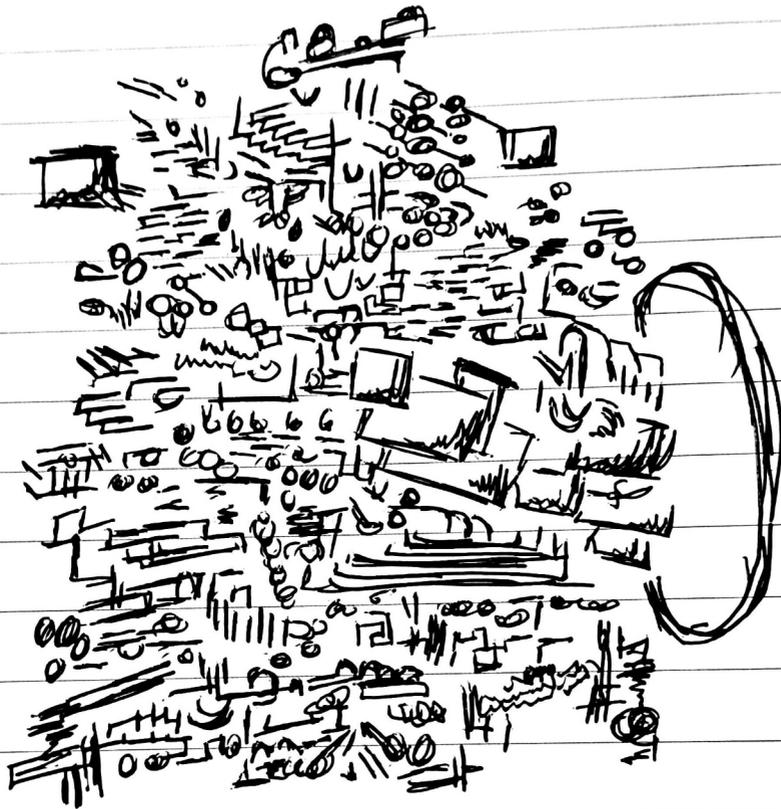


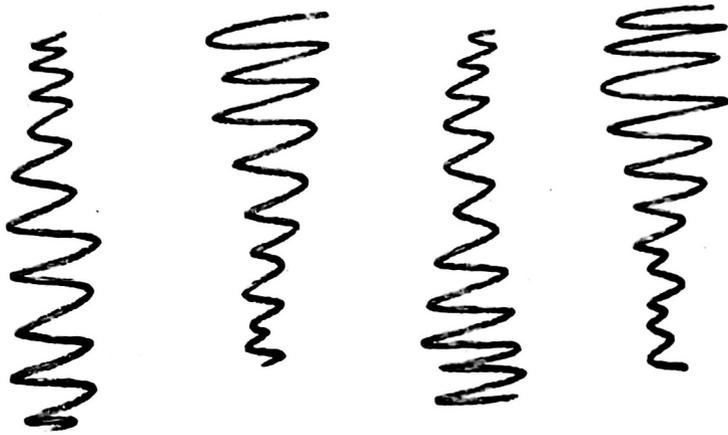
curzon

august 2025

#1



tricks by tobias hudson



.and the man takes a seat. and the other man
oins him. and the woman watches on. and the
en move cards. and the cards are dealt and
turned and moved. and the sun rises. and the
sun falls. and the days turn. and the cards
turn. and the sky opens. and the rain falls.
and the cards reduce. and the skins reduce.
and the bodies reduce. and the ground falls
away. and the witch laughs...

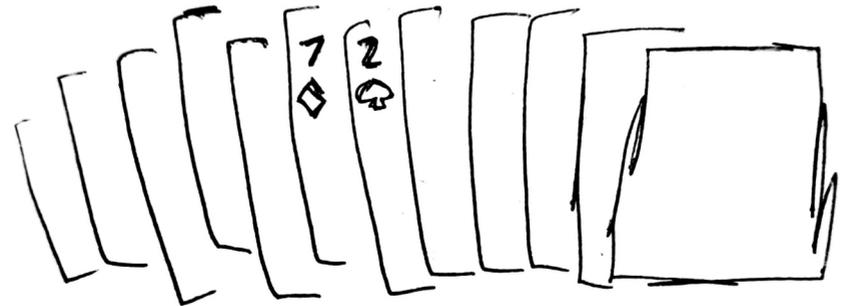
my BEST
card trick!

I remember coming up with this trick and feeling that my life had reached its peak. It's not groundbreaking, but I like how it all comes together.

Spread the pack face up across the table.

"Name a card you see, one about the middle."

Gesture towards the centre of the spread. Here, they name the seven of diamonds.



Note the card above the selection, the two of spades, and immediately square the cards. This should be done quickly, so that they name one, and you appear to instantly close the spread. Slowly respread the pack face down.

