

The Rowling Library
Magazine



Dear Brexit

ISSUE 35. NOVEMBER 2019.



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THE ROWLING LIBRARY MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2019

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This is our fourth year! Our first issue was released on November 2016.

Welcome to the November issue of The Rowling Library Magazine!

We start this fourth year with an amazing new illustrator, Fausto Giurescu. Fausto did the marvellous illustration for the cover, based on the new letter that Rowling wrote for the book “A Love Letter to Europe”. We can see Jo with a very British cup of tea, but also a map of Europa behind her. Is she leaving the continent behind?

We also have a beautiful article about the melodies of the Wizarding World, by Demi Schartz, and a theory by Amber Goldsmith: What if Tom Riddle had been a Gryffindor? What would have changed? Or nothing at all?

Also, a review of Good Omens, the book by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett - and an short article about something that Rowling published in the old Pottermore almost three years ago.

We hope you enjoy this issue and see you in December!

DID ROWLING LEGITIMIZE VOLDEMORT'S WEIRD DEATH FROM THE FILMS?

A TEXT IN THE OLD POTTERMORE SHOWS A
DEATH SIMILAR TO VOLDEMORT'S FROM THE
HARRY POTTER FILMS.

BY PATRICIO TARANTINO



On July 2016, the old Pottermore revealed a new writing by J.K. Rowling: *Ilvermorny School of Witchcraft and Wizardry*. The new text, that comes with a trailer, tells the story of the North American Wizarding School – not to be surprised since we are just six months away from the *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, which is set in the United States of America.

The text is more than 5000 words long. This is the longest text published in Pottermore, passing Wands, which had ~4800 words. And it shows one of the best skills of J.K. Rowling: to tell stories about magical families in the wizarding world. She makes us revisit the Gaunt (and Slytherin) family, and now we know more about the most criticized founder of Hogwarts, and his wand.

However, there is a detail in the middle of the text that does not fit in her style:

The old witch had indulged in all manner of Dark magic in

an attempt to make herself invincible, and these curses now reacted with the Pukwudgie's venom, causing her to become as solid and as brittle as coal before shattering into a thousand pieces.

That death resembles Lord Voldemort's death in the film adaptation of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.

As you may be aware, the way the filmmakers decided to portray that event generated discussions among the fandom: that is not how Tom Riddle (or what is left) dies in the book. He just dies, as anyone who received an Avada Kedavra, with no signs. Rowling even writes about his corpse in the middle of the Great Hall.

The same happens with Bellatrix Lestrange – who in the movies explodes after being hit by a curse cast by Molly Weasley. In the same manner, this was widely discussed on the online forums. Is this canon? Can wizards explode or shatter into pieces?



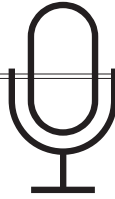
It seems Rowling decided to verify, to make it canon, this kind of death. But why? She always marked a difference, a limit, between the movies and the books. Why take something from the movies and put it into her world?

Well, this would not be so weird if we consider the new role Pottermore plays in the Wizarding World brand. Since Rowling has become the writer of the upcoming Harry Potter films (we know *Fantastic Beasts* is not about Harry Potter, but it belongs to the same franchise), Pottermore has become the official website about it – not only about the books, but the movies and the theater play. Do you remember when Pottermore used only illustration for the chapters? Now you can see photos from the movies used in the characters profiles.

We can deduce that, for commercial reasons, the team behind the Wizarding World brand wants to combine the aspects from every media, mixing books, movies and plays. It looks like an effort to bring them all together into one version of canon. Considering this, it would not be

weird if Warner Bros. suggested Rowling to imply that one of the most condemned parts of the last movie was actually canon.

With this text coming directly from her pen, Rowling legitimizes this version of wizards and witches shattering into dust – which may be a problem. The artistic vision of the filmmakers is now part of the Harry Potter canon. We will never know the reason.



A QUOTE BY JO

***"ON'S PATRONUS IS A SMALL DOG, LIKE A JACK RUSSELL,
AND THAT'S A REALLY SENTIMENTAL CHOICE, BECAUSE
WE'VE GOT A JACK RUSSELL. HE'S INSANE."***



**"THE LEAKY
CAULDRON AND
MUGGLENET
INTERVIEW JK
ROWLING: PART
THREE,"
THE LEAKY
CAULDRON
16 JULY 2005**

THE MELODIES OF THE MAGICAL WORLD

THE MUSIC OF
J.K. ROWLING'S WIZARDING WORLD
BY DEMI SCHWARTZ

Magic is at the heart of the Wizarding World, but even witches and wizards have an appreciation for music. During Harry's first welcoming feast at Hogwarts in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, Albus Dumbledore takes a second to acknowledge that music is a magic of its own.

