

# SHRÖDINGER'S DREAM REVISITED

Erwin Schrödinger was the godfather of modern physics. He invented Quantum Mechanics. One of the interesting predictions of quantum mechanics was the phenomenon of “barrier penetration.” Quantum physics actually allows for the possibility that solids can pass through solids. They actually do on the subatomic scale in transistors. On the large scale, solid through solid is extremely improbable but nonetheless possible -thus the name of this effect.

The magician has a card selected and signed. The face up card is rubbed on the table while the remainder of the deck is placed under the table. The magician lifts his hand revealing the disappearance of the selection. Simultaneously, the left hand brings the deck back from under the table. The signed card is face up on top of the deck, having penetrated the table. The card is again rubbed against the pad but this time it fails to make its journey through the table. It is found to have gotten stuck under the pad. The card is now placed into an outjogged position in the center of the deck. The deck is placed under the table, while simultaneously the right hand is placed on top of the table. The deck hits the table from underneath and the right hand is lifted revealing that the signed card has penetrated back up through the table!

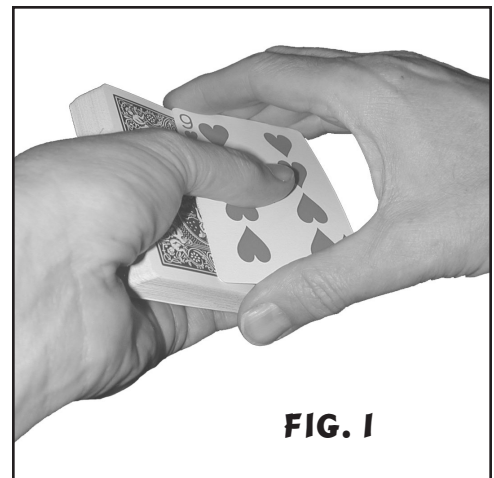
**REQUISITES:** A deck of cards, a table and a close-up pad.

**SET-UP:** You need to load a face down card under your pad before performing this routine. It's an easy matter to set this up as you place your pad on the table. Alternately, you can pick up the pad, loading a card in the process. As an excuse for this action, you can point out that there are no secret trap doors in the table etc.

**METHOD:** Have a card selected and signed. The deck is face down in left hand dealing position. Place the signed selection face up in Tent Vanish position on the deck. Now, pretend to perform the Tent Vanish but actually take the card into a full palm in the right hand. The palm down right hand moves immediately to the table where it holds the card against the pad. The card should be totally covered by the right hand. Say, *“Do you know what happens if I hold your card against the table like this?”* The spectators will answer in the negative. Say, *“Nothing”*, as you raise your right hand revealing the card. This is the feint. It also generally gets a laugh.

Place the selection face up on the deck and obtain a left 4<sup>th</sup> finger break under the top two cards as you say, *“We’ve got to get the atoms moving. I’d like you to rub your fingertips quickly like this until you feel the heat.”* Demonstrate what you mean by rubbing the fingertips of your right hand against the pad over the spot where you will ultimately place your palm. Now, as the spectator is heating up the pad, move the top double card (remember you are holding a break) to the right as a single card. See **figure 1**. Note that the left thumb is on top of the double while the left 2nd finger is underneath.

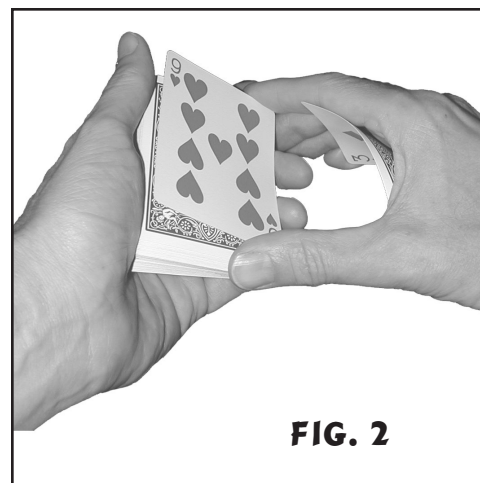
As you ask the spectator if she is beginning to feel the heat, side steal the bottom card of the double into a full palm in the right



