

MAGIC ROADSHOW #189

November 2017

Hello Everyone..

Happy Halloween! I realize it will be over by the time you read this.. but that's OK. Happy Halloween anyway..

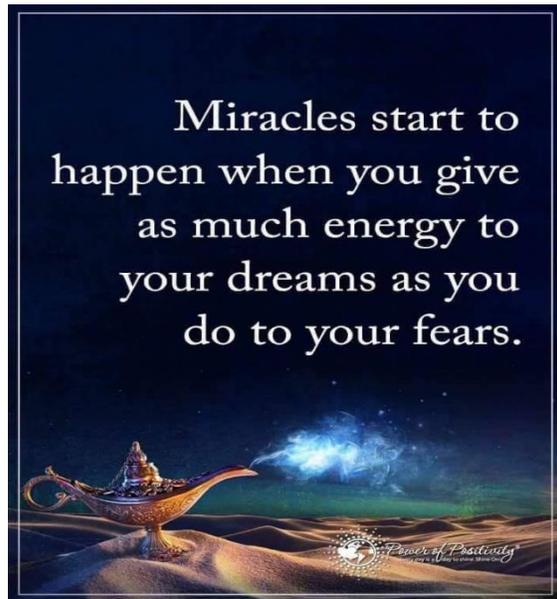
I hope everyone's safe after the unusual number of hurricanes, tornados, fires, storms, and such. It's been quite the ride since the last issue of the Magic Roadshow. Even I got in on Irma. We had some very nasty weather in South Carolina, depending on what part of the state you were in. Actually, last week was particularly rough in my little corner of the state.

We had two tornados in my county, and I managed to drive into one, out of it.. and into another one. I was in my truck, and that's probably why I'm writing this. Other cars around me were lifted off the ground, had windshields busted, air bags deployed.. and one guy had his ear drums ruptured from the change in pressure. Just a few hundred yards away, full sized trailers at a loading dock were picked up and dropped on top of the building, roofs were torn off, and power lines were down everywhere. Halloween isn't quite so scary any more!

We are only a week and a half away from TRICS.. The Carolina Close Up Convention in Charlotte. I'm looking forward to all the great performers and seeing old friends.

I hope something good is happening with YOUR magic. Winter brings a lot of interest, once the summer months are out of the way. Remember, if YOU have something to share with Roadshow readers.. send it my way. I can certainly find room in a future Roadshow.

THANKS MUCH to all you guys who contributed to this issue. Paul Lelekis, Werner Miller, Murphy's Magic, David O'Connor, Erivan Vazquez, Michael Lyth,



Jim Canaday, Elliot Black (RIP my friend), and Rick Carruth (just checking to see if you're paying attention).

Questions and comments? Email me at: <mailto:rcarruth@gmail.com>

-This issue is 31 pages and 8934 words-

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"Don't practice until you get it right.. practice until you can't get it wrong.."
Unk.

"From the very beginning, I studied acting, directing, lighting, dance and movement. I didn't rely on just the magic to take place. It's a shame that a lot of magicians just rely on the trick itself and they have no other abilities. They get away with the wonder factor, and I don't think that's enough. It's great, but it's not enough." David Copperfield

"To most magicians, cards themselves are marvels...For one thing, they feel special in your hand. Touching them, holding them, shuffling - the whole process is almost poetic. If you're in a room full of magicians and someone just mentions the word cards, within seconds, everyone is digging into their pockets and pulling out a deck of cards. It's one of the most amazing feelings ever.."

David Blaine

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An Easy Assembly - An Effect

Paul Lelekis

Those who have never performed an assembly with cards, should give the below easy assembly a "go". It's easy to do and you can appear quite masterful if performed properly... and it's impromptu.



This assembly is quite direct but will appear to be very magical when performed fluidly. Just try it out...you'll be quite happy you did!

Remove the four Aces from the deck and get a left pinkie break under the top three indifferent cards.

NOTE: A more professional way to set this trick up is to turn the deck face up, up-jog each ace and then IN-JOG the third card from the bottom (third from the top if the deck is face-down). Strip out the Aces and casually toss them to

the table...all eyes will follow. Then merely turn the deck face-down and get a left pinkie break at the in-jog beneath the top three indifferent cards.

With the deck in your left hand, your right hand places the four Aces (face up!) on top, adding the three face-down indifferent cards to the back of the face-up Aces.

Braue Addition in action - A Simple Assembly:

Hold the deck in your left hand and the 7-card packet in right hand Biddle grip.

The left thumb drags off an Ace from the face of the right hand packet as the right-hand packet's left edge, flips this Ace, face down, onto the deck in your left hand.

Repeat the above actions for the next two Aces. Immediately place the 4-card packet (face-up Ace and three face-down indifferent cards beneath it) on top of the deck, being sure to hold this packet, in a sort of Biddle grip with your right fingers covering the thickness of the outer edge of the packet.

Push-off the remaining Ace, still face up, onto the table into the "leader position" in front of you. Place the next three cards (supposedly the other three Aces) into the "T" formation at the outer positions.

These three indifferent cards are placed into a row that will be closer to the spectators than the leader Ace, thus forming the "T".

Spread the top three cards of the deck (the three Aces!) and place them onto the leader Ace.

Place three indifferent cards from the top of the deck onto each of the outer three, supposed Aces. Now, you can casually "flash" the faces of the three indifferent cards for each of the outer three, apparent, Aces.

Do the magic and reveal that the Ace has "vanished" from each of the outer three packets in the "T" position.

Display the four Aces at the leader position!

Points to consider: Upon adding the three face-down cards to the bottom of the face-up Aces, keep your right fingers at the front of the packet to hide the thickness. Also keep the packet tilted at a 45 degree angle to further mask the cards, which, in turn, also makes it easier for the spectators to see the face of the packet.

I would also like to state that this assembly should be performed at a fairly quick pace.

An assembly is one of those tricks that is NOT a pick-a-card-/find-the-card trick. This will break up your routine and is visually refreshing to your spectators.

