



Inside Ed's Head

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December 2019

Impromptu Out of This World (Thanks to Harry Lorayne)

If you've never performed Out of This World (OOTW), you have no idea how powerful this effect is. One of my closest magician friends says he "hates" this trick because the effect is so strong it makes all the difficult tricks he can do seem superfluous.

An issue with Paul Curry's original creation is that it needs a stacked deck. Back in the '60s, Harry Lorayne published an impromptu version of this trick that I've been using ever since. You can find it in *My Favorite Card Tricks*. Harry was kind enough to permit me to use it.

Those of you who might want to get some of Harry's material should head over to <http://harryloraynemagic.com> and click on the "Store" link at the top left. Although I'm repeating myself, this link, alone, has all the magic you'll ever need.

You might also consider dropping him a line; he's currently recovering from colon cancer surgery. I suggested he write another book while he recuperates—he ignored me completely.

I normally perform this trick as the second in a two-trick set. In the first, I attempt to "prove" that the spectator and I have some psychic connection. I use "Do as I Do," from the "Key Card" section of *Royal Road to Card Magic* by Hugard and Braue. As simple as it is, with proper scripting, this trick gets a powerful reaction. It requires two decks, so is not always available. An alternative could be Paul Cummins' "TAPALACK," which you can find in the March 2017 issue of *Inside Ed's Head*. This link is password-protected, so if you've forgotten where you saved it, you'll have to email me to get it. (<http://edhassmagic.com/ContactUs.php>.)

Impromptu Out of this World By Harry Lorayne

Once you have established rapport, give the deck to the spectator and ask her to shuffle it. [My handling varies slightly from Harry's for this next bit.] Take it back and start spreading it, looking for a red and a black card to use as "guide cards" for the following action. As you do this, make sure that the bottom ten - twelve cards of the deck have their colors more or less randomly distributed. If there are nine black cards and three red, I would suggest cutting or shuffling after removing the guide cards. Place one

guide card at the spectator's left, the other at her right. Spread the deck again, passing the first ten - twelve and remove a card the same color as the guide card on your right. (I always do it this way, so I never forget which is the "right" pile.) Let's say this is a red card.

Look at this card briefly and tell the spectator that her job will be to guess the color of the card as soon as you remove it from the pack. Remind her to wait until you remove the card completely from the deck before she guesses. Now ask, "Red or Black." If she happens to guess red, show her the card, put it face-down in front of the red leader card and say, "That's an auspicious start." If she gets it wrong, place it in front of the black leader card.

Again, bypassing the rear ten - twelve cards, take out another red card. Don't say anything, just hold the card up in front of you and look at the spectator. If she doesn't immediately respond, tell her she is to use her intuition to quickly guess the color of the card. If she thinks about it too long she ruins the chance of picking up your thoughts. Regardless of how quickly she guessed, put the card on the guide card she called out. I usually tell her to be sure that I put the card I'm holding on the color she actually named. I say, "Since I'm looking at the card, sometimes I'll put it on the color I see, rather than the one you say." This takes away any possible idea that I am manipulating the cards to alter the outcome.

You will now take out the remaining red cards, (beyond the bottom ten - twelve) one by one, putting them in a reasonably neat pile next to the appropriate guide card.

Sometime during the handling of the red cards, I do the following bit. As I'm removing a (red) card, I say, "This is one card that everybody gets wrong. I don't know why, but nobody has ever gotten this card right." If she gets it right, show it, put it on the red guide card while congratulating her for her incredible demonstration of mental telepathy. If she gets it wrong, show it and toss it off to the side, saying you don't want a jinx card to lower her percentages.

Continue removing cards until there is only one red card left among the blacks above (to the left of) your small stack of random cards. Now tell the spectator that you will now do an even more difficult test, you will remove the cards from the remainder of the pack *without even looking at them!* This will test your psychic ability to divine the color of the card clairvoyantly and transmit it to the spectator. Remove the one remaining red card from among the blacks and place it on the table directly between you and the *black* guide card. Remove one of the black cards and place it to the right of this card. The two rightmost guide cards will be the correct (right) piles. [This is a somewhat different justification than Harry suggests for stopping the deal and switching the guide cards. Harry suggests giving the rest of the cards to the spectator and having her deal them herself. Recently, I stopped doing that. I want to make *all* of the cards a collaboration between

the spectator and me.]

Now give the packet in your hand one or two false cuts, take the top card of the pile (it should be a black card) and hold it, face down, between the two guide cards. Wait for the spectator to call its color. If she gets it right, say, "Let's see how you did," and turn the card face up and congratulate her and yourself for getting it right. Then put it face down in front of the black guide card. Otherwise, put it in front of the red guide card.

Deal more cards, putting them in a pile next to the appropriate guide card. After seven or eight cards, when she calls out "Red," stop, assume a look of uncertainty, and say, "I'm pretty sure you got this one wrong." Turn it face up. Of course, it will be a black card. Put it on the pile next to the black guide card.

Continue dealing cards until you believe you've approached the mixed group of cards at the bottom of the deck. Stop and spread the cards left in your hand face up in front of you and say, "You can imagine how difficult it would be to have guessed the color of any of these cards. Now, it's time to see how you did."

As you say this, push the pile of cards next to the red guide card on your right, nearest the spectator, in front of her. Say, "Take a look!"

As she looks, pick up the two piles of cards in front of the left guide cards (the "wrong" pile), one in each hand. Bring your hands together briefly as you glance at the cards and say, "Wow, this is amazing." Finally spread the red cards in front of the red guide card and the blacks in front of the black.

Have the spectator spread the remaining pile face up. She will be utterly shocked, stunned, confused, flabbergasted and gobsmacked. She might think you are a miracle worker—or that she is. Whatever the result, you achieved a miracle that will stay with your spectator for a long, long time.

Afterword

If you are doing this for two people you could do it this way: after dealing off the cards for spectator one, turn to spectator two and place the guide cards in front of him. You can now choose to have him read your mind, as with spectator #1, or do the clairvoyance-telepathy bit as above.

At the end of the routine, after you've spread the random group of cards at the bottom of the deck, push each "Right" pile to the appropriate spectator. You'll get the same effect but now two people will start a religion around you.

Doing this trick for more than two people presents a problem. People not directly involved with the trick might get bored, which can kill the mood. You might consider breaking the group into two "teams." I imagine that men vs. women might give you the best play in this regard. Each man guesses a card in rotation until you run out of red cards, then each woman.

Having them tie at the end *might* be a suitable denouement.

I wouldn't even *think* of doing this in a close-up show. If you wish to do OOTW in a formal show, I suggest you read the December 2016 issue of *Inside Ed's Head*, where you'll find Steve Draun's outstanding version.

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December 2019

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