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Editor in Chief

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Welcome

A word from the Founder

Welcome to the September 2023 issue of our Harry Potter and J.K. Rowling magazine. As the publication month for *The Running Grave* arrives, we're excited to bring you another edition of our magical magazine.

Our featured story for this month takes a closer look at the newly released German edition that includes all seven Harry Potter books in a single tome. Christina from Germany shares insights into this remarkable edition's creation and the magic within its pages.

We also had the opportunity to interview Peter Goes, one of the seven talented artists behind *The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac*. Learn about the creative process and the challenges of bringing the wizarding world to life through art.

Our longtime writer Oliver Horton examines the theme of grief within the Harry Potter series, focusing on how Harry Potter experiences and copes with loss.

We also inaugurated a new section called "Debate Duel," in which we will present unresolved topics in the Harry Potter canon and invite our readers to share their perspectives in our forums.

Lastly, a brief update on the Wizarding World Festival, and as always, the Famous Wizard Card illustrated by our talented artist Fausto Giurescu. On this issue is the time of the well-known Merlin.

See you next month, with *The Running Grave* already in our hands. And thank you very much, as always, for your support.

Patricio



Debate Duel

One of the topics that Harry Potter fans have been debating since the publication of the final book in the series is the ultimate fate of Lavender Brown, perhaps remembered for her teenage romance with Ron Weasley. In the final battle at Hogwarts, we know she was attacked by the werewolf Fenrir Greyback, but her fate is not explicit (although it is in the movie, where she appears dead, a fact confirmed by books published about the behind-the-scenes).

However, whether she is a survivor of the War against Voldemort is never clarified in the canon of the books (the most significant, in fact). The closest we came to an answer was a slip on the Pottermore website. In 2015, on her character profile,

the official Pottermore site, which contains extra content written by J.K. Rowling herself, stated that Lavender Brown was "presumed dead." But when this was noticed by the very attentive Harry Potter fandom, the Pottermore editorial team removed that section, returning the debate to its original point.

Some fans believe she survived because her body is not listed among the fallen who are stacked in the Great Hall. Others see no reason to assume she did: a brutal attack and the phrase "feebly stirring body" are enough to conclude that she did not survive. Of course, you can join the debate and share your opinion on whether she recovered from Fenrir Greyback's attack in our forums. ♦

The final word is yours!

**Continue the debate in our forums and
let your ideas flourish beyond the pages.**

*« As seven o'clock drew nearer,
Harry left the castle and set off
towards the Quidditch pitch in
the dusk. He'd never been inside
the stadium before. »*

J.K. Rowling

in

**HARRY POTTER AND THE
PHILOSOPHER'S STONE**

Festival No More?

The Wizarding World Festival was announced exactly one year ago, but there have been no further announcements about it and it won't happen this year. Will it ever happen?

As every year, on the first of September, the return to Hogwarts is celebrated. Harry Potter fans from around the world mark this day, and the fortunate ones who are in London (or nearby) head to King's Cross to be there when the imaginary Hogwarts Express departs for the famous castle. To make the most of this occasion, *Wizarding World Official* (the brand encompassing Harry Potter) prepares a series of activities. Perhaps the most interesting one is the official *#BackToHogwarts* livestream: a video broadcast on YouTube that announces the upcoming developments in the franchise created by J.K. Rowling for the following year. And in this year 2023, it was no exception.

On this occasion, the video (over 30 minutes long) didn't reveal anything about the next Harry Potter TV series (possibly due to the writers strike affecting Hollywood). Among the more intriguing announcements that did happen was the documentary about the creation of the *Hogwarts Legacy* videogame, and the fact that schools around the world can now apply for a license to produce *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* in educational institutions, something that will be crucial for further spreading the work and allowing hundreds, if not thousands of kids, to grow up loving theater.

However, what was conspicuously absent was the *Wizarding World*

Festival. Announced exactly a year ago, during the *#BackToHogwarts* 2022 livestream, this festival had been promised to take place in the United States during a weekend of the current year. The festival even had its own website: wizardingworldfestival.com, which encouraged visitors to subscribe to a newsletter for the latest updates.

Nevertheless, little was heard about it, and its future doesn't appear very bright. In the face of *Wizarding World Official's* silence regarding the event (which, given that we are already in September and no announcement has been made yet, will not happen this year), the fact that the website for it no longer exists is added: the

URL now redirects to the generic *Wizarding World* website.

Has the event been canceled? There's nothing official, but all signs seem to indicate that it has - or at least, we won't be seeing it anytime soon. The reasons? Unknown, if that is indeed the case. It's a shame because we were truly excited about an official Harry Potter event. We even dedicated several pages in previous issues of our magazine to it. Let's hope that this is nothing more than a delay of the event and that we can all come together, Harry Potter fans, for something officially organized, with announcements, panels, star guests, and more, because the Harry Potter fan deserves it. ♦



Seven books in one

An article by
Christina E.