Another Point to consider: Make the disappearance and re-appearances of the Aces as convincing as possible. Perhaps wave each packet over the leader Ace each time a transposition occurs, to provide a reckoning, or a “slight” possibility that you (as the performer) are using some really slick sleight of hand. Otherwise it will violate Vernon’s “Too Perfect Theory”, which will reduce the impact.

Paul A. Lelekis

All of Paul's ebooks can be found here

<https://www.lybrary.com/paul-a-lelekis-m-163788.html>

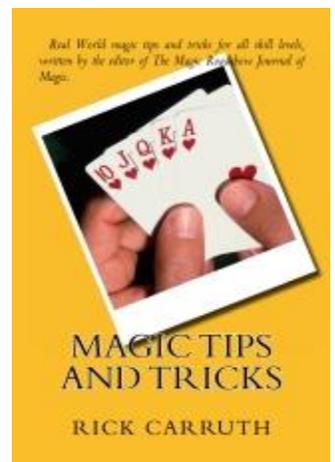
Blood is Thicker than Water – Another Super Easy Ace Assembly

From: *Magic Tips and Tricks*

Rick Carruth

Here is another Ace assembly that can be accomplished quickly and effectively, and with the right panache, will totally fool your spectator.

All that necessary is a slight bit of deception. Tell your spectator that you need to find the four Aces. Flip through the deck and casually take out the Aces, and two odd cards as well. Hold the Aces and the odd cards in such a way as to be able to fan the cards, showing the four Aces to the spectator, and keeping the two odd cards behind the Aces.



Close up the fan and put the packet face down on top of the deck. The two odd cards, having been behind the Aces, should now be on top of the deck.

You can patter something like this...

"Four brother began a journey from New York. One traveled to Washington DC, where he met a crooked politician who promised him great wealth".

Take the top card (an odd card the spectator assumes is an Ace) and stick it in the deck about a third of the way down.

"One traveled to Las Vegas, where he met a show girl who promised him great affection".

Take the second odd card, assumed to be an Ace, and stick it in the deck about two thirds of the way down...

"..And the last brother went all the way to La La Land, Los Angeles, where he met an agent who promised to make him a Star."

Take the top card, an Ace, and put it on the bottom of the deck. You can flash it slightly if you want...

"The last brother got car sick crossing the Hudson River and decided to stay in New York".

Leave the top card on top of the deck. At this point, you have one Ace on bottom of the deck and three Aces on top.

"Seven days passed". Quickly cut the deck seven times as you count.. "one, two, three, four, five, six, seven".

"Despite their self-centered desires, it took precisely seven days for all the brothers to realize blood really IS thicker than water.. and nothing.. not fame, or money, or .. uh.. great affection, could keep these brothers apart."

Spread the deck face up on the table to show that the Aces have re-united themselves in the deck.

A self-working card effect that will impress if done quickly. You can crimp the inner edge of the bottom Ace once it's on the bottom of the deck if you want.

If you watch your cuts closely, you can cut immediately above the crimp on the seventh cut and the four Aces will now be reassembled on top of the deck.

Magic Tips and Tricks... Special All This Month! \$8.95

<https://wwwcreatespace.com/3605025>

More Tricks Without Names - The Mathemagical Medley Continues

Werner Miller

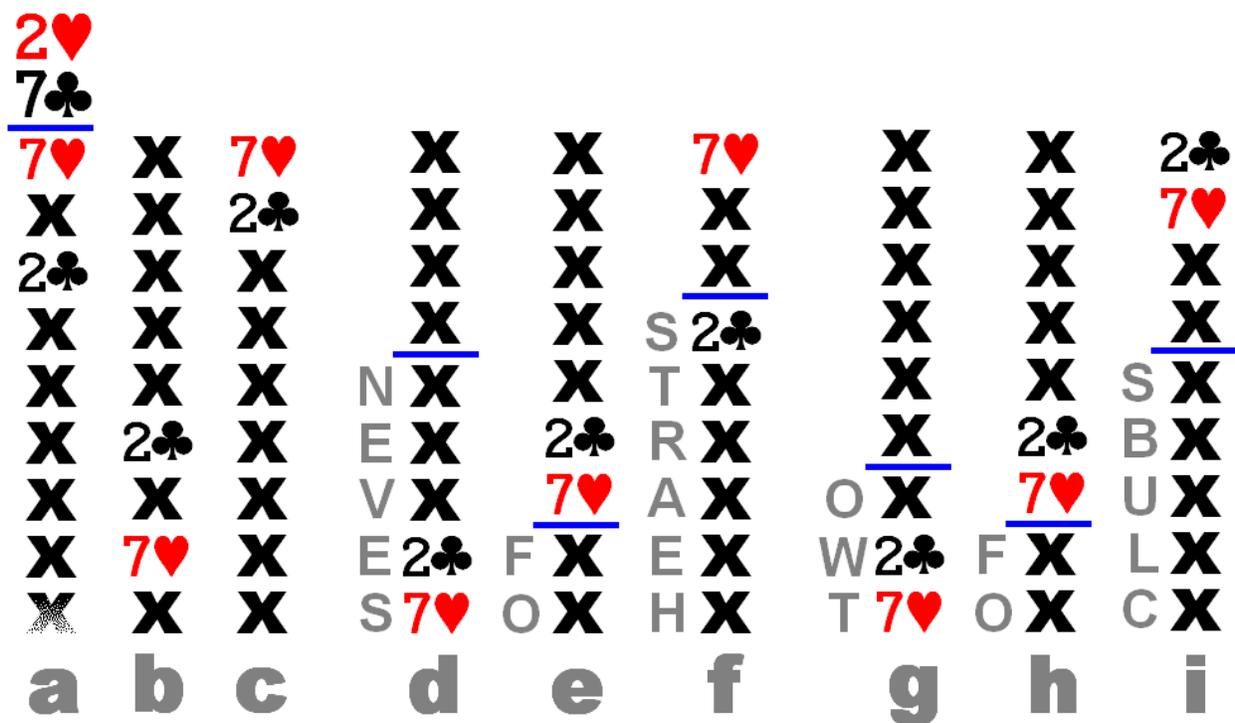
Trick #16

A spelling version of the "Hypothetical Card" plot.