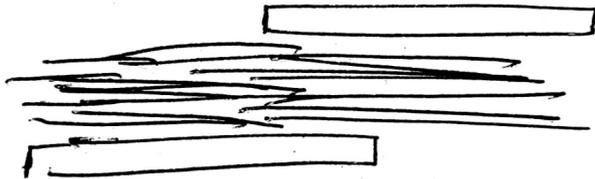
"Where do you guess that card is, roughly?"

Let them respond. Square the cards.

"So you know the area perhaps, but not the exact position."

Cut the pack in half at where you estimate the selection to be. This should be close to the centre anyway, so if you aren't exactly sure, an even cut is your best bet.

Riffle the halves together, letting a bed of about eight cards from the top half drop first, and ensuring another bed of eight from the bottom half finish on top.



Slowly push the cards together, and spread the pack across the table again.

"Now things are a little harder. Again, you could maybe track the rough area where the selection ended up, but it's getting a bit harder now."

Square the pack. Double undercut about ten cards from the top to the bottom.

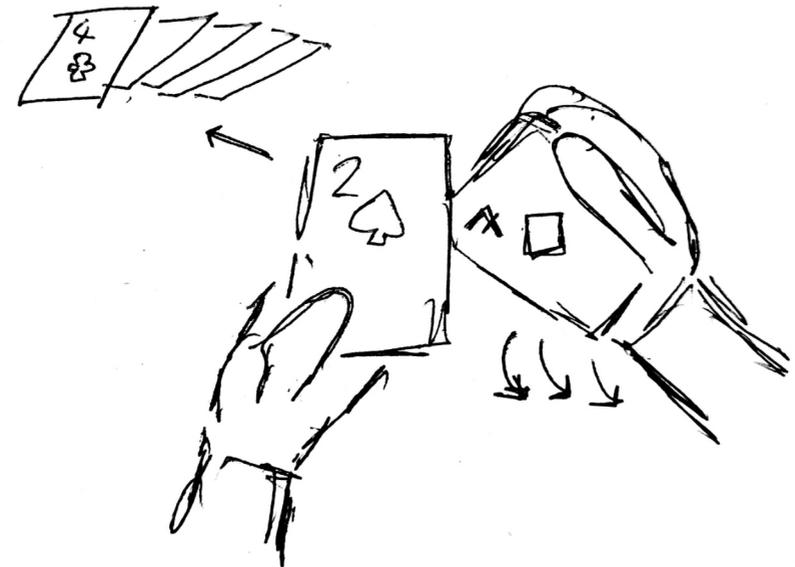
Now start riffle shuffling, increasing in speed, but keeping the bottom 15 cards or so in place. Make the shuffles look messy and disorganised, letting cards spread across

the table.

"It might seem like you've completely lost the card. But you've been observing these shuffles, and during that, maybe not consciously, you've been taking in the sequence."

Gather in the cards. Turn the pack face up and slowly start to deal the cards, commenting that there isn't an order that could help them.

When you see your key card is the next to be dealt, deal it slowly, wrist-killing the pack as you do.



"In fact, I think this will work better if you can't see the cards."

Keeping the bottom card concealed, regrip the in-hand packet face down, then turn the

dealt cards over. Pause for a moment.

"As I deal the cards, say stop. You won't consciously know why, but something in your brain will just know it's the right moment."



Continue until they stop. Look up at them, pause for a moment, and then deal the bottom card forwards from the spread.

Deal more cards, then turn the spreads face up, showing the selection isn't there. Have them turn over their card.

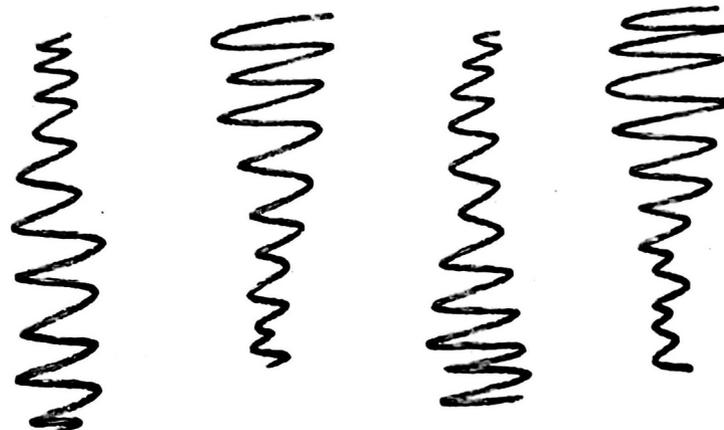
- The original handling used two bottom deals instead of a wrist kill. Instead of dealing off the key card, stop once you get to it and turn the whole packet over, followed by the dealt cards.

