

## *Rising Criminal - Jack E. McCoy*

“Why yes, Jack, that’s exactly how it’s done.”, said Daryl when I wrote him about my idea which sparked from his trick ‘Rising Crime’ (from his amazing book ‘For Your Entertainment Pleasure’), more years ago than I care to think about (decades). Contrary to his response, this variation isn’t, of course, “*exactly*” how his is done. If you knew Daryl’s great personality and friendly, witty, attitude you’d understand that I’d never figured out if he was irritated with my adjustment of his masterpiece, or just joking around in his Daryl kind’a way, affirming his approval. I’d forgotten about this until his recent passing and my mind shot down memory lane, so I decided to include it in this book before I forget it again. At least this is how I think I did it. R.I.P. professor Daryl. ☹️

Effect: A card is selected and lost inside the deck. The 4 kings are removed. With a couple of magical occurrences, the kings try guessing the color of the selection. The deck is cut into 4 piles. The kings are shown and each is placed on different piles. Those piles are combined and the spectator straight-cuts the deck. A snap of the fingers and the deck is ribbon spread. The 4 kings are now together, and with a face down card between them! As you probably guess, it’s the selection! All immediately examinable.

1. Have a card selected, returned, and the deck mixed. During the process manage to end with the selection 4 cards down from the top. I’ll leave that up to you on how. An easy way to accomplish this is to do a 3-card tilt break (ill. A), and stick the selection into the break. Close-up and shuffle without disturbing the top 4 cards. Turn the deck face up and openly spread through it and remove the 4 kings. During this process, spread to the back and note the suit



of the selection. It will be the 4<sup>th</sup> card from the back.



From the front, it looks like the card is going into the middle of the deck. The front is flush, the fingers and thumb blocking the tilt condition from sight.

Remove the kings from the deck and quickly arrange them where the king that matches the selection's suit is the 2<sup>nd</sup> king from the back and that no 2 reds or blacks are next to each other.

2. Revolve the deck face-down and place the kings face-up on top. As you talk spread the kings and 3 face-down cards below them. Close up and obtain a pinky break below that 7-card block. With the right hand, grasp the 7 cards, together as a unit, the right thumb taking over the break. Now, with that thumb, lift the near end of the 4<sup>th</sup> card (selection) slightly off the deck proper. Lower the left thumb onto the top face up king. Now, move the right hand rightward, taking with it 3 kings and 4 random cards. The top king is retained by the left thumb and drops on top of the deck. Now, with the left hand, push off that king and take it below the right hand's cards, squaring it below them. With the hands together again, peel the next king off and onto the deck. Like the 1<sup>st</sup>, return this card to the bottom of the right packet. The hands come together to peel the 3<sup>rd</sup> king but before that happens all 3 cards below the thumb-break is released onto the deck's top. The 3<sup>rd</sup> king is peeled off then put onto the bottom of the right packet. Mention the final face up king, now showing on top of the right packet. Don't peel it off or anything.

At this point, the top of the deck has a face down selection on top, 2 face up kings secretly under it. The right hand is holding a 5-card packet, consisting of a face up king on top, 3 random cards face down below it, another face up king on the bottom of all. The spectator saw you show all 4 kings, one-at-a-time and believe you're holding all of them in the right hand. What you just learned is Ed Marlo's 'ATFUS' (Any Time Face Up Switch) move.

2. Carefully put the deck down on the table. Don't let the top card spread or spin! Just don't think about it and it won't happen. I think it was Dai Vernon who talked about how, if you think about a move, you'll mess it up. Everything must happen as if it didn't happen, and if something didn't happen nothing can get messed up. So, don't think about it. Just put the deck down and carry on. Revolve the packet where the kings are face down, and openly move the bottom card to the top.
3. You will now secretly rotate the packet over, in the context of rotating the left-hand palm down and lowering both hands to the deck. The palm covers most of the packet, once rotated, and attention should be drawn to the deck proper. The right hand now cuts off about half of the deck. The left hand

grasps the remaining portion. Both hands move outward, cutting their individual portions in half and placing the cut off portions onto the table, further outward. Return the hands and retake the packet, without it rotating. The packet has been flipped over but isn't noticed because of the larger actions that have been taking place. There are other ways to accomplish this, so use whatever means you prefer. I found this to be quite easy and deceptive.

