

The Mind of Jeff

by
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INT. ROOM - DAY

We are back in Jeff's study. He is sitting on one side of a table. There is another man, Tony, sitting at the other side. Both seem to be deep in concentration.

JEFF (V.O.)

The process is quite simple. I concentrate on one of the cards in the deck. The subject's task is to pick up my mental transmissions, and tell me which card I am thinking of.

Both men continue to concentrate. Then...

TONY

Is it... Is it Dr Octopus?

We see Jeff turn over a card. It is indeed Dr Octopus.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM - DAY

We are in the same room but now Jeff is sitting in front of his book cases, in classic interview style.

JEFF

Although traditionally such experiments are conducted using Zenner cards, star, circle, wavy lines etc, I find that Marvel Superheroes Top Trump cards provide the best results.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM - DAY

Back to the original setup, with a montage of Tony guessing cards correctly.

TONY

The Red Skull... Ghost Rider...
The Grizzly... Galactus...

JEFF (V.O.)

This really only works with the 1977 set.

JEFF(cont'd)

While I make no claims as to the occult significance of the work of Stan Lee and Jack Kirby, suffice it to say that the newer Top Trumps deck, containing characters created by lesser luminaries such as Todd McFarlane and Rob Liefeld, seems to adversely affect the subject, the psychic equivalent of constipation. It corks your psychic bumhole, as it were.

Jeff shakes Tony's hand. He is clearly pleased with the day's work, and we

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM - DAY

Back to interview positions.

JEFF

Of course, in these cynical times one cannot be sure that one's subject is entirely, shall we say, on the level. Therefore I have introduced a series of safeguards into my experiments.

INTERVIEWER (V.O.)

Safeguards?

JEFF

I need to be sure that the subject is not cheating and making a mockery of the whole endeavour.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM - DAY

Back to experiment. Tony is sitting at the table with five Top Trumps in front of him. Jeff stands, fingers to temples in classic Blaine style.

JEFF (V.O.)

I call this part of the experiment the "Question of Sport" test.

Jeff speaks to Tony.

JEFF (cont'd)
OK, now, I want you to clear your
mind of all distractions. Just
concentrate on my voice. You are
feeling very calm, very relaxed.
OK?

TONY
Yes.

JEFF
Now Tony, I want you to think and
tell me... What's going to happen
next?

Jeff of course leaves the shot, and then with a
bloodcurdling cry re-enters wielding a big piece of wood.

The shot changes so we do not see the impact, but we hear
it. Jeff looks sadly at his handiwork, then faces the
camera.

JEFF (cont'd)
Another charlatan I'm afraid. It
makes my blood boil, it really
does.

ROLL CREDITS.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM - DAY

Now it would be nice if we could end this with a shot of
Hypnocat sitting in front of the Zenner cards (star,
circle, wavy lines, cross and square), while Jeff sits,
eyes closed, fingers on temples once more.

Hypnocat's paw selects a card. It's the Tarot death card.
Or summat, I don't know.

END