

# Harry houdini's most mind-bending quotes

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When you really think about it, of course Harry Houdini died on Halloween. What other date could have been more appropriate for the mind-boggling magician, master escape artist, and accomplished aviator (he got his license to pilot an airplane just a couple years after the Wright brothers invented the damn thing).

The Hungarian-born superstar died, at 52, from acute appendicitis on Oct. 31, 1926, which was no doubt aggravated by a interest in challenging the fitness freak's claim that his stomach could always take a punch before his final performance in Michigan. The following are some of this modern-day wizard's many words of wisdom.

### **On his craft**

“ What the eyes see and the ears hear, the mind believes.”

### **On his magical melon**

“ My brain is the key that sets my mind free.”

### **On Kardashian-levels of fame**

“ It is still an open question, however, as to what extent exposure really injures a performer.”

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### **On calling out so-called spiritualists**

“ I am Houdini and you are a fraud!”

### **On fad diets**

“ The eating of burning brimstone is an entirely fake performance.”

## **On his greatest escape**

" The greatest escape I ever made was when I left Appleton, Wis."

## **On attracting a crowd**

" The easiest way to attract a crowd is to let it be known that at a given time and a given place someone is going to attempt something that in the event of failure will mean sudden death."

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## **On mission statements**

" My chief task has been to conquer fear."

## **On the power of positive (and magical!) thinking**

" I am a great admirer of mystery and magic. Look at this life -- all mystery and magic."

## **His last words**

" I'm tired of fighting."

he said he'd reveal, in a séance, to his wife so that she could determine the legitimacy of a spiritualist:

" BELIEVE."