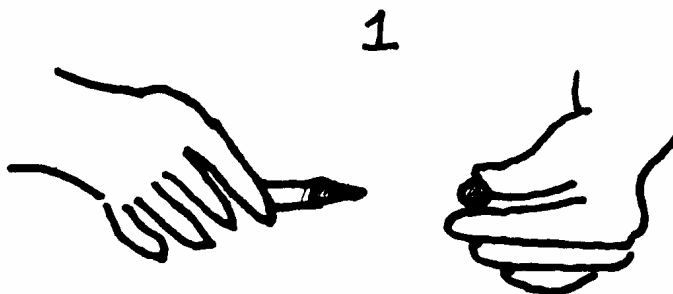
Black Magic
A Short Fuse
Unholy
Broken English
Revival
Transference
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Voodoo
The Changeling
Skin Deep
Forbidden Fruit

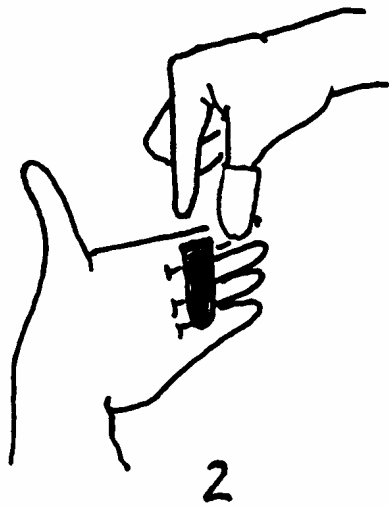
Black Magic

Effect: Captain Finger Flicker comments that, "Not only do opposites attract, but so do extremely similiar things!". Always one to back up even the boldest claims, the magi introduces a black magic marker and a small black handkerchief (o.k...so it's a silk!). Tucking the handkerchief into his closed left fist, he mutters the magic phrase, "My mother was a carrot" and then waves the magic marker over the same closed hand. Of course, when he opens his greasy paw the handkerchief has gone bye bye. "But it hasn't gone far. You see, the cap of the marker is black like the handkerchief and so I bet I know exactly where the hanky went!". He then removes the cap and magically pulls the handkerchief from INSIDE the cap. Nobody asks for a refund.

Method: Yep, the thumb tip IS involved. You'll also need a 6-inch black silk and a marker with a black cap. To perform this sweet little interlude, have the tip on your right thumb. Introduce the marker and then neatly slip it under your left arm ala the wand position for the cups and balls. It should be sticking out from under your arm with the NON-CAP end sticking out. Now introduce the hanky and tuck it into the left fist (really the tip!) as per the usual method. Then smoothly swing your right hand upwards (now wearing the loaded tip) and take hold of the end of the marker.

Wave the marker as if it were a magic wand (rather than a furiously hissing eel) and then deftly pull off the cap with the left fingers (Fig.1). You are now going to seemingly reach **inside the cap** with your right first finger and thumb and pull out the hank. To do so, reach into the left fist as in Figure 2, pull off the thumb tip into your left fist and pull out the silk. Figure 3 is an exposed view. In performance, the left fist should be almost completely closed. This will greatly add to the illuson and keep prying eyes out.





To finish, hand someone the silk and remove the marker cap from your left hand with your right first finger and thumb, loading the thumb tip back onto your right thumb as you do. Put the cap back onto the pen, pocket the pen (ditching the thumb tip as you do) and violently sneeze into the handkerchief as you mention something about a "nasty bout of 24-hour leprosy".

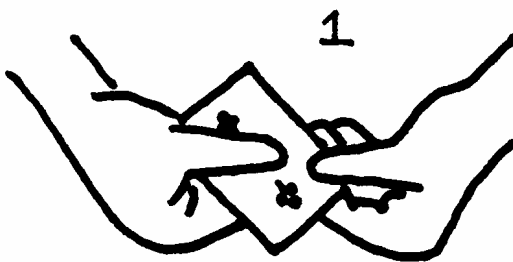
A Short Fuse

Effect: I've been doing this one for a long, long time. Actually, I first put it in print back in 1986 in my lecture notes, "Memorable Images". But they've been out of print for several years now, so I thought it would be a good idea to include this hot little number in these notes.

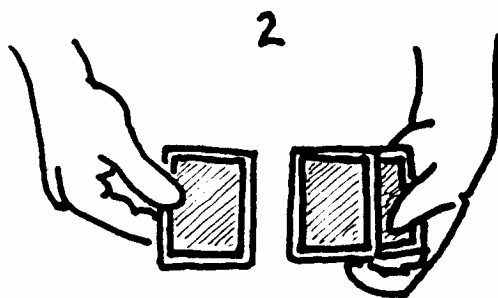
The Two of Clubs is selected and some idiot initials its face. Then a second card is selected, say the Ace of Clubs, and the same idiot initials its back. The magi du jour then comments upon an eerie magnetism that now exists between the two cards. The magnetism is so strong that, after holding the two cards together for a moment or two, both cards are found to have melded into ONE CARD, a THREE of Clubs, which is of course initialled on both its face and its back! Neat, huh?

Method: Grab a pack of cards and cull the Ace, Two and Three of Clubs to the top of the face-down deck so that the Three is on top, the Two below, and the Ace below that. Cut the pack, keep a break, let some time go by (!) and then riffle force to the break. Cut the three cards back to the top and do a Double Lift to show the face of the Two. Keep a break below the two cards. Leaving the double face up, take hold of it along its right side in your right hand, thumb on top and fingers below. Now, just before your left hand moves away to get the marker, tilt both hands up and drag the face-up Two back onto the pack with the left thumb. This leaves you with the Three in your right hand (its back towards the audience) and the Two face-up on top of the wristkilled or necktied deck.

Replace the Three back onto the pack (without flashing its face!) and hand someone the marker. Grab the deck between both hands as in Figure 1, extend the pack towards the spectator and have them initial the corner of the pack. After they do, once again tilt the front edge of the pack up so they cannot see the Three's face, do a Double Lift (turning both cards face-down onto the face down deck) and take off the top face-down card into the right hand. It should be the Two. Blow on its face for a moment as if drying the ink and then table it face-down.