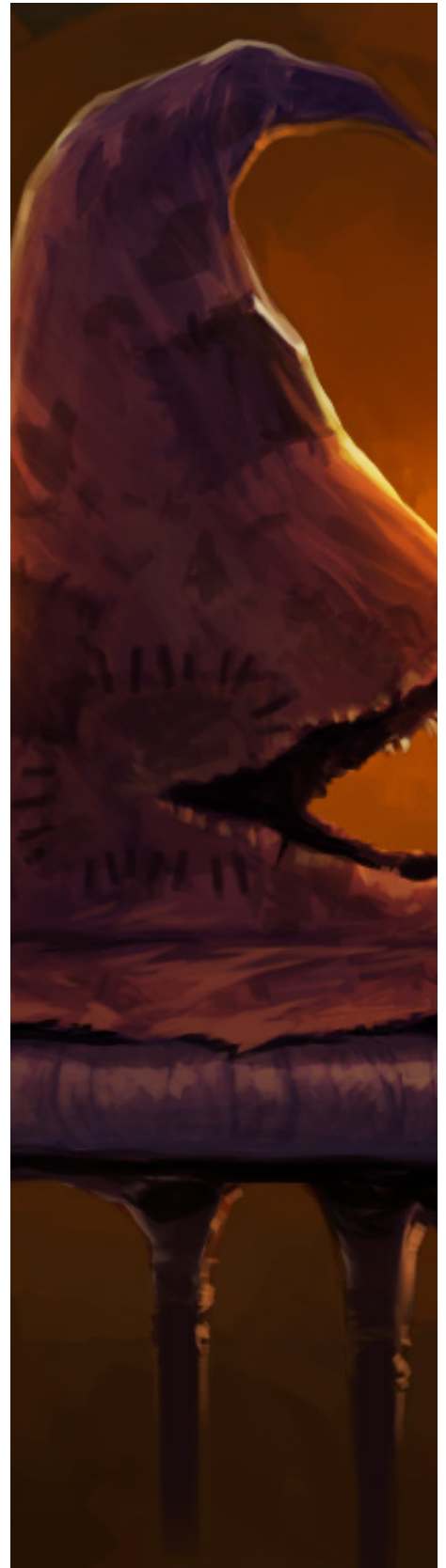
"Ah, music," he said, wiping his eyes. "A magic beyond all we do here!"

Music makes an appearance many times in the series. Harry, Ron, and Hermione have one memorable experience with music when they play a flute to put Fluffy, the three-headed dog, to sleep in their first year, so they can save the Sorcerer's stone. To add excitement to the Triwizard Tournament, the Weird Sisters bring their tunes to the Yule Ball, and that's not all. Songs play their role at

Hogwarts, from the Sorting Hat to a group of Slytherins belting out their hit, "Weasley is Our King." Warm up your vocal cords because it's time to sing our way through the melodies of the Magical World.

The Sorting Hat

It's not a new year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry without a song from the Sorting Hat. Before being placed on each first year's head to determine their House, the Sorting Hat sings about the Hogwarts founders and the four Houses. During the Sorting in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, the Sorting Hat does a fantastic job telling everyone in the Great Hall about the qualities that define each House, rhymes and all.





*You might belong in Gryffindor,
Where dwell the brave at heart,
Their daring, nerve, and chivalry
Set Gryffindors apart;
You might belong in Hufflepuff,
Where they are just and loyal,
Those patient Hufflepuffs are true
And unafraid of toil;
Or yet in wise old Ravenclaw,
If you've a ready mind,
Where those of wit and learning,
Will always find their kind;
Or perhaps in Slytherin
You'll make your real friends,
Those cunning folk use any means
To achieve their ends.*

The Sorting Hat's intelligence reaches beyond its task of sorting students into the Houses. In *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, the Sorting Hat puts a dark twist on its song. It sings

of the history of the four founders, pointing out what each of them looked for in the students they selected. The Houses existed in harmony, but then, they soon became divided, especially when Salazar Slytherin left the school. In light of Lord Voldemort's return, it is more important than ever for the Houses to unite, as they were always meant to be, so the Sorting Hat ends its song with a warning to everyone at Hogwarts to stand together.

