

Famous Deal

007 plays bridge against the evil multi-millionaire Sir Hugo Drax in Ian Fleming's "Moonraker." In the story, M asks Bond to investigate Sir Hugo's substantial winnings at M's favorite bridge club. There, Bond discerns that Drax is a cheat. When dealing the cards, Drax peeks at the card reflections in his polished cigarette case.

When playing with M, Bond fixes the deck against Drax in the final deal of the session:

		M		
		♠T987		
		♥6543		
		♦—		
Meyer		♣76532		Drax
♠65432				♠AKQJ
♥T9872		Bond		♥AKQJ
♦JT9		♠—		♦AK
♣—		♥—		♣KJ9
		♦Q8765432		
		♣AQT84		

Bond, South, deals and opens 7♣! This is passed around to Drax, who doubles. Bond naturally redoubles.

Meyer led a diamond....

Bond ruffs a diamond in dummy, finesses Drax's clubs, ruffs another diamond, and finesses clubs again. Now Bond's hand becomes good, and Drax is apoplectic.

This deal is based on the Duke of Cumberland deal from the 19th century. The Duke of Cumberland, son of King George III, supposedly held Drax's cards during this rigged deal against hustlers:

		North		
		♠—		
		♥—		
The Duke		♦T98765432		East
♠AKQ		♣AQT8		♠JT9876
♥AKQJ				♥T9876
♦AK		South		♦QJ
♣KJ97		♠5432		♣—
		♥5432		
		♦—		
		♣65432		

The Duke led a low club against 7♣. He was then enticed to bet £20,000 that he would win at least one trick... and lost.