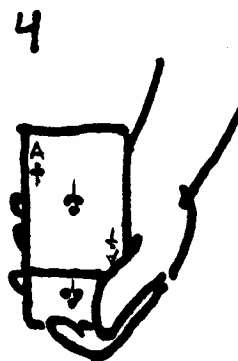
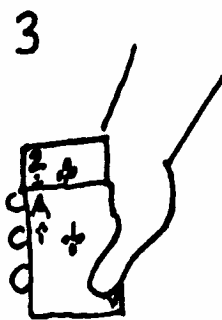


Once again cut the pack, keep a break and riffle force to the same spot. Another Double Lift to show the face of the Ace. Turn these two cards face down onto the pack and have the spectator initial the upper LEFT corner of the top card (the Three). Momentarily take the top two cards into the right hand and scoop the tabled face down card on top of the deck as in Figure 2. To "sell" the magnetism angle a little bit, wiggle the right hand's card(s) and at the same time cause the top card of the pack to wiggle a bit by extending the tips of the left fingers below it. Sort of a sight gag and minor illusion. Note that at this point, if you like you can also roll both hands over for a moment to flash the faces of the two cards. A nice convincer, but not necessary.



You are now going to supposedly flip the face down and side-jogged Two face up onto the pack. However, what you actually do is: flip the Two face up onto the deck with the side of the face-down double, but be sure to WRISTKILL the deck as you do. Then simply flip the right hand's double face-up and out-jogged for half its length onto the face-up Two. Everything should now be resting in your palm-up left hand as in Fig. 3. Again, you can briefly rolover the left hand to flash the initials on the back of the outjogged card if you care to.

Here's a lovely added touch. Square the outjogged double onto the pack, and then slide only the top card backwards so that it is backjogged off the pack. As you do this, the left thumb should be positioned so that it covers the index of the now exposed Three (Fig.4).



Pause a moment, then push the Ace neatly back onto the pack. Turnover all three cards face-down onto the pack and smoothly thumb-off the top two (reversing their order as you do). Yes- there will be a minor discrepancy: the initials are on the back of the second card from the top, not the top card where they should logically be. But nobody has EVER commented on this. Just keep movin'.

To finish, hold the two cards from above in the right hand Biddle Grip such that they are stepped with the lower card (the Two!) side-jogged to the left of the Three. Under cover of the action of "squaring" these two cards against the heel of the left thumb, leave the Two behind on top of the face-down pack and the right hand moves up and away with just the face down Three. Pocket the deck, and violently slap the right hand's card between both hands. Reveal the truly impossible...a Three of Clubs, initialled on both sides!

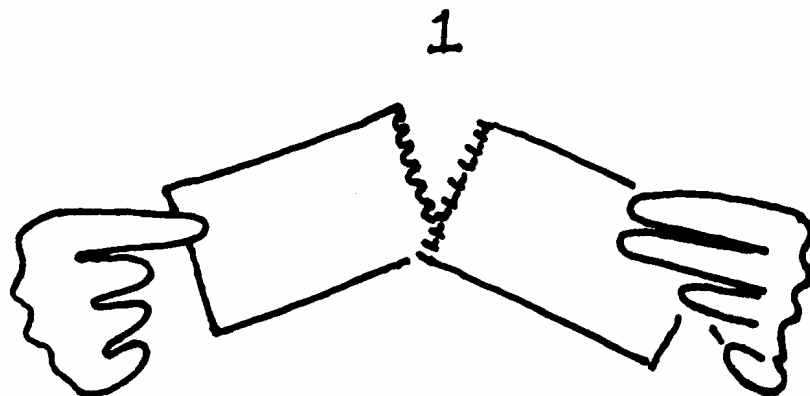
Unholy

Effect: The performer of miracles introduces a small, spiral-bound pad of paper. Slowly...sensually...he tears a single page out of the pad, savoring each and every tear created by the unyielding spiral rings (Ahhh...). Putting the pad aside, he now folds the torn-out page into a small packet, kneads it lovingly between his fingertips and then unfolds it to show that every one of the holes is now restored and the piece of paper is completely healed. Someone...for the love of Christ ...hand me a tissue! It feels so friggin' good to be alive!

Method: This is yet another routine resulting from my life's search for organically pleasing effects with the \$100 Bill Switch. Of course, one typically borrows a bill, changes it into a larger denomination, and then changes it back to the original smaller bill. Not only anti-climactic, but repetitive! Bummer. (And tell me EVERY spectator wouldn't rather have the large bill! So it's also inherently disappointing.)

Instead, grab a small spiral-bound note pad, twist the spiral completely out of the pad (this should only take a minute or so) and remove a single sheet of holed paper. Feed the spiral back through the holes in the remainder of the pad. Neatly fold the single page into halves, quarters and eighths and then tuck it into your trusty thumb tip. You are set to go.

Intro the pad. Slowly, dramatically tear a sheet out as in Figure 1. Pocket the pad and load the tip onto your right thumb as you do. To finish, simply execute the \$100 Bill Switch. Ahhh...

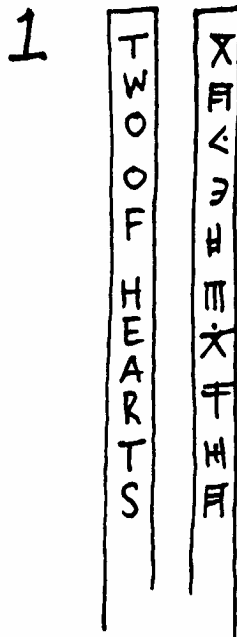


Broken English

Effect: The magician has a playing card selected and returned to the pack. He then offers to divine the selection with his "magic wand, as ancient as it is priceless". He proceeds to remove a rather ordinary-looking wooden chopstick from his pocket. The crowd is skeptical. The magi shows that there are Chinese characters written on both sides of the stick and then offers to prove its mystical powers by handing it to someone, spreading out the pack of cards and having them touch **any card** they feel drawn to with the stick. That card is revealed to be the selected card! "The wand even predicted what card you were going to choose", claims the magical performing artist. He then translates the Chinese characters on the stick, "On this side it says, 'The fates will cause the woman to choose the...'" and on this side it reads, 'Two of Hearts'". Of course, the audience cannot read Chinese characters and suspect the magi is simply lying. "O.k. then, how about a quick translation?". With a snap of his fingers the Chinese characters **visibly transform** into the words "TWO OF HEARTS". The stick is then handed out for examination.

Preparation: You'll need to either make your own chopstick or sand away the characters on an existing bamboo chopstick. If you want to make your own, it's well worth the effort and quite easy as well. Just go to a hobby store, buy a length of square-edged balsam wood, cut it to approximately the size of a chopstick and then with a knife shave the corners off about a third of the stick. Voila, a chopstick.