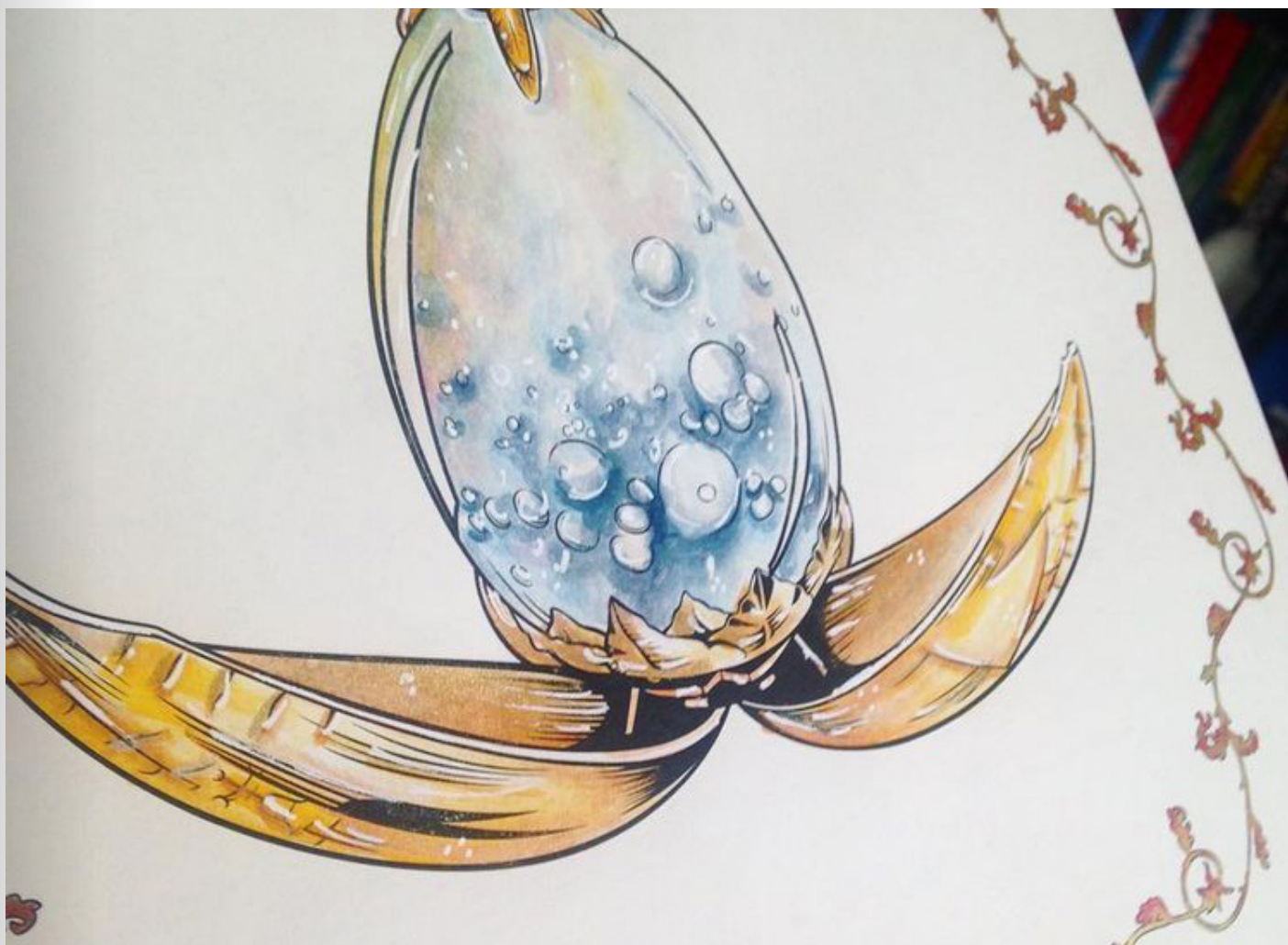
*And now the Sorting Hat is here
And you all know the score:
I sort you into Houses
Because that is what I'm for,
But this year I'll go further,
Listen closely to my song:
Though condemned I am to split you
Still I worry that it's wrong,
Though I must fulfill my duty
And must quarter every year
Still I wonder whether sorting*

*May not bring the end I fear.
Oh, know the perils, read the signs,
The warning history shows,
For our Hogwarts is in danger
From external, deadly foes
And we must unite inside her
Or we'll crumble from within
I have told you, I have warned you...
Let the Sorting now begin.*

The Sorting Hat is one of the most clever objects in the Wizarding World, and its song definitely adds creativity to the Sorting each year. For the first years, waiting to be sorted can be quite stressful, but the Sorting Hat eases some of their nerves through the power of music.

Hoggy Warty Hogwarts

There are school songs in the Muggle World, and Hogwarts isn't any different. There's no better way to kick



off a new year than by showing some school spirit with the Hogwarts school song, "Hoggy Warty Hogwarts."

Hogwarts, Hogwarts, Hoggy Warty Hogwarts,

Teach us something, please,

Whether we be old and bald

Or young with scabby knees,

Our heads can do with filling

With some interesting stuff,

For now they're bare and full of air,

Dead flies and bits of fluff,

So teach us things worth knowing,

Bring back what we've forgot,

Just do your best, we'll do the rest,

And learn until our brains all rot.

In Harry's first year, Dumbledore flicks his wand, and a golden ribbon rises into the air, forming the lyrics of the song. Everyone sings to their favorite tune and finishes at a different time. Fred and George are last to reach the end of the song because they chose a slow funeral march, and

Dumbledore conducts their final notes with his wand. The song marks the end of the feast, and the students head to their dormitories to get sleep before their first day of classes the next morning.

Peeves Taunting Harry Potter about Being the Heir of Slytherin

Peeves greatly enjoys causing a ruckus in Hogwarts, and he finds a reason to tap into his own songwriting skills in Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. After Harry speaks Parseltongue during the Dueling Club, the other students start to think that he's Slytherin's heir. It gets even worse for Harry when Peeves spots him next to Nearly-Headless Nick and Justin Finch-Fletchley, who both had been petrified. Peeves alerts the school of the double attack and breaks into song.

"Oh, Potter, you rotter, oh, what have you done,

You're killing off students, you think it's good fun—"

Professor McGonagall cuts him off, not having the patients for Peeves and his glee when it comes to disasters. Peeves eventually gets bored of singing his song, but he couldn't

miss an opportunity to add to the growing anxiety in the school surrounding the opening of the Chamber of Secrets.

Ginny Weasley's Valentine to Harry Potter

Love is in the air on Valentine's Day during Harry's second year. The students go into the Great Hall for breakfast to find it decked out with pink flowers covering the walls and heart confetti falling from the ceiling. Professor Lockhart, wearing pink robes to match the decorations, claps his hands, and dwarfs with golden wings carrying harps come into the Great Hall. The card-carrying cupids will be going around the school all day, delivering everyone's valentines. To Harry's embarrassment, a dwarf catches up with him on his way to Charms to deliver a musical message.

His eyes are as green as a fresh pickled toad,

His hair is as dark as a blackboard.

I wish he was mine, he's really divine,

The hero who conquered the Dark Lord.

Though it isn't confirmed, Ginny most likely is the one who sent the valentine. It's no secret she has a huge crush on Harry, and when Draco Malfoy calls after Ginny, "I don't think Potter liked your valentine much," she covers her face and runs into class.

