

Shock

An effect by Ian Chandler

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Effect

A normal deck of cards is shown. A card is selected and signed if you wish. It's fairly buried back into the pack with zero funny moves. You openly spread through the cards to show the two face up jokers "sandwiching" one card. You gather the cards up and pull them out of the deck, but the middle card disappears suddenly, leaving only the two jokers. You place them back on the deck, for apparently this trick has gone wrong. Never fear, however, for you shake the jokers and their selection pops out in the middle.

The Lowdown

- No gimmicks
- No lengthy secret setup
- Completely, 100% examinable
- Very little sleight of hand involved
- Great for beginners, yet great for any level
- Can be a borrowed deck
- The card can be signed, as can be the jokers
- An additional effect can be performed, which is described

Introduction

Hello, and welcome to "Shock". This is a sandwich effect I conceived out of a mistake. I was doing a particular sandwich trick, which I believe was the Sandwiched Aces trick from *Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic*, which is a fine addition to your magical library. I gathered the cards by outjogging them slightly and then closing up the spread. I took out the cards, but was baffled because I had accidentally only pulled out the two aces and not the

selection. This very surprising twist led to the creation of Shock.

This is very much a sucker trick in that the spectator is led to believe that their card simply is caught between the two jokers, but once you "mess up" it leads to a quite unusual trick. The surprise twist is always the final word in a trick. It's what makes people remember the effect in whole. So stick with me, and learn this amazing yet easy effect that utilizes almost no sleight of hand.

Method

Begin by placing the two jokers face up near the bottom of the deck, about ten to fifteen cards or so from the bottom. Make sure between the jokers there is one indifferent card. Square up the deck and begin the trick. Have a card selected. Notice that you can spread the cards quite far without revealing the two face up jokers. The selection can be signed if you want them to. The idea of duplicate cards isn't really an imminent doubt among people, but signing does increase its authenticity.

Place the card on the top of the deck. You are going to perform a slip cut, which is similar to the slip force. The basic idea is that you secretly slip the card to the center of the deck by grasping half of the deck with the right hand, while the left hand fingers retain the top card and pull it down to the second packet. Numerous tutorials of this quite basic force can be found on the internet, but you should already know this unless you're completely new to magic.

The way I do the slip cut is this: I angle the deck sideways and split the cards in half, saying, "Does this look about half?" Then, in the motion of turning the cards back to the regular position, I execute the cut. This allows for a very fair appearance when you place the left hand packet on top of the right. Now the selected card should be on top.

Now spread through the deck and show the two jokers sandwiching the card. These cards should be closer to the top now because of the placement in the setup you did prior to the effect, where the jokers were placed. Now act as if you push up all three cards, but really only push up the two jokers. Square up the deck and remove the two jokers, and act quite surprised when only those cards are shown. Obtain a left-hand pinkie break under the top card, their selection. Replace the two jokers on the top of the deck, but secretly slip the bottom joker under their card. To do this, I usually hold the jokers so the top is exposed more

than the bottom, and the bottom card is on the right side. Then, I split the jokers a tad and slide the bottom one under the selected card.

Now simply reveal the card. I usually just take them back off the deck, show the two jokers, shake the packet a tad and after a bit of byplay, show the card. The spectator can even remove it, which increases the impossibility of any foul play. You may reveal the selection in any way you wish to.

Done well, this is an incredible effect that will linger in the minds of spectators for quite a while. Add a bit of flair to it and a little style and you will really create a stunning effect. Remember, what you are doing is the trick; what the spectator *feels* is the effect.

Awe - A Sequel to Amazement

Originally I had planned to do a signed variation of Shock, in which the back and face of the selection was signed, and the signatures split onto two different cards, the face retaining the signature while the autograph on the back was transferred. I gave this up in favor of "Awe", which is a good prequel or sequel or standalone trick/effect, which I'll describe here. Although this is a "quickie" trick-y and very simple, it works well with Shock and is a nifty little piece of trickery. It's quite easy, as well, and looks amazing.

The Lowdown

- No gimmicks
- Minimal setup
- Works great with a brand new deck - use your imagination
- Great together with Shock
- A neat little trick that's very good-looking
- 100% examinable
- Cards can be signed

Effect

The large joker is shown and placed outjogged in the middle of the deck. An indifferent card is used to "shrink" the joker into the joker with the guarantee. Then, the packet is spread to reveal the two jokers sandwiching the indifferent card.

Method

The jokers should be on the top of the deck, with the joker with the guarantee on top and the larger joker second from top. Perform a double lift exposing the large joker, turn

it over again, and place it (actually the guarantee joker) outjogged in the middle of the deck. Perform a double lift again, this time showing any indifferent card, say the ten of hearts. Take the outjogged joker out, rub it against the ten, and show the joker has changed. Then lift all three cards and show the two jokers sandwiching the indifferent card.

Margarine

This is a trick using a *spread* of cards...get the pun? Very good. Anyway, two cards are freely selected and placed back anywhere in the deck. The spectator then cuts and shuffles the cards a few times, and then the magician cuts and shuffles the cards a few times. The cards are ribbon-spread and the magician is able to correctly divine and pull out the two selected cards.

The Lowdown

- Gimmick-free
- Can be done surrounded
- Cards can be signed
- No set-up necessary, you end clean, totally!
- The spectator truly can cut and shuffle, and your cuts and shuffles can also be genuine!

Method

This trick requires no setup, but the mystery lies in the *crimp* or the *bend*. That's the secret. I'm pretty sure half of you guys reading this already know the method, but I'll outline it anyway. Please humor me and read on to the method description.

Two cards are freely selected. Place them back into the deck, but crimp the *bottom left* corner of each card as you do so. It *must* be this corner and *no other* corner. You'll see why in a minute.

Have the spectator cut and shuffle the cards a few times. If you ask for the deck back after just a few cuts and shuffles, the bends in the deck will go relatively unnoticed. It also helps that laymen usually shuffle and cut more loosely than do magicians, who shuffle and cut precisely and without error mostly.

You can give the deck a few true cuts and/or shuffles, or can forego this procedure and step if you wish to enhance the illusion that you've never touched the deck and have never done anything funny. Now spread the cards out. It's important you ribbon-spread them as opposed to a loose spread, as a layman might perform.

The reason I had you bend the lower left corner is because you will now clearly see the bends when they are spread. This is the best corner for two reasons. First, it allows you to have a better grip when pulling out the card. Secondly, if you "flex" the card a couple times, it gives you great cover to smooth out the bend. Continue in this fashion until both cards are revealed. This can be done with one or even three or more, but two seems a stable number because it allows you to divine more than one card, but not to the point where the crimps are totally obvious and every other card is bent or crimped. This is also an amazing effect, but make sure you pause before revealing the cards. This drama is imperative to the effect. If you simply reveal the cards, the quickness of the trick will overcome the awe of it. Practice makes perfect, but a good acting job will get you places. Enjoy performing this one; it truly baffles people.

Final Thoughts

Thank you for downloading *Shock* and its companion little sibling, *Awe*, as well as *Margarine*. I hope you are pleased with the product. You'll notice no photographs or illustrations were provided, but I think none were needed. The effects are quite simple yet very hard-hitting. Thanks once more, and feel free to contact me if any problems arise.

Sincerely,

IAN.Chandler