

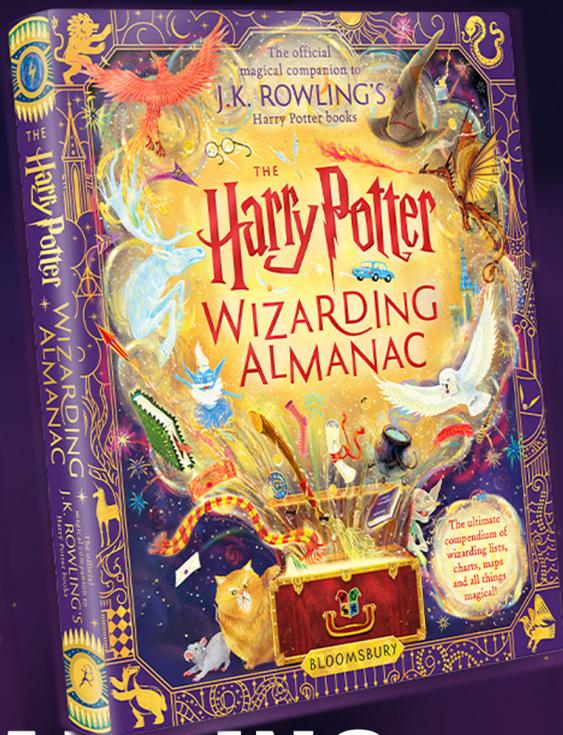


# Magazine

Issue 75

March  
2023

*A magazine about Harry Potter & J.K. Rowling*



# THE WIZARDING ALMANAC

**WHAT WE CAN EXPECT AND  
WHY IT'S NOT THE ENCYCLOPEDIA WE EXPECT**

*+ Dracula & Voldemort + Cursed Child Film + More*



The Rowling Library  
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**FOUNDER & EDITOR IN CHIEF**

**PATRICIO TARANTINO**

**ILLUSTRATOR**

**FAUSTO GIURESCU**

**CONTRIBUTORS**

**LAURENT GARCIA**

**OLIVER HORTON**

**LUNGILE NTULI**

**ERIK KRUEGER**

# WELCOME

Welcome to the 75th issue of our magazine! In this issue, Oliver Horton explores Harry Potter's psychology in the fifth book and he also contributes with a short essay about the similarities between Voldemort and Dracula.

We also take a closer look at the recently announced book, *The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac*, and examine whether it will be the ultimate encyclopedia for every Harry Potter fan. Moreover, this issue features a new Famous Wizard Card by Fausto Giurescu, and we provide an update on the rumors of a *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* movie. But that's not all, there's much more to explore in this edition.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuous support and let you know that we have exciting changes and surprises planned for our next issue in April. We can't wait to share them with you in due time.

Thank you for choosing our magazine as your source of all things Harry Potter. We hope you enjoy this edition as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you!

Patricio

**5. PAIN IN THE HEAD 11. FAMOUS WIZARD CARD  
12. THE WIZARDING ALMANAC 19. SUPPORT US  
20. VOLDEMORT, THE VAMPIRE 23. THE CURSED CHILD  
MOVIE 26. TWITTER ARCHIVE 27. DOBBY, A RABEL WITH  
A CAUSE 31. RIDDIKULUS!**

# SECRET HISTORY OF THE WIZARDING PHENOMENON

Based on original research and exclusive interviews, this book tells the story of how the Harry Potter books, movies, theme parks, fandom and more were created. Including the creative processes, the marketing aspect, and the legal issues that arose, this publication aims to be a behind-the-scenes of the Harry Potter phenomenon.



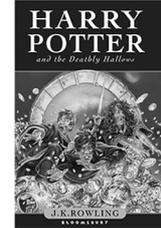
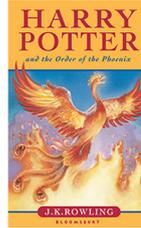
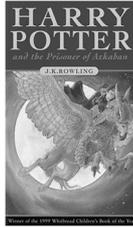
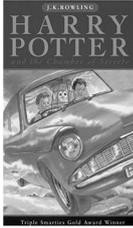
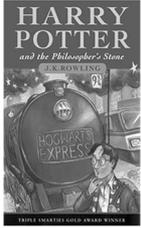
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BY OLIVER HORTON



# BOOK FIVE

## *Pain in the Head*

As the fifth *Harry Potter* book unfolds, the Boy Who Lived faces a lot of challenges and his own emotions are spiraling out of control.

Cedric Diggory is dead and Harry Potter does not want to talk about it. Harry is bored and depressed. He feels trapped in Little Whinging and seeks negative excitement. A fight. A fight with his cousin. But when he goes toe-to-toe with Dudley Dursley, down swoop two Dementors. *Order of the Phoenix* is full of life lessons, and starts as it means to go on. At the point of dying in an alley near his uncle's house, Harry thinks of Ron and Hermione. His heart fills with happiness and the monsters are repelled. The exact same

thing happens in the climax at the Ministry. Harry thinks of Sirius, and the strength of his emotion drives Voldemort out of his head. Love conquers all.

More than any other book in the series, *Order of the Phoenix* is a study in grief. Harry has seen death up close and he is changed. Anger and other inconvenient feelings are steaming through his veins. His challenge is to master his emotions. Which is easier said than done.