The Merpeople's Song from the Golden Egg

After retrieving his golden egg from the Hungarian Horntail in the first task of the Triwizard Tournament, Harry opens it in Gryffindor Tower. Imagine his confusion when all it does is wail. What kind of clue for the next task is that? Well, Sedric Diggory knows a thing or two, and after the Yule Ball, he tells Harry to go to the prefects' bathroom, the fourth door to the left of the statue of Boris the Bewildered on the fifth floor, and take a bath with the egg. This leaves Harry feeling pretty bewildered himself, but after running out of ideas, he takes Sedric's advice. When he goes to the bathroom, he doesn't have much luck until Moaning Myrtle pops in and tells him to open the egg under the water. Harry sinks under the bubbly surface of the water and opens the egg to hear a chorus of eerie voices singing a riddle.

"Come seek us where our voices sound,

We cannot sing above the ground,

And while you're searching, ponder this:

We've taken what you'll sorely miss,

An hour long you'll have to look,

And to recover what we took,

But past an hour—the prospect's black,

Too late, it's gone, it won't come back."

Finally knowing the golden egg's clue, Harry pieces it all together. He has to find a way to survive under water for an hour, and Dobby comes to the rescue on the morning of the task to give him Gillyweed. Harry swims in the lake and hears the Merpeople's song. He follows it to find Ron and the others taken for the task tied up. Harry frees Ron and Fleur Delacour's sister, Gabrielle, and swims back up to the lake's surface.

Weasley is Our King

The students at Hogwarts take Quidditch very seriously, and there are no limits when it comes to the Slytherins being cunning and ambitious. So, when Ron becomes Keeper for the Gryffindor team, the Slytherins turn their desire to sabotage Ron on a broomstick into lyrics. The Slytherins go all out, writing their song, "Weasley is Our King," and even wear crown badges to go along with it.

Weasley cannot save a thing,

He cannot block a single ring,

That's why Slytherins all sing:

Weasley is our king.

Weasley was born in a bin,

He always lets the Quaffle in,

Weasley will make sure we win,

Weasley is our king.

Weasley is our king,

Weasley is our king,

He always lets the Quaffle in,

Weasley is our king.

Imagine how Ron must feel when he hears the song coming from the students in green and silver at the match. A song like that is enough to make anyone's anxiety level skyrocket. Still, who knew Draco Malfoy and his friends could write a song and make matching badges? Seems like they have a little bit of Ravenclaw in them to have pulled it off, or maybe, songwriting is just a secret Slytherin talent.

The Sorting Hat and Merpeople have clever songs, and Peeves and the Slytherins have not so friendly ones. Hogwarts has its own school song, and even Ginny finds a way to confess her feelings to Harry in a song on Valentine's Day. Witches and wizards may be very different than Muggles in many ways, but the magic of music in both worlds blends them together in harmony.



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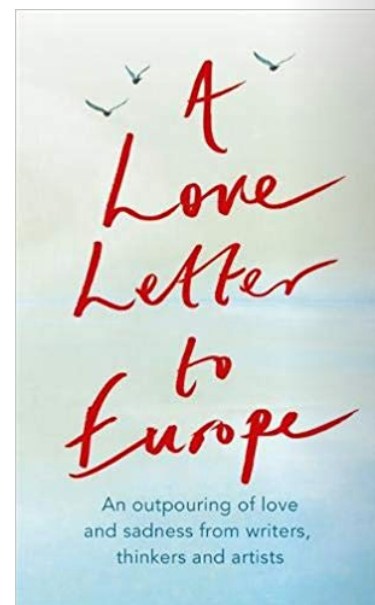
OUR CURRENT SUPPORTS - TO WHICH WE ARE REALLY GRATEFUL - ARE:

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BY Patricio Tarantino

DEAR BREXIT

NEW J.K. ROWLING'S WRITING
TO BE FEATURED IN "A LOVER LETTER TO EUROPE"



On September 23rd, Coronet Books (an imprint of Hodder & Stoughton) announced the publication of "A Love Letter to Europe". The book was planned to be published on October 31st, the day when Britain was expected to leave the European Union. However, the conditions changed and the United Kingdom will remain at least for a few more months as part of the EU, but the book will still be published on the original date.

Why are we interested in this book and why is this the main article of this issue? Because it's the return of J.K. Rowling to the published world! "A Love Letter to Europe" includes a letter written by J.K. Rowling herself, about the continent and her memories. She is not the only author who collaborated with the book, neither the only celebrity. Neil Gaiman and Pete Townshend from The Who, also penned a collaboration that was part of it.

This is not the first time that Rowling takes part in a political book. She participated with a foreword in



"Moving Britain Forward: Selected Speeches, 1997-2006" (Bloomsbury, 2006), a collection of Gordon Brown's speeches, the man who would later become Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (from 2007 to 2010). And this isn't clear the first time Rowling is active about an election in the United Kingdom either. Since she created her Twitter account, she supported publicly her sides. The first one was "Better Together", the campaign for a No vote in the 2014 Scottish independence referendum, advocating Scotland continuing to be part of the United Kingdom. She was victorious in that one, since "Better Together" won the referendum and Scotland remained in the United Kingdom.

However, her support for "Remain", the side that wanted Britain to continue in the European Union, did not have the same luck. As all of us are aware, the people from Britain voted for "Leave", and that's the future of the country. And whether you agree with it or not, this led us to a book with new content from Rowling.