Preparation: Sort out the 2H, the 7H, the 2C and the 7C. Place the 7H back on top of the deck, insert the 2C third from the top down, then place the 2H and the 7C on top of all, in any order (Fig. a).

To perform, force the top two cards on a spectator without disturbing the order of the next three cards. I recommend the Goldin Force: While you are holding the deck in your left hand, your left thumb riffles down its outer left corner until the spectator calls stop. Open a break between the riffled and unriffled cards, release the riffled portion and let it roll over and off the left fingertips so that it lands on the fingers of the palm-up right hand.

By closing the right fingers, cause the riffled packet to turn over and end up face down in dealing position, then lower the hand and, with your thumb, push the top two cards singly to the left placing them side by side on the table. (See Roberto Giobbi, *Card College 1*, pp. 88-89.)



Place the rest of the riffled packet back on top of the deck. Ask the spectator to turn the two “selected” cards face up and to note their values (2, 7). Because the total of these values is 9, count off the top of the deck nine cards, dealing them out in pairs, one on top of the other (Fig. b), and set the remainder of the deck aside. Give the nine cards you just dealt a Reverse Forward Faro to bring the 7H back on top and the 2C next to it (Fig. c).

Let the spectator combine the value of either selection with the suit of the other one to get a “hypothetical card” (7H or 2C). Locate this hypothetical card by spelling its full name as follows: To locate the 7H, spell “S-E-V-E-N” dealing out a card with each letter, then place all the in-hand cards on the dealt cards (Fig. d); spell “O-F” dealing out two cards, then place the rest on top of them as before (Fig. e); spell similarly “H-E-A-R-T-S” dealing out six cards, and drop the rest (Fig. f); turn over the final top card: it’s the 7H! If the spectator decided on the 2C, spell/deal the same way “T-W-O”, “O-F”, “C-L-U-B-S” (Figs. g-i), and you will end up with the 2C on top.

(Note: If you want to deal off the nine cards singly instead of in pairs, you have either to add an extra indifferent card above the 7H, or, at the end of the Reverse Forward Faro, to shift the outjogged cards to the top instead of to the bottom.)

Werner Miller

Werner Miller is a retired math teacher living in Austria. He has created literally hundreds of math based magic tricks. His primary interest is recreational math and applying it to puzzles and magic.

He won the 1989 and 1992 Tenyo Magic Competition each with a Flash Dice Routine. He currently has 63 publications for sale at Lybrary.com .. Look for 'Sampler', a free 25 page download...

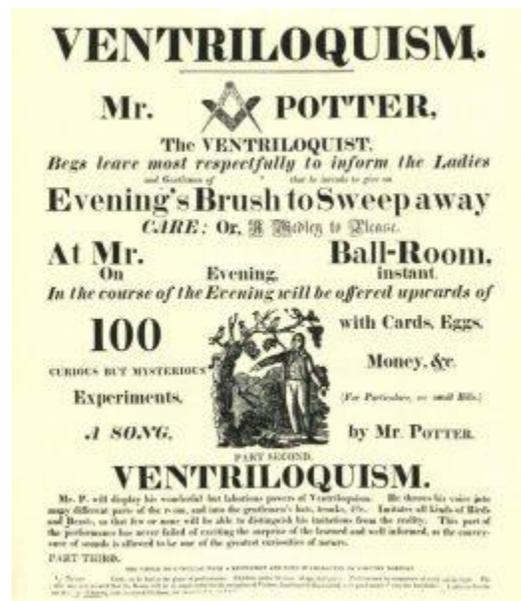
<http://www.lybrary.com/werner-miller-m-7881.html>

The Magic Of Richard Potter - A History

David O'Connor

In this History of Magic, we'll look at the life of the African American Richard Potter, the very first known American magician to achieve success in the land of his birth. Richard Potter was born in Hopkinton, Massachusetts in 1783 and was the natural son of estate owner Sir Chares Frankland and one of his servants called Dinah. Potter's father's wealth enabled the future conjuror to receive a fairly good education.

In 1798 Potter travelled to England as a cabin boy. It was in England where he met the Scottish magician/ventriloquist John Rannie, who captivated the young Potter. Rannie convinced Potter to join him as his protégé and they began a tour of Europe. One of Rannie's tricks was to remove the head of a chicken then restore it, and it became Potter's job to find live chickens that had the same appearance in each town they performed in.



They returned to America in 1801 to join a travelling circus, criss-crossing the greater part of the United States. Potter was able to travel safely in the South as Rannie's assistant as he was perceived to be Rannie's servant. In 1806 they introduced live drama into their show where both of them played the leading parts and for which they hired amateur actors for the lesser roles. The following year, the show travelled to Boston where Rannie eventually retired after a few years. He returned to Scotland, leaving Richard Potter to go at it alone as a solo magician ventriloquist.

It was here that Potter became a member of the First African Masonic Lodge. His show became an instant hit and he would earn as much as \$250 a day (equivalent to \$3000 in today's money). He performed his first show on November 2nd 1811 at the Columbian Museum where he was to appear many times. His self-styled flier read "An evening's brush to sweep away dull care, or a merry melody to please." His programme included performing magic tricks with playing cards, breaking borrowed watches and then restoring them, frying eggs in a gentleman's beaver top hat, dancing on eggs without breaking them, passing coins through the table, passing a hot iron over his tongue, and placing his hand in a bowl of molten lead.

He concluded with Trouble Wit (the art of paper folding) shadow puppets and he threw his voice using bird song. This was known as distance voice ventriloquism. He was later to introduce knife throwing into his act, and he would also climb into an oven while meat was being cooked and he would come out unscathed. He was said to be a clever sleight-of-hand prestidigitator.

NOTE: Placing the hand into a ladle of molten lead is known as the Leidenfrost Effect which is based on a scientific principle but should on no account be tried at home.

