

MAGIC SHOW

A Screenplay By

ELA 8-1

Xavier Junior High

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1 INT. SENIOR HOME -- MORNING

CAMERA PANS ACROSS THE ROOM TO SEE OLD MR. DUPONT SITTING IN A ROCKING CHAIR. OLD MR. DUPONT sits FRANK down to talk to him.

OLD MR. DUPONT

Do you see that red trunk over there boy?

FRANK

Woah that looks pretty old grandpa, what's in it?

OLD MR. DUPONT

Well let me tell you the story... I inherited this trunk from my dad when I was just a young lad. It's contents are treasures and trinkets from history. It is to be treated with great respect-

FRANK is very intrigued by the story and interrupts.

FRANK

And what happens if you don't?

OLD MR. DUPONT

You will be CURSED with terrible luck!

FRANK gasps.

OLD MR. DUPONT

But a clever person will treat it right, and one day, they will benefit greatly from the trunk.

FRANK

How grandpa?

OLD MR. DUPONT

They will pick a knowledgeable buyer, and sell all the items, one-by-one. They'd be rich with cold hard cash!

FRANK'S face lights up with excitement as the camera fades out.

2 INT. FRANK'S KITCHEN -- EVENING

FRANK is trying to make a peanut butter sandwich but is very clumsy.

While FRANK is trying to spread some peanut butter onto two pieces of bread but he keeps missing the bread and then the knife slips out of his hand and gets peanut butter all over the counters.

FRANK was sick of making the peanut butter sandwich so he makes some tea, the tea is done and FRANK tries to sip it but it is too hot and he drops the cup of tea in the sink, the cup shatters so he tries to clean it up but manages to slice his hand open.

FRANK goes and gets a bandage for his cut, after he puts on the bandage, he tries to clean up the mess all over the counters with the peanut butter, but is stumbling everywhere and his hand with the cloth in it is slipping all around the counter.

At this point FRANK is so frustrated with everything he just turns around and looks straight into the camera, but as the camera pans backwards we see that he isn't looking at the camera, he is looking at the red steamer trunk that his grandfather told him about. Maybe this trunk is the reason why he can't do anything right.

3 INT. OFFICE -- MORNING

CAMERA FACES THE OFFICE. PETER is out of frame clicking his clipboard. PETER COMES INTO FRAME as he finally approaches the principal's office. THE CAMERA PANS INTO THE OFFICE WHERE YOU SEE PETER WALKING IN AND NOW STANDING IN PROFILE receiving instructions from the principal.

We barely hear a teacher mumbling orders.

PETER

Yes ma'am, don't worry it'll be done right away!

PETER IS OUT OF FRAME as he leaves the office.

THE CAMERA PANS OUT OF THE OFFICE and you see PETER is walking with confidence as always, but he seems to be even

more confident than he usually is. He definitely has a very important job to do.

THE CAMERA IS FACING THE AUDITORIUM, PETER walks into the auditorium, they must have sent him to find the steamer trunk! PETER hears a door open, he hides.

THE CAMERA FOLLOWS PETER AS HE HIDES, He recognizes the voices, it sounds familiar, it's MAGDA and BUDDY! PETER peeks out to see what they are doing.

CAMERA PANS TO THE STAGE WHERE THE STEAMER TRUNK IS SUPPOSED TO BE, PETER is beyond furious when he sees that the steamer trunk is gone! He immediately thinks that MAGDA and BUDDY stole it!

THE CAMERA SHOWS MAGDA AND BUDDY MAGDA nudges BUDDY and points to where the steamer trunk is supposed to be. They are equally as surprised as PETER.

THE CAMERA ZOOMS OUT PETER jumps out and MAGDA and BUDDY get frightened, they had no idea PETER was there.

PETER

HEY! What do you think you guys are doing! Where's the trunk!

BUDDY

We didn't do nothin' we just walked in here. What are you doing here?

MAGDA

Yeah we weren't doing anything

PETER

What I'm doing here is none of your business, it's confidential! And you didn't answer my question where's the trunk.

MAGDA

It was gone when we got here, I don't know where it went.

PETER

(sarcastic)

Sure, whatever.

PETER storms off clicking his clipboard. MAGDA and BUDDY look at each other and back at the now missing trunk.

MAGDA

Where do you think the trunk went?

BUDDY

I don't know. Maybe someone took it.

CAMERA ZOOMS INTO THE COUPLE. FADE TO BLACK.

4 INT. LIBRARY -- MORNING

CAMERA follows MAGDA into the library as BUDDY gives her an amazing introduction as a new magician.

BUDDY

Magda, the most talented girl, is here to do some magic.

MAGDA

Yeah I was, like, really into makeup last week, but now I'm totally all about magic!

Camera pans across the library and shows MAGDA impressing the entire library when she pulls a toonie out of some kids ear. We hear some of the kids in the back of the room demand for more magic tricks

BUDDY

Wow! Isn't Magda the best?