In her letter, J.K. tells us about experiences that she had in Europe that were unknown for most (or all) of her fans. Her letter starts with another letter: "The letter was written on thin, pale blue paper. The handwriting was neat and rounded.". She uses this to introduce us to Hanna, her first pen friend from Germany. A few months after that first letter, she went to visit Hanna and her family at their house in Stuttgart, Rowling's first experience in continental Europe. Of course, this wouldn't be her last. "I kept in touch with Hanna for years, and when I was 15, the family invited me, with incredible generosity, to accompany them on a month-long trip to Italy." recalls Rowling on the second country she visited.



Hanna was not going to be her only pen friend. Adele was the second one, from France, with whom Joanne visited Brittany, at the north west of France. If in Italy was where Rowling tried shellfish, it seems Brittany was the place that introduced cigarettes to the soon to be author.

The tale continues with the third country she visited, this time with her best friend doing backpacking. Destination was Austria. "Looking back, I do slightly wonder what our parents were thinking, letting us go: two schoolgirls with a smattering of German heading off on a coach with no fixed plans and no accommodation booked". Austria, in this case, concludes the list of countries that we did not know Rowling visited in her youth, with also German and Italy. Although the holidays in France were unknown, we knew Rowling spent several years living in Paris as part of her French degree (and was of course part of the inspiration of *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*).

Those years are next in her letter, "My mother, a quiet Francophile with a half-French father, was delighted to visit me there; my father, possibly less so, given my perennially unsuccessful pleas to waiters to understand that *bien cuit* in his case meant there must be no pink at all in the middle of the steak.", and now we jump to Portugal. "I fell in love with Porto and I love it still. I was enchanted by fado, the melancholy folk music that reflects the Portuguese themselves, who in my experience had a quietness and gentleness unique among Latin peoples I'd encountered so far."

All the conclusion at which Rowling arrives in the last paragraphs of the letter share the same topic: freedom. The tales in which she tells her adventures through Europe are just a way to visualize the liberty she enjoyed since she was 13 years old travelling around the continent - that continued until her adulthood (and nowadays, obviously), as she points out when says "Several children of my acquaintance, including my own eldest daughter, wouldn't have been born without the frictionless travel the EU gave us."

As this love letter to Europe began with a touching reference to a letter 13-year-old J.K. Rowling received back in 1978, it ends with another letter that French thinker Voltaire wrote to his dearest friend Nicolas-Claude Thieriot back in 1734. She concludes her letter mentioning both her childhood friend Hannah and the XVIIIth century philosopher: "The truth is that I'm thinking of her now

because she was my first friend from continental Europe, and because the words of Voltaire that hold so much meaning for me now are these: "[Où est] L'amitié est la patrie." "Where there is friendship, there is our homeland." And Hanna, I really don't want to lose my homeland."

The full letter is available in *A Love Letter to Europe*, Coronet Books, to be published on October 31st, 2019.



FAN THEORY

WHAT IF TOM RIDDLE HAD BEEN A GRYFFINDOR?

BY Amber Goldsmith
(*nom de plume: Obversa*)

It depends on the context and circumstances. Did his mother survive to raise and love him? Or does everything else remain the same, aside from his Sorting?

I'm assuming that you mean the latter case. Given this, I would have to say it's difficult to say, because it would've likely changed a few, important details in the books. pertaining to Riddle's school years.

However, I'm leaning towards a yes.

Tom Riddle, despite being in Gryffindor, would've still likely become Voldemort, as Rowling has explicitly stated that Voldemort was largely a product of Riddle growing up in an orphanage.

Namely, Riddle's relationships with others, and particularly, his relationship with Albus Dumbledore, who was likely Head of Gryffindor house when Riddle went to school.

As we see in Harry's era, Gryffindor appears to be, like Hufflepuff, a much more "accepting" House than Slytherin. Godric Gryffindor and Salazar Slytherin, after all, had a falling-out over "allowing Muggle-born students at the school".

Therefore, Gryffindors are much more likely to be accepting of Muggle-borns,

or those raised by Muggles, such as Tom Riddle.

On the other hand, we see that many in Slytherin seems to follow Salazar Slytherin's beliefs of "blood purity", holding Purebloods at the top of the power hierarchy over "Mudbloods" (Muggle-borns). Tom, being an orphan who was raised poor and by Muggles, would've very likely done very poorly in Slytherin to start off, because everyone would naturally assume he was a Muggle-born.

As we see in Chamber of Secrets, everyone else, including Headmaster Armando Dipper, assumed that Tom was a Muggle-born.

"You live in a Muggle orphanage during the holidays, I believe?" said Dippet curiously.

"Yes, sir," said Riddle, reddening slightly.

"You are Muggle-born, [Tom]?"

"Half-blood, sir," said Riddle. "Muggle father, witch mother."

I think that, given Slytherin's almost obsessive attitude towards "blood purity", and the fact that there were many more Purebloods (especially in Slytherin) around than in Harry's time at Hogwarts, that this drove Tom to

search for five years, researching his geneology and heritage - as well as the Chamber of Secrets.

After all, like Hermione, Tom was likely bullied by other, older Slytherins for years for being a supposed "Mudblood" - until, of course, he could prove that he was, in fact, a Half-blood. Even then, his claims were probably cemented by his opening of the Chamber of Secrets; killing Myrtle Warren in cold blood; and using the threat of the basilisk to terrorize his former bullies and enemies in Slytherin into becoming his "allies".