With a thin-tipped indelible marker, neatly write a row of Chinese characters on one side and the words, "TWO OF HEARTS" on the other (Fig 1).



Method: Force the Two of Hearts. A riffle force is always good, i.e. have the card face down on top of the deck. Cut the pack, but keep a small break between the two halves with your left pinky. Now simply riffle the side of the pack with your left thumb and ask the spectator to call "Stop" any time. When they do, be sure to lift up all the cards above the break and extend the lower half towards the spectator asking her to take a peek at the top card. It will be the Two of Hearts.

Have the card returned to the deck and secretly control it to the top with your favorite method, i.e. Hindu shuffle, Double-Cut or Pass. Talk about the wonders of your magic wand (but not in a weird way!) and introduce the chopstick being sure that the side with Chinese characters is facing the audience. Show both sides of the chopstick (doing the paddle move as you do!) and admit that, "it may look more like a cheap chopstick than a powerful magic wand, what with the Chinese characters written on both sides, but it can still do some astonishing things".

Ask the spectator to extend her first finger and thumb and gently hold onto the very tip of the stick (this prevents her from handling the stick too casually and prematurely seeing the name of the card written on the other side). Spread the deck out between your hands and ask the spectator to "follow her feelings" and touch one of the face down cards with the chopstick. When she does, slowly slide that card out of the pack, put it on top of the deck and ask her to name her card. When she does, perform a Double-Lift to show the face of her card.

Comment that, "You may not believe it, but the wand even **predicted** which card you would pick". Now pretend to give a verbal translation of the Chinese characters, "It says, 'The fates will cause the woman to choose the...". Now apparently turn over the stick, but really do the paddle move and continue to "read" the characters out loud, "...Two of Hearts. Amazing huh?". Of course, the folks are suitably unimpressed, and assume you can't read the characters and are in fact lying your ass off.

"Oh...I bet you don't believe me. O.k. then, how about a quick translation?" With that, focus your attention on the stick, give it a quick shake (quickly rolling it over as you do) and it will appear as if the Chinese characters on one side of the stick **VISIBLY** change into the words "TWO OF HEARTS". Dumbfounded, the audience will of course want to take a closer look at the stick so be sure to hand it out for examination.

Notes: The stick can of course act as a "magic wand" for many other effects to aid in directing the attention of your audience as well as take "heat" off a hand that may be palming something. In this way, not only is it a wonderful trick in itself, but is also an ideal utility prop. Have fun!

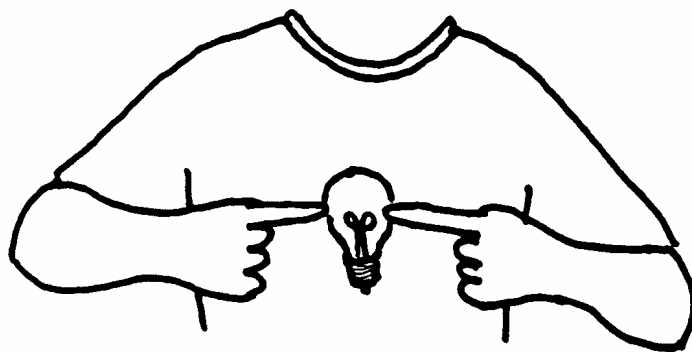
Revival

Effect: The ultimate private party trick. Mr. Mysto asks the hostess for an ordinary lightbulb, ideally from a lamp that has not be switched on for several hours. He then asks her to gently place it between the tips of his two outstretched first fingers. The magician concentrates for several moments, whispering the names of long dead relatives, and suddenly, for just a moment, the lightbulb springs back to life.

Method: I have never performed this trick, but I have shared the idea with several magicians who have and they assure me that it gets an extremely strong reaction.

You need a light bulb and...you guessed it...a Fism Flash. If you are not familiar with this gimmick, ask your magic dealer and he will be happy to make you familiar with it. The rest is pretty much self-explanatory, but you of course may choose to incorporate the brief flash of light in a revelation effect.

For example, you could have a card selected, peek at the card, and then while holding the bulb say out loud ("for the ghosts to hear") the suits and then the numbers of the pack. Of course, the bulb flashes when you name the correct color, suit or number. The again, you could simply hold the bulb between your fingertips and ask an especially attractive spectator to remove her blouse and frilly under things. Don't burn out the battery.



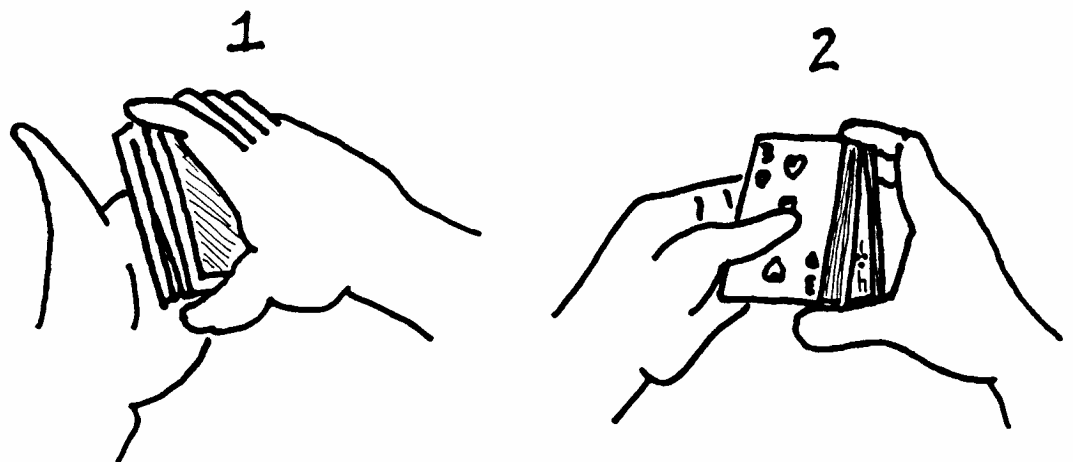
Transference

Effect: This one actually scares people. The magician appears to have someone merely think of a card...and then mysteriously names their card. Then he has the person think of another card...and the person's FRIEND names it! Finally, to show that "anyone can be psychic" (or at least chic!) the spectator finds his own card! Three strong phases flowing one into the other.

Method: Surprisingly simple. For starters, while holding the pack in your left hand and riffling the outer right corner with the tip of your right first finger...ask the spectator to say "stop". When they do, break the pack at that point, give them a few moments to spot the index of the card they've stopped at, and then apparently let the deck close shut. Of course, you keep a break with your left pinky.