Camera zooms out and reveals the children all staring at MAGDA as she continues to perform magic tricks.

BUDDY

Here Magda, do the card trick!

MAGDA grabs the deck of cards out of BUDDYs hands and begins the trick.

MAGDA

Pick a card, any card !

One kid picks a card and she blows him away when she guesses his card ending the trick.

BUDDY

Alright! That's enough magic for now! Let's go kiss in that room!

Camera tracks up to KAREN and FRANK.

5 INT. LIBRARY -- MORNING

PETER walks into the library to tell MAGDA about the steamer trunk.

FRANK

Did you hear about Old Mr. Dupont's steamer trunk? It is filled with valuable things and if you don't revere it you will have bad luck!

KAREN

I would love to revere it! Imagine all the valuable things we would have.

FRANK falls off his chair and hits his head.

KAREN

Jeez FRANK, if you hit your head again it wouldn't hurt. Maybe it would knock some sense into ya.

FRANK

Ouch, Old Newfoundland coins were so much different. 1 cent from 1885 to 1888 would be \$20 now. The dollar was the currency of Newfoundland until they joined Canada and it was subdivided into 100 cents.

FRANK

Property appraisals are the way of properly evaluating property for its price if anyone was wondering. KAREN you know what a pawn shop is right? I love going there and seeing the most valuable antiques.

KAREN

FRANK, you go from the weirdest topics to the weirdest topics out of nowhere. I don't even get it.

6 INT. LIBRARY -- DAY

PETER runs into the room and meets FRANK and MAGDA.

PETER

I have a huge announcement. The school administration has put me in charge of a fundraiser.

FRANK

Wait really? That is so cool. What is the fundraiser?

PETER

They put me in charge of organizing a Show & Tell in the auditorium. Any student can showcase a skill they have or talk about any interesting object they want to bring in.

MAGDA

I'm going to do my magic tricks.

FRANK

But you do your magic tricks all the time. I think we all have them memorized!

MAGDA

Mind your own business FRANK!

FRANK

Well I'm going to be bringing old Mr. Dupont's steamer trunk, which will be much more interesting than magic tricks!

PETER

Guys stop fighting immediately! You are all forgetting the main point: It is for a fundraiser not just for the show.

MAGDA

Okay we'll stop. We should get
back to class now.

PETER, MAGDA, and FRANK leave the room and go back to
class.

7 INT. AUDITORIUM -- EVENING

PETER is holding auditions for the upcoming Show & Tell
Evening to make sure all performances are appropriate
before they are shown in front of the school.

PETER

(Yelling into megaphone and pointing to
FRANK)

FRANK you're up first!

PETER

(As his face turns a deep
shade of red)

Tell me what is in the trunk now!

FRANK

(FRANK yells to make his point)

No, I am not going to put on a
special show just for you, I will
make my speech tonight for the
whole audience and that way it
will be even more exciting and
have more of a point.

PETER

(PETER says gently)

Okay, fine. You don't need to make
your speech right now but at least
show me what's in the trunk.

FRANK

(FRANK says nervously and full of immediate
regret)

Okay, but don't tell anybody what
you are about to see.

PETER and KAREN

(They both whisper)

We won't.

FRANK

(FRANK slowly opens the steamer trunk and reveals its contents)

Ready, 3..2..1..

PETER and KAREN's faces turn royal purple and then FRANK slowly closes the trunk after a few seconds and the purple tint fades away.

8 INT. AUDITORIUM -- MORNING

PETER checks his clipboard and calls MAGDA to the stage.

PETER

MAGDA get onto the stage!

KAREN, FRANK and PETER get off the stage and stand in front of it.

9 INT. AUDITORIUM -- EVENING

The camera pans across the auditorium showing a furious FRANK, and KAREN in tears.

FRANK

I demand to know where my grandfather's most valuable possessions are.

MAGDA

I cannot explain to anyone how the trick was done.

FRANK

I was put in charge of this show and now something valuable is missing. The principal is gonna have my head.

MAGDA drags BUDDY toward the exit.

FRANK

Are you leaving? You can't leave!
I demand you return the valuables!

They leave. FRANK fumbles to get onto the stage, but manages to examine it. He cannot find the trunk. He stubs his toe which makes him angrier. He turns to PETER and puts the whole blame onto him. PETER looks about the stage too. KAREN, sobbing, gives us a monologue about the value of things. FRANK and KAREN move towards the exit. PETER chases them to the exit, pleading for them to not talk to anyone. He will sort this! KAREN and FRANK try to exit. FRANK runs into the door jam and falls down outside. KAREN helps him get up and the door closes. PETER pops up onto the stage to have a second look. Close-up on PETER who is flummoxed!
Fade to black.

10 EXT. GRACE AVE -- DAY

BUDDY and MAGDA walk down the road while PETER is hiding behind a bush listening to their conversation

BUDDY

Are we going to take the steam trunk MAGDA remember we hid it in the deer lake beach underneath the sand on that beach trail.

