



# Some Famous People who have Talked about Hearing Voices

## Anthony Hopkins, actor

In 1993, in an interview in the News of the World, Anthony Hopkins said that he heard strange voices in his head. "I've always had a little voice in my head, particularly when I was younger and less assured", he said. "While onstage, during classical theatre the voice would suddenly say, "Oh, you think you can do Shakespeare, do you?" and he added; "Recently, I was being interviewed on television and the voice inside my head said to me, "Who the hell do you think you are? You're just an actor, what the hell do you know about anything".

## Charles Dickens, author

The experiences of Charles Dickens were widely publicised by the author himself. He used to tell the tale with relish about becoming so involved with his characters that they actually spoke to him, the best known being the disgusting old 'nurse' from his novel Martin Chuzzlewit, Mrs Gamp, who, he said, would tell him dirty stories in church during Sunday service and make him laugh out loud.

## Doris Stokes, medium

The renowned English medium Dork Stokes heard the voice of what she regarded as her spirit guide (Ramonov, a Tibetan monk). At first she didn't know where he came from until whilst watching a travel film on BBC television, she said "It was all about the Table people. Ramonov said "That's where I come from. Tibet."

She first heard the voice of her deceased father when she was 13 years old when she herself met a medium. She always understood her experience to be a spiritual one.

## Mahatma Gandhi

Gandhi, the man who almost single handedly achieved Indian independence from Britain, relied on an "inner voice" for guidance. Here Gandhi describes his experiences and beliefs about his voices:

"It may be a product of my heated imagination. If it is so, I prize that imagination as it has served me for a chequered life extending over a period of now nearly over fifty-five years, because I learned to rely consciously upon God before I was fifteen years old".

"There was a lot of confusion inside me, this flood of voices, often contradicting each other, often telling me stuff that would happen in the future, and then it would happen, voices insulting me, telling me what to do"

- John Frusciante

"During the days when I was living alone in a foreign city ... I quite often heard my name suddenly called by an unmistakable and beloved voice"

- Sigmund Freud