



Inside Ed's Head

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Tricks for Your Card-iologist (They're the Guys Who Keep Hearts in Order)

Featuring:

Order Out of Chaos, by Lew R. Brooks

Jay Ose's False Cut

Well, things have been a bit interesting lately. I was told that I needed a new Aortic heart valve. This did not cause much concern, as I'm getting used to body parts being taken out and replaced. I was a bit concerned when I was told that they'd like to webcast the procedure around the world to teach it to more doctors. My initial thought was that if this was so new and rare that they're still needing to go to unusual lengths to let people know about it, I might not want to be the one lying on the table. My second thought was that if they want to put me on TV, they're obviously confident that they won't kill me because that would be a bummer for their reputations.

Since I was going to be on TV, I figured I'd do a card trick to lead off the program—but which card trick. I posted that question on the Conjuror Community Facebook page and got a great response. It was suggested I should do Lew Brooks's "Order Out of Chaos," from his book *Stack Attack*. I didn't know this trick but I had the eBook *Stack Attack* on my computer. Unfortunately, I realized I couldn't learn it in the three days before my surgery. Fortunately, I realized that a trick I had learned long ago, Paul Curry's "A Swindle of Sorts," from his book *Paul Curry Presents*, dealt with a similar concept of order and disorder. (I'll get to that next month.)

The day before my surgery, I asked if I could perform a card trick for my awaiting audience. They politely told me, "No," while looking at me like I was a raving lunatic. So, I did my first TV show and wasn't able to perform a card trick. Neither was I able to be conscious—but that was a good thing.

Order Out of Chaos, by Lew R. Brooks

Effect

After the deck is shuffled, all the hearts are removed from the deck. The magician shuffles and cuts these cards several ways but when he shows the faces of the cards, they are all in order.

Setup

. There are two possible setups, one will end up with the cards in Ace – King order; the other will end in King – Ace.

4, J, 10, Q, 9, K, 2, 6, 3, 5, 8, A, 7 or

10, 3, 4, 2, 5, A, Q, 8, J, 9, 6, K, 7

Lew takes this setup and disperses it evenly through the remaining 39 cards into the deck. If you'd like to allow the *spectator* to shuffle the deck, I recommend that after removing and ordering the thirteen cards of your setup, you take nine more cards and intersperse them into your setup. You'll end up with twenty-two cards that look something like this:

4, X, J, X, 10, X, Q, X, 9, K, X, 2, 6, X, 3, X, 5, 8, X, A, X, 7.

Put these on top of the deck and you're ready to go. For the rest of the description, I'll assume you've used this stack, rather than Lew's method.

Method

I believe it's best to do some false shuffles that will maintain the order of the stack. A jog shuffle is perfect here—just be sure to cut under the 22nd card. If that's a little out of your league, you can do a Charlier Shuffle. Since the Charlier Shuffle cuts the deck, you'll need to pencil-dot the top card of the stack and do *two* shuffles. Look for the pencil-dotted card while doing the second shuffle. When you see it, throw it and all the cards below it on top of the deck and you're in business. (This shuffle and several other false shuffles are described in *Inside Ed's Head*.

(<http://edhassmagic.com/eds-head>) The Charlier Shuffle is described in the August 2017 issue. Other false shuffles and cuts can be found in the June 2016 and August 2016 issues.)

Of course, you could also do some Zarrow shuffles or eight perfect faros; anything that maintains the stack.

Once you're done shuffling, place the deck in front of yourself and cut it as if you're about to do a riffle shuffle, making sure you've cut off at least twenty-two cards. Ask the spectator if he knows how to riffle shuffle the deck. If he says, "Yes," push the two packets in front of him and ask him to riffle the packets together. If he demurs, shuffle the packets together yourself.

After the shuffle, ask the spectator to pick up the deck. You'll now have him false-cut the deck—without his realizing it.

The Jay Ose False Cut

The nice thing about this cut is that you can hold the deck or have the spectator hold it.

1. Cut off about 1/3 of the deck and place the packet somewhat to your left.
2. Cut off about half of the remaining cards and put them in front of you.
3. Place the rest of the cards to the right of the other packets.

Now, pick up the leftmost packet and place it on the center one. Pick up this combined packet and place it on the rightmost one and you're done. The order of the deck hasn't changed.

You can now take back the deck or leave it in the spectator's hands. You now must carefully and spread through the deck to remove the cards, one by one. As you come to each heart, drop it face up on the table, on top of the previous card. If you see a run of hearts, *you must carefully resist the temptation to remove two or more cards at a time*. Doing this will *destroy* the proper order of the trick. There is no logical reason to try to correct the order of the cards after they've been misdealt—that would establish in the minds of the spectators that the order of the cards is important, not random as the illusion demands. For this reason, it's important that *you* must be the one who removes the cards from the spread, to avoid any mishaps. The stack will now be in reversed order.

Once the cards are removed, comment on their random order and say you'll randomize them even further. Take the cards in your right hand, in preparation for an overhand shuffle. Run the top three cards singly into the left hand and throw all the rest of the cards on top of those three. Next, run four cards singly into the right hand and throw the rest of the cards on top. Finally, run five cards, injog the sixth and throw all the rest on top, then cut *below* the injogged card—in other words, lift up on the injogged card and all the others on top of it to enable you to cut the top eight cards to the bottom of the packet. (I'm not crazy about the idea of injogging a card in a small packet. I don't believe you have enough cover. I just move my left

little finger a small distance to enable me to take a break under the sixth card as it's shuffled into the left hand. This makes it very easy to make the cut.)

You now make a point that the cards started in random order and were shuffled and cut. Now you are going to try to un-shuffle the cards and then un-cut them.

Hold the cards in your left hand and deal a single card into your right hand. Now deal a second card *on top* of the one in your right hand. The third card should be dealt *under* the two cards held by the right hand. The fourth should go on top. The rest of the cards should alternate in the same manner. The last card will end up going to the bottom. (Note: This shuffle looks similar to a Charlier Shuffle but it legitimately mixes the cards. The difference is that, here, all the cards are taken from the *top* of the left-hand cards, whereas in the Charlier, cards are taken from the top and bottom. This similarity might be useful to a clever magician.

Finally, say that you hope you've just unshuffled the packet and now you have to un-cut it. Remark that a normal cut cuts cards from the top to the bottom, so your un-cut must cut cards from the bottom to the packet to the top. Back-spread the deck enough to grab the bottom four cards and cut that to the top. The packet will now be in order. Display it to receive the shocked and amazed adulation of the crowd.

I should point out that my patter/presentation is quite different than Lew's. Lew's is about Order and Chaos. He uses the first three shuffles and the cut to illustrate how disorder is introduced. He uses the next shuffle and a cut to show how disorder can be turned into order.

My presentation is about cardiologists and hearts. I use all the shuffles and cuts to illustrate how a heart can be damaged and then explain that a good cardiologist, almost like magic, can but damaged hearts back in working order. I imagine you'll come up with a presentation of your own.

Afterword

This trick has some potential points-of-no-return. I'll discuss these next month and give you an easy fix.

Be sure to check in next month for "A swindle of Sorts."

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