MAGDA

Yep, we need to walk there after school tomorrow, we'll take the bus to Elwood, walk through the field, down main street, down across the bow water field onto the trail and find the trunk.

The bell rings at 2:57. They run to the beach and make sure no one is near them. They start to dig but PETER is hiding in a bush about to shoot BUDDY in the head. As he does, BUDDY tries to save MAGDA but knows magic! She does this magic spell and saves herself and runs away to call the police. The police find PETER, BUDDY, and MAGDA hiding in the school. PETER goes to jail.

MAGDA picks the lock in the school and hides it underneath the stage with BUDDY's help. They lock up the stage and put a new lock on it. They leave the school and go back home.

11 EXT. SIDEWALK BY KFC -- DAY

PETER goes out to spy on FRANK and KAREN wondering if they stole the steamer trunk. He follows them out of school all

the way out town. While he's sneaking around behind them, KAREN's house keys fall out of her pocket! It has an address on it. PETER thinks about it for a little bit and decides to search KAREN's house. He unlocks it and sees there's no one home.

PETER

This is perfect!

He whispers and begins searching around the house. PETER walks around the house quietly, trying not to make too much noise. When he realizes the steamer trunk isn't in KAREN's house he returns back to the school.

12 INT. BACKSTAGE -- NIGHT

PETER walks behind the curtain and sneaks backstage. He's looking for the steamer trunk. He checks behind pieces of plywood and sure enough there it was. He slowly opens the trunk and a royal purple glow lights up his face.

PETER

(Voiceover)

Oh my god it is filled with loot.

He looks around and there is no one supervising him.

PETER (CONT'D)

(Voiceover)

I could definitely steal all of this and nobody would ever know, I could blame it on FRANK, or MAGDA! I would be rich!

PETER hears a crash from outside the auditorium. Somebody was trying to break in! He closes the trunk.

13 INT. AUDITORIUM -- AFTERNOON

We can see BUDDY and MAGDA pick at the locked auditorium door.

BUDDY

I can't pick this lock, can you try?

MAGDA

I guess. I really don't feel good about this BUDDY!

BUDDY

Just do it, we will be fine!

MAGDA whips a deck of cards out of her bag. She proceeds to fold two cards into a key and starts to fiddle with the lock. After a few tries, the door swings open.

MAGDA

There you go!

BUDDY

Thanks for getting into magic
MAGDA! It's the best way to steal!

MAGDA strongly disagrees with this statement,

MAGDA

No! We aren't stealing, stealing
is bad!

BUDDY heads over towards the steamer trunk with a stressed MAGDA dragging behind him. They open the trunk (we do not see the contents of the trunk, just a purple glow casting across their faces). BUDDY stuffs his jackets with documents, papers and bags of coins.

BUDDY

MAGDA! Come on! Shove some of this
in your pockets so we can get out
of here!

MAGDA

No, I'm not doing it! Stealing is
wrong and I won't be a part of it!

BUDDY storms out the door and MAGDA follows. BUDDY runs into the door jam! Blood gushing everywhere! MAGDA cradles BUDDY in her arms.

MAGDA

I think that there's something
wrong with this steamer trunk,
beside's it's probably just bad
luck, whatever you took, we're
gonna have to put back.

BUDDY

Ugh, fine!

MAGDA and BUDDY head back to the auditorium to put the loot back. We see their faces light up royal purple as they put everything back. They dash out of the auditorium. As soon as MAGDA and BUDDY exit, the camera pans back to a horrified PETER. BLACKOUT.

14 EXT. HUMBER RIVER BANK -- NIGHT

We hear the sound of something being dragged. We fade up on PETER dragging a red steamer trunk, down a path, toward a cloistered bank of the Humber River.

Camera moves close to PETER's face.

PETER

(Scared)

I should've never touched the trunk, I knew something was different about it. And now, no one will have to deal with it, ever again.

Just before PETER drops the trunk in the river, he hears footsteps behind him. FRANK appears behind him. PETER is frightened.

PETER

I'm sorry... I-...

FRANK

No, get rid of it, burn it, throw it away, whatever you have to do. I never want to see it again! That thing caused me so much bad luck!

PETER

What? Bad luck? So that's why you were falling all over the place! I saw BUDDY fall and he was bleeding all over the place, he was trying to steal from the trunk!

FRANK

Really? I knew there was something wrong with the trunk.

PETER

Well, let's get rid of it for good now, together?

PETER turns to FRANK.

FRANK

Together.

They turn and throw the steamer trunk into the river.

PETER

You know what? I feel so much
better now, I feel... Relieved!

FRANK

Me too!

PETER

It's like... all my worries are gone
down the Humber River...

FRANK

It truly is.

PETER and FRANK turn their back to the camera and walk off
on the same path in the woods.

FADE TO BLACK.
THE END.
CREDITS.