

Introduction

Step right up, folks, and get ready to enter the magical world of The Great Clean-dini! I'm gonna pull all kinds of cleaning secrets out of my hat, and that means you'll be turning dust and grime into sparkle and shine. You'll see spots and stains vanish right before your eyes...grease and grit disappear in a flash...and bathrooms go from blech to beautiful in no time flat!

In fact, you'll find tons of terrific tips and tricks for any cleaning challenge you can think of, from Air Filters to Zippers and everything in between. Just flip this book open to your toughest cleaning problem, roll up your sleeves, and unleash the power of my super solutions.

I've been cleaning up ever since I was living with my Grandma Putt way back when. She was a real whiz, whipping up homemade cleaning concoctions from household products. And I'm proud to say that her tried-and-true tonics still work their magic today! Here are a few of my favorite **Grandma Putt's Magical Methods** that you'll find sprinkled throughout this book:

- ★ Zap can opener rust with wax paper.
- ★ Polish your precious gold jewelry with ammonia.
- ★ Shine copper with leftover pickle brine.
- ★ Write off ink stains with shortening.

To help you put these magical methods to work, I dug deep into my bag of tricks and pulled out plenty of **Powerful Potions**. These remarkable recipes cost only pennies to make, yet they have enough muscle to pack a potent punch. Mix up a few batches of grime-fighting brews like these to stop dirt dead in its tracks:

- ★ Daily Shower Spray keeps dirt away.
- ★ A Silver Shine is mighty fine.
- ★ Anti-Skunk Shampoo sinks the stink.

Of course, you should always use any DIY potion with a dose of common sense. Keep all ingredients out of reach of children and pets, always wear

Powerful Potions



Super Sanitizing Wipe

Use this potion on any hard surface that needs a quick cleaning. One swipe will cut through grime and kill germs at the same time!

1 part rubbing alcohol

4 parts water

Mix the ingredients in a handheld sprayer bottle. Simply spray the solution on the surface to be cleaned, and wipe it away with a soft, clean cloth.

rubber gloves, and crack open a window for good ventilation. And last, but certainly not least, before using a cleaning solution on any surface, test it in an inconspicuous spot first to make sure it doesn't cause any damage.

By now, you're probably rarin' to go and whip everything into shape. But what if you've got a housecleaning horror that's too tough to tackle? No problem! I get letters all the time from folks who are just plain stumped by goop, gunk, grease, and grime. So bring it on! When **The Great Clean-dini Speaks**, you'll learn no-nonsense answers to your most

mystifying cleaning questions, including these:

- ★ Got anything to dazzle dull brass? (Try homemade "bug juice.")
- ★ Can bread really restore dingy paintings? (Yes—if it's white!)
- ★ What do I do when the old ivories turn yellow? (Tickle 'em with mayo.)
- ★ How can I clear out coffeemaker crud? (Plop, plop, fizz, fizz it away.)

But wait, the show's not over yet! I've also thrown in some of my best **Hocus Pocus** tips to take care of things that bug you the most. Got an army of ants on your countertop? No problem. Clothes moths in the hall closet? Lemme at 'em. Hard-water deposits in your showerhead? Not to worry—just say the magic words and—POOF!—the problem's gone in a flash.

So now that you've seen the opening act and had a sneak peek at what's inside, it's time to put my Speed Cleaning Secrets to work for you. If you keep this book close at hand, your hearth and home will soon be happier, healthier—and a whole lot cleaner!