Using his own words, Potter's flier read, "Mr. Potter will perform the part of the anti-combustible man or a Salamander [a mythical combination of human and reptile] and will pass a red hot bar of iron over his tongue, draw it through his hands repeatedly, and afterwards bend it into various shapes with his naked feet, as a smith would on an anvil. He will also immerse his hands and feet in molten lead, and pass his naked feet and arms over a large body of fire.

He will also perform a variety of pleasing magical deceptions which, to give a minute detail of, would fill a volume. The performer, not being willing to anticipate the pleasure the audience may receive from his performance, flatters himself that he is so well-known in different parts of this country as not to require the aid of a pompous advertisement. In addition to his magical and ventriloquial talents, he will introduce a number of songs and recitations.”

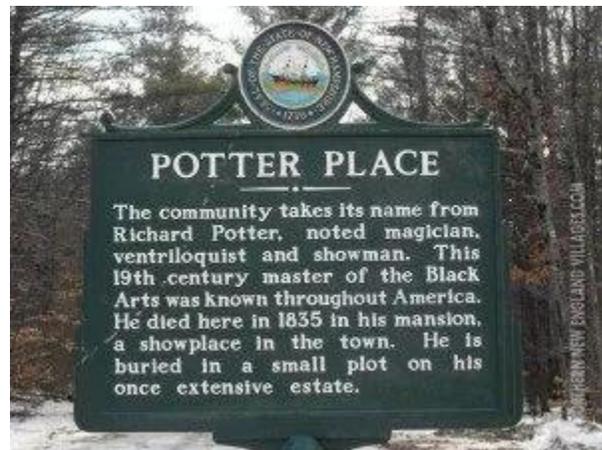
Legend has it that Richard Potter was said to have performed an outdoor version of the Hindu Rope Trick. It was reported that he and his wife would throw a rope or ball of yarn into the air, then both would climb the rope and vanish. A passing stranger, when he came upon a crowd gazing upwards, asked what they were doing. Being told that Potter and his wife Sally had vanished after climbing the rope, the stranger stated that he had passed them on the road some miles back. Another legend is that Potter could crawl through a solid wooden log, although no details exist on how he accomplished this. Legend can often boost one’s fame.

(Magician Richard Potter's Potter Place)

In 1810 Richard met and married a young Penobscot Indian woman, and together they had three children and she assisted him with the show. They performed in New England, Canada and New York, even venturing to the Deep South. Magic acts performed by

Asians and Africans were very successful because of the lingering belief of the public in “real magic” from mystical and exotic parts of the earth. Potter, the consummate showman, took advantage of these folk beliefs and gave his audiences what they wanted—mystery, exoticism and a really good show.

In 1817, during the depression of 1815–20, he was confident enough to increase his admission to a dollar, at a time when an unskilled laborer earned about fifty cents per day! Richard with his mulatto coloring often performed with a turban, passing as a Hindu or a West Indian which added to his mystique, and he was often referred to as the “Black Yankee.” Once in Mobile, Alabama, he and Sally were refused lodging at an inn due to prejudice among



locals, so they left with their takings of \$4,800 (or \$5,5000 in today's money) for their next venue via a different route.

In 1814, as a result of his financial success, Richard Potter purchased a 175-acre farm in Andover, New Hampshire where he built a lavish mansion and entertained regular guests. Once during dinner, his guests complained about alcohol being served, so Richard broke a bottle and produced a chicken, and with his vent skill made the chicken 'speak.' His guests soon left bewildered and amazed.



(Richard and Sally Potter's graves)

Richard Potter named his farm and home 'Potter Place' and the name is retained to this day, as is the quaint train station. The International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 166 in Manchester, New Hampshire is known as 'The Black Richard Ring' in his remembrance.

Towards the end of his career, Richard Potter put aside his magic in preference for ventriloquism at which he had great skill. He died on September 20th 1835 at age 52. Strangely enough, in keeping with his life and eccentricity, Potter requested that he be buried in a standing position. His

wishes were granted and he was buried upright. He and Sally lie buried in a small plot in what was once the Potter Place Estate. As a testament to his fame and reputation as the first native-born American magician and ventriloquist, his small town was named after him. It was a national tribute to a wonderful performer and an important figure in the history of magic.

David J O'Connor is a semi retired professional mentalist and children's entertainer. He has performed throughout South Africa, New Zealand and aboard cruise liners. David is a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and loves mentoring young people in magic.

(Originally published in.. <http://magictricksforkids.org/>)

400 Tricks You Can Do - By Howard Thurston - Free 400+ page PDF

This is actually two books in one .. The first is '200 Tricks You Can Do'.. followed by '200 More Tricks You Can Do'. Both by Howard Thurston, and both classics of magic. I LOVE this stuff. These are the books that inspire the new tricks you're paying Murphy's Magic and Penguin to learn. Most magicians begin their ad copy with something like... "This trick was inspired by an Annemann classic I found buried deep in an obscure publication from 1946".. or some such speil. And, they are telling the truth. There are new tricks developed and sold every day from effects first written about in books just like this.

These two ebooks contain effects with cards, coins, silks, liquid, eggs, balls, and misc. other items.

"A Brief Biography Of Howard Thurston"

Walter Gibson

Howard Thurston, the World's Master Magician, was born in Columbus, Ohio, July 20, 1869.

When he was a small boy, Alexander Herrmann, the great magician of that day, came to Thurston's home city, and young Howard attended the performance. That experience awoke in him a love and enthusiasm for the art of magic that never left him. From that time on, his greatest ambition was to become a magician, and to follow in the footsteps of the Great Herrmann. After a varied and adventurous boyhood, he decided to enter the ministry, and to become a missionary. He had maintained his interest in magic, and had become an expert amateur conjurer; but had not decided to take up magic as his life work. He attended the Dwight L. Moody School at Mt. Hermon. He took the regular Bible course, applied himself to his studies and was greatly interested in athletics, setting the record at Mt, Hermon for the hundred yard dash.

After graduation, he set out for Philadelphia, intending to enter the University of Pennsylvania, to study medicine, as he had decided to become a medical missionary. The fifth of January, 1893, found him in Albany New York, waiting for a train to New York City. That day was to be the turning point in his career.

