

The Magic of
Jay Sankey



Jay Sankey of Toronto, Canada, lectured for the Rochester Magic Clubs on March 31, 1998. We were treated to an evening of pure entertainment! Jay's magic is absolutely unbelievable. His quick wit and humor had us in stitches. If you have never seen Jay before, make every effort to see him the next time he is in our area. You won't regret it.

Jay was kind enough to contribute two effects from his latest two sets of lecture notes. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did!!

Saved By The Bell

Effect: A card is selected (let's say the 8 of Clubs), returned to the deck and the magician "narrows it down" to 7 cards, but none of the cards are found to be the selection. The magi then suggests that one of the spectators makes a phone call (either from a handy cellular or a nearby pay phone) and dial the phone number suggested by the 7 cards. (The Two of Clubs is a "2", the Five of Spades is a "5", etc.) When dialed, the spectator hears a recording: "Hi, this is Steve the Sorcerer. I'm not home right now, but leave a message and I'll call you back. Oh, and I think your card was the Eight of Clubs!"

Method: Try this trick once, and I assure you, you'll definitely do it again and again. It's that rare card trick that turns a magic trick into an authentic "happening". This works well if a pay phone is nearby, but it's even better if someone has a cellular phone. To prepare, leave a message on your answering machine as described above. Note that, because many systems now allow you to change your message from some place other than home, you can easily change your message just before beginning to work some magic gig, and then immediately change the message afterwards.

As you may have guessed, you'll need an 8 card set-up for this routine; 7 cards to make up your phone number and a force card, i.e. the 8 of Clubs. Oh, and if your phone number has a 1 or a 0, don't sweat it. Just use an Ace for the 1, and a 10 or a court card for the 0. Have this 8 card stack on top of the deck with the force card on top.

To perform, force the top card with your favorite method, then have the card returned to the center of the pack and give the deck a false shuffle or a few false cuts. State that you will now find the selected card. Give the pack a false cut and deal the top card face down onto the table as you say, *"I think this is your card..."* Pause a beat, then deal the second card face down on the table **beside** the first, quickly saying, *"Or this one."* Then deal the third one adding, *"Or this one. That's it. Your card is one of these three.. (quickly dealing two more cards)....let's say five cards."* Then deal the last two cards down onto the table as you say, *"O.K., let's add two more for luck. I'm now convinced that your card is one of these (count them out loud)seven cards."* The goal here is to give the impression that you are just kidding around, that you have no plan and no definite number of cards in mind.

Turn over the cards, one at a time, asking the spectator, *"Was your card the ... Two of Hearts...Nine of Diamonds...etc.?"* Looking more and more disappointed as you go along. To end, tell them, *"Well look, I'm sorry I didn't find your card, but let's try something else."* Have someone call the phone number suggested by the seven cards.

The Pen Is Mightier

Effect: The magi introduces a Bic pen and after performing the old "Magnetic Pen Cap" bit, hands the pen out for examination, but the spectators find it impossible to pull the cap off the end of the pen!

Method: Get two Bic pens. Take off one of the caps, and do a thorough job of scratching the inside of the cap and the end of one of the pens, with a sharp nail. Now get some epoxy glue, smear some of the glue on the scratched end of the pen, and firmly push the scratched cap onto that end. Put a second cap on the other end of the same pen (the "nib" end). Give the glue a night to dry and you're all set.

To perform, get a bit of moisture on your right first finger and thumb. Some condensation off a glass is good, but spit's cool too! (Isn't that the title of a rap album? - Ed) Then, pull the pen out of your pocket with your left hand being sure to conceal the end with the glued cap. (Figure 1) Note that, to be sure you are in fact concealing the glued cap (rather than the loose one) you have but to merely glance at which way the ink in the pen is "flowing".



With your right first finger and thumb remove the loose cap and perform the ancient "magnetic cap" bit, i.e. holding the cap an inch or so from the nib of the pen, wave it in a circular fashion around the nib, and then squeeze the very end of the cap between the tips of the right first finger and the thumb....causing the cap to "jump" back onto the nib of the pen, thanks to the spit! Do this old bit a few times, commenting on the magnetic connection, and then look a little annoyed. *"You guys don't believe me! You think I'm making all this up about a 'magnetic connection'!"* As you say this, remove the cap for the pen, gesture with it and then apparently slip it **onto the other end of the pen**. But what you really do is this: the left hand rolls over so that the pen is pointing straight upwards, and then - in a gentle jabbing fashion - the left hand drops towards the right hand. Then, as the right hand conceals its cap in finger palm, the left fingers pivot the glued cap into view. (Figure 2) Drop the right hand (with the palmed cap) to your side, and then drop the pen on the table. Rant for a few beats longer, then - with an "Alright then, I'll show you all" attitude fix your gaze on your wrist watch, count to five, and ask the strongest person in the group to pick up the pen and try to remove the cap.



Many thanks to Jay Sankey for allowing me to share some of his magic with my visitors.

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