**The German publisher Carlsen released
an edition that contains the seven
Harry Potter novels in one tome.**

The 25th anniversary of Harry Potter is being celebrated in Germany with a remarkable twist. Carlsen Verlag, the publisher behind the series, has ingeniously crafted a one-of-a-kind experience for this momentous occasion: all seven volumes have been brought together into a single, unprecedented book. This groundbreaking achievement marks a first in the history of the series across the globe.

Carlsen shrewdly unveiled this information on April 1st, a date often accompanied by jest. Understandably, skepticism ran rife as the news circulated. The update was shared across platforms, only to encounter doubt that cast a shadow on its authenticity. However, the undeniable truth has since come to light—this project is indeed a reality. The book was officially released on August 30th, solidifying the gravity of




this announcement with a concrete date.

As the days rolled by, the awaited moment crept closer, and last Saturday, I found myself incredibly fortunate to attend the grand fan event in Hamburg, a celebratory occasion marking the 25th anniversary of the series. The event had a specific goal in mind: to surpass Australia's previous record of 997 Harry Potter enthusiasts dressed in full regalia. The entry requirements were simple—a black cloak, the distinctive scar, and the iconic glasses, the essentials that defined the beloved character. To everyone's delight, Hamburg accomplished

more than anticipated, gathering a remarkable count of 1758 attendees donning the Harry ensemble—almost doubling the former record. The experience was heartwarming, underscoring the enduring adoration for Harry Potter that unites fans of all ages.

Following the event, I made my way to my cherished bookstore in Hamburg, and to my astonishment, two fully shrink-wrapped complete editions were already prominently displayed, even before the official release date. I wasted no time and promptly purchased a copy for myself. Exiting the mall, I noticed a girl who appeared taken aback, her

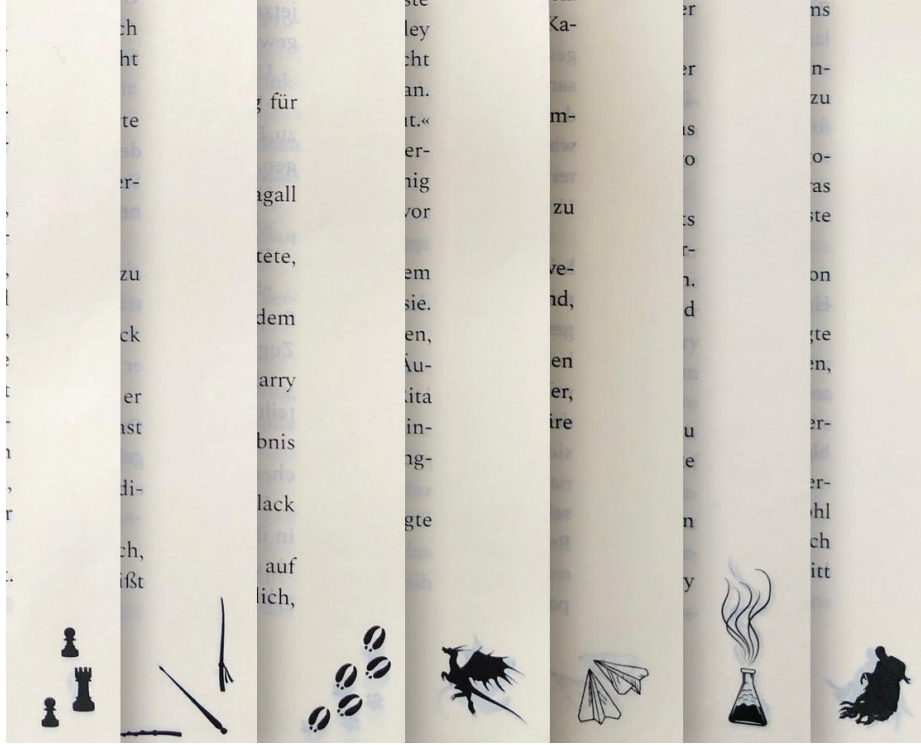


INHALTSVERZEICHNIS	
	
HARRY POTTER UND DER STEIN DER WEISEN	Seite 7
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HARRY POTTER UND DIE HEILIGTÜMER DES TODES	Seite 2779

gaze fixed on my newly acquired book. She eagerly nudged her friend, gesturing towards my purchase, her excitement palpable. I wouldn't be surprised if they decided to acquire the other edition soon after.