**FIG. 1**

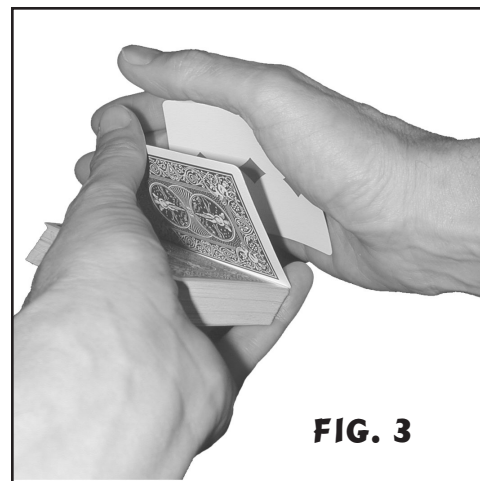
hand. (If this move scares you, see Simple Handling at the end of this description.) This is accomplished by the left thumb pulling slightly to the left on the selection as the left 2nd finger pushes the bottom card of the double into full palm in the right hand.

The card pivots on the right 4<sup>th</sup> finger and rotates until it can be palmed. (**Note:** You could avoid the double card entirely and side steal a card from anywhere in the deck if you wish. Some may find it easier to side steal from the double as described. Another alternative is to leave the penetrating card on the table while you palm a face down card from the deck. You've got tons of misdirection here since the spectator is busy heating up the table for you.)

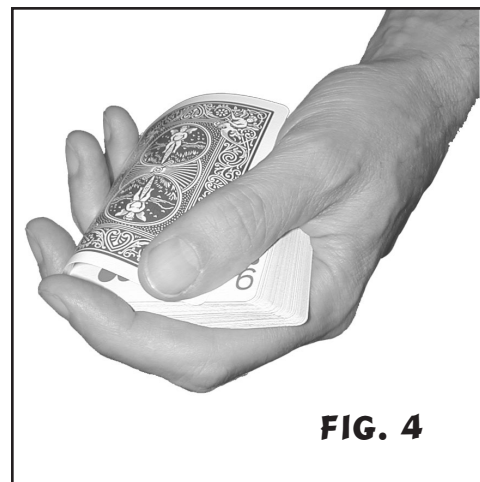


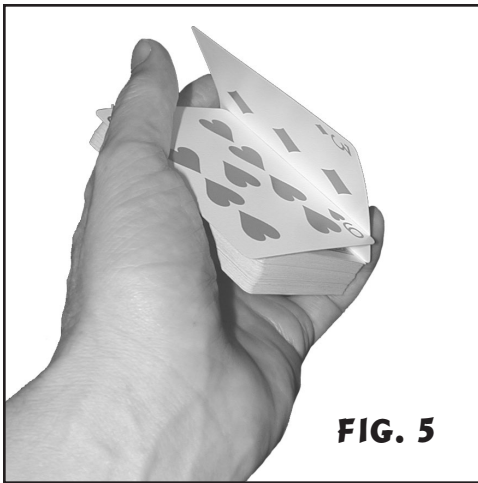
In a continuing action the right thumb and first finger take the face up selection as shown in **figure 2**. The position of the palmed card is exaggerated for clarity. Obviously it must be completely hidden by the hand. The selection is then placed again into the “tent vanish” position. See **figure 3**.

**Penetration 1:** Now the right hand covers the selection (figure 3) as if to take it openly into a full palm again. Instead of taking the card, you drop the palmed card from right hand and allow both it and the selection to fall onto the deck. The right hand covers this so the spectators don't see the cards fall. In a continuing motion, the right hand takes its “card” to the table and begins to rub the palm down right hand against the table. (Obviously your fingers must be closed so the spectators are not aware that the card is already gone.)