Dumbledore does not help. Like an incompetent doctor, he administers the wrong treatments. He cuts Harry off from everyone who cares about him, then prescribes Occlumency lessons with the prince of repressed feelings, Severus Snape. Not thinking about his grief may work for Snape, but he is not exactly a role model for the well-adjusted male. Dumbledore has ducked the question of why Voldemort wants Harry dead since the end of *Philosopher's Stone*, and the overdue answer is this book's MacGuffin. The precious Prophecy predicts: the hero of these stories will destroy the villain in the end (or vice-versa). Well, duh.

### MENTAL ELF

Harry's mental health suffers. His feelings overwhelm his surroundings. There is not a nice day from the opening Dementor attack until Chapter 29 when Harry decides he might like to talk to someone after all. Number 12 Grimmauld Place reflects his state of mind: dank, dark and Dark, depressing, dusty, gloomy and rotten. The Black house is clogged up with junk from the past (including a Horcrux) and reluctant to change. Like Harry, the London townhouse is prone to shouting in caps lock: gee thanks, Mrs Black. And Kreacher gives voice to feelings of not belonging. Yep, Harry is trolled by a mental elf.

Cedric's death impacts on others too, notably Molly Weasley. Boggartvision shows fearful Molly her own children dead like Diggory. Furious Molly screams in capital letters just as often as the portrait of Walburga Black. But her overbearing protectiveness achieves the opposite of the desired result. The Twins quit school early and the two youngest Weasleys wind up at the Ministry in a fight with Voldemort's Death Eaters. Molly's one-woman Gestapo routine is a preview of what's about to happen at Hogwarts: the Umbridge revolution, like Molly's new order, is doomed to failure. Rules will be broken.

Dumbledore goes AWOL, Molly-the-nurturer turns jailer, fun-uncle Sirius indulges in fits of the sullens, and Hagrid is off roaming with his supersized lady friend. Compassion takes a holiday! These absences force Harry to connect with his peers, who are rather better at the touchy-feely stuff than the out-of-touch older generation. Once he is liberated from Privet Drive, help is always available if only Harry would ask. "*You don't want to bottle up your anger like that Harry, let it all out,*" smirks Fred, sagely. On the Hogwarts Express, the very people Harry needs are planted like gifts. Sharing his carriage are Neville Longbottom and Luna Lovegood, two characters who have experience of death; two characters who have been robbed



DEMENTOR ATTACK (POTTERMORE)

of parents. Later, when it becomes clear that Voldemort is pushing Harry's buttons, Ginny Weasley presents herself. She has survived possession by darkness. Whatever he thinks, Harry is not alone.

### CAT AMONG THE PIXIES

Isolated Harry starts to wonder if he is crazy. *"First sign of madness, talking to your own head,"* says an empty portrait. The notion that Harry is a nutcase is laid on nice and thick, as if the author dares us to question the premise of the entire series. Harry feels like his head has been cleaved in two, as if everything is upside down: *Harry could hardly believe this was real.* Dumbledore's orders are to keep Harry *"from doing magic at all costs"*, as if magic is a symptom of something terrible, of insanity.

At the start of *Order of the Phoenix*, grief-struck Harry has fully submitted to the wizarding world. Characters from Muggledom are sucked into his alternative reality. The batty neighbour Mrs Figg becomes a Squib, while Mrs Tibbles is a private detective and cat. Aunt Petunia is now an expert on Azkaban. Harry's watchdog is a booze-sodden tramp called Mundungus Fletcher. In fact, several of Harry's adult wizard buddies are shabby-looking alcoholics: Hagrid, Moody, Sirius and Professor Trelawney. Delinquent in appearance, Harry is reduced to scavenging in bins for newspapers. The entrance to the Ministry of Magic is a vandalised telephone box. *"Everyone thinks he's delusional,"* observes Rita Skeeter.

Minus the magical explanation, the Dementor attack on Harry and Dudley has all the facets of a Muggle mugging. A revenge assault by dads or brothers of another beaten-up ten-year-old? Amateur boxer Dudley Dursley is terrified and quickly overwhelmed. But that sweet Harry Potter fights them off. Because if the magic is all in his head, then Harry is a creature of violence, unbalanced. "I'm a nutter, remember?" he snarls. *Half the people inside Hogwarts thought him strange, even mad.* Ron and Hermione watch him apprehensively, the re-exploding bomb. Harry flies into a maniac rage at the end of the Gryffindor/Slytherin Quidditch match and beats seven shades out of Draco Malfoy. He nearly kills his blond wizard rival the following year. People around Harry get hurt, friends and enemies. Cedric Diggory is dead after fooling around with Harry in a cemetery.

Hogwarts School for Witchcraft and Wizardry? "That madhouse you call a school," in Uncle Vernon's words, seems more like St Brutus's Secure Centre for Incurably Criminal Boys (now co-ed).