Now for a very old, and very, very strong peek. Look the spectator in the eyes and ask him to hold out his hand. You then roll the deck side-over-side and place the squared face-up pack in the spectator's hand, but as you do this you actually peek the card.

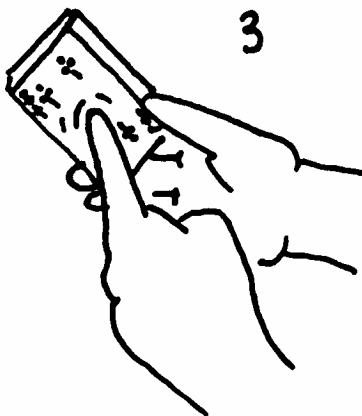
Figure 1 shows the beginning of the roll and how you should be gripping the deck, and Figure 2 shows how, thanks to the break held by the tip of the left pinky, the deck AUTOMATICALLY opens just enough for you to spot the index! It's very cool. All of this takes a fraction of a second, during which you then fully square the cards and drop them in the spectator's hand.



Ask him to concentrate on the card he is "merely thinking" of. Stare into his eyes for several moments...and then quietly name the card. Those gathered will of course be shocked, but play it down and mention how, "really anyone can do it". To prove your point, once again have the spectator take a peek at a card, and again you keep a break with your left pinky. But this time, instead of turning the deck face-up and spying the card, keep the deck face down and undercover of momentarily spreading the cards between your hands ("you could be thinking of any card") CULL the selected card to the bottom of the deck.

Then square up the cards and obtain a break above the bottom card of the pack with your left pinky. Now grab the card case and slip the pack inside the case. BUT...as you do this, you actually slip the selected card (which is on the bottom!) beneath the card case. This is easily done by holding the case in the palm down right hand and being sure that the entrance of the case is free from any obstructions by holding the case flaps back against the case with the right fingers and thumb. Then it is a matter of merely "feeding" the deck into the case and being sure that the bottom wall of the case neatly glides between the selection and the rest of the pack. Close the case while being careful not to flash the face of the selection beneath the case.

Hold the closed case from above in your right hand. Turn to a spectator on your EXTREME LEFT and as you say, "This time, I'd like you to be the one to psychically determine which card your friend is thinking of..." tap the face of the selection with the tip of your left first finger (Figure 3). This will of course pull the spectator's eyes to the face of the card and he will suddenly be "in on" the trick. To minimize the chance of the first spectator catching the second spectator reacting to this sudden revelation, as you continue to hold your fingertip to the face of the selection immediately engage the first spectator. Look in his eyes and say, "I think you'd agree, that would be quite something".

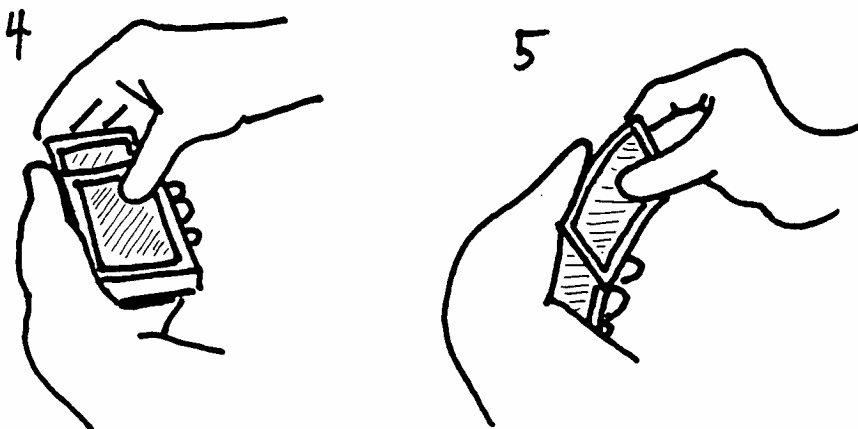


Lower the cased deck to your right side, patter for a few more moments, then ask the friend of the spectator to concentrate and name the card. The vast majority of the time, the friend will play along rather than expose the trick. The first spectator will of course be flabbergasted. Now, if you were to end the trick there, I suspect the spectator would immediately begin to pump his friend for information and that would put the friend on the spot. So I came up with the third phase, to move things along, but at the same time, "up" the magic (or at least not lessen it).

Open the flap of the card case and smoothly slide the deck out of the case, with the selection below the case going "along for the ride". Pocket the case. To finish, you are going to force the selection back onto the spectator. You could use a riffle force or some other force, but I really like to use a variation on Frank Garcia's "Topper Tack" move. To do this, double-cut the selection from the bottom of the deck to the top. Now spread out the cards between your two hands and ask the spectator to touch, "any card whatsoever, a card you perhaps feel drawn to".

Outjog the card they touch for about a third of its length and square-up the rest of the cards. You are now going to apparently slip this outjogged card out of the pack in a smooth but very non-chalant fashion. The right hand lowers down onto the pack as in Figure 4, but it doesn't stop there. Rather, in a continuing action the left hand wristkills, rolling over slightly as the right fingers push the outjogged card flush into the pack and the right THUMB neatly drags the top card forward and off the pack as in Figure 5. The move finishes with the right hand depositing the card face-up on top of the face-down deck. The move should be done in a smooth, brisk fashion with no guilt whatsoever. Done correctly, it is **extremely** deceptive.

The spectator has mysteriously found his own gravy-suckin' card! Ohmygod, I gots t'get home. Me pants iz soaked!

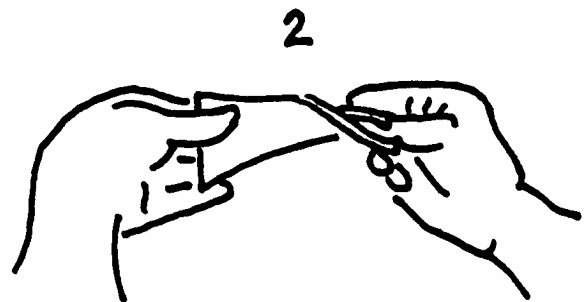
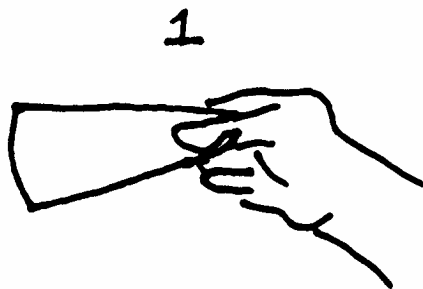


Unscrewed

Effect: "May I borrow a \$20 bill?", asks the conjurer of the adoring masses gathered 'round him to witness his life-affirming miracles. One of the commoners dutifully come across with some cash as the flam-flam man continues, "You see, there is something about the \$20 bill that very few people know. Did you know that it can be...well...unscrewed?". Fully realizing that it sounds like an especially odd claim, the magician then demonstrates by openly unscrewing the bill into two separate pieces. He then (just as openly) reassembles the bill. (Skeptics take note, this same effect can be done with a bill upon which someone has boldly printed their name in large letters.)

