

Grandpa's Magic Secrets Revealed

By

Writers of The Storm

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1. INT. OLD TIME THEATER STAGE

The camera sweeps onto a old time stage. LAURA walks into view. As she begins talking to the camera we see two individuals dressed completely in black move a comfy recliner to a position directly behind her.

LAURA

Throughout the ages, our elders have mystified us with fiendishly clever acts of obfuscation and slight of hand. Countless children have marveled at the myriad feats of elderly subterfuge and geriatric shadowplay, which has led us all to wonder...

Cut to pair of gloved hands performing the removable thumb trick.

LAURA

My God! How does Grandpa do that?!!

CG - GRANDPA'S MAGIC SECRETS REVEALED

LAURA

Tonight, we will reveal the secrets of the greatest Grandpa Magicians; men like Pappy "Fingers" Romano, Edgar "Four Thumbs" DeVault and the great Corky McKee.

2. INT. OLD TIME STAGE.

SAMANTHA, celebrity personality and narrator, stands on the stage.

SAMANTHA

Corky McKee. Magician. Grandpa. The world is still reeling from the death of this sensation in the geriatric magic community. For generations his work has reshaped Grandpa Magic as we know it. We had a chance to speak to some of Corkys friends, colluges and fans; only a few of the many whose lives were touched by Corky's magic.

3. INT. GRANDPA TOMS LIVING ROOM

GRANDPA TOM sits in his favorite easy chair, reflecting on Corky.

SAMANTHA

How long had you known Corky

GRANDPA TOM

I was down at the VA doin' tricks for World War One vets. I was doin' the ole coin behind the ear. But ya know - Corky was there - and he showed me how to make it pop!

SAMANTHA

So he was a huge influence for you?

GRANDPA TOM

Oh yeah! He taught me just about everything I know about doing magic tricks for kids. (Aside) He also taught me how to keep those little bastards quiet.

4. INT. DARK ROOM

KLAWN sits in a dark room, with a bare light shining on him. His make-up is artful but "happy".

KLAWN

I wouldn't be who I am now if it weren't for Corky McKee. I had a regular mid-west upbringing. My mother was a protest performance artist and my father was a phrenologist.

SAMANTHA

What was that?

KLAWN

Oh that's the science of measuring the bumps and ridges of the cranium to determine what they should be in life.

SAMANTHA

(unsure)
Ok... ok...

(CONTINUED)

KLAWN

My father always told me that I had the cranial ridge of a circus geek, I prefer entertainer. (shrugs) Either that or a battlefield surgeon.

SAMANTHA looks around, not sure what to make of KLAWN.

KLAWN

And then I saw Corky McKee at my friends eight birthday party. I saw the magic he could weave. He opened a doorway to a new dimension of magic. I was captivated. And the rest, as they say, is history.

5. INT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE

The PROFESSOR SHERMAN KANE stands in front of a board diagram of a magic trick.

PROF KANE

I first met Corky when I was doing my doctoral dissertation on the healing power of geriatric prestidigitation. Quite frankly my whole career on the wrought iron shoulders of Corky. He was a true visionary and pioneer. His integrity and devotion to the mysteries of the craft were par excellence.

6. INT. OLD TIME THEATER STAGE

CORKY THE MASKED GRANDPA, 68, sits snoozing in a chair. He too is dressed in all black, and wears a mask.

MAGICIANS ASSISTANT dances onto the floor and moves in circles around GRANDPA and the chair.

LAURA (VO)

Note the attractive assistant serves no real purpose for the tricks shown. She is there simply because the magician is a dirty old man.

GRANDPA is mesmerized by the assistant.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA (VO)
We will open by dismantling the
illusion of the detachable thumb.

GRANDPA doesn't move, staring at the assistant. CUT TO
LAURA.

LAURA
I said, we will open by dismantling
the illusion of the detachable
thumb.

CUT TO STAGE. The assistant moves towards him and gives him
a nudge. GRANDPA realizes that he has to continue, and snaps
into action. He rises out of the chair slowly (he's old) and
tries to catch the assistants hand. The ASSISTANT moves to
him and allows him to take her hand.

LAURA (VO)
He then turns to face her. This is
done for a reason.

GRANDPA trades places with the ASSISTANT and sits her down
in the chair. He tries to bend down to face her.

LAURA (VO)
If he were facing any other
direction the illusion would be
shattered.

GRANDPA moves his arms about in a swirling motion.

LAURA (VO)
Grandpa then seems to put the
Assistant into a trance.

He waves his arms about and brings his hand directly in
front of her face.

GRANDPA stops his hand and looks at the ASSISTANT for a
moment. His gaze lowers to her cleavage. The ASSISTANT
clears her throat remind GRANDPA that the cameras are still
rolling. GRANDPA returns his gaze to her face.