"You're just as sane as I am," says loony Luna Lovegood, soothingly. In fact, several of Harry's teenage wizard buddies are mentally suspect. Ron Weasley is as repressed as Billy Bibbit from *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, another virgin with a domineering mother. Naturally, the overseers of Hogwarts or St Brutus's want more oversight. Enter Nurse Ratched, played by Dolores Umbridge, who shares Dumbledore's taste in chintz armchairs and identifies Harry's anger-management issues as fundamental to the school's problems. "There," says Umbridge in a torturous private session, "we're getting better at controlling our temper already."



## BRAIN ADDLED

When Harry sleeps, his mind wanders to the Department of Mysteries at the Ministry of Magic. In dream theory, long dark corridors symbolise a difficult life choice, and locked doors indicate the gateway to the subconscious mind. Harry's great fear is that his godfather Sirius will be maimed or killed, and this drives all rational thought from his head. The vision of Sirius being tortured is akin to Molly's Boggart: imagined terror come to life.

The Department of Mysteries is Harry's unconscious mind! Time goes awry. He discovers a Phoenix-like Hummingbird, glass orbs that whisper the future, a man with a baby's head, and a Veil that masks the rustle of the dead: *the ones that die never truly leave us*. Hermione is knocked down by a pile of metaphors, er, books. Ron floats about in space, giggling about Uranus. Neville is indomitable, while Luna is quite at home.

Strange she may be, but Luna Lovegood is a light in dark places when all other lights go out. Luna believes in another layer of magic, mad stuff beyond the reckoning of most people. She consistently supports Harry's way of seeing and confirms the existence of mostly-invisible Thestrals. She loudly endorses his story about Voldemort's return, inspiring others to lend voice to his cause.

She is the balm for his pain at book's end.

Luna is the counterpoint to Sirius: the antithesis of the Sirius-like recklessness and impetuosity that drives Harry Potter. Harry and Sirius could never tolerate their stuff being nicked, or being hamstrung by the Inquisitorial Squad. Luna bears it with equanimity. She can just be. Ever serene, Luna embodies the Taoist concept of wu wei. This is the Way: Harry learns to be more Luna-like in *Deathly Hallows* when he gives up pursuit of the Elder Wand.

## CRACKPOT'S FEELING CRANKY

Until the threat of Sirius's death, Harry is in recovery. Hermione organises Dumbledore's Army, a kind of wizard fight club where Harry's disciples knock ten bells out of one another. As leader of the activities programme, Harry enjoys a positive distraction and some much-needed camaraderie and a sneaky snog with Cho Chang: as long as he was busy he was happy. Hermione then brings in the big guns. She invites Harry to a Valentine's Day interview with Rita Skeeter. Luna and Hermione lend moral support, and Harry finally opens up about the death of Cedric Diggory. It's good to talk.

But life moves pretty fast with death at its heels. Sirius passes away and Harry tries to kill Bellatrix Lestrange. This act draws



SIRIUS GOES THROUGH THE VEIL (POTTERMORE)

Voldemort and then Dumbledore. The old sorcerers fight a spectacular yet indecisive duel, a stalemate. Voldemort invades Harry's head, and tempts him to join Sirius: to commit suicide. This is no option for Harry, who is tethered to life by the force of his love.

Dumbledore and Voldemort are two sides of the same coin, the two faces of death. One is compassionate and embodies ancient wisdom, the other is cruel and takes people before their time. Voldemort fears death, as Harry does. Fear is the path to the dark side. *"There is nothing worse than death,"* says Voldemort in the Ministry atrium. *"You are quite wrong,"* says Dumbledore, coolly.

Voldemort is the monster Harry created to explain his parents' untimely demise. He is part of Harry, terror made manifest. During a nightmare Harry hears maniacal laughter ringing in his

ears: *the wild laughter was coming out of his own mouth.* In the headmaster's office, the pain of Sirius's loss becomes unbearable. *"This pain is part of being human,"* insists Dumbledore. *"THEN - I - DON'T - WANT - TO - BE - HUMAN!"* screams back Harry. Here is the seed of the barely-human Voldemort, born of Harry's unschooled reaction to his parents' shocking deaths.

Grief cannot be blocked out with Occlumency or tempered with Firewhiskey. The only healthy way is to feel, to acknowledge, to accept. Harry spends a fortnight at Privet Drive in mourning, shut up in his room, refusing meals. He faces his sorrow. And by the time Dumbledore comes calling in the third chapter of *Half Blood Prince*, Harry is his good old self once more. The clouds lift. The anger abates. He is, for the most part, restored.



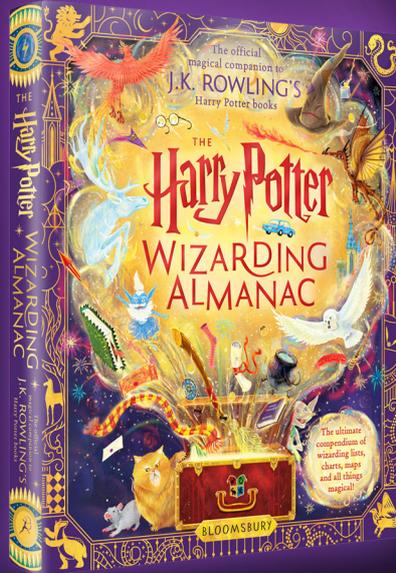
### **Burdock Muldoon**

Chief of Wizards' Council in the mid-14th century. Muldoon tried to define the difference between a "being" and a "beast."

