



Inside Ed's Head

February 2013

Barrie Richardson Approves of This Message (Jerry Mentzer is Missing)

Featuring H.S. Card to Cardcase And The Curry Turnover Change

I recently had another session with Zev Adler, and we spent a lot of time on the Curry Turnover Change. Watching Zev do it, and then playing around with it for several hours, I figured out where I had been going wrong in my earlier attempts to use this move. With just a little change in hand position, I was able to do the Turnover Move smoothly and consistently. More to the point, with the proper misdirection. I was able to do the move deceptively. (Well, I only tried it once, and it worked.)

Here are the key points I figured out.

As I start the turnover, my thumb holds the card steady on the table, as my forefinger slightly lifts the card at the upper right corner.



Now, my thumb **and my whole hand** move forward so that the deck is almost completely clear of the top of the card. Having as much clearance between the deck and the card seems very important in a clean turnover and switch.



In this picture, the five of diamonds is almost at a ninety degree angle to the mat. The top of the card is starting to move to the **side** of the deck, held there by my thumb. The outer knuckles of my

fingers are still touching, or almost touching, the mat.



From this position it's very easy to continue the turnover as illustrated last month, pushing out the bottom card, as your thumb helps the five of diamonds coalesce with the bottom of the deck.

That's all there is to it. It all works very smoothly. I encourage you to try it. As a further inducement, here's a real stunner that I hope you enjoy.

H. S. Card to Cardcase

Several years ago, while reading one of Barrie Richardson's books, I read an idea of his for a Card to Wallet trick that seemed sensational. It was, unfortunately, not suitable for me, as it was written and illustrated for a breast-pocket wallet, and I couldn't figure out how to work it with the hip-pocket wallet I normally carry.

It did make me think, however. Combining an idea of Jerry Mentzer's with a different handling of Mr. Richardson's trick, I created an absolutely mind boggling effect that I named "H. S. Card to Wallet." The effect was that a signed card that the spectator cut's into the deck himself ends up **in his own wallet!** There was a small problem however; I couldn't do it. It used a Curry Turnover Change, and as I might have mentioned once or twice, I couldn't do that move. Now I can. The trick can work wonderfully well.

I wrote letters to both Mr. Richardson and Mr. Mentzer, asking them for permission to incorporate their ideas into my trick. Within a few days of posting the letter, Barrie Richardson called me. He was very excited about the trick, and was quite willing to let me incorporate his idea into it.

Now I only had to wait for Jerry Mentzer's reply. I waited. I waited some more. Nothing. I called his shop. No answer. I emailed him. No reply. I don't know where he is, or how to reach him at all. I really wanted to use an idea of his about producing a card from a **spectator's** wallet, but I can't do it without permission. His idea is in Card to Wallet, The Book, on page eight. If you have it, you'll see how well it fits. Instead of that idea, I've re-written this trick as a card to cardcase trick. The Schulien cardcase load has been published many times, and is widely known. I believe describing it without permission is no different than describing an Elmsley Count

In order for this trick to be the most effective, it would be best if there were some reason for the spectator to have possession of the card case. The most obvious of these is to give him the cased deck at the beginning of your set, and have him remove and shuffle the cards. Take the cards from him, leaving him in possession of the card case. You can now perform this at any point on your routine.

Spread the cards **face up** and ask the spectator to name any face card he likes. Remove it from the spread, and place it face down in front of him, the long sides parallel to your side of the table, in readiness for a Curry Turnover Change. Remove a pen from your pocket, and ask the spectator to sign the face up card. After he's finished, hold out your hand for the return of the pen. Perform the Turnover Change as he puts the pen in your hand. You should be talking to him as this is happening; the return of the pen will be the misdirection for the switch. (Barrie Richardson was particularly enthusiastic about this dodge for the misdirection.)

Get the deck in dealing position, as you put the pen in your pocket, then Gambler's cop the card as you place the deck next to the now face down card.

Have the spectator lift off about half the deck, with one hand, and place the face-down card (ostensibly his selection), on the bottom half, and finally bury the card by replacing the top half on it and squaring up the deck.

(The concept of switching out the selection so that the spectator can apparently replace his own card in the deck, is from Barrie Richardson's "1-2-3 Card to Wallet," in his excellent book Act Two. The method here requires less handling, and leaves the selection in front of the spectator at all times.

Mr. Richardson uses a switch that I had never heard about, which would be good to add to the arsenal of most card men. Considering all the excellent material in his book, you'd do well to pick up a copy. Once you do that, you'll also want to buy his Theater of the Mind, and Curtain Call.)

Take the cardcase and place it on the deck, closed, orienting it so the opening is away from you and the opening notch is down.

Take some time for whatever incantations or exhortations you usually need to perform miracles, then lift the case off the deck, and place it in your left hand, directly over the copped card. As the box touches the card, use the fingers of your right hand to open the box, then insert your right thumb into it, in preparation for Matt Schulien's move. Now all you have to do is drag your thumb out of the box, while your middle and ring fingers drag the card along the underside of the box, till it clears the case. To your spectator's it looks like the card has risen through the deck, and appeared in the case.

Some final thoughts . . .

I really wish I could have found Jerry Mentzer. I **really** like removing the card from a spectator's wallet. If I ever get his permission to print his method, I'll update this trick.

I'd like to thank Barrie Richardson for his kindness in allowing me to use his material.

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