

The Rowling Library
Magazine



Wizarding Podcasts

ISSUE 37. JANUARY 2020.



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THE ROWLING LIBRARY MAGAZINE

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**Will 2020 be the
year of Cormoran
Strike #5?**

Another year! 2020 hasn't anything planned for Harry Potter (Fantastic Beasts 3 is set to be released on 2021), but it seems we will have some new Robert Galbraith's material...

Yes, J.K. Rowling returned to Twitter, and among other (small) things, she announced she finished the fifth novel of the Cormoran Strike series. We don't know when it will be published, but we can suspect we will see it released this very same year! That's very good news - at The Rowling Library we love these new books by Rowling (in fact, we like them even more than the new Fantastic Beasts franchise), so we are very very happy to know Jo has been able to finish the last one.

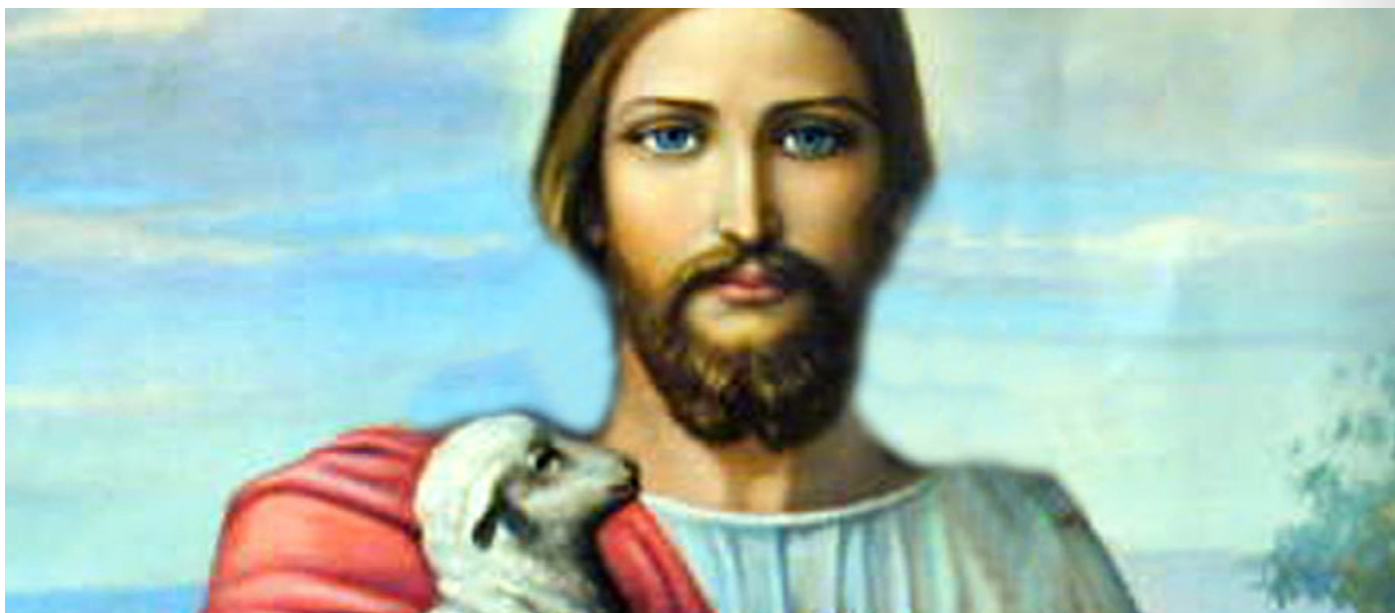
This issue also includes a great article about the Harry Potter Podcasts, with interviews to their creators and even more. John Granger answers an interesting question about religion in the Wizarding World, and Sean Thomas explains why magic is getting weaker in the Wizarding World.

See you next month!

WISE MEN AND WIZARDS

JOHN GRANGER, THE ROWLING LIBRARY'S
FAVORITE HARRY POTTER SCHOLAR, TALKS
ABOUT CHRISTIAN CONTENT IN J.K. ROWLING'S
BOOKS.