However, had Tom been sorted into Gryffindor instead, I think that he would be less likely to search for his "true heritage", or the Chamber of Secrets, at least during his school years.

This is because Gryffindor house, being more accepting, would, in turn, make a greater effort to accept, and befriend, Tom. They would be much more likely to sympathize, and empathize, with a "poor, penniless, mistreated, but brilliant Muggle-born orphan".

As a result, Tom, not seeing the need to desperately prove his heritage to prevent bullying - and the Gryffindors would be more likely to help defend "one of their own" (Tom) against Sly-

therin bullies.

Likewise, in Gryffindor, Tom would already find those who “admired” him for his intelligence, academic ambitions, and talent with magic - and, thus, I think he would develop a “group” or “gang” of “friends” loyal to him much sooner than he did in the books, with him as the leader.

I think, among this group, that even the likes of Mr. Longbottom, Neville’s paternal grandfather; Ignatius Prewett, Ron’s maternal uncle, and Mr. Prewett, Ron’s maternal grandfather; Septimus Weasley, Ron’s paternal grandfather; Charlus Potter, and even Fleamont Potter - Harry’s paternal grandfather - might’ve been a part of Tom’s “Gryffindor gang” of students.

Tom would also likely foster a strong connection to the Potter family, who likely resembled him in looks. The Potters (Charlus and Fleamont) and their father, Henry (“Harry”) Potter, would also be influential and powerful voices within the Ministry of Magic at the time - and, thus, “useful” to Tom.

Charlus Potter, likely one of Henry’s sons, would also marry Dorea Black, cementing ties to the Black Pureblood family, who were also an influential Pureblood family within the wizarding world.

It is even quite possible that Tom would take notice of the Potters’ Cloak of Invisibility, and, instead of going after Horcruxes, he would instead - like Dumbledore and Grindelwald before him - seek out the Deathly Hallows.

However, with Albus Dumbledore himself as Tom’s Head of House, and directly responsible for “keeping an eye” on Tom, I think that Tom would have a lot less leeway in order to “get away with things”. Hence, I think this factors into Tom not opening the Chamber of Secrets in this alternate history. He simply couldn’t take the risk, not with Dumbledore already monitoring his behavior very closely.

Likewise, I find it less likely that Tom

would develop such a close relationship with Horace Slughorn, the likely Slytherin Head of House, making it less likely that Tom would have the discussion about Horcruxes. However, I do think that Tom, being as intelligent as he is, would seek out another path to power - the Hallows.

As such, Tom likely would’ve either stolen the Cloak on his own, or even killed (“arranged a ‘tragic accident’ for”) the Potters, or Charlus or Fleamont in particular, in order to “obtain” it. Due to this, Harry Potter may not have come to exist, nor, by extension, would Harry’s father, James Potter, as Fleamont would’ve likely died long before James was conceived.

Without James Potter in the picture, and Tom Riddle favouring Gryffindors, Lily Evans would’ve likely kept her friendship with Severus Snape. As per Rowling, “in time”, Lily would’ve likely come to return Snape’s romantic love for her, marrying him and becoming Snape’s wife.

Additionally, in time, Tom’s search for the Hallows would eventually lead him, albeit maybe after his school days, to reveal his Gaunt heritage, and his true parentage.

Like in the books, his anger and rage towards his father would likely lead him to either incinerating, or outright murdering, the Riddles and Morfin Gaunt, in order to “wipe out any traces” that he was there - or the Gaunts’ connection to the Peverells, and thus, the Hallows.

As such, Tom would seek out the Gaunt ring, not to make it a Horcrux, but because it was the Resurrection Stone - thus, bringing two of the three Deathly Hallows (the Stone and the Cloak) into Tom’s possession.

On the other hand, Dumbledore would still defeat Grindelwald, bringing the Elder Wand into Dumbledore’s possession - and stoking Tom’s hatred for (and plans against) Dumbledore.

Let’s say that Tom still becomes Lord

Voldemort, albeit with “Hallows, not Horcruxes”, and the Prophecy still comes to pass. Let’s say that Lily and Snape, indeed, get married and have a child at the same time that Lily and James would’ve - thus, fulfilling the Prophecy.

Like in the books, the Snapes reach out to Dumbledore for protection, and are Order of the Phoenix members - and Dumbledore complies.

Instead of Harry Potter, Tom / Lord Voldemort instead seeks to kill the child of the Snapes. Let’s say that he succeeds, manipulating one of the Order into revealing their location, and, like before, the father is killed, whereas Lily sacrifices her life for her child - resulting in Voldemort’s supposed “defeat”.

Thus, we would have a very different book series, featuring Lily and Snape’s child as the likley protagonist - and, possibly, if that child is Sorted into Slytherin, with Slytherins as “the good guys”, and Gryffindors as “the evil house”.

Or, let’s say that Voldemort spares the Potter family, and they still provide him the Cloak. In this alternate history, James Potter is born, but Harry Potter is not, and James Potter becomes an alternate-esque Lucius Malfoy. James then also swaps roles, quite likely, with Severus Snape, becoming the antagonist-teacher-figure in Lily and Snape’s child’s life.

Instead of Potions, however, James Potter would likely teach Defense Against the Dark Arts. In Snape’s stead, Horace Slughorn would likely return to teach Potions much earlier (or never retire).