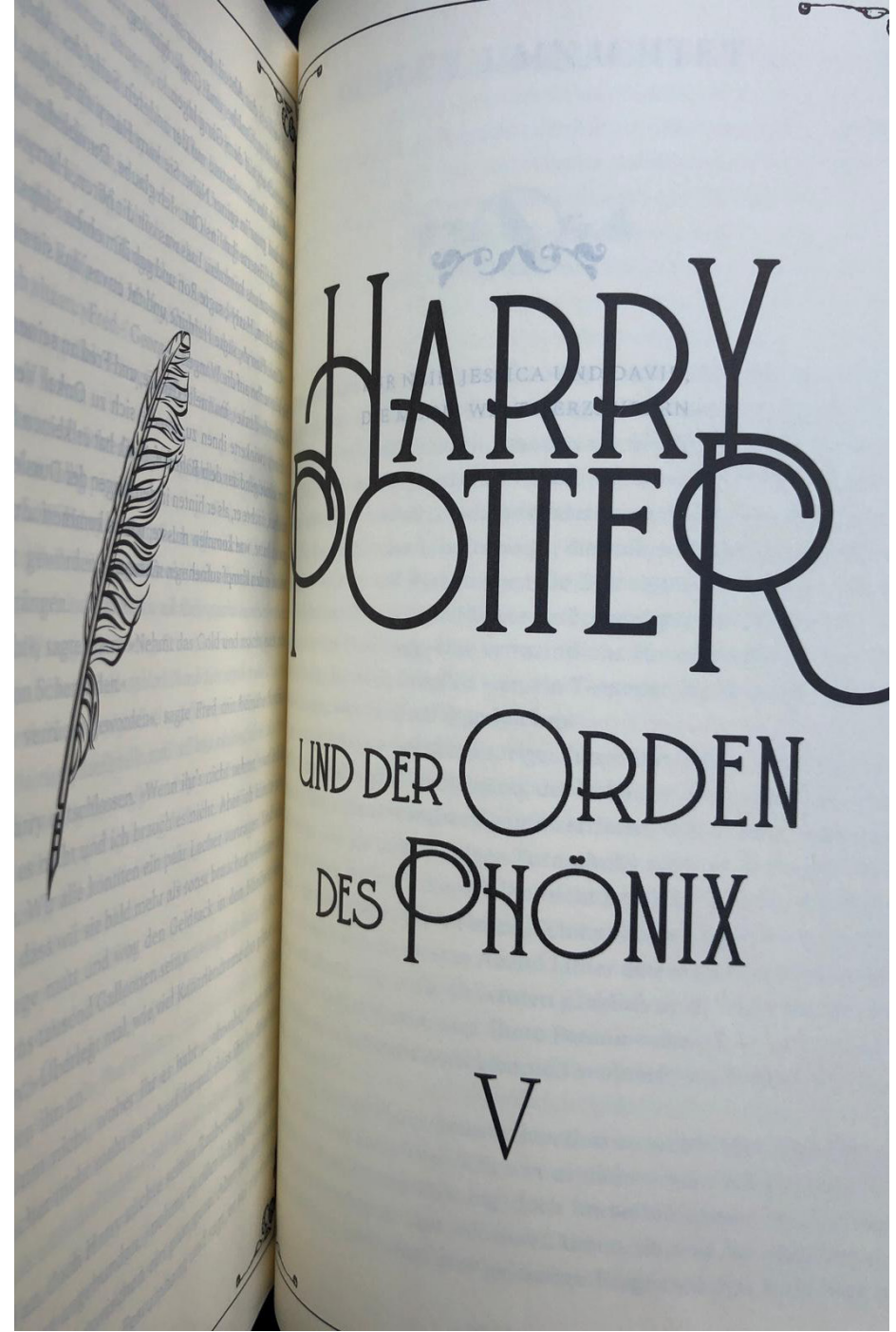
Compiling all seven books into a single volume makes for a weighty

tome. I've playfully dubbed it the "Potter Bible" due to its substantial nature. Beyond its considerable thickness and heft, the 3408 pages were printed on remarkably thin paper, akin to that found in a Bible, resulting in a total weight exceeding 2.5 kilograms (approximately 5.5 pound).



Regarding the book, my sentiments are straightforward: I'm thoroughly enamored with it. A departure from the usual vibrant covers seen in Germany, the design exudes sophistication and elegance, with a main cover transitioning from a rich purple hue at its center to deeper tones towards the edges. This effect is complemented by the addition of gleaming bronze foil accents. Among the many elements, the Patronus back cover particularly captures my admiration, emerging gracefully from the Wizarding World symbol,

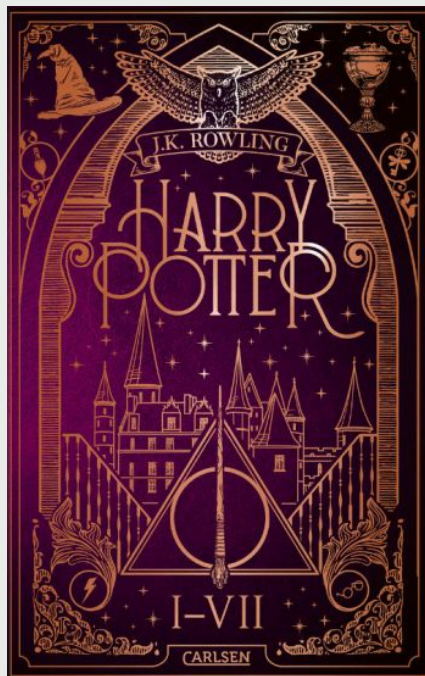
encircled by the emblems of the four houses and a host of intricacies both externally and internally, seamlessly integrated. Alongside a meticulously crafted table of contents, each section of the book features its distinct motif situated at the upper right corner of every page—a thoughtful touch that lends clarity, allowing for swift navigation across the various books encapsulated within this singular volume. For instance, while perusing the section dedicated to the *Philosopher's Stone*, the pages are adorned with chess



game iconography in the corners. In the Goblet of Fire segment, dragons make their appearance, while the Half-Blood Prince section features motifs of potions, and Dementors grace the pages representing *Deathly Hallows*.