LAURA (VO)
He then takes his right hand, which
was hidden behind his back, and
lays it on top of his
left, placing his index finger
over the knuckle of the thumb.

GRANDPA then slides his hand away from the thumb and returns
it over and over again. He smiles as the ASSISTANT rears
back in shock.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA (VO)

Then magically his thumb breaks
free from his hand.

GRANDPA then comes to a slow stand and turns to the camera
holding out his arms as if to say "Ta Da". CUT TO Laura.

LAURA

This certainly looks like a feat of
magic, but we know there MUST be
SOME SORT of logical explanation.

LIGHTS FADE TO BLACK.

7. INT. OLD TIME THEATER STAGE

Samantha stands on the stage. She comments about the trick
we just saw.

SAMANTHA

The Floating Thumb. The Floating
Thumb was first shown to President
Eisenhower by none other than Corky
McKee in 1954. Corky was well loved
and admired for his skill and
ingenuity. But then, the bombshell.
We just uncovered the shocking
truth that Corky was the man behind
mask in the video you just saw;
revealing the secrets of Grandpa
Magicians everywhere. The reaction
from the geriatric magic community
was immediate.

8. INT. GRANDPA TOMS LIVING ROOM

Grandpa Tom fumes at the news of Corky revealing the truth.

GRANDPA TOM

My grandsons birthday party is next
month and I had a whole bunch of
tricks ready to go. Got Yer Nose!
The Invisible Animal. Well there
aren't gonna be any tricks now!

9. INT. DARK ROOM

KLAWN is in "pissed" make up. He sits in silence for a long time. Finally he gets up and leaves.

KLAWN

I'm not talking to you.

10. INT. PROFESSOR'S OFFICE

PROF KANE

What?

SAMANTHA

Corky McKee was the masked magician in Grandpa's Magic Secrets Revealed. What does that mean for your work.

PROF KANE

(goes from shock to rage - shoving everything out of his way)

It's over! What do you think it means! I'm through! What a sham! The Hitler Diaries! The moon landing! JFK! NOTHING. Nothing compared to this!

Goes to leave.

SAMANTHA

Where are you going?

PROF KANE

Well nowhere now! Do you think I can show my face at the Arthritic Sliight of Hand Symposium with THIS!

Starts to climb out the window. Chaos ensues as the professor tries to kill himself.

SAMANTHA

Stop him!

11. INT. OLD TIME THEATER STAGE

Laura talks to us from the old time theater.

LAURA

Okay, let's bring you back down to Earth by showing you exactly how it's done.

Lights return, and GRANDPA in on his knee facing the assistant again. His hand directly in front of her face. His other hand behind his back.

LAURA (VO)

Remember how Grandpa made sure his Assistant was facing him? Well there is another reason for this. His left hand is in front of the Assistant. This is to misdirect your attention. While your attention is on his left hand, Grandpa cunningly tucks the thumb of his left hand down.

GRANDPA displays the back of his hand, then the front showing the camera his thumb is indeed tucked.

LAURA (VO)

Then on the right hand, which is hidden, he slips his right thumb in between his middle and index finger creating the illusion that he is holding the tip of a thumb!

GRANDPA holds his right hand out so we can witness this action.

LAURA (VO)

Now don't blink! The next part is key! He quickly moves his right hand over the left making it appear as if he is holding the left thumb.

GRANDPA moves his hands together in front of the assistant and performs the maneuver.

LAURA

He then simply moves his right hand up and down his left index finger, and Voila! A detached thumb!

GRANDPA again comes to a stand and faces the camera with his arms open wide.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA

Didn't think it was that easy did you?

12. INT. OLD TIME THEATER STAGE.

Samantha stands on the stage.

SAMANTHA

What happened next, shocked the world. Corky McKees untimely death performing his last trick was a tragic accident... or was it?

13. EXT. POLICE STATION

Police Captain Banlaningham stands outside a police station.

CAPTAIN BANLANINGHAM

On, May 13th 2009, Corky McKee's remains were identified. The recreational vehicle was completely engulfed in flames by the time fire crews responded.

14. INT. GRANDPA TOMS LIVING ROOM

GRANDPA TOM

I told Corky, that crazy sunuvabitch if he tried that trick in there, that RV would be his coffin!

SAMANTHA

Really? What did you say?

GRANDPA TOM

"Corky, you sunuvabitch, if you try that trick in there, that RV will be your coffin"

15. EXT. POLICE STATION

Police Captain Banlaningham stands outside a police station.

CAPTAIN BANLANINGHAM

Arson has not been ruled out. We've taken a suspect into custody.

16. EXT. ROAD SIDE

PROFESSOR KANE cackles insanely with empty gas cans. He is tackled by two POLICEMEN.

The End.