BY JOHN GRANGER



I received this note in today's morning flock of email owls:

I have a question for you. Maybe you addressed it in one of your books, I can't remember right now. But Christmas triggered this question among my friends: why the Wizarding Community celebrates Christmas, since everything Jesus did could have been done by a wizard? The only thing we thought could be impossible for a Wizard is resurrection, but then again, if Muggles were the only witnesses, why would Wizards trust them? And seen by Muggle or magical person, why wouldn't the Wizards check that testimony themselves (via Veritaserum or Legilimency?)

My response was close to a non-response but it raised an important point.

I wrote back this non-answer to the fun question:

«Thank you for this note!

As you know, I have written several books and continue to write online about the Christian content of the Potter novels and Rowling's post-Hogwarts books and screenplays.

I think I'll take a pass, though, on your question about imaginary wizards and their relationship with and understanding of Jesus of Nazareth. Here's why –

The one world is fiction, however edifying potentially, and the other is the fabric of reality Himself. It's best not to blur in any way the distinction between the two because it suggests that they are somehow equal in both being in some sense "narratives."

Harry Potter and any other imaginative story, in other



words, may point to or away from the Way to life in God through Christ, and, in that pointing, even imaginative shadowing, serve as Eliade suggested an important “mythic or religious function” in a secular culture. But Harry Potter is nothing like a Sacred Text, as the wonks at Harvard Divinity School sell in the lucrative marketplace of naive ‘Spiritual Not Religious’ seekers — and it is, frankly, a shameful thing to suggest it is.

It is important, consequently, I think not to play the fandom game of pretending Rowling’s Wizarding World subcreation really exists in any way with respect to the Gospel narrative and the reality of transformation and salvation available in Christ’s Mystical Body to members of His traditional Orthodox Church. Boundaries are important and none perhaps as important as protecting the Good News

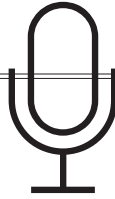
and remembering the exclusive reality of Christ as Creator and Redeemer.

If you have to ‘go there,’ though, I think it’s best to stop at the facts that Dumbledore, the epitome of wisdom in the seven novels, is familiar with the Gospel, accepts them as true sufficiently to quote from Scripture on his mother and sister’s headstone, and perhaps, if Bea Groves is to be believed, designed Harry’s confrontation with the Dark Lord on the model of the God of Love and Light’s deception of the Evil One.

How did Dumbleore came to that acceptance? I’ll leave that to the author to describe, should she choose to explain it. Personally, I hope she won’t.

Thanks again for your note and fun question!»





A QUOTE BY JO

"BIGOTRY IS PROBABLY THE THING I DETEST MOST. ALL FORMS OF INTOLERANCE, THE WHOLE IDEA OF "THAT WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM ME IS NECESSARY EVIL." I REALLY LIKE TO EXPLORE THE IDEA THAT DIFFERENCE IS EQUAL AND GOOD. BUT THERE'S ANOTHER IDEA THAT I LIKE TO EXPLORE, TOO. OPPRESSED GROUPS ARE NOT, GENERALLY SPEAKING, PEOPLE WHO STAND FIRMLY TOGETHER -- NO, SADLY, THEY KIND OF SUBDIVIDE AMONG THEMSELVES AND FIGHT LIKE HELL."



**"FIRE STORM,"
ENTERTAINMENT
WEEKLY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2000**

LOOK WHO'S BACK RETURN OF THE ROWLING

JANUARY WAS ABOUT TO END AS A QUIET
MONTH UNTIL J.K. ROWLING MADE A
COMEBACK TO SOCIAL MEDIA WITH A
VARIETY OF TWEETS.

BY BELÉN SALITURI

J.K. Rowling returned to Twitter on the last week of this month not only to announce some great news but also to clear up some things related to a fake tweet that went viral. Rowling's return was on January 25, when she retweeted a video posted by Patton Oswald's. This tweet showed the American actor and comedian reading the last sentence of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows to his daughter. The emotional family video was accompanied by the following text:

My wife walked in 15 minutes ago and caught the last moment of a two year journey. The look on Alice's face says it all. Thank you @jk_rowling.