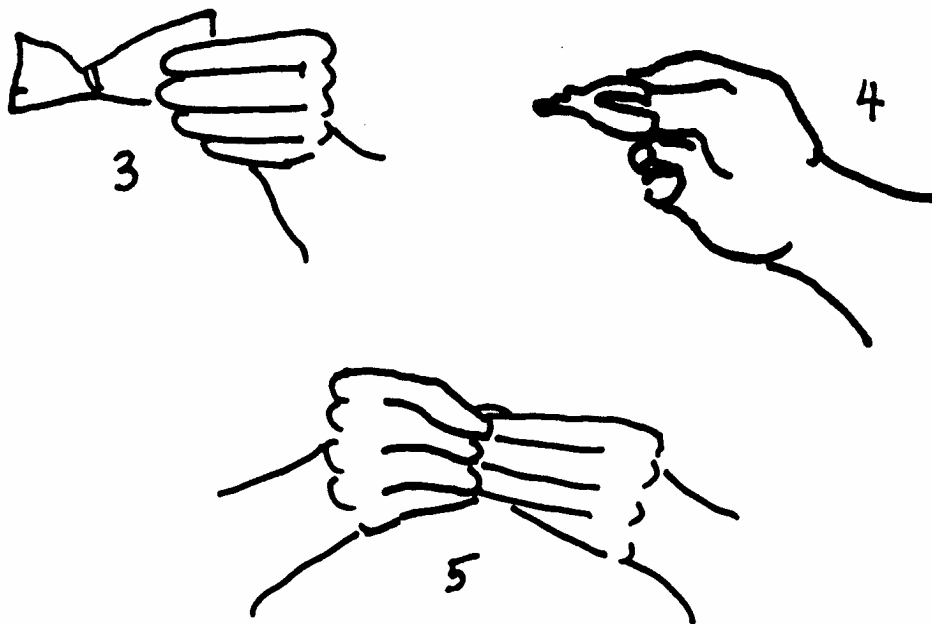
Method: Tricks with borrowed cash. Man oh man, it's hard to beat the appeal of such effects. Yet, there are precious few REALLY practical "torn and restored bill" methods kicking around. And I gotta admit, it did take me a while to come up with this one and work out both the technical and presentational kinks, but I'm glad I did. I really hope you like it!

You'll need a thumb tip and an odd-looking little "gimmick". Actually, it's really just an extra section of bill. To make one, grab a bill and hold it in your right hand as in Figure 1. Notice how the right end of the bill is being held by the right fingers so that it is neatly curled around the thumb. Now grab the left end of the bill between your left fingers and thumb and slowly but firmly give the bill a couple of good "twists" like you would a dish towel to ring water out of it (Fig. 2). This should leave the bill with a series of tight



twists in it slightly right of center (Fig.3). Grab a pair of scissors and put a small snip to the left of the twisted section and then tear the bill in half. Done correctly, this should give you a section of the bill which will fit neatly on your thumb and come to a kind of point in a series of twists (Figure 4). Slip this "gimmick" into your thumb tip and you are set to do this funky routine again and again.

With the thumb tip on your right thumb, borrow a matching bill (though in the U.S. all bills will be suitable) and tell the tall tale of how a bill can be "unscrewed". Folks will of course not believe you, but you proceed to show them by holding the borrowed bill in the same grip as in Figure 1.

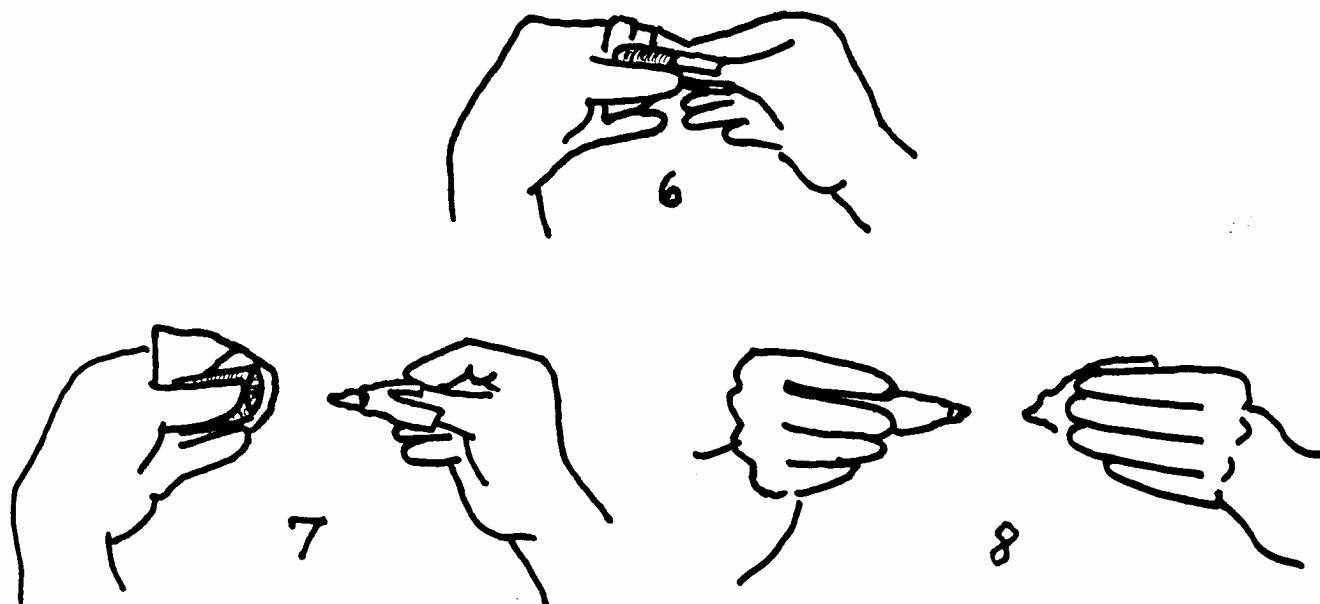


Do as before, steadying the bill with your right thumb and fingers while the left thumb and fingers give the bill a couple of slow but firm twists. Pause a beat for the image of the "bow tied" bill to really register.

