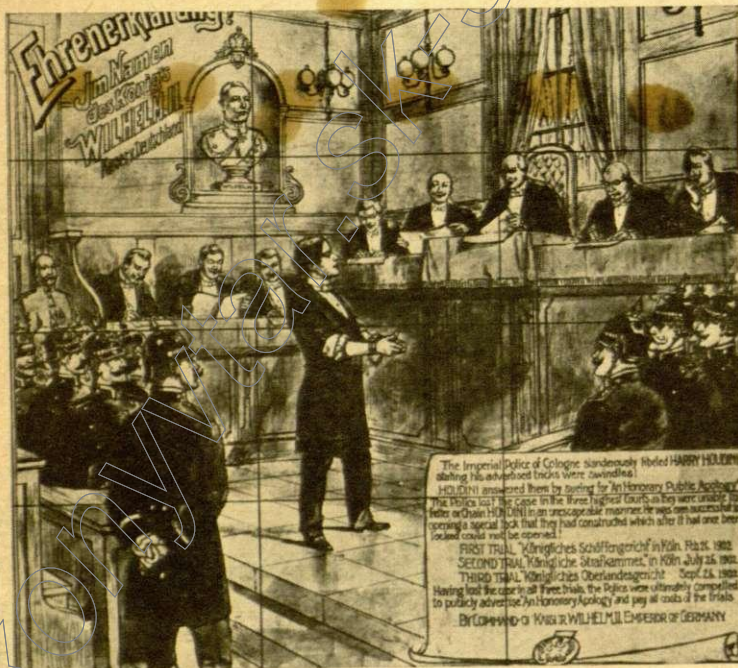


Life. 1953

Ehrich Weiss was an Appleton, Wis. boy whose father, a rabbi, had fled from Hungary, supposedly after killing a nobleman in a duel. Ehrich never let the old man's romantic memory down. Infinitely resourceful, supple, egocentric, publicity-minded, he impressed his chosen name of Houdini on the world as the synonym of master magician and escape-artist extraordinary. He repeatedly wriggled out of handcuffs, safes, strait jackets, jails, sealed chests dropped to the bottom of rivers, and once from a sealed postal bag, from a grave and from the belly of a whale.

Houdini's life has been screened with suitably colorful special effects by Producer George Pal, Hollywood's expert in the amazing (*When Worlds Collide*). Glamour Boy Tony Curtis does his level best to portray Houdini through marriage, marvels and the exposure of mediums. It is not his fault that nothing he does as a grown man seems quite as impressive as the reports of what Houdini did at the age of 9 when he began his career by hanging upside down and picking up needles with his eyelids.

## A TRIO OF HOUDINI TRIUMPHS



**COURT TRIAL** in Germany resulted from suit which Houdini brought against a police official who said he was a fake. He won a triumphant verdict after he had demonstrated to the judge and jury how he could open handcuffs, locks and a safe. Task was made easier when someone forgot to lock the safe.

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