# #14



**The Rowling Library**  
**Famous Wizards Cards Collection**



# WHAT IS THE WIZARDING ALMANAC:

WHAT TO EXPECT AND IS IT THE  
ENCYCLOPEDIA WE'RE HOPING FOR?

by Patricio Tarantino and Laurent Garcia

**H**arry Potter fans have been waiting for years for an encyclopedia of the Wizarding World written by J.K. Rowling. The author herself talked about the project several times, even naming it “The Scottish Book” so as to not jinx the project

(a reference to how people would refer to Macbeth as The Scottish Play). In an interview on the Pottercast podcast in 2007, Rowling confirmed that if published, it would include methods of how to create a Horcrux, the way Peter Pettigrew gave Voldemort a body,

and the reason for the murder of Florean Fortescue.

However, this project never came to life, and the original version of Pottermore ended up replacing it, publishing quite limited original content from J.K. Rowling. But a glimmer of hope came to the world of Harry Potter fans in early March, when Bloomsbury announced “the first official companion to J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter books”: **The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac**.

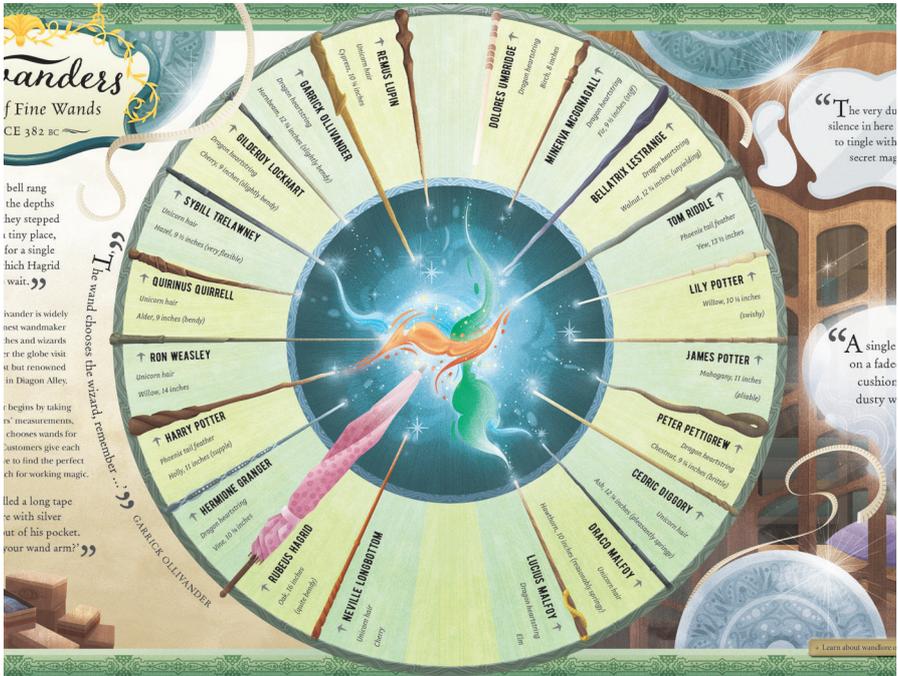
What is this “Wizarding Almanac”? It is a unique exploration through the wizarding world that will appeal to both new readers and hardcore fans. The book is designed to be a visual compendium of charts, cross-sections, and magical particulars, collecting together enchanted objects, fabulous foodstuffs, curious plants, and fantastic beasts from the Harry Potter universe. The seven chapters will allow readers to relive their favorite moments from the books, learn about spells and magic, and search for hidden secrets.

The book’s illustrations (which are as important as its content, as can be seen in the previews) are handled by seven different artists. It has not yet been confirmed whether each artist will be responsible for a specific chapter, or if they all worked on various parts of the book. The chosen artists are Peter Goes, Louise Lockhart, Weitong

Mai, Olia Muza, Pham Quang Phuc, Levi Pinfold, and Tomislav Tomić, and their work for this book has already generated many positive comments on social media, from Peter Goes’ guide to Hogwarts to Weitong Mai’s illustration of wands. Some fans might even recognize the names of Pinfold and Tomić, as they have already worked for the Wizarding World: Pinfold illustrated the Hogwarts House Editions, while Tomić drew some internal illustrations (such as the map of Hogwarts).

But beyond the book’s art, which has already received positive feedback, what do we know about the content? Although J.K. Rowling is listed as the author, it seems she did not write any of it. A likely reason why she is listed is that a lot of Harry Potter quotes are used throughout the book. The actual content has been meticulously researched and ingeniously organized by the team at Bloomsbury Children’s Books. But does that mean we’re finally about to be able to own an official encyclopedia of the Harry Potter Magical World?

It’s safe to say that we finally have a strong competitor for the famous *Harry Potter Lexicon*, which Rowling banned from publication in 2008 through a lawsuit. However, what we have already seen from this book through the promotional pictures and videos does not seem to indicate the



WANDS IN "THE HARRY POTTER WIZARDING ALMANAC"(BLOOMSBURY)

same search for completeness that we have seen in previous fanmade encyclopedias: while we feel that there is a lot of attention to detail and that the creative team behind the almanac decided to use sources that are considered highly canonical (such as the original books or Pottermore, but not the movies), it seems that they did not decide to be exhaustive and include every detail from the wizarding world.