To be candid, this edition holds collector's value to me; the delicate thinness of the paper leaves me wary of potential damage. As an avid collector, I might consider acquiring a second edition for reading purposes. Yet, one undeniable fact remains: the book stands as a splendid masterpiece, a presence that deserves a prominent space on every bookshelf. Priced at 99 euros, this edition feels reasonable, especially given its inclusion of all seven books. However, beginning in February 2024, the cost for this book will rise to 129 euros. Thus, seizing the opportunity now appears to be the wiser choice for those interested in obtaining it.

In conclusion, the 25th anniversary celebration of *Harry Potter* in Germany has been marked by significant milestones. From the unveiling of the singular, comprehensive collection by Carlsen Verlag to the unprecedented fan event in Hamburg, the enduring impact of



Harry Potter I-VII

Published **Carlsen Verlag** in
Germany

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Publication date: August 30th,
2023.

this iconic series is evident. As time advances, these collective moments serve as a reminder that the allure of *Harry Potter* remains undiminished, transcending generations. ♦

"It is easily the most professional and thorough collection of facts about the 'Wizarding Phenomenon'"

HogwartsProfessor.com

"An extensive and descriptive work of non-fiction, 'Secret History...' is a Harry Potter buff's dream."

MuggleNet.com



SECRET HISTORY OF THE WIZARDING PHENOMENON

HOW THE HARRY POTTER
BOOKS, MOVIES, THEME PARKS
AND MORE CAME TO LIFE

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Peter Goes talks about the Wizzarding Almanac

Ahead of the publication of *The Harry Potter Wizzarding Almanac*, we have taken the opportunity to publish an interview with **one of the illustrators who brought this companion title to life.**

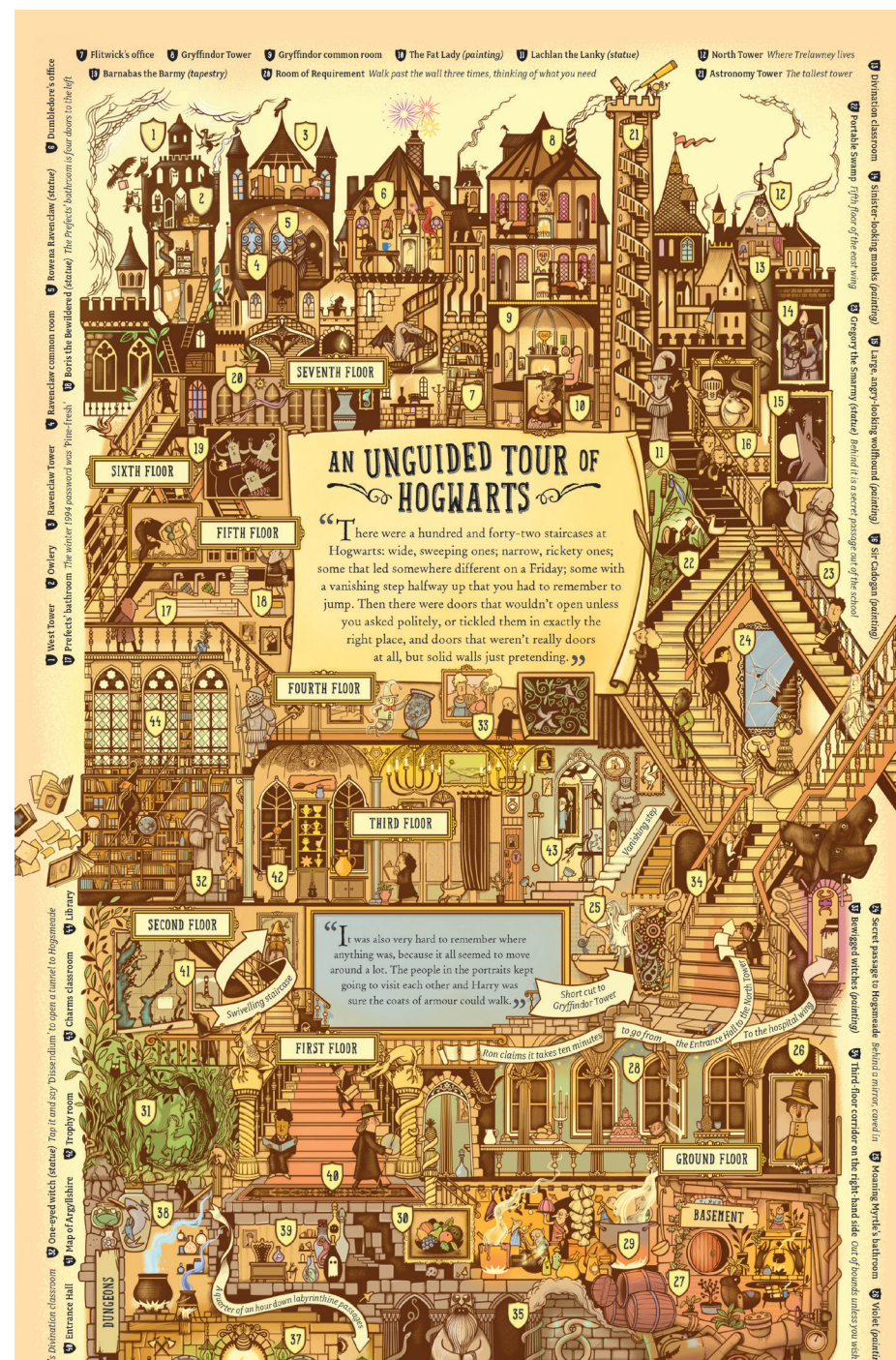
Peter Goes is a freelance artist and picture book illustrator, living in Belgium. He has also worked as a stage manager and studied animation at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts (KASK) in Ghent. Peter combines playful witches, wizards and magical creatures with an incredibly rich level of intricacy. In the *Wizzarding Almanac*, readers can pore over his spectacular vision of Gringotts Wizzarding Bank, the hushed wonder of the Marauder's Map and the shelves of the Hogwarts library.