Now comes the key presentational moment in the effect. While saying that you have just "unscrewed the bill" you want to make it look like you have in fact just torn the bill in half. This is a crucial part of the psychology of the trick. To make it look like you tear the bill in half, grab both ends of the bill between your hands and then push your two hands together as in Figure 5. Behind your extended fingers, you in fact fold the bill in half at the "twisted" point, the right end's smaller section being closed like a door behind the left

hand's larger section. You then immediately pull the thumb tip off of the right thumb (Fig 6) leaving the tip in the left hand behind the folded bill and the extra "gimmick" piece behind the right fingers. Note: you will find that under cover of "loosening" the twisted section of the bill, if you hands momentarily come together in a rough "prayer position" it will facilitate both folding the bill and unloading the tip.

To finish this sequence, you should sharply separate the two hands in a tearing action, so that your hands end up in the position shown in Figure 7. Figure 8 shows a back view. I realize this sounds like a complicated series of "fidgety finger flicking", but it is really quite easy and readily covered under the actions of "working" the center of the twisted bill to "weaken it" and apparently tearing the bill in half.



After pausing long enough for people to believe the bill is in two pieces and to assume that you have torn it in half, simply reverse your actions, i.e. bring the hands together, slide the gimmick into the thumb tip (simultaneously loading the tip back onto your right thumb) and unfold the bill so you are left back in the position of the bow-tied bill held between your two hands. Pause a beat or two for the image to register and then slowly untwist the bill to show that it is back to one solid piece.

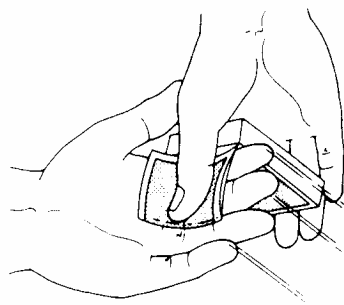
Notes: As I mentioned earlier, if desired, a spectator can print his name in large bold letters across the face of the bill. That certainly "sells" the idea of only one bill being used throughout, and the twisting technique serves to nicely obscure the name from view through much of the effect.

Voodoo

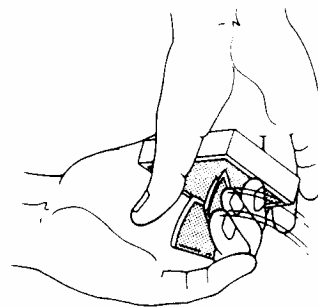
Effect: A card is selected (and signed if wished). It is returned to the pack and the pack is put in the card case. Magic Boy removes a small, white file card from his jacket pocket and asks the spectator to imagine that the file card is his selection. The performer then slowly folds the file card in half. Then in half again. He then has someone hold onto this folded file card. "I asked you to imagine that the file card was your card, sort of like imagining that a voodoo doll is somehow connected to the person you wish to harm. Let's see just how powerful your imagination is". The card case is open, and in the MIDDLE of the pack a single card is found folded into quarters. It is the selection. Stranger still, the magi suggests that it can "work the other way too". He lights a match and burns the corner of the selected playing card. Of course, when the file card is unfolded, its corner is now found to also be burnt. Run! He bad man! He bring death!

Method: Again, simpler than you might think. Actually, there's really only one move used in the whole trick, the Mercury Card Fold. Here's a description of that move from my book, 100% Sankey by Richard Kaufman.

"While your left hand cradles the cards from below, your right hand descends onto them, grasping them lightly from above, thumb at the inner end and all four fingers at the outer end. The upper side of your left first finger is pressed firmly up against the outer end of the bottom card. While maintaining that upward pressure, slide your left hand inward, pulling the outer end of the bottom card with it. This forces the center to buckle downward, the inner end held stationary by your right thumb. This is done both with speed and force, so that when your left first finger reaches your right thumb, the latter will press into the buckled card (Fig.1). This "pops" the card, creasing the center of the half fold and creating a concave buckle that starts the quarter fold which follows."



1



2

"So, the moment your right thumb presses into the buckled card, flattening it, your left hand reverses direction and moves forward, beneath the deck. At the same time, your left fingers curl completely, folding the concealed card into quarters (Fig 2). Straighten your left fingers, returning the fingertips to the right long side of the deck, and raise your right hand straight up, riffling the inner and outer ends of the deck as the hands ascends."

Alright, now that you know the one move in the trick, let's walk through the routining. To prepare, you'll need to burn the corner of a small, 4 x 5 file card (Fig 3). Slip this into your jacket pocket or mule bag and you're set to go.



3

Have a card freely selected and returned to the pack. Control it to the top of the deck. Turn the deck face-up, and while pattering execute the Mercury Card Fold. Afterwards, cut the pack so that you center the folded card. Now, as you **FIRMLY** hold the deck between your right fingers and thumb, your left hand retrieves the card case. Slip the deck into the case, close the case and table it.

With your right hand remove the file card from your pocket, but be sure to **conceal the burnt corner with your right fingers**. Ask the spectator to imagine that the file card is his selection, then slowly fold it in half, and then quarters, being sure not to flash the burnt corner as you do. Ask someone to hold onto this folded file card.

Open the card case and remove the cards. Or better yet, ask one of the goddamn spectators to do a little work for change. They find a folded card in the center of the pack...it is the selection! Wait several beats for this to sink in, and to suggest that the trick is over. Then ask to borrow a lighter. Burn the corner of the selection. Then ask whoever is holding the folded file card to unfold it and be prepared to puke in raw, untamed terror. Ain't magic great!?

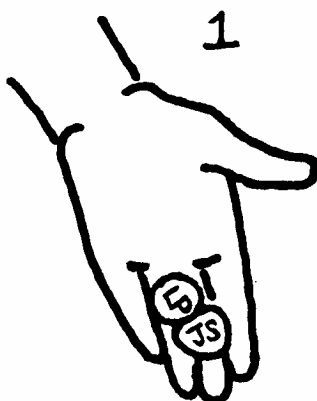
The Changeling

Effect: This seemingly impromptu effect packs the kind of wallop that lands people in the hospital drinking warm apple juice through a paper straw. A quarter is borrowed and a spectator writes his initials on it with a marker. He is asked to hold onto this coin. Then a second quarter is borrowed and Mr. Magic writes his own initials on this second coin. Yet, with a snap of his toes the magician causes the two marked coins to change places and the spectator finds the magician's marked coin in his hand. Then, to really send the folks for a loop de loop, Mr. Wonderful causes the markings to join together so that a single coin is now marked on BOTH SIDES. Mother of God!