To everyone's surprise, the Harry Potter author replied to Oswald by retweeting the video with this comment:

@pattonoswalt This broke my heart, but in a good way. Love to all the Oswalts!

But it didn't end there. Later that same day, Rowling tweeted that she was done with the fifth book in the Cormoran Strike series. Together with her tweet, she added a picture of the manuscript, on which the title of the novel is seen but just as a blurry line. I guess we'll just have to wait a bit more to have additional information on that.

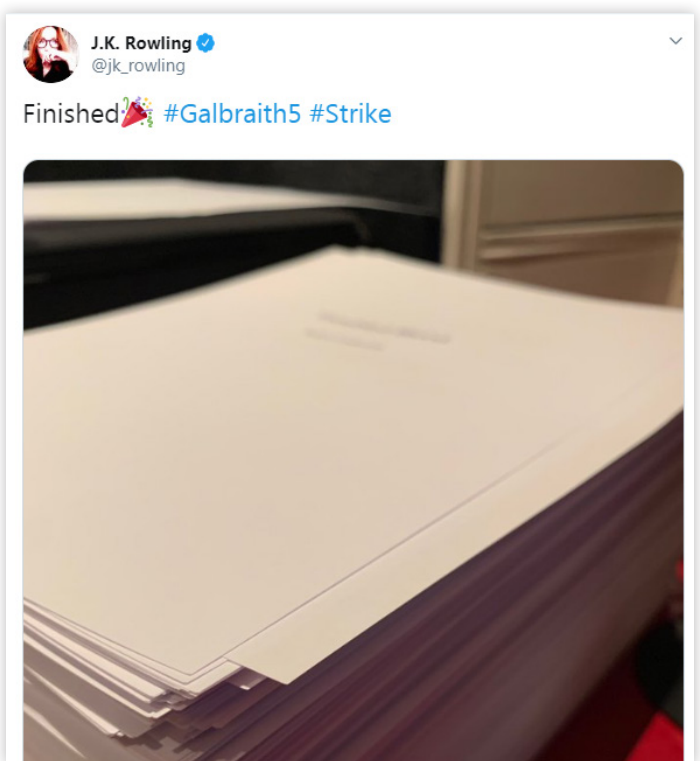
And when we thought that the excitement of this incredible news about Cormoran Strike and the next novel in the series was all we were going to get from J.K. Rowling, she returned to Twitter the next day. On January 26, she shared the following text on her account:

"...if a patent forgery... is believed by so many people, the task of the historian is no longer to discover a forgery. The forgery is being believed. This fact is more important than the circumstance that it is a forgery."

Hannah Arendt, the Origins of Totalitarianism

Rowling's latest tweet is thought to be a response to a manipulated tweet that went viral in the previous hours. The fake tweet was of Rowling replying "Yes they should" to a picture of a tattoo that said: "No one should live in a closet".

The British author has not tweeted again after this, but we believe she might be more active on Twitter now that she has finished writing the fifth book in the Cormoran Strike series.



WIZARDING PODCASTS

THE PODCASTING WORLD OF HARRY POTTER: INTERVIEWS WITH THE HOSTS OF SIX HARRY POTTER PODCASTS

BY DEMI SCHWARTZ

Are you looking for new ways to get more Harry Potter in your life in 2020? You might as well have just drank some Felix Felicis because you're in luck. There are so many incredible Harry Potter podcasts out there, and I got the opportunity to interview the hosts of six very unique podcasts. Get ready to learn all about each podcast and find the perfect one for you.



POTTERLESS

Do you have that one friend who hasn't read Harry Potter, and you keep telling them how much they're missing out? Maybe, you love the magic of the Wizarding World, but you've never read the books and can't find the motivation to start. If so, look no further than Potterless, the tale of a grown man reading the Harry Potter series for the first time.