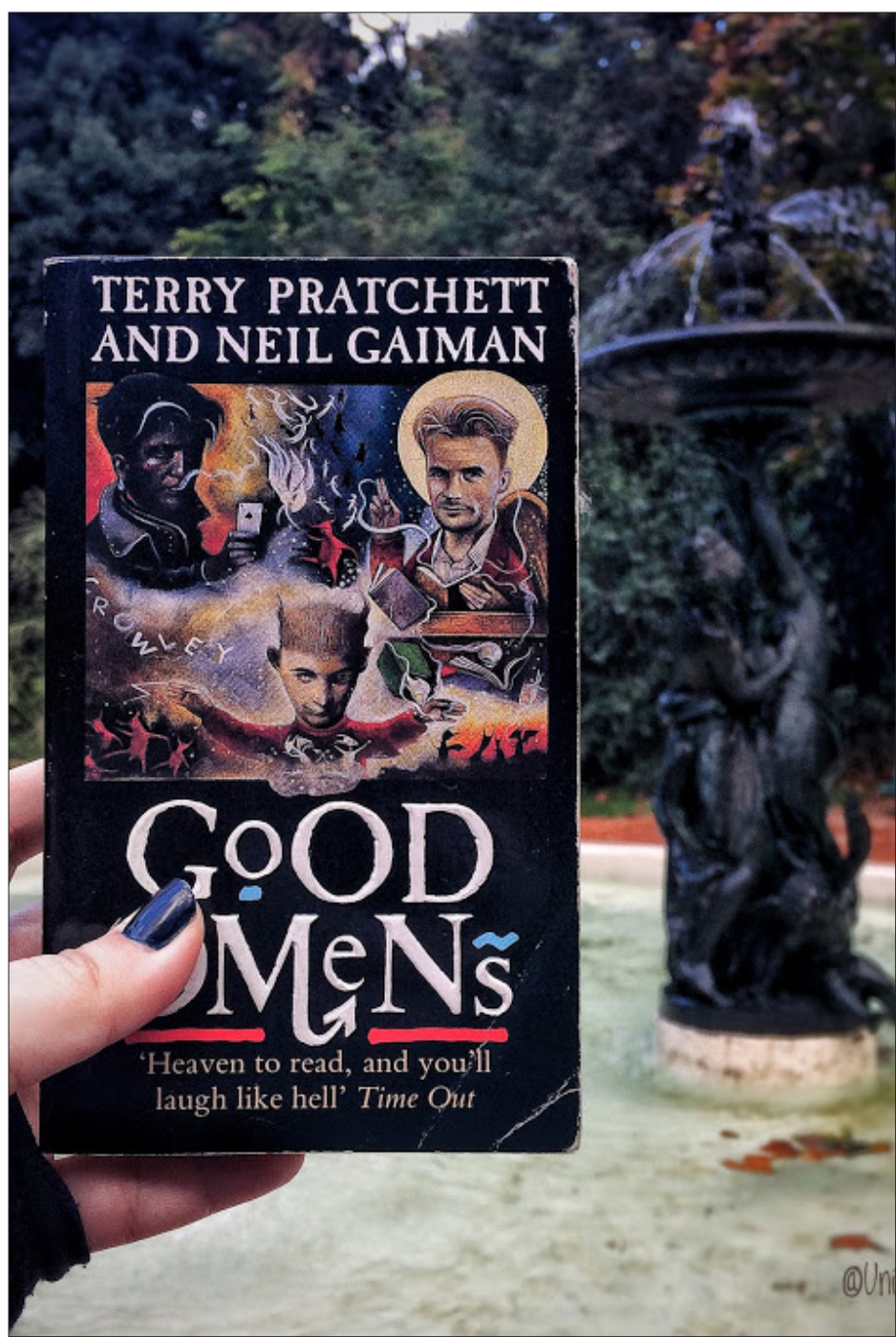
Given that the Chamber of Secrets was never opened, and he was never expelled, Rubeus Hagrid would likely have his wand, and be more highly trained and capable in magic, but I feel that he would still be the Groundskeeper at Hogwarts, due to the stigma of being a half-giant (“half-breed”) wizard.

BOOK REVIEW

BY Ayelén Vegagil Espósito

GOOD OMENS BY NEIL GAIMAN AND TERRY PRATCHETT

NEIL GAIMAN AND TERRY PRATCHETT ARE TWO OF THE MOST NOTABLE FANTASY AND SCI-FI AUTHORS FROM OUR TIMES. THEY BOTH HAD DIFFERENT STYLES BUT THEY SHARE THE UNCOMMONLY DARK AND HILARIOUS SENSE OF HUMOR TO CRITICIZE OUR SOCIETY AND ITS RULES. THEY BOTH ALSO SHARE THE OWNERSHIP OF ONE OF THE MOST HILARIOUS STORIES THAT TELL US ABOUT HOW OUR WORLD COULD END.





This book is one of my most beloved ones, Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett created a story that would make you question a lot the comings and goings of our society, our religions, our beliefs, our own story and how we do have the power to stop it all or making it worse.

In this book, both authors tell the story of our Earth, the adventures of an angel (Aziraphale) and a demon (Crowley) that are the designated ones from both their species to help to unleash the Apocalypse in the world. While the angel has the mission to stop the Antichrist to born in this world, the demon has to protect him to become the destructor of all. The missions are clear, the path is set, but even the most powerful and seemingly uncomplicated plans could go awry. With the help of a very confused satanic nurse and the distraction of two human and normal birthings, the plan is messed and the Antichrist is not sent to live with the politician family. Instead Adam —this is how he is named— lives in the english suburbs. He has grown not knowing his true nature.