Method: So simple, so satisfying. Write your initials on a quarter and have it in your LEFT pocket along with the marker. Ask someone to have the faith to lend you a quarter. Receive it on your outstretched RIGHT palm. Reach into your pocket with your left hand for the marker and finger palm your pre-marked coin.

Hand the marker to the spectator. Perform a Shuttle Pass (Roth!) apparently transferring the borrowed coin from right hand to left, but really switching in the pre-marked coin. Table the coin (unmarked side up!) and push it towards the spectator to initial. I tend to keep the very tip of my finger on the tabled coin to apparently steady it for them, but of course too also insure that they are not tempted to turn over the coin.

Now ask to borrow a second quarter and write your initials on it while continuing to hold-out the unmarked coin in your right finger palm. Display both marked coins on your left fingers as in Figure 1. Momentarily close your left fist (which will turn both coins over) and then give the coins a bit of a shake and ask a nearby spectator, "Are you pretty strong?". Then open your left hand and with your right fingers remove the coin that is showing an UNMARKED side.



This will of course be the coin with your single set of initials on it. However, given that the other coin now displayed on your left palm is showing your initials on the uppermost side, everyone will assume you have just picked up "the coin the spectator marked". Say, "Let's see how strong you really are." and hand the coin to the nearby spectator to hold onto very tightly.

Here comes a very magical moment. Focus all your attention on the coin lying on your outstretched left fingers and make sure everyone is able to see your initials. Close your left hand into a fist (rolling over the coin as you do) and firmly tap your fist against the spectator's closed fist. Then open your hand to show that you are now holding the coin with the spectator's initials on it. Shocked, the spectator opens his hand only to find the coin with your initials on it.

To finish, execute another Shuttle Pass, apparently transferring the spectator's marked coin from your left hand to your right, but actually switching it for the unmarked coin. Hand this to another spectator to hold in their tight fist. Retrieve the coin with your initials on it from the first spectator with your empty right hand, slowly display both sides of it and then false transfer it into your loosely cupped left hand. Once again, draw all attention to your left fist using your eyes, your shoulders and your kidneys.

Tap your left fist against the spectator's closed fist, then ask the spectator to open his hand. He finds that his coin is completely unmarked. Then open your hand to show both sets of initials on your coin.

And beautifully...you are re-set, able to perform this baby again and again for different people. Or even again and again for someone with Alzheimer's.

Skin Deep

Effect: A midget gives birth to eleven chocolate chip cookies. Naw...I'm just kidding, but it would be cool. The actual effect is much more direct. A card is selected, put on the table and a spectator places his hand on it. A second card is introduced and held face-up on the face down deck. To heighten the drama, the magi asks the spectator to put BOTH his hands on the tabled card. "Hell, let's get a few more hands on it." says the magician, and asks two or three other people to lay their hands one on top of each other, all on top of the tabled selection. There are now somewhere between six and eight sweaty mitts guarding this lone card. Still holding the deck face down in his left hand with a single card face-up on top, the magi lowers the back of his left hand until it is touching the top of the "heap of hands" and then, with a single wave of his obviously empty right, causes the displayed card to **change places** with the selection resting beneath all that lay flesh. And of course, being a bit of a show-off, the magi immediately repeats this transposition in an even fairer fashion.

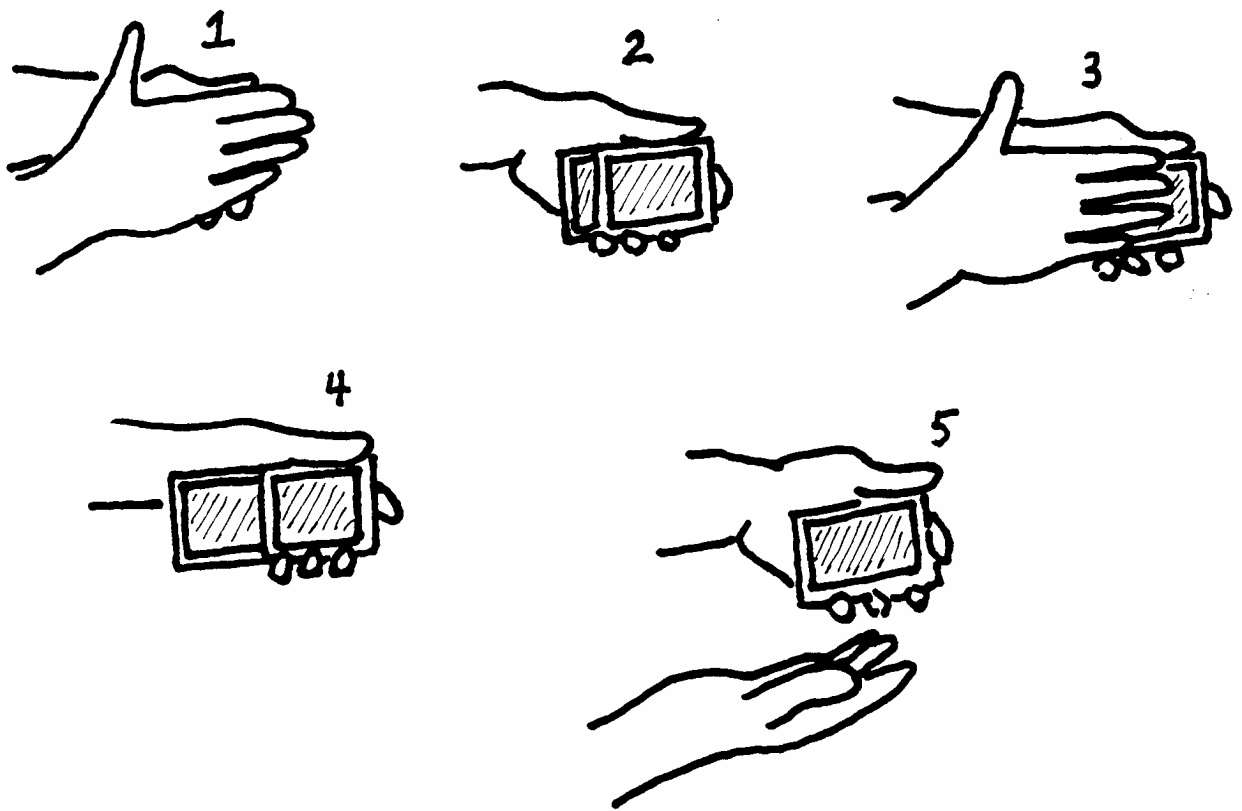
Method: Alright, I admit you'll need a duplicate of the selection! There...satisfied? But believe me, this trick is definitely worth it. As goofy as the idea of all those hands piled up may sound, it really gooses the magic, turning it into a real "happening". Try it even once. You'll do it again. And the Erdnase Color Change always gets gasps.