In the images we have seen so far, two clear examples can be pointed out. On the pages about wands, there is a beautifully displayed collection of some of the characters' wands, with

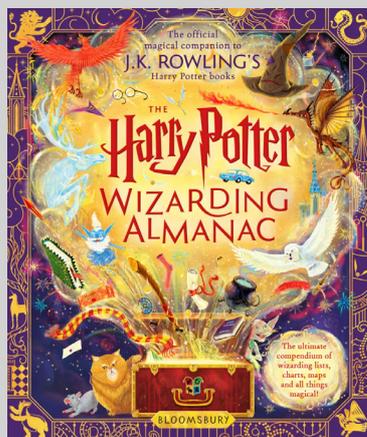
details such as length, type of wood, and core. The sources used for this section are various: as said before, a mix of the Harry Potter novels themselves and the character profiles on Pottermore. However, one particular wand is missing: Horace Slughorn's, which was described in the Pottermore Presents ebooks. The reason for this absence is unknown: did Bloomsbury intentionally ignore that source or was it an accidental omission? The fact that Slughorn's wand is missing there makes one wonder what other data might be missing from the book.

If the wand example is not enough, there is another one.

On the double page where the characters' Patronuses are presented (incredibly illustrated by Levi Pinfold), the well-known Dolores Umbridge is noticeably absent. Strangely, the Patronus of the former Hogwarts teacher is not such a strange or difficult-to-find fact: her Patronus is mentioned in the seventh book, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. This time, the justification for her absence may be a little simpler: they probably only wanted to use Patronuses of the "good" characters. It still feels odd to include most of the Patronus that we know about, yet not to add Umbridge's one to this section.

It is true that there is a possibility that these missing pieces of information could very well be on pages that have not been shown yet, but it would also be strange. If we take Umbridge's example, she is the only character whose Patronus is missing, so there are only two other options we can think of: include this bit on a separate page with just her Patronus, or include it alongside other Patronuses (which would end up being new Patronuses revealed by Rowling for the very first time in this book).

According to the announcements and press releases from Bloomsbury, it seems that the team who worked on the book has done an arduous task when compiling its data and verifying its source. It would seem that they have only included completely reliable sources that



## THE HARRY POTTER WIZARDING ALMANAC

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Written by: Bloomsbury  
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Illustrators: Peter Goes,  
Louise Lockhart, Weitong  
Mai, Olia Muza, Pham Quang  
Phuc, Levi Pinfold and  
Tomislav Tomić.

To be translated into 34  
languages.

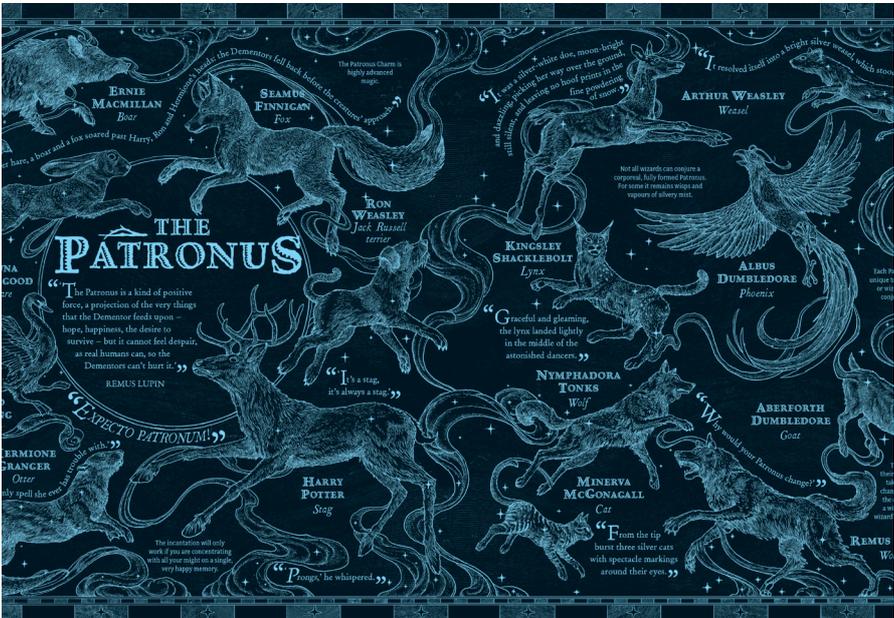


would be considered canon by any fan: works produced by Rowling herself, and nothing else (to read more about canon, look for our article ‘The Hierarchy of canon’ in issue 73). Therefore, its value as a reference encyclopedia lies in that: any data that appears in the book can be taken as true. But due to the aforementioned absences, we cannot consider the opposite: a piece of information that is not in the book might have very well been shared by Rowling through other means, books or interviews for example.