Walking up town, in Albany, Thurston discovered that Herrmann the Great was billed for a performance that evening. He decided to delay his journey, and once more witness the fantastic entertainment which had so greatly impressed him more than ten years before. He did so, and found that the charm and mystery of magic intrigued him more than ever.

The next morning, Thurston went to the station, and to his surprise and delight saw Herrmann in the waiting room. He heard the magician say the words: "Syracuse, 8,20." When Thurston went to the window, and asked for a ticket to New York, he received one of the greatest surprises of his life. Instead of a ticket to New York, he received one to Syracuse! Acting on the impulse of the moment, he abandoned all his plans; kept the ticket that was given him, and followed Herrmann to Syracuse, where he again witnessed the magician's performance.

Those two nights of enchanting mystery were deciding factors in the life of Howard Thurston. Instead of continuing his journey to Philadelphia, he returned to Detroit, where his family was living, with the determination to set out upon a career as a magician.

For several years, he sought in vain for the fame which he felt would some day be his. He traveled through many states, giving magical performances

under difficult circumstances and conditions. Finally, after inventing his remarkable version of the famous “ Rising Card Trick,” he obtained vaudeville engagements, and arrived in Denver, Colorado.

As chance would have it, Leon Herrmann, nephew and successor of Alexander (who had died in 1896), was playing at the Tabor Grand Theatre, in Denver. He heard of Thurston’s unusual performance, and agreed to have the young magician appear before him on the stage of the Tabor Grand. The special performance was an immense success. Herrmann was enchanted with the mystery of the new “ Rising Cards,” and Thurston was heralded far and wide as “ The Man Who Mystified Herrmann.”

Sensing that the time for action had arrived, Thurston traveled to New York, and endeavored to convince theatrical agents that an act of card tricks was suitable for the stage. He finally managed to obtain a try-out at Tony Pastor’s Theatre. His single-handed card manipulation, and his “ Rising Card Trick” won him instant popularity and recognition. He became a star attraction in vaudeville, and made a successful tour of Europe, where he appeared before King Edward V II of England, the President of France, the Emperor of Austria, and other rulers and men of high importance. Read more and get the ebook at:

[Download Here](#)

Houdini Spent 4 Days Shaming Congress for Being in Thrall to Fortune-Tellers..

Alicia Puglionesi for Atlas Obscura

Harry Houdini, testifying before a subcommittee of the United States Congress in 1926, brandished a sealed telegram and demanded that someone in the audience tell him the contents of the message inside. The chamber was packed with spiritualist mediums, psychics, and astrologers who had turned out to fight against Houdini’s bill, House Resolution 8989, which would ban the practice of “fortune telling” in the District of Columbia.

If the mediums couldn’t read the telegram, Houdini argued, they belonged in jail for hawking fraudulent psychic powers.

None of them took the bait, but Representative Frank Reid of Illinois piped in with a phrase that turned out to be correct. "That's a guess," Houdini scolded, "you are no clairvoyant." "Oh yes, I am," was Reid's unexpected rejoinder, met with chuckles from the audience.

This was no laughing matter for Houdini. The famous illusionist claimed that America's elected officials were in thrall to psychic mediums, and that this posed a danger to the nation...

Read the rest of this interesting story at....

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/in-1926-houdini-spent-4-days-shaming-congress-for-being-in-thrall-to-fortunetellers>

Killerz! - Paul A. Lelekis

Review by Rick Carruth

You can't keep a good man down.. Even the fury of Irma couldn't keep Paul from publishing another inspiring ebook. This one.. KILLERZ!.. consist of seven well-planned card effects, some inspired by several of the giants of magic. Paul has a unique way of taking an already strong effect and making it stronger with a couple of well-thought-out changes.. sometimes actually simplifying the effect while retaining the original appeal. Look for effects inspired by Alex Elmsley, Michael Skinner, Michael Ammar, Dan Tong and Ned Rutledge.

Paul has included video and pictures to help explain the finer points. He also references previous works to draw from special sleights that make the effects easier. Two of the effects are partially 'inspired' by the Ambitious Card effect, which in an act of disclosure I have to admit is one of my favorite effects. Anything that gives me a different version or new insight always peaks my interest. And one effect is a take on an Ammar coin effect that can be performed by almost anyone with a little practice. This is all good stuff...

(The first line or so is from the ebook's description.. followed by my take.)

INTRODUCTION - Performance and magic etiquette.

A nice topical essay on how to treat your audience. Sage advice from someone who has performed hundreds and hundreds of shows for the public.

ANOTHER POINT OF DEPARTURE - This is a brand new method for performing Alex Elmsley's classic effect.

Paul includes videos of both his Push-off Switch and the 4 As 5 Count.

Although this is an impromptu effect, it feels like a complex effect that'll make you feel like a card sharp when you perform it. This is NOT a difficult effect, but it will make your audience think you spent endless hours perfecting it..

EIDOLON - A card is selected from a blue-backed deck. A brand new deck of red-backed cards are opened and spread. The very card selected is found missing in the brand new deck...and ALSO has a red back!

Probably the most difficult portion of this fooler is performing a peek force.. and a peek force is NOT difficult. So, there you go. One of the few effects that's not impromptu.. but NOT as difficult as you would imagine. Paul makes it painless.

DELAYED MENTAL SCALES - A massive double-revelation effect that has absolutely no explanation!

If you can perform the Lelekis In-the-hands Full Deck False Shuffle, you can pull this off. Paul even supplies the video. This is a great effect for the club, as Dan Tong, Ned Rutledge and J.G. Thompson Jr. have devised a senario that makes reverse engineering almost impossible.

M-M-MIRACLE! - Deck is cut into 2 piles and a selection is made from one of them. The selection is placed face-up in the other pile. Without any handling, the face-up selection vanishes from that packet and is found faceup in the other pile!

A simple gaff makes the magic happen. You also need to utilize the peek force, or something similar, to put everything in motion. Then, provoke a seemingly irrational occurrence right in their faces.. I like simple gaffs. I think they have the potential to make impossible.. possible.