Get to Know Mike

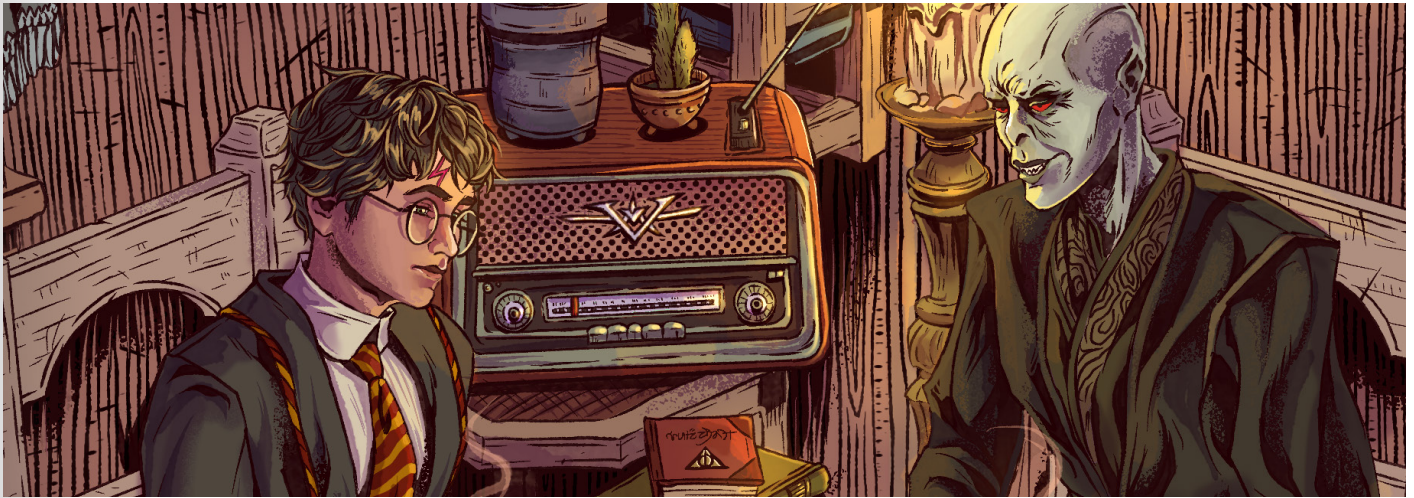
When asked his Hogwarts House, Mike said, "My Hogwarts House is Gryffindor, and I'm pretty much the most Gryffindor that you can be." Mike's favorite book from the series is Half-Blood Prince. He thinks it's perfectly paced and enjoys the suspense of trying to figure out who the Half-Blood Prince is. He also likes how bigger plot points start to develop and thinks it's the funniest book of the series. Harry Potter has had an impact on his life since starting the podcast. He said, "It's taught me to have a little more patients in general and really try to process where other people are coming from."

Mike's Patronus Memory

Mike's happiest memory from Potterless is his first Potterless Live show in Seattle. He was afraid that not a lot of people would show up, but when he arrived at the venue, he heard there were a lot of pre-sales. It was a cool experience for him to have listeners come to see the podcast live, and he enjoyed seeing listeners meet and make friends. Mike wrapped up the memory by saying, "That whole day was just so nice."

How Potterless Started

Mike has always enjoyed doing comedy, starting with YouTube and Vine. In college, he got into improv. He wanted to start a podcast that everyone would care about, and Harry Potter came to mind. Even better, his now fiancé, Kelly, loves the series, and at the time, Mike thought starting



the podcast would give him a reason to talk to her. When coming up with the name of the podcast, Mike explained, "I knew that I wanted the show's name to be a pun, and I wanted it to be one that screamed, Harry Potter, but then also told what the show was about." Potterless is a double pun, going off of Pottermore, now Wizarding World, and the idea that he was Potter-less because he hadn't read the books.

Details About Potterless

When Potterless started, episodes came out every other Monday, but since 2019, episodes have been weekly. Mike recently finished episodes on the books and is now doing the films. Looking ahead, he plans to do everything J.K. Rowling had a hand in, all things popular in the fandom, and everything with the Harry Potter logo on it. Mike keeps his episodes tight, usually around an hour, so Potterless is the perfect podcast to dive into if you're new to podcasts.

Mike connects with his listeners on social media and through Patreon. He also attends conventions and does live shows that are usually followed by meet-ups. Getting to meet his listeners is always a fun time. He said, "Every single person that I've met is just so sweet and so great."

