

# THE JORDAN HARBINGER SHOW

## Worksheet for Spencer Greenberg | Cultivating Clearer Thinking for Cloudy Times (Episode 136)

The skill of noticing bad logic, misleading arguments, and invalid evidence is extremely important. This skill not only helps you avoid being misled by others, but when used properly, it helps you avoid misleading yourself.

In [this episode](#), Spencer Greenberg of [Clearer Thinking](#) shares numerous free training tools we can use to improve our own critical thinking and eliminate bias to improve the decision-making powers at our disposal.

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## Touch of Grey

Probabilities are ways to describe reality. Spencer Greenberg told me that you can't be "100 percent sure about anything." Thinking in probability means the world isn't black and white -- there are shades of grey. "All shades of reality aren't equal."

Spencer offered up a technique to become a more nuanced, accurate thinker. What he does is make predictions for things in his life and then he tracks them to see if they come true or not. Over time, he's able to measure his success against his predictions; he is able to build up an ability.

"If I'm 90% confident, the thing actually happens 90% of the time," he told me. If you can achieve an accurate prediction with regularity, then you're probabilistically calibrated. "Opening the door to being wrong is the first step."

**Give this a try!**

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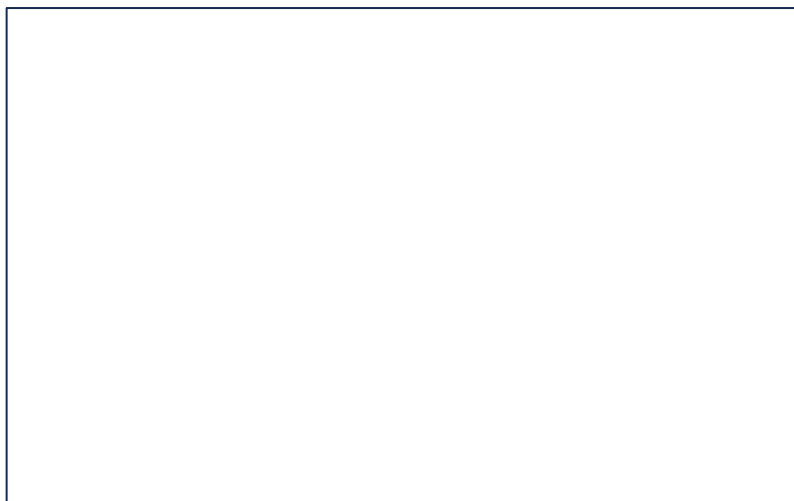
## A Thought Experiment

We all want to think positively of ourselves. That's natural because the temptation after hearing critical feedback is to deny that it's true. But what if you want to go deeper? Then look for the truth -- even if it means a little ego deflation.

Here is a thought experiment that Spencer told me about:

**Visualize two worlds. In World A, you find out this painful truth about something, then you work to correct the flaw it highlighted. In World B, you continue deluding yourself into thinking that you don't have that flaw -- for the rest of your life.**

"I'd much rather know the bad thing about myself and work to correct it than to live a life where I'm deluding myself," he said.



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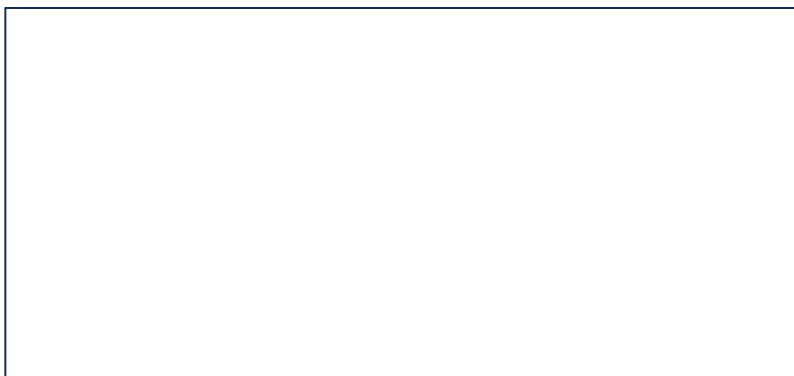
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## Steel over Straw

It's common to hear about a straw man argument. That's where there's an argument and one person reframes the other's argument with a weaker version that's easier to disprove.

The steel man is the opposite. That's where we take the other person's argument and actually formulate an even *stronger* version of it. If you're trying to figure out what's true (and not just *be right*), this will help you get there.

**Next time you find yourself in any sort of debate, choose steel over straw.**



Full show notes and resources for this episode [can be found here.](#)

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## About



Join Jordan Harbinger (critically acclaimed host, formerly of The Art of Charm) as we get deep into the untapped wisdom of the world's top performers -- from legendary musicians to intelligence operatives, iconoclastic writers to visionary change-makers.

We deconstruct the playbooks of the most successful people on earth -- and learn new strategies, perspectives, and insights you can't find anywhere else. Then, take these insights into your own life and live what you listen.

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