

Text Set to Accompany

Houdini's Library: How Books Created the World's Greatest Magician

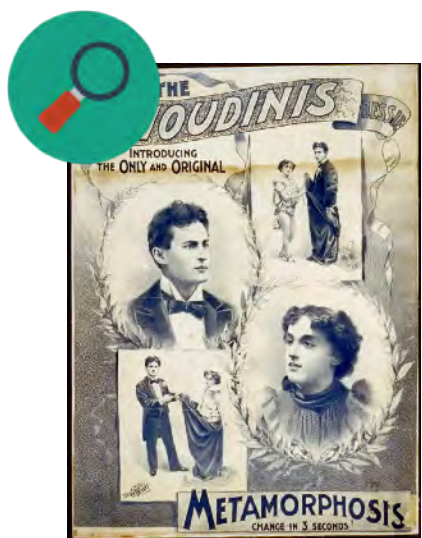
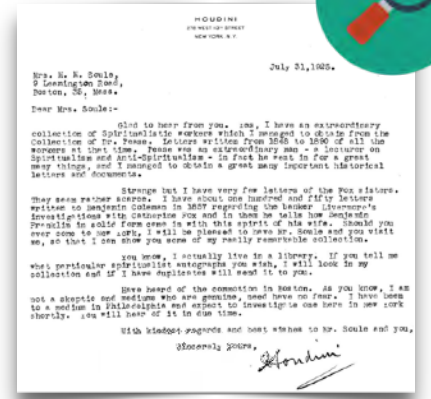
**Book by Barb Rosenstock
Illustrated by Mar Delmar
Text Set by Lorraine Leddy**

Primary Sources & Research Materials

These texts tell readers more about Harry Houdini and his book collection.

[Primary Source Image: Letter of Harry Houdini Discussing His Library](#)

As part of the Library of Congress' collection of Harry Houdini artifacts, readers can look at the actual letter in which Houdini said "I actually live in the library." The letter shows readers how extensive Houdini's collection was - and how he described it to others.

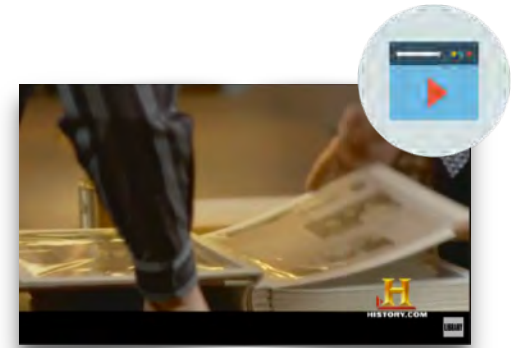


[Primary Source Image: Poster Celebrating "The Houdinis"](#)

After reading *Houdini's Library*, readers may be interested in learning more about Harry and Bess. Looking at this poster from 1895 helps us consider how their partnership supported Harry's career. Click "About This Item" for more details on the poster's creation.

[Video: Magical Momentos from the Library of Congress](#)

This video shows viewers some of the items in Houdini's collection at the Library of Congress. Viewers will learn how the library is conserving Houdini's scrapbooks and documents so they can be studied for years to come.



[Sound Recording: Harry Houdini's Voice](#)

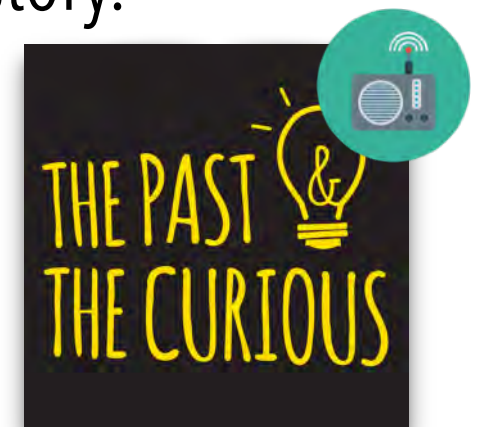
In this video from the Houdini Museum, listeners can hear a recording of Houdini's voice from 1914. In the clip, Houdini introduces one of his most famous tricks, in which he escaped from a cell filled with water.

Content Connections

These texts explore topics such as magic tricks and other parts of the Houdini story.

[Podcast Episode: Houdini and Grandma Moses](#)

In this episode, the popular children's podcast *The Past and the Curious* explores a story of a particular moment in Houdini's life - when he almost gave up. The first 15 minutes of this episode are a great listen to accompany your reading of *Houdini's Library*.



