

Saw That Coming



In the chest you find a page from Nicolas' journal which reads

You might not believe me, but I was the first magician to perform the saw-an-assistant-in-half trick. At least, the first to put them back together successfully. Some spectators were so shocked that they created a big hullabaloo and the authorities came in and shut us down. They said I was a "threat to public safety and decency" or some nonsense.

Not to be stymied, I worked out a less-graphic act where I instead sawed words in half. Now any bozo off the street can break a word in two, but what made my performance special was that the top and bottom halves themselves were still words. The audiences were fickle though - it took me a while to figure out that they were only impressed when the halves were balanced. For nostalgia's sake here's my first ever set, which didn't go over 100% with the crowd. Oh well, you live and you learn.

TOP HALVES	- 1	CLUES	WHOLE WORDS
TOP HALVES	_ [Cats	
AMENMAXIMBELLNOVELCAMEOVERTCARPPANTEXPORAMPGENEROMANIDEASCARLIMEVASE		Frenzies	
		Tchotchkes	
		One seen sawing	
		Publicity	
		Lens gents	
		Loud sound	
	- -	Type of Jelly	
BOTTOM HALVES	- I	Suggestions	
AGESONESALLYOWINGCITYRAMENDINGRATEDENTERRICKHERSSURELINETICSLISTTIES		All the way	
		Modifying	
		Utopian	
		Produced	
		Five lines	
		Dearth	
	— r	Hand-holders	

Sure, my act took some hits **at first**. But it goes to show that with a little charm and a lot of hard work, nothing can stop a skilled illusionist.

