

# DREAM OF ALCHEMY

**Effect** An American half dollar changes to copper and an old English penny changes to silver finally an American half dollar changes to Gold. The effect is easy to do in fact almost self working and you can let all the coins be examined at the end of the trick.

**Props.** You are supplied with one American half dollar, two matching English pennies, a copper and a gold half dollar, a silver English penny and a coin that is an English penny on one side and an American half dollar on the other side. You are also supplied with a small coin purse.

**Preparation** Make two stacks of three coins the first is from the bottom up; head down copper half, head up English penny and finally the other head up English penny. The second stack from the bottom up is silver penny head up, head down half dollar, copper/silver fake coin half dollar side up. Now place either stack on top of the other and put them in the coin purse. The place the gold coin into a convenient pocket along with the coin purse



**Method.** Reach into your pocket and take out the purse with the gold coin behind it. Take the coins out and show them as two stacks of three coins but at that same time keep the gold coin hidden behind the purse. Turn the purse inside out and place it on the table with the empty bag part of showing it towards the audience. This is an excellent hold out for the gold coin and nobody will suspect it is their. The copper half and the silver penny should still be at the bottom of the stacks. They will appear to be a stack of half dollars and a stack of English pennies. Show them one stack in each hand. Slide the top coin only forward with the thumb to expose the top two coins of each stack. Explain you have three copper coins and three silver coins. Put the silver stack down on the table and take the top coin and put it onto the stack of copper coins still in the hand. Position the stack at the crease between the palm and the base of the fingers. Be careful not to flash the copper side of this coin as you move it across.

Close the hand into a loose fist and if you have positioned the stack correctly the coins will automatically turn over as you close your fist. If they do not just experiment with the positioning of the stack. Say that the silver coin absorbs the molecules from the copper coins and open your fist. The spectators will still see a half dollar on top but it will now be copper. To hide the slight change of position of the coins spread the stack with the first finger of the other hand forward across the fingers. Drop copper half dollar onto the table so the spectators can examine it if they want to. Drop the next two pennies onto the table and then place the last coin (the copper silver fake) onto the stack of two silver coins.

Pick up the stack and put in the hand as before and say the copper coin will absorb silver molecules. Close the hand and repeat the previous sequence. Drop the silver penny onto the table followed by the genuine half dollar. Place the copper/silver fake on your left hand.

Explain that of the alchemists of old could not change lead into gold, but that we might be able to change silver into gold. Pick up the purse and turn it right side out without putting down the fake coin. You should

now have the purse in the right hand with the top open and the gold coin underneath it. Show the silver side of the fake coin on your hand and then place the open purse on top of it and simply drop the gold coin into the purse. It will look as though you have swapped hands with the silver coin and the purse and then dropped the silver coin inside. Hand the purse to the spectator and after a moment or so ask him to open the purse and take out the coin. Get him to put the gold coin alongside a silver coin and he will see that it has changed to gold. The spectators will want to examine all the coins and this gives you an opportunity to ditch the fake coin in your pocket.

Take your applause graciously. All the coins can be examined as the only fake coin is now in your pocket.

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