THE PHANTOM CARD - The selection is placed in the middle of the deck. The four Jacks are placed on top of the deck and without any manipulation the selection rises up, in between the four face-up Jacks!

Paul likes to describe this as a sort of cross between The Ambitious Card and a sandwich effect. I fully concur.. Although I am not a big fan of sandwich effects, this Phantom Card effect gives me a legit reason to perform one. They see me put a card, even a signed card, in the middle of the deck. Then, with a Bob Stencil Squiggle Display, (explained, thank goodness) the four Jacks are placed on top of the deck, and with a bit of magic and Fairy dust, the signed selection appears between the Jacks. Sounds complicated.. but it's not.

THE QUEENS HAVE RISEN - The Ambitious Card on steroids. The four Queens placed in the deck, rise to the top!

Yes, you take the four Queens, insert them into four different locations in the deck.. and then BAM! they're all on top... At least that's what the audience sees. It takes a slight bit of prep, but the prep is performed right under the spectators eyes, and they don't see a thing. Nice.. 'Maybe' my favorite... at least at this moment in time.

SPECIAL BONUS!

A MICHAEL AMMAR COIN MIRACLE - This Michael Ammar effect is rarely seen, very easy to do, and will completely charm your spectators! You will receive ovations from this brilliantly scripted effect!

I am not a coin guy. I am a klutz.. at least when it comes to palming coins. You would think my big fat fingers would be ideal for that.. but noooo. That said.. I CAN DO THIS! Thank you Michael and Thank you Paul..

I again encourage folks to buy yet another Paul Lelekis ebook. It's about value and practicality. Ten bucks. You can't beat the price and you can't beat the value of seven effects from geniuses of magic. If you find ONE effect you'll keep and make your own, your average day has turned into a good day. I don't make promises.. but I think you'll have a VERY good day...

https://www.lybrary.com/product_info.php?products_id=922102

Hole In One - (DVD and Gimmicks) by SansMinds Creative Labs

Review by Rick Carruth

HOLE IN ONE is one of the latest releases from SansMinds. I own several of the SansMinds effects and I can fairly say this is definitely one of the more visual of all their effects. You show a dollar bill, allow it to be examined, and state you are going to 'change' the bill... from a dollar to a quarter. Now, you don't actually change it to a quarter.. but you **DO** give it a slight shake and watch as a hole suddenly appears in the center of the bill.. leaving a fully visible hole through the bill and a quarter in the hand of a spectator holding their hand below the bill.

Here is the sales copy...

" We honestly feel that good magic is magic that solves a problem. Modern magic is visual – people can not only see the magic happen, but it also visually puzzles them in a way where their minds simply can't process the logic. Hole in One does all of this. It's super easy to do, and waits in your wallet until you're ready to blow their minds. A beautiful piece of visual magic that serves a purpose and answers an everyday question:

How do you break a bill?

With a Hole in One."

I agree that modern magic is very visual. There is considerably less emphasis on sleight of hand and more on gimmicks and technology. **HOLE IN ONE** uses some of both. The dollar bill initially shown to the spectator is a normal bill, but not the one used to perform the magic. The DVD demonstrates a simple method for switching the bills.. one that beginners should master in short order. The performance of the effect is also something beginners should find very easy to perform as well. To get a good idea of the effect itself, I suggest clicking on the [Murphy's Magic](#) link at the end of this review and watching the video. It will save me much explaining...

HOLE IN ONE comes 'partially' complete with everything you need.. including a gimmick and a 30 minute DVD of the performance and the secret. It does **NOT** come with the bills needed to construct the gimmick.. in this case, two \$1 bills and a small portion of a third. It also does not come with the coin.. which could be a bit of a problem for some folks as the coin needs to be magnetic. I wish I could say the effect comes ready to perform.. but I can't. It will be left to the user to construct the gimmick. I can guess one primary reason is so the purchaser can use any denomination and bills from any country. The directions are good and you 'should' be able to construct the gimmick without major problems, although it will require a little time and effort to get everything exact. Like most projects, some of you will breeze

through the construction.. and some will take a little longer. I don't consider this a deal breaker.. but I do want you to be aware the gimmick is a DIY.

The effect works much as it's shown on the video. The hole appears very suddenly, the quarter is clean, and your audience will be quite surprised. You can perform it again after a very brief setup. You cannot allow close examination of the bill after the effect, but you can place the gimmicked bill in your pocket or wallet, and show an ungimmicked bill, with a hole, if the spectator asks..

Personally, I don't shop at IKEA. I'm lazy. I don't like putting furniture together. I like for my bed or dresser or whatever to be delivered to my home fully assembled.. or close to it. Then again, there are those who love to put together their essentials. If you don't mind a little work, HOLE IN ONE will suit your purpose and give you an effect probably unlike anything else you're currently performing.

Available at dealers selling the Murphy's Magic line of products. \$29.99

<https://www.murphysmagic.com/product.aspx?id=60633>

ESP BY THE NUMBERS - John Bannon & Big Blind Media

Review by Rick Carruth

ESP BY THE NUMBERS is a new self working prediction effect by John Bannon. John is currently one of the more popular purveyors of magic effects around, well known for his card magic and congenial style.

This is an extremely easy-to-perform effect that comes with everything you need to perform it ... after a short while watching the instructional video. The video link is provided with the effect and is actually a password protected location on Vimeo. Although the instructions imply downloading the video, you can watch the video online.

ESP BY THE NUMBERS comes complete with the necessary Zener cards, and not the inexpensive cards one often receives with ESP effects. (The Zener cards are the 'gimmicks') Rather than try to explain the working, I encourage

you to go to the link at the end of the review and watch the performance video on Murphy's Magic website. To quote the creators ad copy:

You display your ESP ability testing deck to your spectator, explaining that the symbols and random numbers featured on the cards are used to gauge the extrasensory abilities of members of the public.

For the initial test the spectator freely selects five cards from the pack. Despite the hands off, uber clean selection process you clearly demonstrate that you predicted not only which five cards they would select... but in which order too!