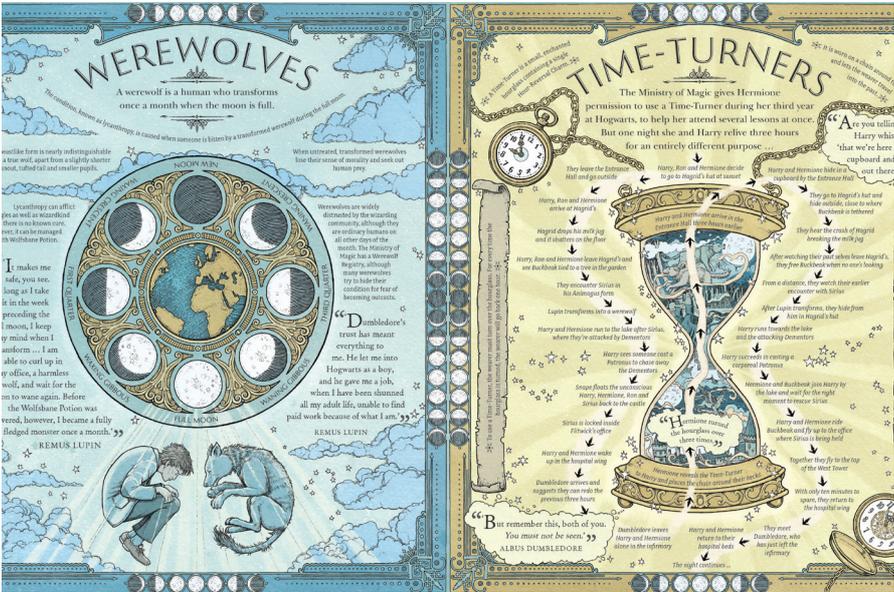
However this is not a criticism. Making a “comprehensive” encyclopedia of the Wizarding World would not only be a huge

task, but also a difficult one to carry out in physical terms. Would it be a book of over a thousand pages? Maybe two thousand, if you add as many illustrations as *The Harry Potter Almanac* seems to promise?

By all means don’t let these absences decrease the value of the book: we will finally have an official printed book with at least some of the data revealed on Pottermore. Not only character data, but also what seems to be deeper content from J.K. Rowling. In one of the previews, you can read “Learn about wandlore on page 134”, reminding us that Rowling published three articles about the topic on Pottermore



PATRONUSES IN "THE HARRY POTTER WIZARDING ALMANAC"(BLOOMSBURY)



WEREWOLVES & TIMETURNERS IN 'THE HARRY POTTER WIZARDING ALMANAC'(BLOOMSBURY)

(Wand Woods, Wand Lengths and Flexibility, and Wand Cores). That said, we don't know yet if this part of the book will end up including the exact same content from Pottermore, or if it will rather be a summarized graphic.

The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac will be an illustrated guidebook about the world of Harry Potter, that we can consider faithful to J.K. Rowling's writings, although not entirely comprehensive. From the announcements so far, it seems the book won't include any new material from the writer. It will rather serve as a reliable reference material and a nice collectible, and even though we feel that the book won't be suitable to be called

an encyclopedia of the Wizarding World, more than one person will probably end up using it as if it was one. Since according to the Bloomsbury team we can consider that any data that will appear in the book has not only been approved by Rowling but comes straight from her mind, it feels like the book still deserves to be used by all as a reference book. And for those who do not consider this good enough, think of it as the gateway to more official encyclopedic books of the Wizarding World. Who knows, maybe enough interest in this book could make Rowling reconsider the idea of publishing The Scottish Book in a few years? And then one dream shared by many fans would be fulfilled.



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# VOLDEMORT, THE VAMPIRE

BY OLIVER HORTON

**V**oldemort is sucking blood the first time Harry lays eyes upon him. The *Quirrellmort* has killed a unicorn in the Forbidden Forest. The blood keeps the Dark Lord alive, but he is damned to “have but a half-life, a cursed life, from the moment the blood touches [his] lips,” explains Firenze, the helpful centaur.

Unicorn blood and snake venom is the cocktail that sustains Voldemort—the-lizard-baby in *Goblet of Fire*. Finally, to restore himself, Voldemort requires Harry's virgin blood.

In *Philosopher's Stone*, Voldemort comes across as some kind of wizard-vampire. And for half the series Voldemort is as good as undead. This impression fades as the series unfolds. Sanguini, a proper wizard world vampire, turns up in *Half Blood Prince*: he eyes the Hogwarts girls as if they were hors-d'oeuvres. And yet... the gaunt, dark-suited Tom Riddle who visits Hepzibah Smith is the story's real bloodsucker. The Dark Lord exists only at night and when he finally faces the sun, in *Deathly Hallows*, he dies.

*Dracula*, by Bram Stoker, was published in 1897, exactly 100 years before J.K. Rowling's *Philosopher's Stone*. Dracula is a Count whose home is Transylvania. Voldemort is a Lord whose spiritual home is Albania. Neither can die by the passing of time. Both can be cordial yet are prone to fits of rage. Serial killers, they have the power of mind control and are terrible house guests. Wormtail is reminiscent of Renfield, Count Dracula's lunatic retainer.

Dracula is initially described as an old man, "*cruel looking*" with an "*extraordinary pallor*". Heroic estate agent Jonathan Harker

observes a "*red light of triumph in his eyes*". Dracula is able to pass through tiny cracks or crevices while retaining his human form, a trick Voldemort manages just prior to the interrogation-murder of Grindelwald. Dracula has a scar on his forehead that he carries for the entire story. Its origin is somewhat less meaningful than Harry Potter's: Harker hits him on the head with a shovel.

