



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	
AMEN	MAXIM
BELL	NOVEL
CAME	OVERT
CARP	PANT
EXPO	RAMP
GENE	ROMAN
IDEA	SCAR
LIME	VASE

BOTTOM HALVES	
AGES	ONES
ALLY	OWING
CITY	RAMEN
DING	RATED
ENTER	RICK
HERS	SURE
LINE	TICS
LIST	TIES

CLUES	WHOLE WORDS
Cats	PANTHERS
Frenzies	RAMPAGES
Tchotchkes	NOVELTIES
One seen sawing	CARPENTER
Publicity	EXPOSURE
Lens gents	CAMERAMEN
Loud sound	BELLOWING
Type of Jelly	VASELINE
Suggestions	OVERTONES
All the way	MAXIMALLY
Modifying	AMENDING
Utopian	IDEALIST
Produced	GENERATED
Five lines	LIMERICK
Dearth	SCARCITY
Hand-holders	ROMANTICS

Match words in the top halves with words in the bottom halves to make new words. Each half will be used once. Then take the "at first" of the words whose half's where the same length "they were only impress when the halves were balanced" which gets you **PREVAILS**

*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.*

Magic **P R E V A I L S** !