So far, so incredible, however that is just phase one. The true moment of astonishment is about to land!!! You draw attention back to the random numbers printed on each ESP card and ask the spectator to look at the five cards they selected and add their numbers together. The spectator has now created a totally random number. Indeed you clearly show the remaining ESP cards and highlight the fact that had they picked ANY other card, the total would have been different.

ESP By The Numbers is totally self-working. No sleight of hand. No gimmicks. No sticky stuff. Just a brain frying piece of magic that you'll want to perform again and again and again!

I appreciate that everything needed is included. No DIY stuff here. The effect itself is so simple you'll have a thorough understanding of its working in a matter of minutes. The learning curve is very small.. and very quick.

Actually, it's based on a mathematical principle familiar to many magicians. Some magicians will recognize the 'method' during the performance. I did.. but I don't consider that a negative.. unless you're buying ESP to perform solely for fellow magicians.

This is a two phase routine, and the second phase is perhaps the kicker.. as it should be. I have to admit, I recognized the mathematical principle in the second phase as well, but I'm a big fan of Martin Gardner and I'd be more surprised if I didn't recognize it. I will say I've never seen the first phase and the second combined in this manner. The public will NOT grasp ESP. That's

the one disadvantage of being a magician.. we sometimes fail to experience new effects like our audience.

The video teaches a second effect.. **MATRIX RELOADED**, that uses a regular deck of cards. You furnish the cards and Bannon furnishes the magic. I liked this.. and I'll use it.. as it plays well for several spectators, much like you'd encounter table hopping and during walk-around. It's a prediction effect where a card pre-selected by you matches up with a card freely selected by the spectators.. after a very fair series of cuts and eliminations.

The only negative I've heard is that the ESP cards don't come with a case.. but they **DO** come with a solid cardboard box that keeps everything contained and secure.

Reset? It will take a minute or two. All the cards are in a particular order, and rearranging the cards to that order will take a brief time. There's nothing to remember about the order, as each cards markings will tell you where it goes.

One quick suggestion.. the second phase involves a prediction of sorts. The predicted number comes on a pre-printed card. Perhaps you'll agree after receiving your set the predicted number would be more effective if you write the prediction on a slip of paper and have one of the spectators hold it until reveal time. Just a thought.

ESP BY THE NUMBERS will work for you. It's simple, easy to set up, easy to remember, and very easy to perform. The overall success **WILL** depend on your patter and selling ability. You can leave your audience shrugging their shoulders.. or scratching their heads in awe.

I recommend the second... And I recommend **ESP BY THE NUMBERS**...

Run time 28 minutes.. \$25.00

Available through dealers who carry the Murphy's Magic line of quality magic....

<http://www.murphysmagic.com/product.aspx?id=59208>

Two Packs Are Better Than One - A review

Authored by: Erivan Vazquez

Reviewed by: R.Carruth

Erivan Vazquez is the author/creator of *Two Packs Are Better Than One..* and one of my favorite young magic thinkers. He currently has three complete ebooks for sale and each is special in its own way. I am going to focus on *Two Packs* and I'll comment on the others in future issues.

Erivan admits to being influenced by three wonderful magicians, but his work takes something that is already well respected to a totally new address. Both effects in this ebook are 'coincidences'.. but you can get by with that if they're very GOOD coincidences.

The first effect, *Influential Coincidence*, uses two decks, one red and one blue, to find mates without once looking at the cards. Loosely based on an effect using one deck and found in 'Aldo on Trost Vol. 5', and utilizing the same partial stack, Erivan's version adds to the mystery by using the second deck, making the effect seem more impossible. *Influential Coincidence* is described as virtually self working, and I won't argue with that.. assuming you exclude the partial stack. Although NOT a true mathematical effect.. the hidden math assures the effect will work every time.

The second effect, *UNexpected Divination Outdone*, only uses one deck, but will doubtlessly impress a spectator with the same impossibility. Based on Simon Aronson's *UnDo* principle, and used with his permission, another stack is used to make this effect fool proof.. -if- you follow the steps. A single pack of cards is divided into two halves. A spectator selects one card from one half and mixes his selection back into that half. After several attempts at finding their card, you allow the spectator to find their card with the help of the unused half. Again, the stack assures you're 100% correct every time.

Now.. the good thing about Erivan's ebook is it's so affordable, you can't afford NOT to buy it. \$2.19 ... (No, I didn't leave out a digit..) Help out a young aspiring magician while helping yourself. 24 pages and 8600+ words..

Check it out [HERE](#)

<https://www.lybrary.com/erivan-vazquez-m-341342.html>

How To Restore a Warped Deck of Cards - Informative Video

I happens to all of us.. we leave a deck of cards in the wrong place, and they 'warp'. I hate picking up a deck of cards and feeling that click-click that occurs when a deck get out of shape.

My buddy Michael Lyth sent along a video that'll prevent you from having to throw them away. It's an easy fix and the video is only about 3 plus minutes long..

<https://youtu.be/tWGv3Mq4o7s>

Speaking of Warped... 'Warp Factor' eBook is Free

If you perform Card Warp, here's a very nice companion piece that includes six effects to use in conjunction with this classic.

Witch Hunt
Physics Class
Batman Unmasked
Card Warp - 'David Blaine style'
Beat the Challenge
Spirit Contact

Written by Reg Coppicus, you can download it free at this address.. It does not teach the original Card Warp.. so you need to know it or know how to learn it.. You can always check Youtube!

Thanks again Michael Lyth!

<https://www.lybrary.com/warp-factor-p-921852.html>

Ten Easy Rubber Band Magic Tricks - Video Tutorials

A special thanks to Jim Canaday at the **Magic Portal** for this link. These are a few you may know, and a few you probably don't know. All are easy.. and you'll enjoy watching this 20 minute video of rubber band magic...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=isgJk7shU9c>

Sankey False Cut - Video Tutorial

Jay describes this as 'The world's easiest false cut'. I don't know that I would describe it as the easiest.. but it's certainly not hard. All y'all can do this with a minimum amount of practice.. I promise.

https://youtu.be/MHPGla_TPxw

Another False Cut - Video Tutorial

Demonstrated by 52Kards.. this false cut is more sophisticated than the previous false cut, but still very performable. Actually, it's very similar to the false cut I use. Everyone needs a good, convincing false cut.. It's critical to selling your magic, and something that doesn't take weeks to develop like some sleights.