[Museum Blog Post for Kids: Get to Know Harry Houdini](#)

This blog post from the NY Historical shares artifacts about Houdini's life with insights for kids. This post is part of the History Detectives series. Enjoy looking at these photos and objects!

[Video Series: Magic Tricks from National Geographic Kids](#)

The Brain Magic series from National Geographic Kids and illusionist Eric Leclerc reveals real magic tricks. In *Houdini's Library*, we learn that Houdini did some of these tricks after reading about them in books.



[Interactive Guide to Knots](#)

Houdini was an expert at untangling knots. But to untangle them, he had to know how they were made! He studied knots in books. You can learn more about all kinds of knots using this interactive guide.

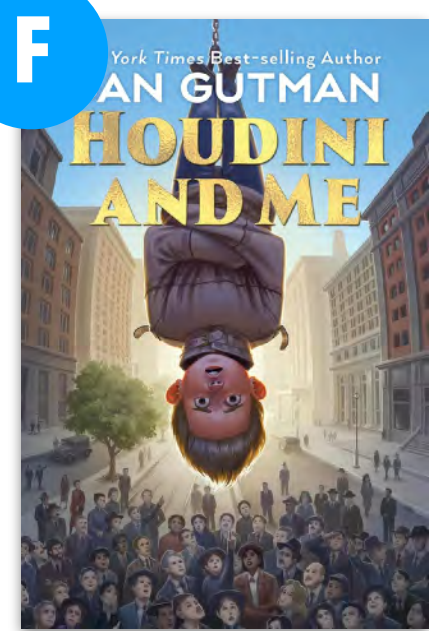
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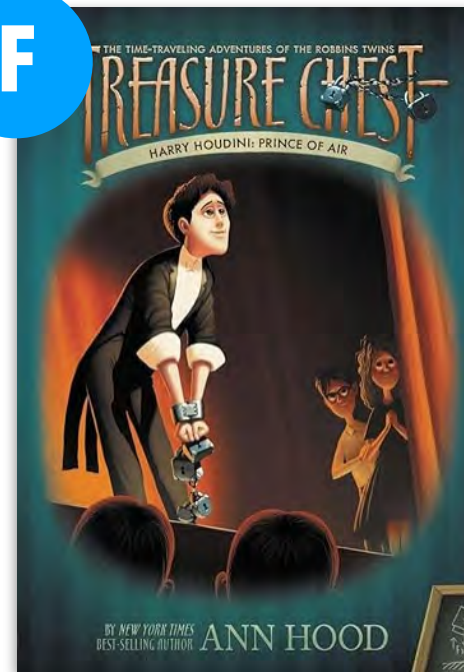
Texts to Pair with *Houdini's Library*

These fiction and nonfiction texts can be read alongside *Houdini's Library* for deeper exploration of topics including magic and the life of Harry Houdini.



Houdini and Me
By Dan Gutman

In this fantasy book, a boy living in Houdini's old home begins communicating with his ghost. Magic ensues!



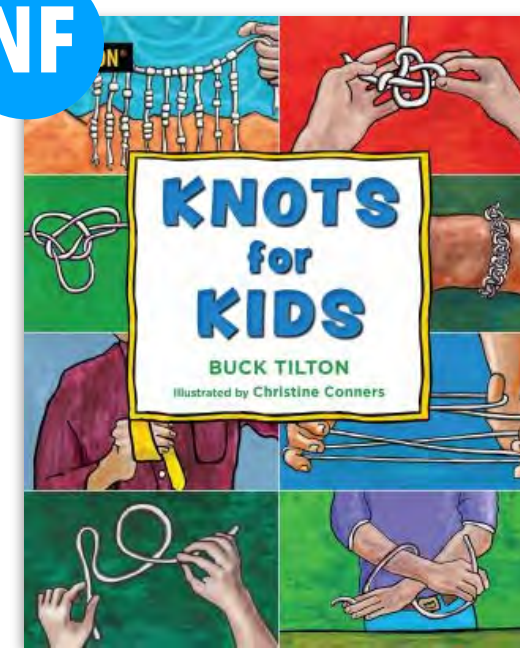
The Treasure Chest: Harry Houdini
By Ann Hood

In this magical historical fiction series, two siblings find themselves at one of Harry Houdini's shows on Coney Island in 1893. Imagine what it might have been like!