Deal the first card off the bottom, then continue until they say stop, and perform a second bottom deal. Thanks to Andrew Frost for the wrist kill suggestion.

- If sat at a table, I lap the key card as the packets are turned over.

- As you turn the dealt cards face down, you have all the time in the world to get a break above the selection, separating it slightly from the in-hand packet. This makes the bottom deal significantly easier if the cards are yucky...
- I have performed this trick without a table many times. Spread the cards between the hands for the selection to be made, and perform in-the-hand riffle shuffles and double undercuts to get to the required position.

I then deal the cards face up into the spectator's hands, wrist-killing as I deal the key. When the packets are face down, I keep dealing until they say stop, at which point I use a switch move by Dai Vernon, found in the first chapter of *Revelations*.



DO YOU THINK HOROSCOPES
ARE RUBBISH?

DO YOU THINK YOUR STAR SIGN
MEANS NOTHING??

★ THINK AGAIN... ★

- ★ Take 9 cards and shuffle them.
- ★ Look and remember the top card.
Don't forget it.
- ★ Follow the horoscope below by spelling each ~~card~~^{word}, one card for each letter and then placing the remaining cards on top.
- ★ Replace the blanks with the relevant answer to your life! (One word for each answer only...)

THE HOROSCOPE WILL NEVER,
EVER LIE... ★

(spell every word of the following passage)

"Hello, my name is _____
and I love _____ but I hate
_____. My horoscope is _____
and my dream job is _____ And
to conclude, my card is the..."

★ TURN OVER THE TOP CARD! ★ ?!

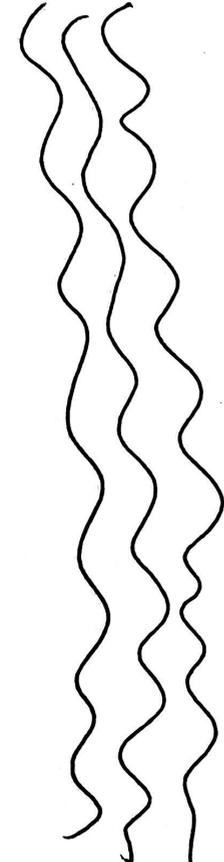
wow! Even though you mixed
the cards with facts about your
life, they still stitched together in the
magic of the HOROSCOPE!

➤ from now on, you should follow every
horoscope you ever read TO THE LETTER.

All I want is a little respect
Is that too much to ask?
You always reel me in
How do I make you see
Our values aren't the same

All I want is a little love
Is that too much to ask?
You never seem to care
How do I make you see
We really aren't that different

LATHERED IN ♣ ♠ ♦ ♥ HONEY



This is a very new trick, and quite fooling in a way I didn't expect. From the face of the pack, have a stack from the ace through to the king of diamonds.

I like performing a variation of Diamond cut Diamond by Alex Elmsley directly before this, as it allows me to get into the stack easily.

Drop packets of cards into a pile on the table, requesting the spectator stop you. Show them the next card and deal it down.

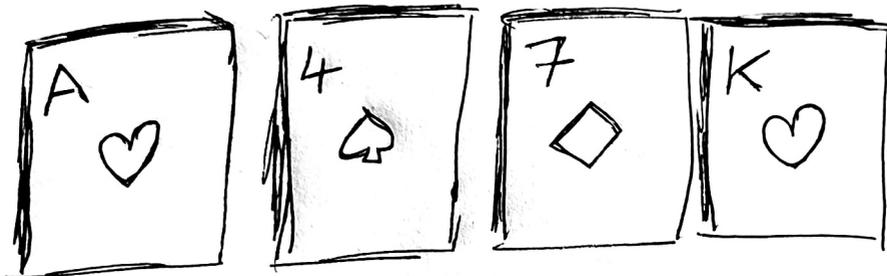
Separate the remaining cards between the two hands, dropping those from the bottom of the pack onto the dealt cards first, and then the rest on top. This puts the stack above the selection.

Square the pack and give it several shuffles that look legitimate, but that actually only cut the cards. Hand the pack to the spectator, and have them cut the cards too and then turn the pack over.

