Mind Reading 101 , Mental 101 , Cereal Killer (Comedy

This comedy mind reading routine is similar to Mind Reading In Reverse but is much easier to preform and can be used as a running gag as part of a whole routine. It has been around for a long time and has been written up under the names listed above as well as many others.

The basic workings of the effect is that you have a set of prediction cards in your hand. You ask an audience member a questions and no matter what they say the prediction card you turn over proves to be correct. Well by correct I mean "not wrong." You will think up many other cards in addition to the ones I suggest. As you do this the routine will become your own. If you have been looking for some humor to dress up your act, you'll find it in Mind Reading 101.

The Cereal Killer Routine starts with a manila envelope with the cards inside. Start with the No written on the back of the envelop and ask a audience member "do you have any idea what is inside the envelope?" They say no and you turn the envelop around to show NO. Go on to ask other question and pull out cards that answer those questions. I think it looks too much like the magician is looking among the cards and picks one after the question is answered. For my routine I have all the cards I am going to use in a stack held in one hand. It seems easier than looking inside an envelop. The man doing Cereal Killer makes his living doing this routine so who am I to judge.

The dialog I use is only a suggestion of where to start. The exact dialog you use may differ and how much of the routine you use will depend on the audience response and the time you want to use for the effect. I would only use 4 or 5 of the readings in most cases but I have used all 5 and still gotten laughs at the end. I have watched the Cereal Killer routine on u tube and he does 10 minutes of this.

Your Name

You ask a spectator "would be surprised if I had your name on the back side of the card." Or pick a spectator who you do not know and say "think of your name."   Or toss a ball to an audience member (like David Copperfield does) who tosses it to a second person who tosses it to a third person. Say to the person with the ball "there is no way I could have known who would end up with the ball. Would you be surprised if I had your name written on this card."   You may also say as a joke "I know I sure would be." Hold up the card, turn it around and on the back, the card says, **"Your Name."**

The "No" Card

You ask a spectator if they think "   " and ask a question they must say yes t and when they say yes produce the card. For example, turn to audience member and say " wasn't that amazing" They will say no. Hold up the card, turn it around and on the back, the card says, **"NO."** Say"I knew you would say that.

The "Yes" Card

You ask a spectator if they think " " and ask a question they must say yes to and when they say yes produce the card. For example, turn to audience member and say " I see you are with your wife. Isn'e she wonderful" They will say yes. Hold up the card, turn it around and on the back, the card says, **"Yes."** Say"I knew you **had to** say that.

Name a Card Any Card, Card

A spectator is asked to name any playing card. When they state their card you hold up the prediction card that displays **all of the cards in a standard deck** and you say " You see I have predicted your card."

The Bar Code

You ask a spectator to think of any supermarket product and then estimate its price. Hold up the card, turn it around and the prediction shows a **bar code.** Say " Yes, I have the item and the price correct"

The Bar Code for a Cereal Product.

You ask a spectator to think of a popular breakfast cereal . After they have named the cereal have them estimate its price. Hold up the card, turn it around and the prediction shows a **bar code.** Say " Yes, it is amazing but I have the correct price" (put an item in words on back and you may get lucky and have is named. I use Cheerios. If they say that name then after I show the bar code I turn it around to show the name. At this point I stop the routine as it will never get better than that.

Any Country Card

You ask a spectator to name any major country in the world. Hold up the card, turn it around and the card shows a map of the entire world. Say " Yes, that country is on this card"

Birthday Prediction

You ask a spectator to think of the month and day of a spectator's birthday. Hold up the card, turn it around and the card displays a 12-month calendar. Say " Yes, that date is on this card"

Letter Card

You ask a spectator to name any letter in the alphabet. Hold up the card, turn it around and the card shows a Japanese symbol. Say " That is your letter in Japanese". Try Sanskrit if you are concerned that someone may know Japanese

Any Four Legged Animal

You ask a spectator to name any 4 legged animal. Hold up the card, turn it around and the card shows a circle body and circle head with 4 stick legs. Say " That is your animal drawn by a 3 year old."