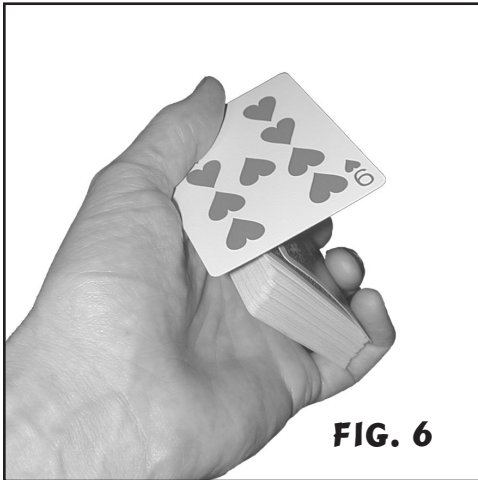


All appears copacetic in the left hand since no face up card is seen. Allow the spectators to see the top of the deck as your left hand takes the deck under the table. Say, *“If I rub your card against the pad it heats up. Do you know what happens then? The atoms vibrate so fast that they actually penetrate the molecular structure of the table!”* Now, before lifting your right hand to show that the card has penetrated, you must make a secret move with the left hand under the table. You must move the face up card from second position, to the top of the deck while the deck. This is achieved as follows: The left thumb pushes the outer left corner of the top card to the right. The left fingers prevent the card from moving to the right. The card will buckle up in the middle bringing the face up card into view. (See **figure 4**) The left thumb now contacts the face up card at its outer left corner and pulls it back to the left. Once the card begins to clear the deck, the left thumb pushes down a bit. This will cause the top card to lever up, pivoting at the right long edge. See **figure 5**. (Your fingers keep the right long edge against the deck.) The face up card ultimately clears the top card, which falls to the deck. (**Figure 6**) The face up selection is now allowed to drop face up on top. (This is a Marlo move that was used for a card through leg sequence.)

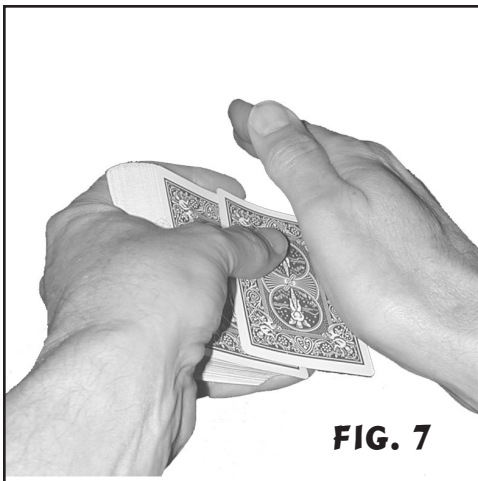




**FIG. 5**



**FIG. 6**



**FIG. 7**

Bring the deck into view from under the table showing that the selection has penetrated through the pad and the table.

Simultaneously your right hand is being lifted from its position on the pad. The right hand now removes the selected card from the deck and shows it to the spectator asking for verification of the signature.

**Penetration 2:** Place the selection face down onto the deck, which is in left hand dealing position. You will now use the standard “Rub-A-Way” vanish to make the selection disappear, supposedly through the table again. To make this vanish effective a coordinated sequence of actions takes place. To wit: The deck is in mechanic’s grip in the left hand. Begin to move the deck toward the pad. As it gets closer, push the top card (selection) to the right using the left thumb. You are apparently placing this card under the right hand, which moves to a palm down position over the penetration site. (See **figure 7.**) Now, just as the right hand begins to come down onto the sidejogged card, you must pull the card back flush with the deck using the left thumb. The right hand contacts the pad as the left hand pulls the deck away. It must appear that the right hand has trapped the selection as before. This move is taught on a number of videos and probably can be found in Internet video format as well. If you are unfamiliar with it, it’s a good idea to see it performed so that you can see what it’s supposed to look like.

Move the left hand, with the deck, under the table as before. Presumably you are going to cause the card to penetrate again. Rub the right hand as before and lift the right hand as the left hand is coming back from below the table. No card is seen on the pad and it will be assumed that the card has arrived on the deck again.

Perform a double turnover to show an indifferent card. Act surprised that the selection is not on the deck. Flip the double face down again and lift the pad using your right hand. As the card comes into view say, “*Oh, here it is. It didn’t make it through the table.*” Turn the left hand palm downward (still holding the deck) and use it to slide the tabled card to the edge of the table and

ultimately onto the deck. Be sure not to flash its face. Pull it to a face down position on top of the deck as you turn your left hand palm upward again. Finally, place the pad back into position with the right hand. (You can alternately move the pad to a new position temporarily and use the right hand to place the tabled card onto the deck. This is not the recommended method since it seems natural to show the face of the card rather than placing it on the deck.) Immediately perform a double turnover to show that the top card is the selection. Flip the double face down again.