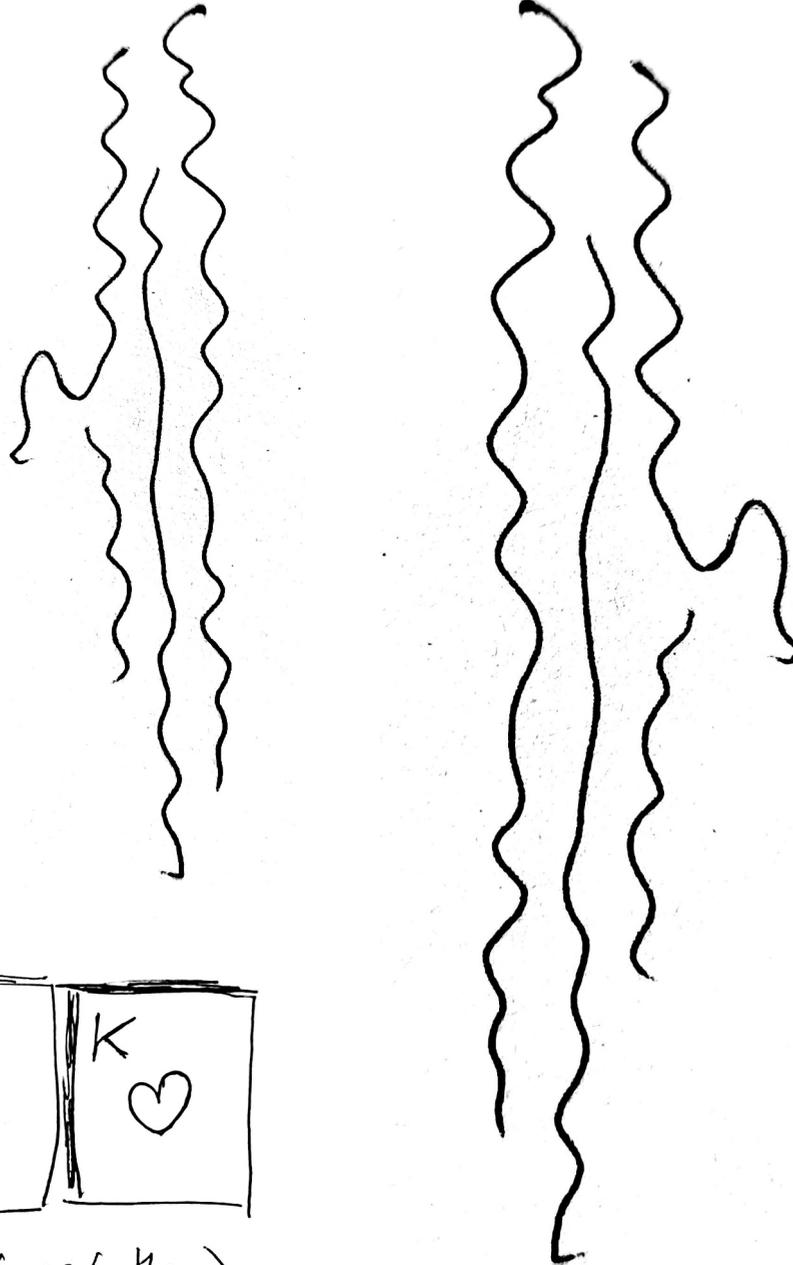
It doesn't matter if there's a diamond on the face or not, but I prefer it if there isn't one, so if I see there is one on the face, I immediately continue: "...and give the cards some cuts face up too.

Have them place the pack on the table and cut it into four piles. Keep note of the way they cut the packets, and what ends up where. One of the face cards will be a diamond 99% of the time. Remove the four face cards into a pile.

Reassemble the pack, ensuring the packet that was ABOVE the diamond ends up on top, from the face down. In the image, the



(four face cards are removed, and the packets assembled ONTO the second packet)



diamond comes from the third pile from the left, meaning I will assemble everything onto the second packet.

Turn the pack face down and pick up the four cards. The selected card is now at a position down from the top that corresponds to the value of the diamond. In this case, the selection is 7th.

"You generated some cards here, we might be able to do something with these. Which one do you want?" As I talk, I shift the diamond to the second or third position if it isn't already there. This is to make it more psychologically appealing.

If it is chosen, which is the case more often than not, lose the other three cards into the middle. Wave the seven over the pack and slowly count seven cards, revealing the selection.

HOWEVER... What is they pick a different card?

As you're showing them, see what you can make happen. There is a lot of flexibility here. If the other values are sixes or eights, you can get to the selection easily enough with either a double deal, or by dealing seven and showing the next card.



Often, you will need to add the three unselected cards onto the pack. Here, this puts the selection tenth. By spelling ACE and HEARTS, FOUR and SPADES, and KING and HEARTS you arrive there.

It's a jazz trick. I have never had an unsuccessful outcome so far.

If the diamond is the ace, the selection is on the top.

If the diamond is the queen or king, you are often able to fully spell any card. Or you could omit OF, spelling the value followed by the suit, allowing you to access the tenth and eleventh positions.



Do not palm or switch things as you pick up the pack. This is not the point of this trick. You aren't looking for the most mathematically perfect outcome; the priority is on cleanliness of handling.



Likewise, don't use equivoque to make the spectator pick the diamond. It isn't that sort of trick. DON'T DO IT.



**smiling mule
productions**