Mike didn't think he'd like the books going into the podcast, but now, Harry Potter is such a big part of his life. He brings a fresh and fun perspective to the series and hopes he sparks new discussions among fans. And as they say in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter before they binge Potterless... Wizard On!

MUGGLECAST

Are you looking for a group of fans to call your Harry Potter friends? MuggleCast is your "weekly ride into the Wizarding



World."

Get to Know Andrew

One of the hosts, Andrew, represented MuggleCast in the interview. Currently, he identifies as a Slytherin, and his favorite book is Order of the Phoenix. He enjoys how the world opens up in that book, and there is a turning point that makes the story darker for Harry. When Andrew was in high school, he was very quiet, and MuggleCast helped him break out of his shell. He said, Harry Potter gave me the opportunity to socialize and meet people like me."

Andrew's Patronus Memory

Andrew's happiest memory is from MuggleCast's first live show in 2005 in New York City at the Barnes & Noble Union Square. The show was right after the Goblet of Fire movie premiere. Andrew said, "We had so many more people than we were expecting show up that it just blew our minds." This was the moment when Andrew realized how popular

the show was, and it was so unbelievable for him to be part of it.

How MuggleCast Started

At the time, Andrew was writing for MuggleNet. He got the idea to start a Harry Potter podcast and asked others he worked with for their opinions. There were mixed feelings because Harry Potter podcasts weren't big at the time, but they agreed to give it a try. Andrew said, "We thought that Harry Potter, J.K. Rowling's work, could lend itself to an excellent podcast, and it really did because, of course, as you know, and everyone knows, there's so much to talk about in regards to J.K. Rowling's writing." The podcast took off in 2005, right after Half-Blood Prince came out, and has been going strong ever since.

Details About MuggleCast

The podcast is weekly with new episodes every Monday. From rereads of the books to what's going on in the fandom, MuggleCast covers it all. The show stays current, and Andrew and the other hosts apply their own experiences to book discussions. He said, "We love talking about how J.K. Rowling's writing really resonates with us."

Andrew enjoys interacting with listeners on social media. MuggleCast also has a Patreon and a voicemail line. The hosts love to hear the voices of their listeners because it reminds them that people are listening to the podcast. Additionally, Andrew interacts with listeners and other fans face to face at conventions.

MuggleCast is a Harry Potter resource for fans and has an amazing community. Andrew said, "People will often tell us that they feel like we are their Harry Potter friends, and that means the world to us." So, hop on the Hogwarts Express and ride into the Wizarding World every week with Muggle Cast.

HARRY POTTER AND THE SACRED TEXT

Do you think of the Harry Potter books as being sacred? Well, you're not alone. Harry Potter and the Sacred Text is a unique podcast that takes a sacred spin on the series.

Get to Know Vanessa

Vanessa, one of the hosts, has an incredible perspective on the Houses. For a while, she was a Hufflepuff, but her House shifted. She said, "I think Houses should be aspirational. My aspirational House right now is Gryffindor because I really feel like I don't need to learn how to be kinder in this world, I need to learn to be braver." Without hesitation, Vanessa



said that her favorite book is Deathly Hallows because "it's the best one!" Being a Harry Potter fan has made her more aware of how system failures impact individuals' failures. She brought up Neville as an example; "He could be a great student. Hogwarts is just not teaching him well."

Vanessa's Patronus Memory

Vanessa's happiest memory is the podcast's first live show in Boston. The podcast had been out just over a year, and almost the entire original group from when she started came, along with new listeners. Vanessa finished by saying, "It was a special night."

How Harry Potter and the Sacred Text Started

When Vanessa was halfway through her divinity school studies, she discovered she was an atheist. She found the Bible and the Torah distracting and needed to learn how to pray. She asked her favorite professor to teach her how to pray with Jane Eyre, and she was encouraged to join a community that viewed Jane Eyre as a sacred text. This was the first group she was really a part of, and it sparked the idea between her and her co-host, Casper, to do the same for Harry Potter. Their first group brought 70 people, and after it got worldwide interest, Harry Potter and the Sacred Text became a podcast.

