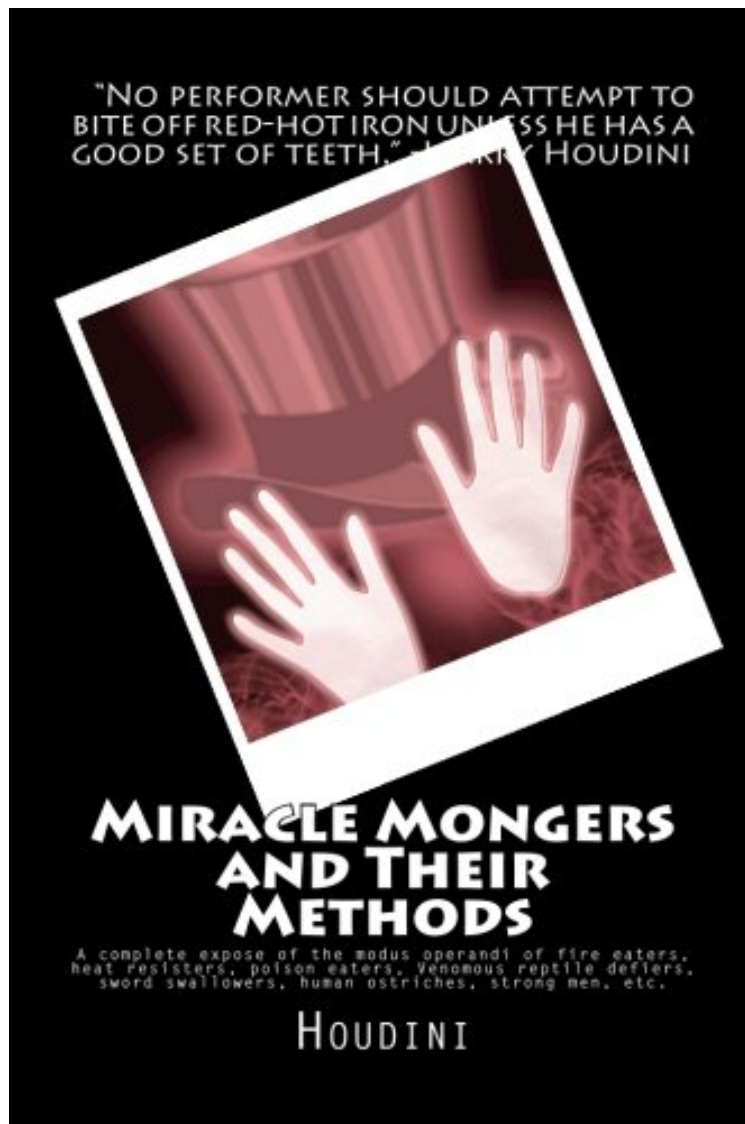


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Miracle Mongers and Their Methods: A complete expose of the modus operandi of fire eaters, heat resisters, poison eaters, Venomous reptile defiers, sword swallows, human ostriches, strong men, etc.

Houdini

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Miracle Mongers and Their Methods: A complete expose of the modus operandi of fire eaters, heat resisters, poison eaters, Venomous reptile defiers, sword swallows, human ostriches, strong men, etc.*:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I like book. It good book. By Rusty Shackelford For a skeptic this book is pure heaven. I realize how stupid that sounds. Sorry. For a skeptic this book is really...good. Better? Hmmm. Let me try again. For a skeptic this book is a spectacular example of how far the movement has come and how much we owe to this man. That seems better to me. Nope. One more time. I like book. It good book. There we go! Some of the claims of Houdini's time are a bit more over the top than the simple cold readers of today and thus, the debunking of said claims are equally over the top. There were multiple times when I had to put my Kindle down, go outside and just take a few deep breathes. If one comes across a charlatan who can swallow red hot swords by claiming they have the power of the gods, what's one to do? Well, swallow a sheath and try it yourself of course! There's some very heavy stuff in here that makes you one, appreciate how crazy/dedicated Houdini was to his second profession and two, donate to the JREF for keeping the spirit alive and well. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Fascinating Antique By D. Peters Written by Houdini, it's a fascinating look at the odd and bizarre people he shared the stage with in a long ago era. Today these people would be looked at as strange oddities but a hundred years ago they were minor stars. Houdini, (Eric Weiss's) writing is surprisingly contemporary, considering how long ago the book was written but some of the long passages from periodicals of the time are written with an almost foggy fussiness which makes them difficult to understand. Especially when referring to illustrations that aren't included in the kindle edition. Still, if you are interested in stage magic and Houdini in particular this is well worth reading. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Crude reprint of Houdini's original book By N. S. Alito This is a crude reprint of an older book. There are none of the "figures" referred to in the text. I would have been willing to pay more for the complete book. As for the content, several early chapters describe the history of "fire-eating" performers, followed eventually with a chapter that describes the tricks used to handle these seemingly dangerous materials. Likewise he covers blade-swallowing performers and their techniques, followed by descriptions of performances of stone-eating, poison-eating and similar amazing feats, with accompanying explanations of the tricks and/or conditioning needed to perform them. To me, the big surprise was in discovering how eloquent and informative Harry Houdini could be, well beyond his carnie-like colleagues.

A complete exposé of the modus operandi of fire eaters, heat resisters, poison eaters, venomous reptile defiers, sword swallows, human ostriches, strong men, etc. by Houdini. No performer should attempt to bite off red-hot iron unless he has a good set of teeth. - Harry Houdini Harry Houdini was an American stunt performer, the greatest escape artist in history, yet known to his contemporaries as a terrible stage magician. He first attracted notice as "Harry Handcuff Houdini" on a tour of Europe, where he sensationally challenged different police forces to try to keep him locked up. In 1917 he performed a single illusion that has been fiercely debated ever since: Under the bright spotlights of New York's Theatre Hippodrome, he made a live elephant disappear. How was this possible and where did he learn this amazing trick and how did it work? The answers lie in Harry Houdini's tell-all chronicle of illusionary innovation, backstage chicanery and espionage, elevated showmanship, and impassioned competition within the world of magicians. In *Miracle Mongers and their Methods*, Harry Houdini turns a critical eye to wonders such as 'The Incombustible Spaniard' or 'Defiers of Poisonous Reptiles'. The timeless fascination with miracles and astonishing claims makes this classic as timely as when it was originally written.