Meanwhile Aziraphale and Crowley had made an alliance of sorts as both love to live on Earth and feel quite sad about its possible end. They have become so comfortable living among humans that they want to sabotage the plans of their bosses. That's how they end trying to teach Damien —the boy they believed to be the Antichrist— all what they think necessary to stop the boy of destroying their beloved Earth.

Also there are two other subplots, one involving the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, each one with different personalities, they also have been living on Earth awaiting the End; and the other involves the descendant of Agnes Nut-

ter, the Witch, Anathema Device and two members of the Witchfinder Army, Newton Pulsifer and Sergeant Shadwell, they will try to follow Agnes writes in order to stop the Apocalypse.

It is a really fun and fantastical book, it criticizes with humor the strong inaccuracies of our Systems. It paints both God and Satan as two forces that could be equally wrong —this is perhaps one of the things that the Catholic Church hates from the book, obviously resulting in it trying to ban it. And it shows us that when we love something, we should fight with all that we have to make it better, relying on our friends, relying on our family and loved ones.

One of the quotes that I love the most is:

«'You're just saying the child isn't evil of itself?' he said slowly.

'Potentially evil. Potentially good, too, I suppose. Just this huge powerful potentiality, waiting to be shaped,' said Crowley. He shrugged. 'Anyway, why're we're talking about this good and evil? They're just names for sides. We know that.'»

A couple of months ago Amazon Prime launched the adaptation of this book as a series of 6 episodes, being Neil Gaiman himself the screenwriter, the fans had loved it so much that they have petitioned its producers to make a sequel. Will they be heard?

Meanwhile I truly insist you to not only read this book, but enjoy the acting of Michael Sheen and David Tennant in its epic adaptation.

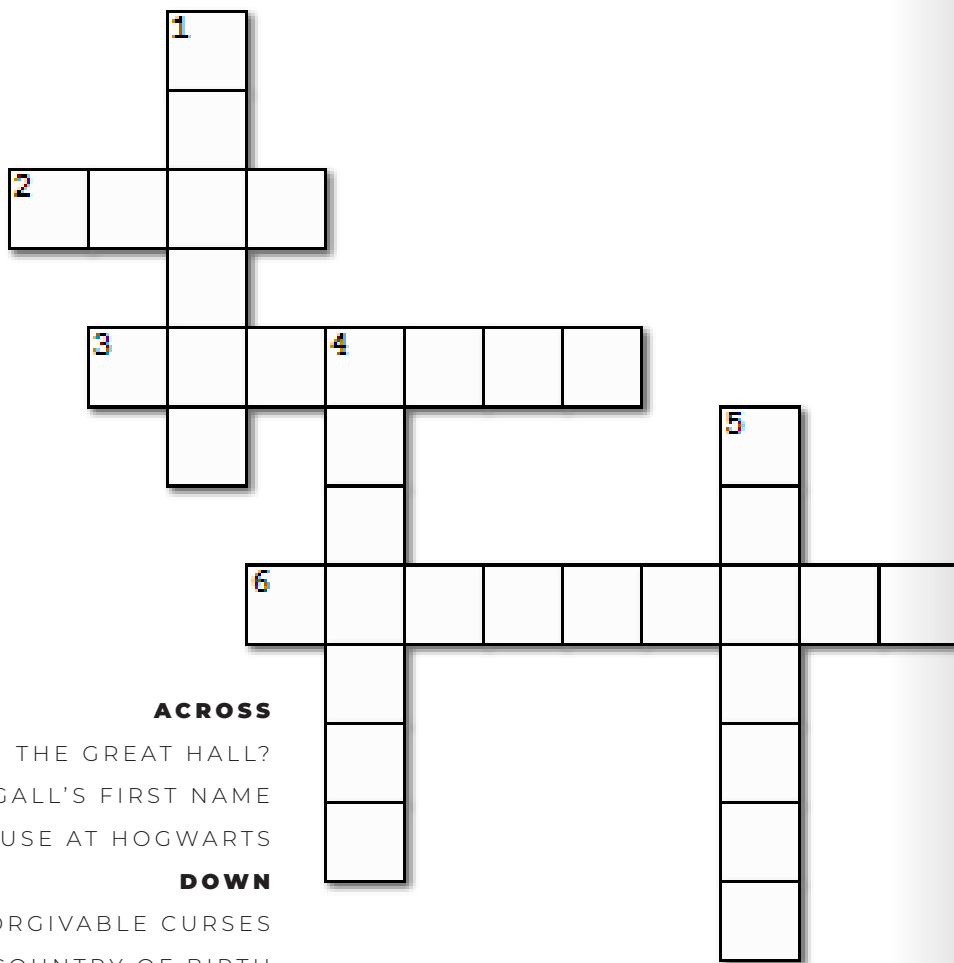
Without further ado... Mischief Managed!

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ACROSS

- 2. HOW MANY TABLES IN THE GREAT HALL?
- 3. MCGONAGALL'S FIRST NAME
- 6. SNAPE'S HOUSE AT HOGWARTS

DOWN

- 1. ONE OF THE UNFORGIVABLE CURSES
- 4. ROWLING'S COUNTRY OF BIRTH
- 5. TOM RIDDLE'S SECOND NAME

ILLUSTRATION



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