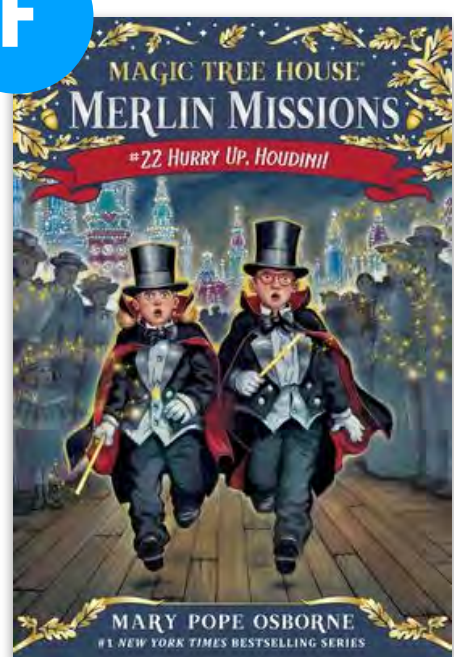
How to Fool Your Parents
By David Kwong

A guidebook for kids with 25 "brain-breaking magic tricks," this title will teach kids about the art of illusion. Step-by-step directions are included.



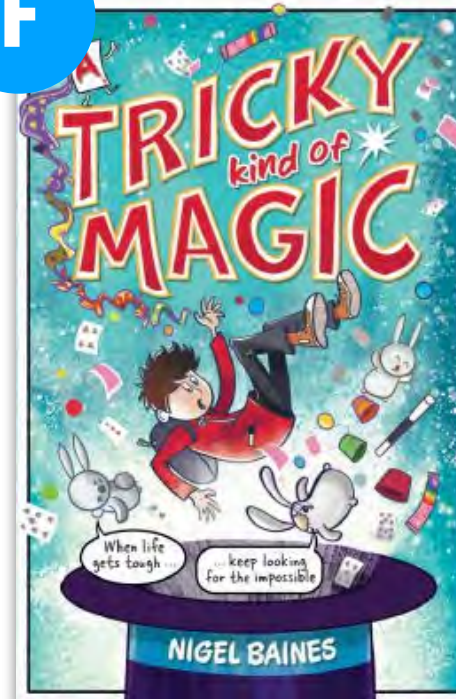
Knots for Kids
By Buck Tilton

Houdini read books about knots to learn how to escape them. In this book, readers can learn how to tie useful knots for all different situations.



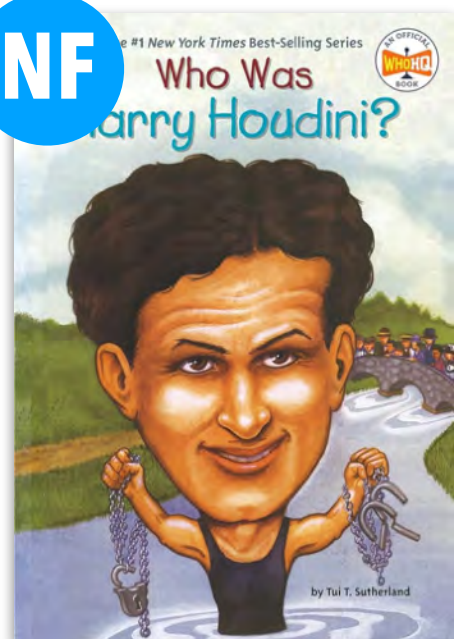
Magic Tree House: Hurry Up, Houdini!

By Mary Pope Osborne
This installment in the popular *Magic Tree House* series follows Jack and Annie as they travel back in time to find Harry Houdini himself.



A Tricky Kind of Magic
By Nigel Baines

This graphic novel for upper elementary and middle school readers follows Cooper, who is amazing at magic tricks - just like his late father. Can magic connect them again?



Who Was Harry Houdini?
By Tui Sutherland

For readers hoping to learn more about the life of Harry Houdini, this book from the popular *Who Was* series shares additional facts.



Anything But Ordinary Addie: The True Story of Adelaide Herrmann, Queen of Magic
By Mara Rockliff

Interested in learning about other magicians of the past? Check out this picture book biography about the "Queen of Magic!"

F = Fiction

NF = Nonfiction