After drinking Dracula's blood, heroic schoolteacher Mina Harker develops a psychic connection with the fanged fiend. This telepathic link initially favours the manipulative vampire, but is later employed by the heroes to track the Count's movements. Likewise, in *Deathly Hallows*, Harry uses the mental connection with Voldemort against his evil nemesis.

Dracula is finally killed when his head is cut off, which is the end-game fate of Voldemort's snake. In the movie adaptation, Voldemort turns to dust. Which is what happens to Dracula at the end of *Dracula*.

The Count is the archetypal villain of gothic horror, and has suffused the collective consciousness. He is the stuff of nightmares. Voldemort is his spiritual descendant.

# A QUOTE BY JO



“I believe in a permanent soul.  
And that is reflected in  
the last [Harry Potter] book.”

*Interview with El Pais (Spain),  
February 2008*





These past few weeks, rumors have resurfaced about a possible film adaptation of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, almost like a yearly tradition. Every January of each year, British tabloids or blogs of dubious reputation publish articles about how Warner Bros. is working on a movie version of the successful Harry Potter play. The first time was in 2017, back when the play had only been on stage for a few months. Since then, the rumor has persisted, although it has never been proven right so far.

British newspaper *The Sun* recently reported that Warner Bros. had concrete plans to bring the wizard's on-stage story to the big screen. The media outlet claims that Warner Bros. wants to make a trilogy, and would be eager to use the original actors: Daniel

Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson. When reading this news, *The Rowling Library* contacted its sources at the studio, and their response was positive: Warner Bros. does have these plans in mind.

According to what an inner source told *The Rowling Library*, Warner Bros. considers Harry Potter one of its star characters in cinema. They believe that since *Fantastic Beasts* did not have the same impact on the audience, Harry Potter's return to the big screen could be a way to break all records once again. In fact Warner Bros. believe that the return of the golden trio (Radcliffe, Grint, and Watson) would generate even more excitement than what happened with *Spider-Man: No Way Home* (2021), and they even predict that it could reach the same levels as *Avatar* or the



FAN ART BY: INSTAGRAM / @MARVELS.WOLVERINE

*Avengers* movies at the box office.

So why can't we consider this news? The fact that Warner Bros. wants to make more Harry Potter movies is not such a big surprise: the studio knows that such movies would be a guaranteed success, and it would be very foolish of them to pass on this opportunity. However, this won't be happening until one person allows this project to go through: J.K. Rowling herself.

For Warner Bros. to be able to move forward with the project, the British writer must approve

it. Without her approval, the movie studio can't move forward. As of today, it seems difficult to imagine J.K. Rowling saying "yes" to this project, for several reasons. First, the author said on several occasions that *Cursed Child* was always intended to be a stage play, and nothing more. In fact, when the movie rumors first appeared in 2017, she even published an official statement to clarify the situation: "A rumor has made its way all the way into the press that Harry Potter and the Cursed Child will be made into a film – and not just one film!"

A trilogy, with Dan, Emma, and Rupert returning to their original roles, to be released in 2026. I have no idea how these stories emerge, but to set the record straight once and for all: *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* is a stage play, it was conceived and written as a stage play, it was always intended to be a stage play and nothing else, and there are absolutely no plans for it to become a movie, a novel, a puppet show, a cartoon, a comic book series or *Cursed Child on Ice*.”

However, it has happened in the past that J.K. Rowling changed her mind, and one might think that she could very well do it again. But her relationship with Warner Bros. these past few years seems a bit cloudy: Rowling’s silence during the promotion of the third *Fantastic Beasts* movie was said to be due to the lack of support from Warner Bros towards her, resulting in her not supporting the movie she wrote the screenplay for. That said, Warner Bros. is now being led by David Zaslav, who has publicly stated that he supports Rowling, meaning the relationship between J.K. Rowling and the studio could change for the best.

The last point to take in consideration, in our opinion, is that even if Warner Bros. manages to convince J.K. Rowling to adapt *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* into a series of movies, another very important parameter could go against the achievement of

this project. Warner Bros. seems to want the original trio to reprise their roles as Harry, Ron and Hermione, but this doesn’t seem likely to appear. When the writer shared her thoughts on gender ideology these past few months, the actors distanced themselves from her statements, even sometimes condemning them, creating a large enough rift between them to make this movie collaboration very unlikely.

We couldn’t finish this article without reminding that the *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* play is the *Wizarding World* project in which J.K. Rowling was the most involved, books aside. In fact, her level of collaboration was much greater than in any of the original *Harry Potter* films or theme parks. For this reason, would it be possible for her to hand the project over to the Warner Bros. studio?

Rumors of a *Cursed Child* movie have existed for years, and it becomes clear that they may end up being true. At the moment, it’s not surprising that the idea is being discussed in the Warner Bros. offices every now and then, possibly discussing who could be casted and who could direct the movie, maybe even what the teasing posters could look like. But none of that makes it news, and the rumors in the press remain rumors until J.K. Rowling greenlights the project. All we can do for now is wonder if this will ever happen.