**Penetration 3:** The spectators believe that the top card of the deck is the selection. Remove the top

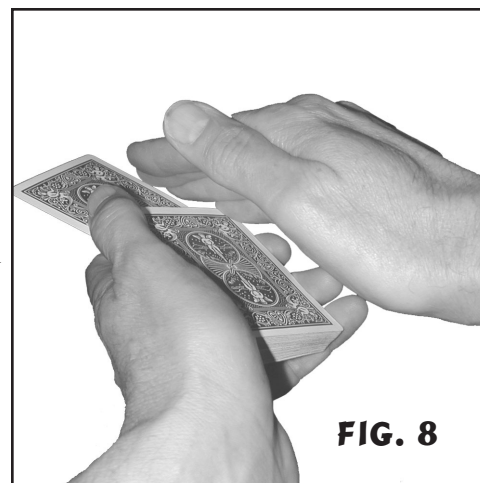
card with your right hand and insert it face down near the middle of the deck. Leave it outjogged for about half its length and rotated a bit to the left of center as in **figure 8**. You are now ready to perform **Marlo's Misdirection Palm** as follows: Move the right hand over the deck to straighten the outjogged card. Allow the right fourth finger to contact the outer right corner of the top card (selection). **Figure 9** shows the finger positions. Note the position of the left thumb at the outer left corner. This is the pivot point.

As you move your right hand forward, the 4<sup>th</sup> finger pushes the outer right corner causing the card to pivot on the left thumb.

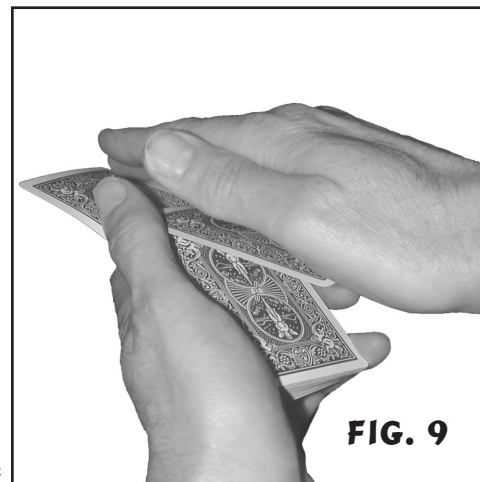
Press down slightly with the right 4<sup>th</sup> finger. This will cause the card to pop up into a full palm position in the right hand.

Continue to move the right hand forward until the right first finger contacts the outer right corner of the outjogged card. Finally, rotate this card to the right a bit until it is lined up with the deck. It should appear that your intention was to line up the card with the deck. This is what justifies the move. Now move the right hand away from the deck and onto the penetration spot on the pad. To the spectators it should appear that you have merely adjusted the outjogged "selection" and then placed your right hand palm down on the pad

The left first finger reaches out and pulls the outjogged card flush with the deck. Make sure the spectators see this happen. Now the left hand moves the deck under the table and knocks it against the table top from underneath. The right hand is raised, revealing that the selection has penetrated back up through the table!! Say, "*What goes down, must come up.*"



**FIG. 8**



**FIG. 9**

**SIMPLE HANDLING:** The side steal method outlined above delivers the most magic. If it isn't in your repertoire, you could avoid it as follows: Place the card into the face up Tent Vanish position as described. Begin the Tent Vanish action, letting the selection fall onto the deck as you pretend to palm it. Now perform a wrist turn action with the left hand before moving your right hand away. This hides the presence of the face up selection. Now move your right hand to the table as the left hand takes the deck under the table. Don't flash the reversed selection prematurely. This time, no under the table move is necessary. It is self-working.

**FINAL THOUGHTS:** The penetration through the table is strong. But the penetration back up is stronger. The spectators see the outjogged supposed selection go under the table and then it immediately appears under your hand. Strong stuff...

**CREDITS:** This routine is an extension of a routine from my book, *Top Secret Stuff* called Schrödinger's Dream. Here I've added an extra phase viz. the partial penetration to under the pad. This lengthens the routine a bit and also gets you a cover card for the last phase with no work.