

Harry Houdini

By: L.E.

Young Years

- He was born on March 24, 1874, in Budapest, Hungary.
- When he was still young he moved to Appleton, Wisconsin where he claims he was born.
- He loved magic.
- His parents were Jewish and he was one of six children in the family.



How Did He Become Famous?



- When Harry was young he became a locksmith so that it would be easier to make escapes when he became a magician.
- He became famous for being an escapologist, one of his early stunts was to escape from the belly of a whale.



The Beginning of Magic

- At the age of 13 he moved to New York with his father and became interested in trapeze arts
- In 1893 he married Wilhelmina Rahner, who became his onstage partner as well.
- His real name is Erich Weisz but he changed it in 1894 when he became a professional magician.



3 2 1 Blast off!



- Harry was not just a magician he learned how to fly as well. He learned how to fly in Germany, he also taught German pilots how to fly once he was qualified.
- He regretted it though, because he had taught the enemy pilots in World War I. He never flew again after that.

Magic!

- He drew attention with his feats of escape using handcuffs.
- He was a magician who did magic tricks and stunts.
- Harry's feats would involve the police who would put him in shackles and lock him in their jails.
- He continued his acts in the Us, constantly raising the price.

Magic Carrier



- Some of his feats of escape would be handcuffs, straight jackets, water-filled tanks, and nailed packing crates.
- He was able to escape because of his strength and his ability to pick locks.
- Harry also loved tricks that had to do with death.
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Bath Time!

- Houdini had to train himself to be both mentally and physically fit to do his tricks and stunts. So to practice holding his breath Houdini had an over-sized bathtub to practice in whenever he took a bath.
- He could hold his breath for 3 minutes. Can you hold your breath that long?



The Chinese Water Torture Cell!

- His acts reached its highest point when he tried the Chinese Water Torture Cell. In it Houdini was suspended by his feet and lowered upside-down in a locked glass cabinet filled with water, requiring him to hold his breath for more than three minutes to escape. That performance was so daring that he left it in his act until his death in 1926



His Suffering and Death

- Houdini suffered from acute appendicitis.
- He died of peritonitis from a ruptured appendix on October 31, 1926 (or Halloween Day), at the age of 52, in Detroit, Michigan.