The Celebrity Baby Card

You ask a spectator to name any celebrity and when the prediction card is turned around, it shows the chosen star...as a baby. Say " They were so cute, don't you think." I page has babies that depict white, African-American, Latino and Asian babies. You can say there they are, 3rd from the right.
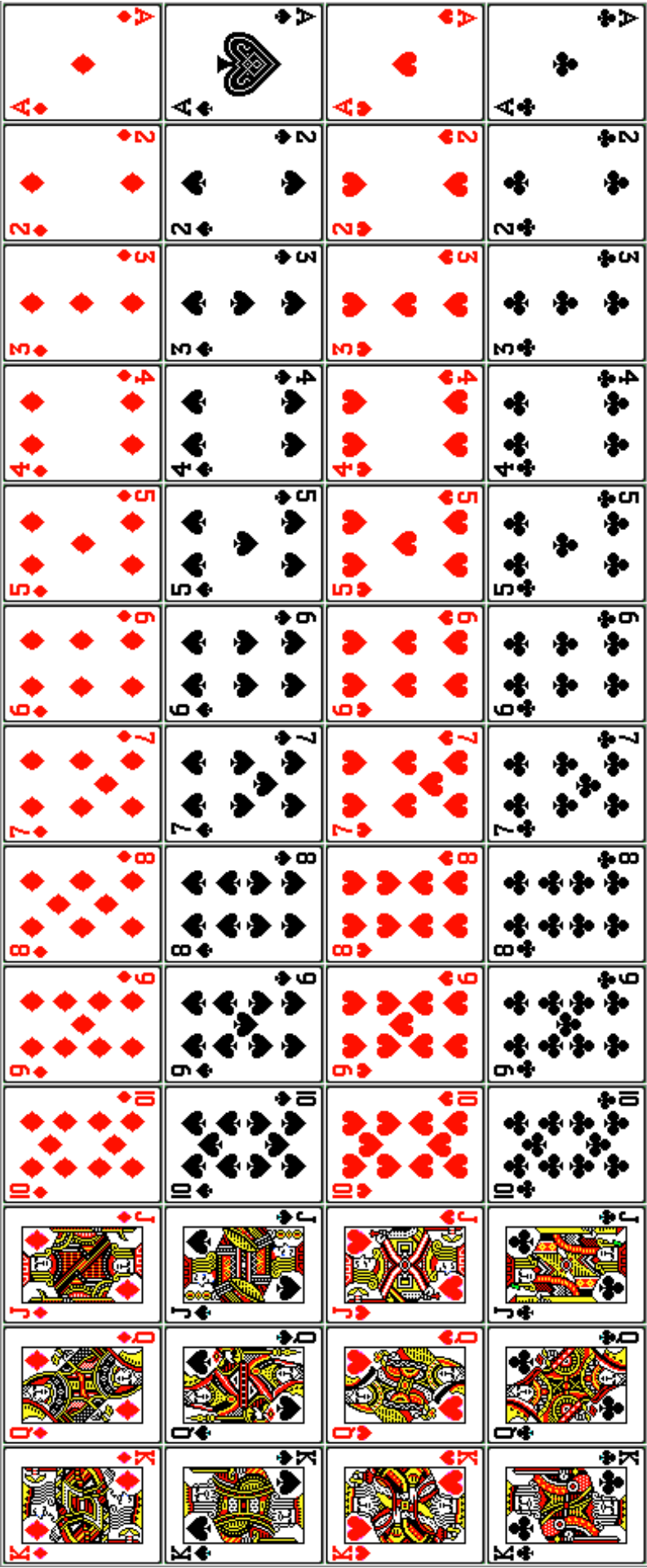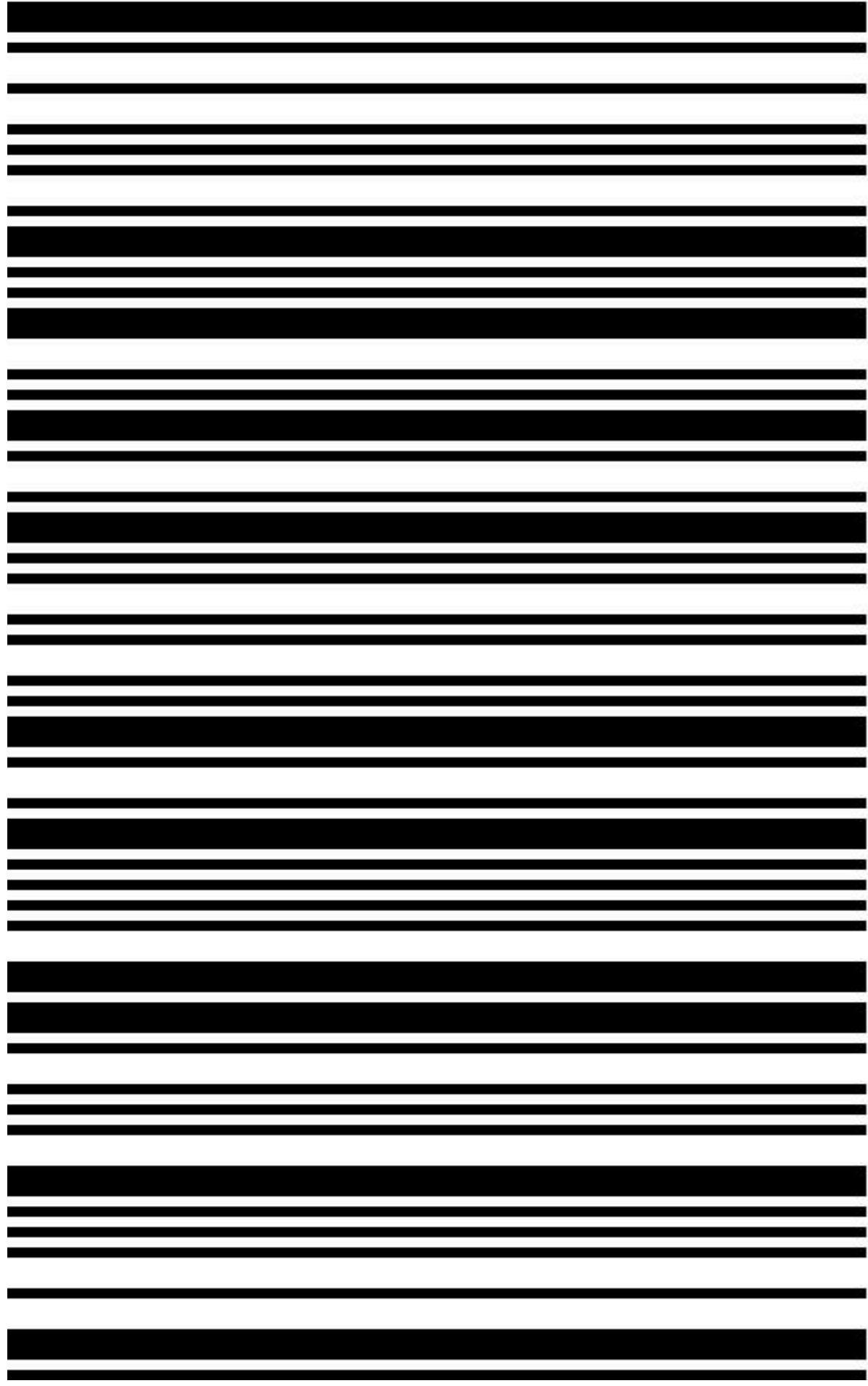
YOUR NAME