# March, from the Twitter archive



**J.K. Rowling** ✓  
@jk\_rowling



I'd just decided I'd retweeted enough dogs when...



6:22 PM · 5 Mar, 2015

643 replies 15.6K shares 26.9K likes



The Harry Potter series is layered with a plethora of brave and loyal characters. And Dobby, the house elf is definitely high up on that ensemble.

Dobby was a resident house elf at the Malfoy manor. The duties that elves were expected to perform for their masters' include, doing various household chores, such as cleaning, laundry and preparing food for the family and guests.

The story of Dobby has always been one that I hold dear. Because upon close inspection, one truly recognises just how brave and "free" he actually was throughout the series. The petite elf transcended the status quo of what is expected

from an elf. He was mentally free before physically breaking away from the clutches of his cruel masters'. Dobby's personality is one that is characterised by wit, charm, loyalty and rebellion. However, the latter is quite subtle that a nonchalant viewer can miss this vital trait.

The article chronicles the depth that which Dobby's loyalty and rebellion serves as a cause, for the betterment and safety of his closest allies and himself.

### **DOBBY'S FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH HARRY POTTER**

After overhearing Lucius Malfoy discussing his ploy to re-open the Chamber of secrets, Dobby

# Dobby:

## A rebel with a cause

by Lungile Ntuli



decides to disobey his master by warning Harry Potter not to return to Hogwarts; School of Witchcraft and Wizardry that year.

The audience is introduced to the pint sized character when he magically pops up at the Dursley's in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Elves are known to possess a unique brand of magic that is exclusive to them only. Dobby the house elf was no different; his remarkable and extraordinary magical powers would be conjured up, simply through a snap of his fingers.

As he walked in, Harry found Dobby gleefully jumping up and down on his bed. Dobby held his brakes and said "Harry Potter, such an honour it is". Further down their encounter in his bedroom, Harry asked Dobby if he'd like to sit down, to which he responded "*Dobby has never been asked to sit down by a Wizard - like an equal.*" Harry then comments "You can't have met many decent Wizards then". Perhaps, Dobby was propelled to further protect and foster a friendship with Harry Potter after experiencing his sincere and respectful mannerisms towards him that day. Although Dobby restrained himself from speaking ill of his masters', the mere act of attempting to save Harry against their evil plan, lifted a lid into his bucket of sheer rebellion, loyalty and bravery.

## **DOBBY STANDS UP TO HIS MASTER**

The Malfoy's were categorised as dark wizards, who treated Dobby with the utmost disrespect and contempt. House elves are believed to serve only one family for a long time but perhaps the meeting of Harry Potter and Dobby served as a catalyst for the latter to finally break free from the shackles of his masters', in the physical realm.

During a legendary scene in *Chamber of Secrets*, Harry Potter displayed true friendship and loyalty to Dobby after cunningly planting his sock inside Tom Riddle's diary, which he handed back to Lucius Malfoy. The sock is significant in this instance because any sort of clothing presented to a house elf by their master, automatically sets them free. Unaware of what was inside the diary, Lucius passed it on to Dobby. And after Harry prompts him to open it, Dobby saw the sock and immediately interpreted it, as his cue to freedom. "Master has given Dobby a sock. Master has presented Dobby with clothes. Dobby is free", said Dobby.

Infuriated that he had just been tricked by the young Harry Potter, Lucius readies his wand and attempts to avenge himself by almost uttering the Avada Kedavra curse. But Dobby comes to Harry's rescue (once again) and boldly declares "you shall not harm



Harry Potter”, then he stupefies his former master through a snap of his fingers.

### **DOBBY: A HERO ‘TILL THE END**

Alberforth Dumbledore played a pivotal role in rescuing Hermione Granger, Ronald Weasley and Harry Potter in *Deathly Hallows*. He ordered Dobby to help the trio, escape from the Malfoy manor during their horcrux hunt.

Unfortunately, Dobby fell to his death after sustaining a knife wound in his chest, caused by Bellatrix Lestrange. After throwing a silver knife towards the direction of the trio, as they disappeared during their escape. Although his death was devastating, many have found solace in knowing that he died whilst performing a heroic deed, in the arms of his friend, Harry Potter

### **THE INSPIRING LEGACY OF DOBBY**

Although Dobby cut a petite and skeletal stature, his storyline remains indelible.

House elves are classified in the lower section of the society however, through his outstanding moral fibre; Dobby earned himself a seat at the table. Upon their first encounter, Dobby expressed that it was an honour to meet Harry Potter. But after careful observation of how their storylines evolved and intertwined throughout the story, clearly the honour was Harry’s as well. To have gained such an outstanding friend in Dobby, who fearlessly displayed his loyalty and love until the very end. Their friendship was truly one for the books, as they continuously poured into each other’s cups.



He didn't say another word on the subject as they went upstairs to bed. While Mrs Dursley was in the bathroom, Mr Dursley crept to the bedroom window and peered down into the front garden. The cat was still there. It was staring down Privet Drive as though it was waiting for something.

*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*  
J.K. Rowling



# RIDDIKULUS!

Erik (@knockturnerik on Instagram) plays with original artwork from the Harry Potter books!

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ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION BY MARY GRANDPRÉ FOR HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS (SCHOLASTIC, 2007)



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