Why did you choose to take part in this project and what about it is most exciting for you?

In the first place because I got the question and I thought it was an honour to be allowed to draw this magical world. It was also something I had never done before and as Pippi Longstocking puts it so beautifully: 'I have never tried that before, so I think I should definitely be able to do that'. But in my case cautiously and with careful steps!

What are your memories of first reading the Harry Potter stories?

My daughter was the right age and was a huge fan when the first book was so successfully published. I had



An Unguided Tour of Hogwarts, by Peter Goes, for Bloomsbury's *The Harry Potter Wizzarding Almanac*.

the pleasure to read all the Harry Potter books to my children.

Who are your favourite Harry Potter characters?

The Weasley family.

How did you become an illustrator? Have any other artists or illustrators particularly inspired you and your journey?

Every child likes to draw and I don't think I've ever grown up enough to unlearn it. I like to look at other artists' work and there was and is so much fantastic drawing talent to be seen through our ever-expanding internet window.

I also have a large collection of

published art and sketchbooks. I like to learn and I hope something seeps in of what I see and makes me a better designer.

How did you approach illustrating your sections of the book? Was illustrating the wizarding world difficult?

Making a drawing is never easy for me, it is always a quest with new challenges. I don't think I would enjoy it if it were easy.

Bloomsbury have already shared your stunning Unguided Tour of Hogwarts to readers worldwide as a preview for the publication in October 2023. Please could you tell us a little bit about the making of this piece of artwork?

Someone on the Bloomsbury team has carefully searched this puzzle of information from all the books. It was up to me to make a readable drawing of this puzzle. The amount of information and easter eggs in this drawing is amazing and I love nothing more than drawing complicated drawings where there is always something new to discover. It is the perfect match!

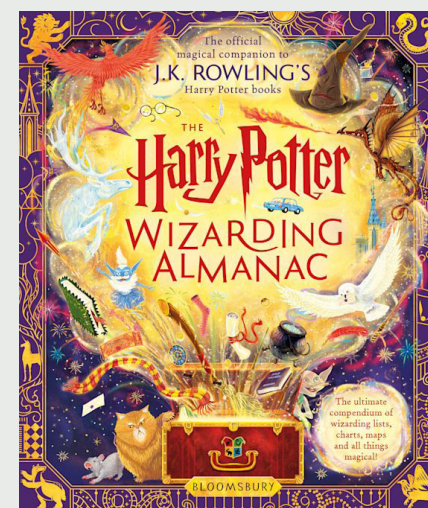
Aside from the Unguided Tour, what was your favourite spread to illustrate, and why?

I had never drawn a gatefold spread before, so maybe the foldable map of Hogwarts was my favourite spread or maybe Diagon Alley, or the library, or the Defence Against the Dark Arts, or...

You see, every spread is a bit like a child, you don't suppose to have favourites.

What is your Hogwarts house?

I did the online test and the digital sorting hat told me that I'm a Ravenclaw but I think that at the first opportunity I would go to the Romanian Dragon Sanctuary and study there. ♦



The Harry Potter Wizarding Almanac

To be published by **Bloomsbury** in the United Kingdom

ISBN: 9781526666796

Publication date: October 10th, 2023

Written by: **Bloomsbury Children's Book Team**

Illustrators: **Peter Goes, Louise Lockhart, Weiton Mai, Olia Muza, Pham Quang Phuc, Levi Pinfold and Tomislav Tomic.**



Famous Wizards

Card Collection



Merlin

Medieval - Dates unknown

Most famous wizard of all time.
Sometimes known as
the Prince of Enchanters.
Part of the Court of King Arthur.

The
Rowling
Library

Cut around each
side, then stick them
together to create your
own collectible card!

