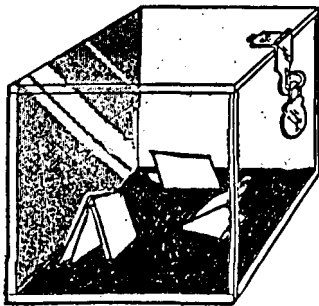




The Glass Box

An AME Special
Release

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What follows here is only one of many ideas discussed with Richard Himer in the early 1959 after his release of the Diamond Prediction Chest.

EFFECT: A glass see-through box which is locked and sealed and which contains several folded pieces of paper (3), is given to the committee chairman to hold until the day of the show.

For the climax of the show the Mentalist calls for the box. This is displayed to the audience and the folded papers inside the box are clearly seen by all. The box is unsealed and unlocked and anyone from the audience is told to take out the papers and read them. These prove to be predictions of events that have just happened and can be verified by the newspapers.

In essence, this is a Headline Prediction stunt. It is obvious to the audience that the Mentalist never sticks his hand into the box after it is sealed and the Mentalist never touches the papers until they are verified! The box may be examined and can be left with the audience as a gift, as it is an inexpensive plexiglass box!

THE SECRET: For the presentation, the Mentalist must force a playing card or a word in a book to a prominent member of the audience. Let's say the three of hearts has been forced.

The three folded billets inside the box are of different color. Two of the billets can be pink or flesh color and the third billet can be yellow or light green in color.

The two pink billets contain the same message, for example:

"This is to certify that this box was locked and sealed on the 3rd day of November, 1986 and was given for safe keeping to Mr. Smith, committee chairman for safe keeping. Signed, etc."

The yellow billet contains "The three of Hearts will be chosen."

On the day of the show write out the headline predictions on a third pink or flesh color paper. This paper must be folded exactly as the other pink papers and of course must be of the same size. This prediction billet is palmed in the right hand (or left hand if you are left handed) and is kept ready for switching during the presentation.

THE PRESENTATION: During your show you force the three of Hearts to a very important person that is sitting on your right side of the audience.

After you call for the prediction box and display it and talk about it, you unseal and unlock it being careful that the box is in full sight of the audience at all times. You then offer the box to anyone on your left side and tell that person to take out one of the pink slips and to see what it says. "I will not stick my hands in the box!" You say (But never say "I will not touch the papers.")

The person reads that the box was sealed weeks before. You then take the paper from the person and refold it and hold it with the tips of your switching hand, as you talk to the audience saying that the box has been in the good hands of Mr. Smith and has just been opened.

PLEASE NOTE: The slip of paper That you are now holding in your hand, has no farther value or importance to your audience since it has already been read, AND the audience is not aware of what is about to take place. You can later say that you never touch the billets until after they were read and verified!

You next go to your right and tell the VIP who chose the Three of Hearts to take out the yellow paper and to read it.

After the VIP reads the slip, you ask. "Didn't you choose the Three of hearts a while ago?" This will cause a chuckle in the audience and while all this was taking place, you had ample time to switch the billets in your hand. It is the Headline Prediction billet that is now at the tips of your hand so you tell the VIP to please refold the paper and throw it into the box and at the same time you drop your billet, the Headline Predictions, into the box. The box looks normal again. It shows three folded papers

So now you say, "For the climax, Ladies and Gentlemen, I want Mr. Jones, The President of the Club to verify everything and to read my last prediction." So saying you pass the box to Mr. Jones as you pick up the day's Newspaper to show the audience the Headlines, etc.

THE GLASS BOX

AN AL MANN SPECIAL RELEASE

THE SWITCH: Which is the best way of switching the billets?
 You may ask. The best way is the one method you do best.

Here is an easy method:

Fig. 1A shows the Headline Prediction Billet palmed in your switching hand ready for switching, (thumb has been removed for clarity).

Fig. 1B shows the hand as it takes back the pink paper AFTER IT IS READ. NOTE: that it overlaps the Prediction billet. The thumb has again been removed for clarity.

After the billet is taken at the fingertips, the Mentalist turns to his right holding the Glass Box as he approaches the VIP who chose the Three of Hearts and as he does so he touches the right side of the Box and pushes the visible billet into his hand so that it aligned with the palmed billet. This is shown in Fig. 1C. As the Mentalist talks to the audience and while still holding his switching hand against the side of the Box, he pulls back his middle finger and as he removes his hand from the side of the box he pushes out the prediction billet which he then drops into the box asking the VIP to do the same with his billet.

Fig. 1C shows the hand as it is held on the side of the Box and just before the Prediction Billet is pushed into view.

The moves are all very natural and should go totally unnoticed.

If you are right handed use the above details, if not then you may want to have the VIP on your left side instead. It really does not matter. If the back of your switching hand is to the audience, so much the better. In actual performance you will probably work so that the front of the box is seen by your audience.

The important thing is to handle the Box so that no suspicion of a trick box is aroused or of fast moves. The Box must be kept in full sight of your audience

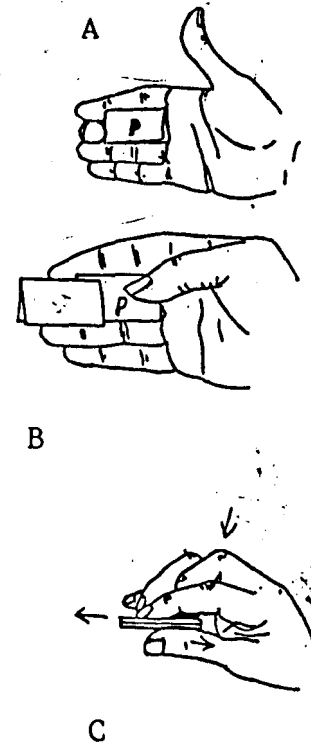


Fig. 1

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