



The Living in Texas Card Trick

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Run for cover! A tornado's a com'in! Grab the critters and the youn'uns! Hold on tar, phew, it's only a card trick. Phew, yak sure had me worried there for a while.

Effect: An ordinary deck is removed from the case. A card is shown and placed onto the table. Some cards are placed on top of it, in the shape of a house. The other cards are spread beside it into the shape of a tornado. In a massive swoosh, the tornado wipes out the house and everything inside it. Thank goodness, the card is familiar with Texas weather and was prepared for this possibility as it has built a storm cellar. The case is opened and a card is now inside. When turned over, it is the selection!

A little about: This creation takes advantage of the in the hand double turnover to give a very fair illusion of a card-in-cardcase effect. It also is visual and doesn't require any memorization on the spectator's part. It does utilize the bottom cop, which is unfairly feared by many card workers. I am a bottom cop master and can fry minds with it.



The cards should be in the case with the backs towards the cut-out moon side. When ready to perform, remove them, **secretly leaving one card behind**. The way I do it is, when the cards are about a third of the way out, my fingers slide the bottom card back in the appearance of getting a better grip on them. The left thumb and index aid in holding this card stationary while the right hand extracts the rest.



Close the case and place it on the table, towards the spectator, with the cut out portion uppermost. Hold the deck face down in the left hand. Double turnover the top 2 cards. In this example, the jack of spades shows.



Double turnover the card(s) back face down.



Remove the top card and place it onto the table, front and leftward from yourself. In this example, the spectators think it's the jack of spades.



Grasp the deck by the right hand, biddle style and peel 7 cards, one-at-a-time into the left hand. Don't mention how many are being removed as you don't want the spectator counting. Just do it casually as you talk about the selection needing a home to live in. The selection is now on the bottom of this packet.



With the right hand, place the remaining deck on the table a short distance rightward from the single card.



With the right hand, remove the top 6 cards from the left hand as the selection is secretly retained and copped away by the left hand.



The right hand is now doing all the action so drop the left hand out of view if desired. With the right hand, flick 4 cards, one-at-a-time and slightly spread, off the bottom of the packet and on top of the single tabled card.



Place the last 2 cards angled at 90 degrees from each other and 45 degrees from the others to make the roof. You'll have to experiment some to get the proportions correct.



The right hand now lowers on top of the remaining deck.



The right hand now presses downward, first moving towards yourself and then left and right as it moves inward, to create a tornado. This can be difficult if the table surface is slick so you may have to improvise in the method of spreading them. Notice that the final display is from the spectator's viewpoint as they're the one you're entertaining and not yourself.



Place the right hand and arm onto the table to the right of the tornado.



Dramatically sweep everything leftward, simulating the tornado heading towards the house.



Keep moving leftward and towards the near left side of the table to represent the tornado wiping out the house and disappearing back into the clouds. During this, make sure you stay away from the card case.



Mention the storm cellar as your attention turns towards the card case.



The right hand now picks up the card case, biddle style and moves towards yourself as the left hand starts moving below it as it begins revolving palm up.



The right-hand places the case into the left hand, on top of the secret copped selection. Practice in a mirror to get the placing and revolving correct so the copped card is never seen.



Now, holding everything in the left hand, the right hand lets go and opens the front flap.



Make sure the spectator sees the face down card that's inside the case after which you reach in with your right hand and grasping its front edge.



Remove the card from the case, keeping it face down.



Place the card from the right side between the case and secret card that's in the left hand. You may have to practice this as you don't want any fumbling. If you relax your left hand slightly, you'll find the card and case will separate slightly. *Another hint: Before performing, squeeze the narrow sides of the case which puts a slight bow in the long sides.*

During these steps, be mentioning the case being made from tough, sturdy cardboard (jokingly). This gives an excuse for the motions that's taking place.



Grasp the case by the right hand. Use the right thumb and left fingers to get the two cards aligned below the case.



When you know the two cards are square, remove the case from the left hand and place it on the table towards the spectator.



The in-the-hand double turnover is the same as if it was on top of a deck. Grasp the right side by the right hand. Bow the right side up slightly.



Flip the card(s) over, book style, bowing it slightly the other way as it turns face up.



The selection seems to have magically traveled into the case! Wow, amazing! This trick works best with a borrowed deck.



To clean up, the right hand removes the selection from the left hand as the bottom card is copped away.



The right hand now moves onto the top of the case as the left hand revolves inward.

The right hand drops the selection face up on top of the case. While all attention is on it, the left hand revolves palm down as it moves over and on top of the scattered deck, unloading the copped card on top as it begins gathering them. All is examinable now.

Alternately: Have the deck in the case where the faces are towards the cut-out moon shape. In the beginning, secretly leave a card in the case when removing the rest. Close the case and place it on the table, cut-out moon side down. After you palm the selection into the left-hand, gambler-copped, with the right hand pick up the case and place it in the left hand, on top of the palmed card. With the right hand open the flap and side tabs where the spectator can see the card inside. Approach it with the right hand and pinch the cards inside and underneath together, the cut-out moon shape aiding in this. Pull them forward and as soon as you can begin raising the front edge up, over, and backwards, onto the top of the case. Both cards will be merged together and the selection will be face up on top, appearing to have been the card that was in the case. You'll find that, when doing the move, the shape and design of the case's opening and the flap help get the cards squared.