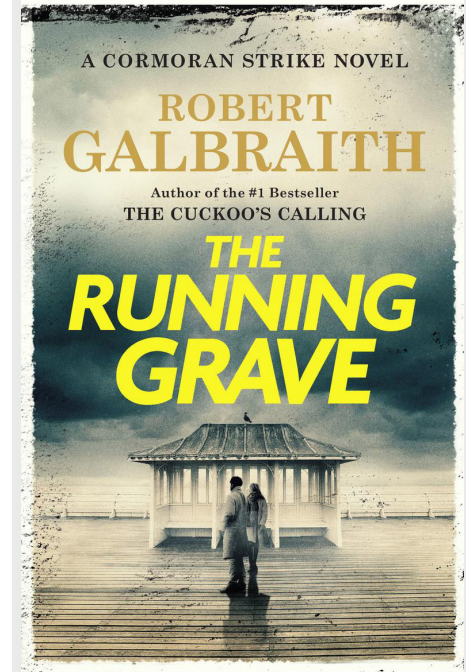
#19

Almost there

The wait is almost over: we've finally reached September! And while for Harry Potter fans that might hold a special meaning (Hogwarts Express, anyone?), for readers of the Cormoran Strike saga, the flavor is different: we've arrived at the month when *The Running Grave*, the seventh book in the Cormoran Strike series, will be published.

The wait has been long, but we're finally just a few days away from being able to hold it in our hands. The hardcover edition (set to release on September 26th) will have 960 pages, just slightly fewer than its predecessor *The Ink Black Heart*. However, its audiobook version will be longer, spanning over 34 hours. The possible explanation? The chat format of *The Ink Black Heart* likely occupied more pages with less text.

Just a few weeks ago, we got the official cover and synopsis, and even in August, Amazon allowed access to the first 50 pages of the book (though this was later removed by



the online store itself). However, soon we won't need to theorize or search for small clues everywhere. We'll soon have another book by J.K. Rowling alongside us to enjoy her writing once again, and to read about the characters getting tangled up in another mystery from which we hope, as always, they emerge victorious. ♦



The last enemy is death

An article by
Oliver Horton

*Grief is a constant for Harry Potter.
But the boy wizard refuses to let it define him.*

The Mirror of Erised presents Harry Potter with the fact of his grief. As a young boy Harry can feel his lack, the hole in his heart, and he longs for some unknown relative to rescue him from Privet Drive. Hagrid the Hogwarts gamekeeper brings escape from the dreaded Dursleys and sketches the faintest portrait of Harry's dearly departed parents. But it's the magical mirror, discovered during his first Christmas at magic school, that shows Harry exactly what he is missing: a whole world of

family, the shape and colour of his own grief. This discovery is echoed in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* when he finally visits his parents' graves.

Harry's earliest memory is the flash of green light that killed his mother. On the final page of the final book, grown-up Harry bids farewell to his favourite child, an experience: *like a little bereavement*. At all points in the series he is beset by some facet of grief. Harry needs time, like seven

years, to get a handle on all his pesky existential feelings.

Harry acquires two best friends in *Philosopher's Stone* and neither of them have any experience of death. Hermione Granger is book smart, but is more concerned with Hogwarts: A History than the varied emotions of mourning. Ron Weasley has some patchwork knowledge of the wizarding world, but arrives at King's Cross station untroubled by harsher realities. The three 11-year-olds learn

and grow together.

Yet their contemporaries are not all strangers to pain. Neville Longbottom lost both parents to mental incapacity. The uncle, aunt and cousins of Hufflepuff student Susan Bones were all murdered in the first wizarding war (as were Molly Weasley's brothers). Luna Lovegood is minus one whole mother due to a magical experiment gone awry. Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry is populated by a pathos

of mourners, a bona fide cortege. Dumbledore never comes to terms with the death of his sister. Hagrid's regular-sized father died young. Severus Snape mourns Lily for half a lifetime. Professor McGonagall's backstory includes a dead husband and a dead brother. Harry's losses are not unique, but more stitches on the intricate tapestry of grief. The wizarding world stories are a seven-volume guidebook for the recently bereaved.

Funeral Procession

Death impacts us regardless of family ties or friendship. Harry is not very close to Cedric Diggory in *Goblet of Fire*, but feelings do not acknowledge any hierarchy of mourning. At the moment of his passing, in the graveyard in Little Hangleton, they are brothers. Harry is a full participant in death for the first time in his life. He recovers the body. He delivers the news.

Harry's awareness of what he witnessed settles over the summer and at the start of year five he notices the eerie creatures pulling the carriages: Thestrals. *Order of the Phoenix* establishes an explicit divide between those who have experienced death and those who

have not. Early in the fifth book, at Grimmauld Place, Harry encounters a shaky Mrs Weasley who has failed to deal with a Boggart. The death of Hogwarts' student Cedric and the terror of Voldemort's return have reincarnated her fear of loss. The devilish Boggart stages the deaths of Molly's family and she is rendered powerless. Grief is a shapeshifter, too.