<https://ayoutube.org/watch/pvA1ue7cV8M>

Force Any Card - 3 Easy Ways to Force a Playing card - Video

Chris Ramsay discusses three different ways to force a card. The third method he describes is one of the three primary forces I use personally.. so I can testify to its effectiveness. Oh, and it's really easy too. I suppose that's one of the things I like about it. I like to keep things simple...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxP-tu10uIM&t=390s>

Reacting to Best CARDIST Alive - Chris Ramsay Video

Watch Chris react as he watches a video of some of the best card moves in the world. You see both Chris and the moves he's watching.

There's some stuff here you won't believe.. If you're confident with your flourishes.. perhaps you shouldn't watch this...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eB5k4iip5U0>

The World's Highest-Paid Magicians Of 2017:

David Copperfield Leads With \$61.5 Million

Nearly 50 years ago, a 12-year-old David Seth Kotkin became the youngest person ever admitted to the Society of American Magicians. Now, the performer better known by his stage name David Copperfield is the world's highest-paid magician for the second year in a row, earning \$61.5 million pretax in the 12 months to June.

The living legend, whose greatest illusions include walking through the Great Wall of China and making the Statue of Liberty disappear, performed a stunning 621 shows in Las Vegas during our scoring period. He also mints millions from exclusive tours and concerts on Musha Cay, his private-island resort. Copperfield owns 11 private islands in the Bahamas.

Copperfield's secret to success is simple. He told FORBES in 2016 that he refused to give up even when others doubted his illusions would work. "I get told 'no' every day," Copperfield said. "'No' has become a great source of inspiration."

His persistence has paid off in more ways than one. Copperfield is worth an estimated \$850 million by FORBES' count. Read more....

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/hayleycuccinello/2017/10/24/the-worlds-highest-paid-magicians-of-2017-david-copperfield-leads-with-61-5-million/#4e11acbf322c>

TOP TEN BIZARRE MAGICIAN DEATHS

- 1. Balabrega - Died from an exploding stage light**
- 2. Joseph W. Burrus - Died of being crushed by concrete while performing a buried alive stunt**
- 3. Washington Irving Bishop - Died from a premature autopsy after slipping into a coma**
- 4. Chung Ling Soo - Died after being shot onstage performing the Bullet Catch stunt**
- 5. H. T. Sartell - Died at the bitter hands of his wife and assistant who purposely fired live bullets into her husband during a bullet catch**
- 6. Harry Houdini - Died from peritonitis due to a ruptured and untreated appendix**
- 7. Professor Enrico - Died when his doctor accidently administered a dose of heroin to him**
- 8. Dante, The Mormon Wizard - Died from being accidentally shot while hunting**
- 9. Lafayette - Died in a theater fire**
- 10. C.H. Larette - Shot himself rather than be imprisoned by the Gestapo**

(Lifted from that supreme authority - Facebook)

Easy Quiz for Magicians..

Elliott Black

Magicians get a raw deal. Rarely are we praised for our intellectual qualities. So.. for those of you feeling a little slighted, I thought I'd give you a test you're sure to ace. You only need to get 4 correct to pass.. (This was from a Magic Roadshow about 60 issues back..)

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane?

Check your answers below

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last? **116 years**
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats? **Ecuador**
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut? **Sheep and Horses**
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution? **November**
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of? **Squirrel fur**
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal? **Dogs**

7) What was King George VI's first name? Albert

8) What colour is a purple finch? Crimson

9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from? New Zealand

10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane? Orange (of course)

I'm sure everyone pass with ease, so I'm not going to ask that you email me with your score.

"Presentation is the important part of every trick. The best tricks can be spoiled by poor presentation; on the other hand, very simple tricks can be turned into excellent mysteries by good presentation..."

Howard Thurston

Who Is Gene Shoemaker And Why Is He Buried On The Moon - Article

Eugene Merle Shoemaker (April 28, 1928 – July 18, 1997), also known as Gene Shoemaker, was an American geologist and one of the founders of the field of planetary science. He is best known for co-discovering the Comet Shoemaker–Levy 9 with his wife Carolyn S. Shoemaker and David H. Levy. This comet hit Jupiter in July 1994: the impact was televised around the world.

Shoemaker was also well known for his studies of terrestrial craters, such as Barringer Meteor Crater in Arizona. Shoemaker was the first scientist to conclude that these craters were caused by meteor impact. Shoemaker was also the first director of the United States Geological Survey's Astrogeology Research Program.

Shoemaker spent much of his later years searching for and finding several previously unnoticed or undiscovered impact craters around the world.

Shoemaker died on July 18, 1997 during one such expedition in a head-on car collision on the Tamami Track, a few hundred kilometers north of Alice Springs, Australia. Shoemaker's wife Carolyn was severely injured in the crash.

On July 31, 1999, some of his ashes were carried to the Moon by the Lunar Prospector space probe in a capsule designed by Carolyn Porco. He is the only person whose ashes have been buried on any celestial body outside Earth.... (Wikipedia)

Read a very interesting article at:

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/eugene-shoemaker-buried-moon-celestis-nasa>

Magic Trick Reviews... Free to Everyone Facebook Group

Please consider joining us at 'Magic Trick Reviews' on Facebook. You'll find a very nice selection of reviews, particularly by our friend, Jim Canaday, who is now reviewing for Big Blind Media as well as Murphy's Magic. Check it out...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1755782251317278>

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That does it for this issue. I hope you found something to help your magic along. Remember, if you have something you would like to share with the magic community, send it to: Rick@MagicRoadshow.com

May my next issue find you well..

Rick Carruth / Editor

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"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and all science."

Albert Einstein

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