Feb. // Introduction By Geoff Kanick

Hello.

Tonight maybe we begin by quickly saying our names and the name of your scratchticket?

As I assembled tonight, it became important that it would follow the rules of a very optimistic thought experiment:

If I were to pick up the cards and wave my hand over the deck, and the card changes right before your eyes, that is impossible. And if a stranger, or someone without magical knowledge were to pick up the cards...no matter how many times they waved their hand over the deck, the card would never change.

However, if the cards were to be shuffled, and I said, I will cut to the ace of spade. Then place the cards on the table, cut the cards, and turn over the top card to reveal the ace of spades...it is not impossible, just improbable. Any one of us could do that. Maybe not on the first try, but it could happen...once out of every 52 attempts.

I imagined if a stranger walked into this room and tried every piece from tonight, that it is possible they could have the same result, with no additional skill or knowledge...but just that they were at the right place at the right time...and luck was on their side. Statistically...it's possible.

And I wanted every experiment/effect/game to live in that world.

Tonight, nothing will disappear. Nothing will float. Quarters will not be pulled out from behind one's ear. Instead we are going to make choices, test our intuitions, make decisions/actions, follow hunches, and go as far into the improbable as we can. Far, far beyond a one in a million night.

Like the phrase: That with an infinite number of monkeys, an infinite number of typewriters, and an infinite number of time, the attempts would result in...eventually one of them writing the complete works of Shakespeare.

I want to continue to stack improbability onto improbability...until you get to a place where it just becomes impossible.

And I am going to be joining you in that experience. There are large pieces of this night that I am leaving completely up to chance.

And as a magician, this was difficult.

Magicians often have more control over a situation that they let on. And I am entering this evening in the spirit of chance that perhaps it could all align tonight. With no promises.

And yes, we might fail at some point, or at many points along the way. But it is not because any of these things are impossible or that we lack the skill required to succeed. Because if we try enough times our desired outcome will eventually happen.

And living in no promises actually puts us all on the same team. It allows us to experience this together. For this is a night that will never happen like it will, again...ever.