The Forbidden Forest contains a "whole herd" of Thestrals. The skeletal flying horses are visible to Neville, Luna and Slytherin non-entity Theodore Nott, who have all "seen death". The murder of James and Lily Potter is the foundation of Harry's grief, but he sees Thestrals because of Cedric. And when the gang discovers the Veil in the Department of Mysteries, only Neville, Luna and Harry can hear the voices of the spirits. This is old magic.

Five Stages

The Five Stages of Grief are denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. They were conceived by Swiss-American psychiatrist Elizabeth Kübler-Ross and published in her influential 1969 book *On Death and Dying*. Harry experiences all five, sometimes with a magical twist.

Denial: carrying on as if nothing has happened. It's common to feel the presence of the deceased, to hear their voice(s) and even to see them, as Harry does with his parents, with Cedric and with Dumbledore. Anger: a natural emotion that rails at cruel, unfair death, at the person who has died, or at ourselves for the things we did or could not do. Bargaining: making deals with ourselves or with some superior being; or going over and over the past, perhaps with a Pensieve; or the relentless What If..., wishing to go back and change things, ideally with a Time Turner. Depression: the intense pain of sadness and longing, in waves, over

months or years; life loses meaning. Acceptance: the gradual easing of the pain and relearning to live.

The five stages are not intended as a sequence but Harry experiences them in sequence after the death of his godfather in *Order of the Phoenix*. Sirius Black disappears through the mysterious Veil and initially Harry is in denial. By the time he reaches Dumbledore's office, anger takes over. Harry seeks out Nearly Headless Nick, bargaining on Sirius's return as a ghost, then falls into a well defined depression, craving company yet wanting to be alone. Finally, with Luna Lovegood's help, he



Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (Warner Bros., 2005)

reaches some sort of acceptance. She offers the faith-based notion that our loved ones are waiting in the afterlife. Which almost turns out to be true.

The five stages trouble Harry at other times in the series, coming and going depending on the circumstances. In *Prisoner of Azkaban* the principal antagonists are the Dementors, embodiments of depression. Anger is front and centre in *Order of the Phoenix* as Harry processes Cedric. Harry builds on acceptance in *Deathly Hallows* but finds it hard to maintain, particularly after Fred Weasley dies at the Battle of Hogwarts.

Grief is personal. Every passing is a reminder of our own mortality: the door of an advent calendar counting down to Death Day. Elizabeth Kübler-Ross first developed the five stages to help people cope with the prospect of their own death, the hardest one to comprehend. Being a psychopath, Tom Riddle grieves nobody except himself. He twists denial into kill-crazy rampages in the misguided belief that his magical power exempts him from the tick tock of mortality. Yet the more death he causes, the angrier he becomes. He creates his Horcruxes, the narcissist's ultimate bargaining chips, but spends 13 years depressed: *"I was less than spirit, less*

than the meanest ghost." Needless to say, acceptance is not on his radar. Death is Harry's hang-up but Voldemort's biggest fear.

Happy Happy, Joy Joy

Hogwarts gifts Harry friendship, skills and life experience. Everything a sad little boy needs. Harry when first introduced occupies the smallest space imaginable, the cupboard under the stairs. He has zero friends. And friendship is essential to his recovery. On the Hogwarts Express he makes a buddy for life, Ron Weasley. At the end of the next month, Hermione signs up too. And from there his relationship count explodes. Harry becomes extraordinarily well connected; a figurehead, a sportsman, a leader, a teacher. In the final book he says goodbye to his cupboard and bounces all over the British Isles. His life expands with the years, a counterweight to his suffering.

Time does not heal all wounds, says Dr Lois Torkin, whose 1996 theory *Growing Around Grief* presents an alternative model of life after bereavement. At first, grief fills every part of the day and night. There are tasks to complete and decisions to



make. But the goal is not to shrink the grief. The strategy is to grow life around the loss. Some days the anguish will be just like day one. And it is possible to move on without guilt or feelings of disloyalty. After her brothers are murdered Mrs Weasley builds a new life that incorporates a large, boisterous family. When Harry turns 17 she gives him a watch that belonged to Fabian Prewett, one of her late brothers, and expands her circle of love, honouring the living and the deceased. *"You think the dead we have loved ever truly leave us?"* asks Dumbledore in *Prisoner of Azkaban*. *"You think that we don't recall them more clearly than ever in times of great trouble?"*

People mourn in different ways and all feelings are valid. The Harry Potter books present grief in a complex and nuanced way, and show the

experience of loss in all its variety. Cho Chang is at the mercy of crying jags for months after her boyfriend Cedric is murdered. Ron Weasley wants to charge off and do murder after his brother Fred is killed. They both respond to comfort and support. Cho is cared for by her friend Marietta Edgecombe and receives solace from Harry, indirectly, via his soul-baring interview in *The Quibbler*. Ron's energies are redirected to the Horcrux quest, to finish the war and stop the senseless slaughter. Healing through positive action. Even Professor Snape turns anguish to good purpose, the protection of Lily's son. Severus embraces Quidditch, takes responsibility for the House of Slytherin and is shown to share his feelings with his complicated friend Albus. His wound remains raw, but he grows and becomes a better person.

