

Lee Asher Presents

THE RIPPER



THE RIPPER

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Asher, Lee. Ripper

Sleight of hand

Made in the United States of America

Third Edition

-Dedication-

To all the beginners ... welcome to the club!

-Introduction -

As a thank you for reading each of my mailings, I'm gifting you one of my pet effects - The Ripper. While it's complimentary, please keep in mind that this is not some lousy card trick!

Believe it or not, this highly visual sleight of hand appeared in two separate Hollywood feature length films. Notable actors like Jeremy Piven and Jamie Foxx learned and performed this routine on camera. More on this interesting trivia later.

For now though, it's your turn to learn The Ripper. Let's begin.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Asher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'L'.

Lee Asher

- THE EFFECT -

Remove a single playing card from your pocket. Instead of a normal card with a face and a back, the card you display has two backs. Within an instant, you rip the unique card into two Jacks. Once more, from the two cards, you rip the other two Jacks, producing a magnificent display of four Jacks.

The entire effect takes approximately 10 seconds. In the end, you are left holding four of a kind.



- BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE -

Take four Jacks from a regular pack of cards, conform them into a single packet that you hold face up. All at once, give the cards a slight bend inward (Photo 1).

Once bent, spread the cards and turn both the Jack of Spades and Jack of Hearts face down onto the Jack of Clubs and Jack of Diamonds (Photo 2). Square everything and set the four-card packet in a top shirt pocket or your side pants-pocket. Technically, any pocket will do. You're officially prepared to perform The Ripper.



- YOUR PERFORMANCE -

With a delicate touch, casually take the four-card packet out of your pocket. Hold on to them as straight and square as possible. For the first time, display both sides of the double-backed playing card. Naturally hold the packet in your left hand with your thumb on top of the cards in the lower left corner and the other fingers underneath. Turn your wrist face up, then down displaying both sides of a single card. Or if you'd like getting fancy, use any flourish-like way of showing a single card with two backs. However, try not to invite too much attention to your four-card packet because it's thicker than a single card.

At this stage, hold the four cards parallel to the floor while adjusting the packet in the following positions (Photo 3); the pad of the right third finger sits on the tip of the upper right corner of the cards. The same goes for the pad of the right thumb, which presently sits on the lower right corner. Maintain the exact same grip in the left hand. Have the pad of the left third finger on the upper left corner of the cards and the left thumb on the lower left corner.

With your arms extended, exert pressure to the cards by slowly squeezing the packet together between the third fingers and the thumbs. Because of our preparation of bending the cards, two Jacks should bend up while the other two, bend down (Photo 4). This is the beginning of the first production.

Without pausing a moment to display, stick both pointer fingers in the two sizable gaps on either side and pinch down on the lower left and right corners. Press your pointer fingers against your thumbs (Photo 5).



Photo 3



Photo 4

To display both Jacks, let your third fingers move off the corners. This makes the packet spring open, and you end up with two doubles (Photo 6).

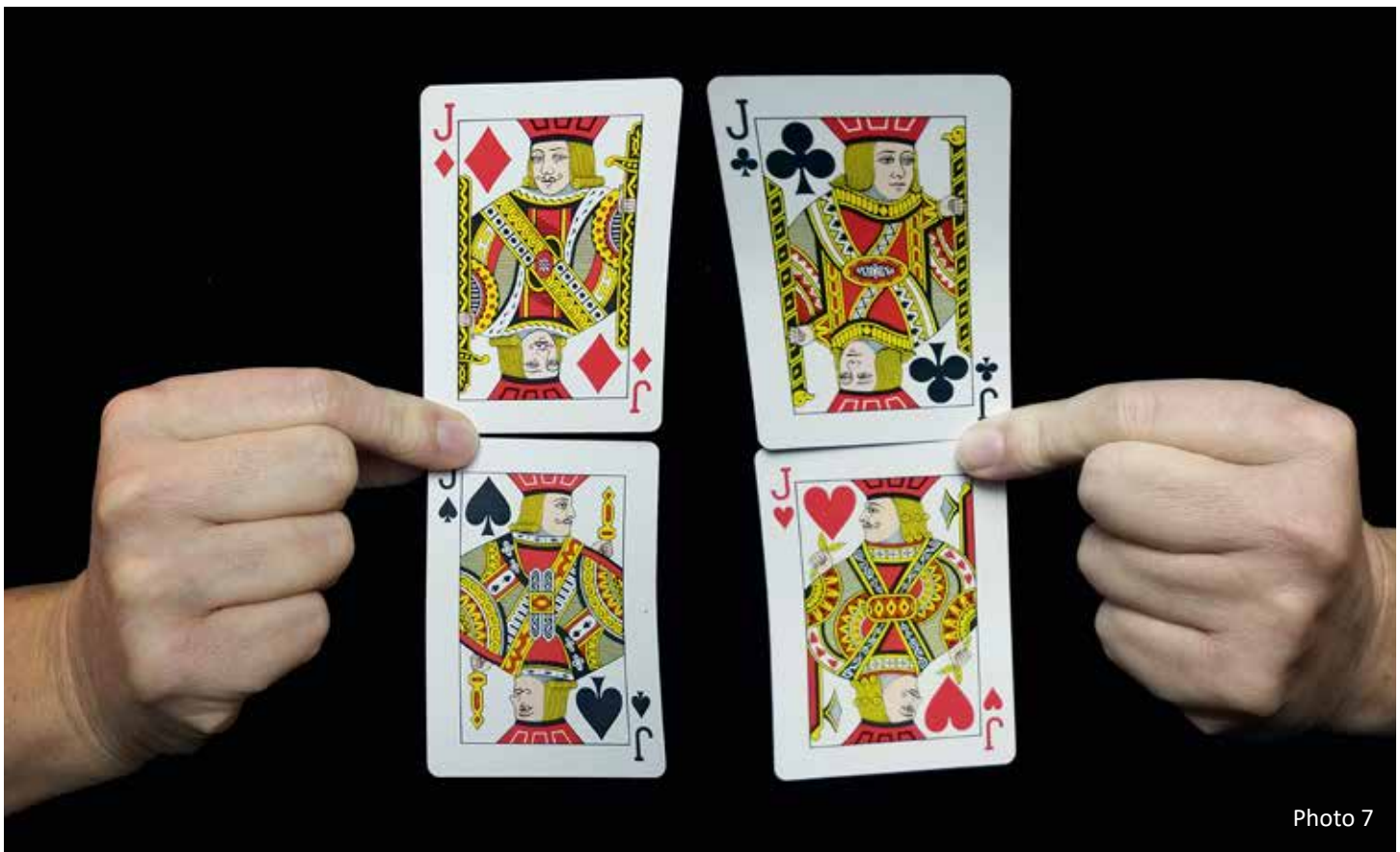
The action to produce the other two Jacks happens simultaneously. Therefore, for the sake of explanation, it's broken down into several sequences for you to better understand. But when you actually perform this, it's done in one swift motion.