Alright, let's walk through this puppy. Let's say you're going to use two Eight of Hearts and one King of Spades (nicely contrasting cards). I tend to just keep the two Eights in my pack, they're never spotted and that way I'm always set to go. You have to get them on top of the pack, from top to bottom: Eight, King, Eight.

I usually get them there by OPENLY spreading through the pack (faces towards me) and cutting the pack when I see the first Eight. Then I spread through the pack again and openly slip the King and remaining Eight to the top where I need them, as I mutter something about "...needing two cards for this next trick". Then I act like I just changed my mind 180-degrees, give the pack a false cut and say, "Better yet, why don't YOU select the cards?". I then cut the pack, keep a break, and riffle force to the break.

Do a Double Lift, flash the face of the King, turn the double face down onto the pack and deal the top Eight face down onto the table. Encourage people to pile their hands on it. Do another Double Lift, showing the face of the second Eight and leave the double face-up on top of the face down deck.

You are now going to do the Erdnase Color Change while pressing the back of your left hand down onto the heap of hands. The color change is as follows. The right hand comes over and covers the pack (Fig 1). As it does this, it secretly pushes the top card forward for about a quarter of its length (Fig.2 shows exposed view with right hand omitted). Then the right hand slides backwards, contacts the second card from the top by pressing down with the HEEL of the right hand, and drags this card backwards (Fig.3). Figure 4 shows an exposed view of this, again with the right hand omitted. In a continuing action, the right hand drags the second card from the top backwards until it clears the top card. Finally, the right hand moves forward and deposits the card on top of the pack (Fig 5).



Executing this move will bring about a lovely visual change of the the Eight to the King. Ask everyone to lift their hands and turnover the card on the table...it will of course be the Eight. The second phase is really nothing more than an adaption of a familiar copper/silver handling. Do another Double Lift, apparently turning the King face down on top of the pack. Then take off the top card (an Eight) and table it face down beside the other face-up Eight. Turn the second Eight face down as well so that both are now lying side-by-side face down on the table.

Using the fingers of both hands, quickly move both cards around on the table in a circular action not unlike a "3 card monte" action. The idea is to mix-up the two cards such that nobody knows which is which. Then ask a spectator to put their hand down on either card, "It's completely your choice." Whatever card that remains, pick it up in your right hand and turn it over. It will of course be an Eight.

To finish, turn the Eight face down, point with it towards the card under the spectator's hand as you emphasize, "Hold on tight!". Under cover of this pointing gesture, perform a Top Change and then pocket the pack. Dramatically "crack" the card in your hands over the spectator's hand, pause a beat, and then turn it over to show the King. Have the spectator lift their hand and turn over their card. Call a priest.

Forbidden Fruit

Effect: A card is selected and returned to the pack. The magician says he's going to make the selection rise to the top of the pack with a wave of his magic...his magic...ummmm...he seems to have misplaced his magic wand. Oh well, at least he's got a stick of Juicy Fruit gum, so let's improvise. He waves the chewy treat over the pack, but with no success. The selection does not arrive on top. In an attempt to save face, the magician waves his hand over the stick of gum and the foil wrapped piece inside the wrapper VISIBLY transforms into a folded playing card! Still in its wrapper, the folded card is handed to a gaping human who discovers that it is in fact the selected card.

Method: Alright, alright...so it's NOT signed! We magi get so hung-up on overproving stuff. The proof of the puddin' is in the eatin' (as a rather large fellow once said) so might I suggest you try this nifty little number ONCE...and I bet you'll do it again.

There's a little prep work involved, but it's no big deal. Grab a stick of Juicy Fruit gum. Gently slide the foil-wrapped stick of gum out of the paper sleeve. Unwrap the gum and discard it (its a nasty habit anyhow!). As for the foil, you will need a small piece of it, about 1-inch square. Get a playing card, let's say the Ace of Clubs and fold it into thirds lengthwise. Now neatly fold the small piece of foil around one end of the folded card. You are sort of making a little "foil skull cap" for the card. Now slide the card -wearing the foil cap- into one end of the paper sleeve until the foil cap is protruding out of the other end. This of course makes it look like a foil-wrapped stick of gum resting in the sleeve.

Note: These paper sleeves are not all precisely the same size. Some are glued a little "tighter" than others. You may have to neatly break open the sleeve, slip in the folded card and then reseal the sleeve with a little glue. Remember, this is not the kind of trick you would do 100 times a night anyway. Even table-hopping I only ever do it 5 or 6 times in a night. It's a definite "special trick". Actually, I carry 6-8 prepped sticks in Juicy Fruit package in my shirt pocket. The package "sells" the central image of the trick and the sticks are kept nice and neat and ready to go.

To perform the trick, force a duplicate Ace of Clubs and control it to the top of the pack. Palm it off and reach into your pocket for your magic wand (leaving the card behind). Hand the pack to a spectator and frisk your pockets, without success. "Find" the Juicy Fruit and come out holding it in your left hand such that the non-foiled end of the card is concealed behind your left fingers.

Wave it over the pack and fail to have the selected card appear on top of the deck. Draw attention to the stick of gum and position your hands as in Figure 1. You will now magically change the foil wrapped stick of gum into the selected card in an extremely VISUAL fashion. Gently wave your right hand over the stick of gum, and as you do you steal the foil "cap" off of the folded card in the right thumb palm (Figure 2). At the same time, curl your left fingers downwards towards you left palm. This should push the folded card upwards and out the top of the sleeve a little bit more. Pause a beat to let this sweet change register, and then slowly hand the wrapped and folded card to the nearest fan. Allow them to slide the card out, and then take the sleeve and put it in your pocket (ditching the foil "cap" at the same time).