4. On the table is the deck, cut into 4 piles. The rightmost pile has a face down selection and 2 face up kings below it, on its top. Jordan-count the packet, showing 4 backs. Now, Elmsley-count it to once again show 4 backs. Elmsley-count again and a king will appear face up. Out-jog it slightly when it comes into view. Once finished with the move remove it from the front, revolve it face down, and place it on the bottom. Elmsley count again, which shows 4 backs. Elmsley count again, another king appears face up. Like earlier, out-jog it, finish the count, remove it, turn it face down and place on the bottom. The main purpose of this is to get the kings facing the same way as the other 3 cards, done in a flourish fashion of repeatedly showing face down cards and kings magically turning face up. The 2<sup>nd</sup> king matches the color of the selection. When doing this just talk about the kings and how they're going to perform an amazing feat, and to get them warmed up you'll try a little exercise. When the 1<sup>st</sup> king appears, say "*Ah, this king tell me your card is \_\_\_\_\_* (naming the color of that king). It will be wrong. When the 2<sup>nd</sup> king comes into view, ask about the color. Of course, they will confirm it being the right color. Say "*Ah, much better. I think they're warmed up now.*"
5. Grasp the packet face down in right hand biddle grip. With the left fingers bottom-spread the bottom 3 cards. The right hand still has control of a double card. With the right hand, remove this double and rotate the wrist to show the face. Make this a quick display. Revolve back palm down and place the double on top of the packet. Remove the top card and place it on the leftmost pile. Regripping in biddle grip, the left hand peels singly, the top two cards, reversing their order. Revolve your right hand, showing another king. Revolve back and place the double on top of the 2 peeled cards. Now remove the top card and place it onto the 2<sup>nd</sup> from the left packet. Holding in biddle grip, peel off the top card. Revolve both hands to

show 2 kings. Revolve back and place the right double on top of the left card. Holding in biddle grip, peel off the top card and place it on the 2<sup>nd</sup> from right pile. The right-hand places its double card on top of the rightmost pile. Be careful not to disturb the stack's top when doing this so a face up king isn't flashed. Pick up the right pile, drop it onto the next, then both onto the next, the all on the leftmost. The deck is reassembled with the kings and selection on the top. Pick up the deck and get a break under the top 5 cards, Double-turnover the top two cards. A king will show. Now poke the right fingers into the break, the thumb on top. Pinch very tightly and at the same time lift the block off as the left hand lowers the deck, turns face up and places on top of the right hand's cards. It should appear you removed a single face up king, separated it from the deck, revolved the deck face up and placed on top of the king. When doing this, talk about all the kings being lost inside the deck except this one on the back. Place the deck face up onto the table and have the spectator straight cut it, which buries the kings into the center "*..to lose that king somewhere in the deck as well.*" Snap your fingers and ribbon spread the deck on the table. The 4 kings will be together with a face down card in their middle. Let the spectator remove it and turn it over to conclude.

**More:** Another thought I had about this trick, and was actually my 1<sup>st</sup> idea, was to put the last king (actually 2 kings) face-up on the last pile (with the selection and 2 f/u kings under it), stack the packets up and cut the face up king showing to the center. Snap your fingers, and ribbon-spread. The 4 kings are face up, together, with a face- down selection between them. It saves on extra work and it somewhat coincides with the kings magically flipping face up earlier, but to me doesn't look as good, or more suspicious if they were to assume you secretly had everything under the face up king. But maybe I'm wrong, so use whichever you desire.

The ending of 'Rising Criminal' has a resemblance in its effect to my earlier work, 'Card Chasers' which can be found in my books 'Impossibilities' & 'Impossibilities – The Collected Works', though the routine is quite different. I discuss using Daryl's 'Rising Crime' display sequence in that trick as well, as an alternate method than what's taught.