Starting with your left thumb, push the top cards closest to the thumbs, as far to the right as you can.

At the same time, using your left first finger, pull the cards closest to it, as far to the left as you can. This causes the two doubles to split into four.

Continue pulling the cards using the right thumb and first fingers, in a ripping fashion, until you have two Jacks in both hands. To end, proudly present the four cards in front of you (Photo 7).

This display makes for a great applause cue!



- CREDITS & THANK YOU -

The initial spark that led to the creation of The Ripper was ignited by magicians Scott Alexander and Alan Nu. Thanks guys. Hopefully, they will share their version of a four Ace production one of these days. In addition, I must also credit my friend Eddie Hughlett for the specific grip used. It's a worthy addition to the method. Thank you, Ed.

- INTERESTING TRIVIA -

THE RIPPER SEEN IN SHADE

Directed by: *Damian Nieman*

Release date: March 2004

Shade is set in the world of poker hustlers working the clubs and martini bars of Los Angeles. The tale unfolds as a group of hustlers encounter "The Dean" and pull off a successful sting that results in their pursuit by a vengeful gangster.



ABOVE: Stuart Townsend Performing The Ripper in Shade.

This screen shot is from the movie SHADE. Jamie Foxx (left) depicts the character Larry Jennings; Gabriel Byrne (right) plays the character Charlie Miller and Stuart Townsend (middle) plays the Vernon character performing the Ripper.

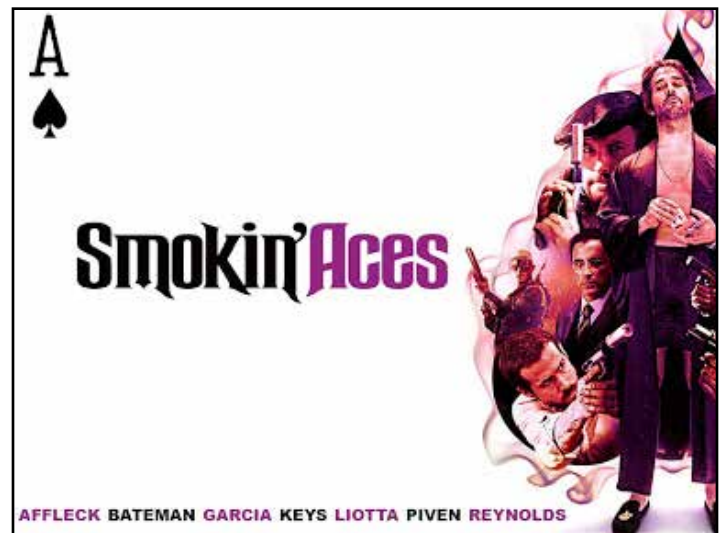
A big thanks goes to my friend R. Paul Wilson for teaching The Ripper to Stuart Townsend on the Shade movie set.

THE RIPPER SEEN IN SMOKIN' ACES

Directed by: *Joe Carnahan*

Release date: January 2007

Smoking Aces is about a dying mob boss who takes out a \$1 million contract on the life of his former protégé, a Vegas magician turned gangster. Reason being, the Vegas magician has generously agreed to testify against the mob.



ABOVE: Jeremy Piven Performs The Ripper in Smokin' Aces.

The FBI attempts to protect their key witness as an impressive array of hit men & women carefully descend on Lake Tahoe in a race to execute the magician. In this movie, actor Jeremy Piven performs the Ripper.

A big thanks goes to my friends the Buck Twins for teaching The Ripper to Jeremy Piven on the Smokin' Aces movie set.

-Other Lee Asher Product Worth Your Consideration -

