



## Fits For Kings

**THIS MONTH'S "BURIED" TRICK** was more or less successfully tucked away in a magic magazine despite being intriguingly ingenious. It accomplishes so much while simultaneously requiring so little when it comes to having to perform extra fiddle-faddle. The effect and underlying handling are the brain-child of Tomas Blomberg with important tweaks added by Gene Castillon. The result is a multiple effect that is truly astonishing.

**Effect:** Three face-up selections are randomly distributed in a face-down deck by the spectator. A King is discovered next to each face-up selection. When the values of the three selections added together, this sum is used to locate the fourth King at that exact numerical position in the deck.

As good as this effect sounds, wait until you try the procedure with a deck in your hands. You will also be relieved to know that the set up is minimal. Just make sure your deck consists of 52 cards. Then place two Kings on top and two Kings on the bottom of the deck.

**Method:** Introduce the deck and say, "This trick is fit for Kings." Then explain that numerologists believe 16 is a magical number and you have found a way to apply that number in a weird and wonderful way. Continue: "Let me explain how it works."

Spread the deck face down between your hands and have any three cards touched and outjogged. Then deal them face up to the table. Suppose they are the Seven of Clubs, Three of Hearts, and Six of Diamonds. Ask if the spectator wants to exchange any of these cards for others and then add, "Furthermore, these three cards can be placed in any order."

Allow the spectator(s) to exchange any of the cards. Next, secretly obtain a left pinky break under the top King of the deck. Place the three face-up selections on top of the deck. Square up and lift all four cards above the break in a right-hand Biddle Grip. A face-down King is now secretly under the three face-up selections in your right hand.

Suppose that the face card of the packet is a Seven of Clubs. Explain how you are going to deal nine more cards to the table to reach the mystical number 16. As you utter this patter and, while holding the right-hand packet, deal off nine more cards from the deck one at a time onto the table, audibly saying, "Eight, Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve, Thirteen, Fourteen, Fifteen, Sixteen," as you eventually

form a face-down pile of nine cards.

Momentarily place the right-hand cards on the top of the deck to free your right hand to gesture at the dealt pile and say, "We'll mark the spot with this random Seven of Clubs." Place the Seven of Clubs face up on top of the dealt pile.

Spread the remaining two face-up cards (Six of Diamonds and Three of Hearts) on top of the deck and drop them in front of the spectator. Then drop the rest of the deck on top of the dealt pile. Ask the spectator which one he wants to use next. Suppose he chooses the Three of Hearts.

Pick up the deck and deal 13 cards face down to total 16. Again, as you deal, audibly count. Place the Three onto the dealt cards and drop the rest of the deck on top them.

Repeat this process with the Six of Diamonds, dealing 10 cards to total 16, then place the Six of Diamonds face up onto the dealt cards and finally drop the deck on top.

Believe it or not, the above dealing procedure has placed three of the Kings adjacent to the three face-up selections and has also placed the remaining King in an exact position for a climactic count-down!

Pick up the deck and ribbon spread it face down on the table from left to right. Make sure that the spectator fully comprehends and appreciates the apparent randomness of the procedure.

Fairly slide out the three face-up selections and the three cards above (to the right of) each selection. Keep the rest of the spread cards intact and in place. Scoop up and square the cards, saying, "I'll prove that this trick is fit for Kings!"

Turn over the three face-down cards to reveal three Kings and let this amazing effect register. The spectator will likely assume the trick is over; however, you say, "We have found three of the Kings but the fourth one is still lost in the deck."

Ask the spectator to add the values of the three selections. Therefore, the sum of 7, 6, and 3 is 16. Deal down to the 16th card from the top. The last card of this count, believe it or not, will be the fourth King.

Our fraternity should thank Tomas Blomberg and Gene Castillon for this brilliant trick!

### HEARSAY ASSAY

Some quick tricks, especially the kind perpetuated by having one person verbally explain it to someone in person or over