Harry often mourns away from our view: in the summers before book six and before book seven, and during the month of respite at Shell Cottage. And his grief is often tinged with regret. He did not know his parents, was just barely getting to know Sirius and is shocked that Dumbledore is an enigma.

Rest in Peace

Months after J.K. Rowling dreamed up Harry Potter, her mother died. Grief is the engine of the stories. The author made Harry an orphan as a result of her bereavement. She felt like half an orphan herself.

Death is part of life. Yet, like Voldemort's name, the subject is taboo. In Western culture death is regarded as the enemy of life rather

Godric's Hollow

Harry's first visit to a graveyard in *Goblet of Fire* is dark and fear-laden: Cedric is murdered, Harry is tortured and speaks with spirits. But graveyards are not scary, they are filled with folk who were loved. At Godric's Hollow in *Deathly Hallows* the atmosphere is calm, even beautiful. Carols are sung. The graveyard is suffused with pure white snow. Hermione conjures a wreath to honour the Potters' memories. Thoughts of death draw Nagini, Voldemort's familiar, like blood attracts Thestrals. But the day's mishaps all have positive outcomes. Hermione finds the Dumbledore biography, which contains clues. She mentions the Forest of Dean while her beaded bag is open, which supplies Professor Snape with a delivery location for the Sword of Gryffindor. Harry breaks his wand, which delays his identification at Malfoy Manor and ensures that he is holding Draco's wand for the final duel. With his parents' deaths properly acknowledged, Harry gains control of his life.



Funeral of Albus Dumbledore (Pottermore)

than part of the natural order. From my own experience, everyone responds to death differently. Grief inspires varied and outrageous emotions, from brassy public displays to silence. Very few people know how to act, what to say. But they can always surprise you, positively or otherwise. The dead person loses their voice, can no longer advocate for themselves, and other people (often unworthy) speak on their behalf. Like Remus Lupin in *Deathly Hallows*: "Harry, I'm sure James would have wanted me to stick with you." Well, I'm not, replies the Boy Who Lived. Objects take on new power and become physical memories of the deceased or trophies to be snatched by the selfish. Regret and guilt are dark rabbit holes that tunnel towards depression. Anger can strike like lightning, unwarranted and unexpected. However, different bereavements stir up different feelings, a whole new stew. "Grief is repetitive," writes the Scotland-based comedian Jo Caulfield in *The Funny Thing About Death*. "Over and over again you want to say how much you miss them. But each time you miss them it is its own emotion." The best way to stay afloat is to make the most of each day: to live a life of love. This is the point of *19 Years Later*. Harry the trauma monkey is absorbed into a big, warm-hearted

The Long Goodbye

In the immediate aftermath of a bereavement, lower your expectations of yourself. Expect to cry or to dwell. Take time. Do familiar things that you enjoy. Even pamper yourself a little. Prioritise your health. If writing in a journal feels right, scribble away. And be aware of other people's reactions. Not everyone knows how to act appropriately. Fear produces strange reactions. All people are different people and have different ideas about death and bereavement. Someone with the best intentions can come across as crassly insensitive. But try to look out from beyond your own sadness and to be considerate of other people. Grief is triggering and lasts a lifetime. In the midst of our own pain it is too easy to overlook the pain of others. After all, everyone has someone to mourn. Putting others first can be an active form of solace.

family, a network of support and affection. The scar has not pained him for years. He has grown around his grief.

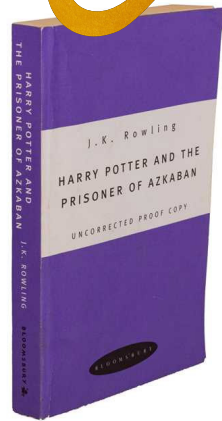
The wizarding world gives off an air of joyous escapism, but reading about the characters' struggles and emotions can be grounding and therapeutic, a problem shared. The grief in the stories feels true because it is true; it is the author's transfigured. The stories, then, are a reassuring presence. They are a kind and understanding friend. ♦

Auctions

August
2023

Compilation by
David Schmeling

These are some of the most important auctions of Harry Potter books in the past month for the collector community, featuring a proof copy of the esteemed *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, a coveted second printing of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, and a rare first state edition of the third novel in the Harry Potter series.

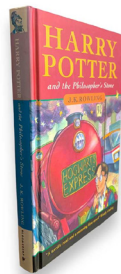


***Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*
Uncorrected proof (Purple wrappers)**

Uncorrected proof of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. Purple wrappers variant.

Sold for £10.625

Chiswick Auctions, Aug. 24

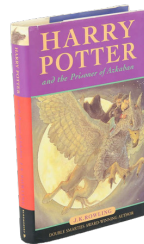


Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

United Kingdom, 1st edition,
2nd printing, hardcover.

Sold for £6.250

Chiswick Auctions, Aug. 24



Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban

United Kingdom, 1st edition,
1st printing, 1st state, hardcover.

Sold for \$3.120

Ewbank's, Aug. 24

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