OZ

YES

A123456789B

Simple Yearly Calendar v1.0 - Wednesday April 8, 2009, at 01:24:27 PM

File   Help

January

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February

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March

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31						

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November

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December

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27	28	29	30	31		

◀ 2009 ▶   Current Year   Exit

World Political

Arctic Ocean

Greenland

Canada

United States
of America

Mexico

North
Pacific
Ocean

The Bahamas
Cuba
Belize Haiti Dominican Republic
Jamaica Puerto Rico
Guatemala Honduras Martinique
El Salvador Nicaragua Guadeloupe
Costa Rica Panama Trinidad and Tobago
Peru Venezuela French Guiana
Colombia Guyana
Ecuador Suriname

Brazil

Bolivia

Paraguay

Uruguay

Chile Argentina

Falkland I.
(Islas Malvinas)

South
Pacific
Ocean

Iceland

Jan Mayen

Faroe I. Norway

Sweden Finland

United
Kingdom
Ireland
Netherlands
Belgium Germany
Luxembourg Czech Rep.
France

Estonia
Latvia
Lithuania
Belarus
Poland
Slovakia Ukraine
Austria Hungary
Slovenia Moldova
Croatia Romania
Bosnia & Herz.
Serbia Bulgaria
Italy Albania
Greece Turkey

Georgia
Mont. Azer.
Armenia
Cyprus Syria
Israel Iraq
Jordan Kuwait
Egypt Saudi Bahrain
Arabia UAE

Russia

Kazakhstan

Uzbekistan
Kyrgyzstan
Turkmenistan Tajikistan
Iran Afghanistan
Pakistan

Mongolia

China

Nepal Bhutan
Bangladesh
India Myanmar Laos
Thailand
Sri Lanka

North Korea
South Korea

Japan Pacific
Ocean

Taiwan

Vietnam
Philippines
Cambodia
Brunei
Malaysia
Singapore

Indonesia

Wake I.

Northern Mariana I.

Guam

Marshall I.
Fed. States
of Micronesia

Palau

Nauru
Papua
New Guinea

Kiribati

Tuvalu
Solomon I. Vanuatu
Coral Sea I.

Fiji

New Caledonia

Norfolk I.

New Zealand

North
Atlantic
Ocean

Portugal Spain

Gibraltar

Morocco

Western
Sahara

Cape
Verde
Mauritania
The Gambia
Senegal
Guinea-Bissau Guinea
Sierra Leone

Tunisia

Algeria Libya Egypt

Mali Niger

Burkina Faso

Benin

Côte D'Ivoire
Liberia
Ghana

Togo Nigeria

Equatorial Guinea

Sao Tome
& Principe

Gabon

Chad

C.A.
Cameroon Rep.

Congo

Congo
(Dem. Rep.
of the)

Angola

Namibia

Saint Helena

Sudan

Eritrea Yemen

Djibouti

Ethiopia

Uganda

Rwanda Kenya
Burundi

Tanzania

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Botswana

South
Africa

Oman

Somalia

Maldives

Seychelles

British Indian
Ocean Territory

Malawi Mayotte
Mozambique Tromelin I.
Madagascar

Swaziland

Lesotho

Mauritius

Reunion

Cocos (Keeling) I.

Indian Ocean

French Southern and Antarctic Lands

Heard I. and McDonald I.

South
Atlantic
Ocean

South Georgia and the
South Sandwich I.

0   1,000 2,000   4,000 Miles