

RECYCLING

written by

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INT. MAGIC CIRCLE - DEVANT ROOM - MONDAY NIGHT

Magician stands in front of a small table in front of an audience.

JULIUS
Recently I picked up a new hobby.
No, it's not magic.
(beat)
But I still want to share it with
you.

Takes a blank piece of paper, with visible fold marks showing both sides. Starts to fold it in halves twice.

JULIUS
It looks like origami.
(folds two more
times)
But it isn't.

Starts unfolding the bill two times. Quarter of a real bill is now visible.

JULIUS
It is recycling.
(unfolds two more
times)
Taking unused rubbish and turning
it into something useful. Like
money.

Magician gives the bill for the audience to inspect.

JULIUS
I am sure you've heard the word.
Uttered proud, or, sometimes, in
doubt. One thing certain - it feels
good to bring an old and unused
thing back to life.

Magician takes back the bill from the audience and proceeds to fold it twice.

JULIUS
But like all new things - they
eventually become old.
(folds two more
times)
Because they cannot last forever.

Unfolding a blank piece of paper again.

JULIUS

That's the essence of my new hobby.

JULIUS

Another thing that yields to being
reused is... found more in some
bedrooms, than others.

Magician takes three different length ropes and makes them
change length, merge and unmerge at whim.

Spectator without any help from magician sorts splits red
cards from black cards without seeing the faces.

Magician brings out a small old-looking box and sets it at
the front of the table.

JULIUS

This is will be a surprise after my
last performance.

(sets the box)

For now,

(spreading a deck
face up)

I would like you to pick a card
that you would like to loose. Just
not a picture card.

Alice picks seven of clubs. Magician picks a sharpie out of
the pocket.

JULIUS

Please, write your name on the
card.

Alice does as told.

JULIUS

Now, for the rest of the cards it
is a pretty ordinary day.

(beat)

Except for this seven of clubs. It
is special.

(beat)

And we are going to play a game I
call: one mans trash - another mans
treasure.

JULIUS

This card is a treasure for you,
but for me - I don't want it. So
I'll loose it.

Magician pushes the card into the middle of the deck.

JULIUS
But you see? Hop!
(hops the deck up)
It is an important card. So it
jumps to the top.

Turns over the top card to reveal that indeed - it is the
signed card.

JULIUS
This happened to fast, didn't it!
(beat)
Let me do it slowly. It's somewhere
about the middle this time.

Magician slowly takes the top card and very openly pushes it
in the middle of the deck.

JULIUS
But this card... you like it don't
you?
(hops the wrist
slowly)
It cannot be, yeah?

Slowly takes the top card and turns it over - it is the
signed seven of clubs!

JULIUS
And yet!
(shows the card)

JULIUS
You know, I became a magician to
find out how I do this.

While audience reacts...

JULIUS
I'll do it one more time. Very
slowly.
(beat)
You will get every chance to see
how it is *NOT* done.

Magician puts the card face up on top of the deck and turns
it over with one finger.

JULIUS
It's honest so far, right?

JULIUS (CONT'D)

(beat)

I'll pull up my sleeves so nothing
can happen.

Pulls up sleeves and takes the top card. Riffles the deck
and inserts the card somewhere in the middle, leaving it
protruded. Get's ready to push it into the deck, when
suddenly feels suspicion.

JULIUS

No no. It's really there. Not on
top yet.

Takes out the card from the middle - it is the signed card.

JULIUS

If was on top to begin with - it
would be cheating.

(beat)

Anyway... into the deck!

Magician again riffles the pack and inserts the card in the
middle, leaving it protruding. Audience feels suspicious
again...

JULIUS

No no, it's okay!

(beat)

They don't trust me there.

(beat)

I look honest don't I?

Inserts the card face up into the pack, leaving it
protruding.

JULIUS

I'll do it this way.

(pushing the card
into the deck)

This way you can see that all
cheating is absolutely honest.

Audience reacts. Magician spreads the deck to show the card
face up somewhere in the middle of the pack.

JULIUS

There is a small problem when the
card is upside down.

Someone says "What's that?"

JULIUS
The whole trick does not work
anymore.

(beat)
Because to show it's face it needs
to come to the top, like that.

Shows some card (an ace of clubs) on the top of the deck
face up.

JULIUS
But if you cover it with the ace of
club.
(turns over ace of
clubs)
Hop!

Takes the ace of clubs from the top, the card underneath is
the signed card - face up.

JULIUS
If you watch carefully, you see.

Puts the signed card face down into the middle of the deck.

JULIUS
You don't need to cover it at all.

Puts the ace of clubs on the bottom.

JULIUS
Hop!
(beat)
It goes back to the top like
normal.

Audience reacts.

JULIUS
Sometimes I need people who think I
cheat.
(beat)
Not you. Not you - other people.
(beat)
They think I do something very
fast, they can't see.

Magician inserts the card into the middle of the deck,
leaving it protruding and showing it to the audience.

JULIUS
No no! I don't do anything with my
fingers.

JULIUS (CONT'D)

(beat)

I will only use... my finger tips.

(beat)

Two fingers. Not more.

Sets the deck on the table with one card protruding.

JULIUS

Now... this way there is no way for
me to cheat. And no. fast.
movements.

(pushes card into
the deck with two
fingers)

I'm not going too fast. Am I?

Magician draws attention to the side of the deck.

JULIUS

You can see it best from this side.
Hop!

(lifts the deck with
two fingers)

Did you see it happen?

Someone says "No"

JULIUS

Me neither.

(beat)

But it's there!

Turns over the top card - it's the signed seven of clubs.

JULIUS

Alice, remember the name of this
game?

(beat)

"One mans trash - another mans
treasure."

Alice agrees.

JULIUS

All the time while we were trying
to loose this card, I actually held
it dear to me.

(beat)

It is not in the deck.

(beat)

I keep it separate.

JULIUS (CONT'D)

(beat)

Folded.

(beat)

Here!

(beat)

In this little box.

Magician points to the box on the table. Picks it up and opens it - there is a folded card inside. Starts to unfold it.

JULIUS

What I don't understand.

(beat)

Is how you put your name.

(beat)

On my card.

(beat)

In my box!

Unfolds the card to show it is Alice's signed card.

JULIUS

I hope you enjoyed. Thank you!