

THE MAGICIAN'S DREAM

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By U. F. Grant

Design By Jimmy King

You have read a description of the effect in the advertisement.

Properties: You are supplied with an open front Chinese prop basket; three plastic bowls; three sets of spring flowers; and a foulard made of terry cloth, so when it is thrown over the arm and shoulder it will not slide off, but cling.

To Set Up: Fill one bowl half full of water, then nest the other bowls under it. In each of the lower bowls place a packet of flowers, first removing the rubber bands. The nested bowls will keep them from opening.

Behind the front screen in the box is a black board with a strip of felt at its back. This board is pushed up to the front. The bowls are pushed into the back of the box, pushing in the rear door so that it is pushed up on top of the bowls. The bowls keep the board from falling back. With this set-up it appears that you are looking into an empty box. It is understood that your audience will be seated, so the box top is above their eyelevel.

Take the large bunch of flowers, remove the rubber band, and put a one inch strip of tissue paper around them, fastening it with scotch tape. Have these flowers under a corner of the foulard nearby and you are all set.

Working: Pick up the foulard at one corner with the left hand, and the flowers with it. Right hand takes other corner and shows cloth on both sides. Left arm is curled out in a half arc as right hand throws cloth over left shoulder. Left hand retains its corner with flowers. The basket setup is on a table to your rear right. Step back and arm with cloth goes over top and front of basket. Right hand, now at rear of basket and concealed by cloth over left arm, pulls nest of bowls out. Flaps drop. Left hand breaks tissue paper around flowers and goes down into box. Let flowers expand in box, so as to fill it. As this is done, and with cloth still over curved left arm, step away and right hand takes next of bowls over to concealed left hand. Left fingers and thumb hold the next of bowls, as well as corner of cloth. All this takes only a second.

Right hand then comes out with one of the bottom bowls full of flowers, places to one side, and then brings out second bowl. To show the bowl is full of flowers, pour them from this bowl over top of basket. Now for the climax, bring out bowl of water and pour the water from this bowl back and forth into the bowl the flowers were just poured from.

If you want to use doves in the top bowl in place of water, get a plastic food cover with elastic in it. Place this over the top of the bowl to hold them in. Be sure to punch holes in the plastic. As you bring this bowl out, left hand retains the cover and the bowl is pulled out.