Details About Harry Potter and the Sacred Text

Episodes come out every week, and there is usually one chapter per episode. Harry Potter and the Sacred Text puts

a fresh spin on rereads because each chapter is viewed as a sacred text. Vanessa said, "It's a very simple church service but with Harry Potter."

Vanessa enjoys interacting with listeners, especially kids. She loves having conversations with them and getting to hear theological speeches about what House they are in. Vanessa also interacts with listeners on social media, at conventions, and through including a listener's voice from their community line in every episode.

Vanessa believes that Harry Potter and the Sacred Text is the most community-minded Harry Potter podcast. The podcast validates for people that Harry Potter is sacred, and it's the perfect way to validate this for you.

WIZARD TEAM

Wizard Team is a Harry Potter podcast like none other. It's the first Harry Potter podcast hosted by two African American women, and it creates a space for Potterheads of color. If you're searching to join an accepting and inspiring community of Harry Potter fans, Wizard Team is waiting for you.

Get to Know Robyn and Bayana

Ravenclaw cousins, Robyn and Bayana, are your hosts. Robyn's favorite book is Prisoner of Azkaban because you see a world beyond Harry Potter and start diving into



Voldemort's character more. Also, she absolutely loves Sirius Black! For Bayana, Order of the Phoenix is her number-one. It's the first book of the series she got the day of release. Being Harry Potter fans changed their lives. Robyn has become more confident and creative. She also feels more comfortable putting herself out there. Bayana said that Harry Potter shapes the way she looks at the world, and she is grateful for all the experiences it has given her.

Robyn and Bayana's Patronus Memories

Robyn is a community-based person, so her happiest memory is from LeakyCon Dallas. The Wizard Team meet-up was a super cool experience for her. Bayana's happiest memory comes from episodes 185 and 186. In these



episodes, they were talking about the chapter entitled “Bathilda’s Secret” from Deathly Hallows, and there were lots of laughs.

How Wizard Team Started

Robyn and Bayana spent hours and hours talking about Harry Potter, so Robyn came up with the idea to start a podcast. At the time, she was listening to a Harry Potter podcast that was doing rereads, and she noticed that the conversations she and Bayana were having were much deeper. They bought new sets of Harry Potter books that they could write in. Bayana, a former English major, was thrilled to be able to annotate the books.

Details About Wizard Team

Episodes come out weekly. They have finished doing the book rereads and started Cursed Child. They have ideas for what to do next that listeners will be excited for. Robyn and Bayana are always learning new things, and they enjoy bringing fresh perspectives into the podcast. Wizard Team is also consistently funny. Bayana looks forward to the fun of recording, and this shines through for the listeners. Bayana said, “Regardless of what else was going on in our lives at the time, that was a moment for us to have fun and talk about the thing that we love.”

When it comes to their listeners and the impact Wizard Team has, Robyn said, “I think that the community we’ve built up is my favorite part.” Robyn and Bayana enjoy interacting with other fans with different perspectives through social media and their Patreon, at conventions, and live chats while recording.

Wizard Team is truly one of a kind. Robyn said, “Support things that don’t look like you because that’s how you grow and learn.” If you’re looking for a funny, thoughtful, and inspirational Harry Potter podcast, start listening to Wizard Team.



SWISH AND FLICK

If you’re looking for a Harry Potter podcast that makes you feel like you’re kicking back and hanging out with the hosts, look no further than Swish and Flick.

Get to Know Tiffany, Megan, Katie, and Sarah

The four hosts of Swish and Flick show how the four Houses can be the best of Friends. Meet Tiffany, a Gryffindor, Megan, a Slytherin, Katie, a Hufflepuff, and Sarah, a Ravenclaw. Tiffany’s favorite book is Deathly Hallows. She enjoys the closure of the seventh book and especially loves the last conversation between Harry and Dumbledore at King’s Cross. Megan loves Half-Blood Prince because she likes reading about the students’ lives at Hogwarts, and there’s a lot of that in this book. She especially enjoys Ron in Half-Blood Prince and the darker part of the story. Even though the sixth book is her favorite, Megan pointed out how Sorcerer’s Stone will always be special because it is the one that introduces everyone to the magic. Katie is drawn to Prisoner of Azkaban because she loves Lupin and the storyline of the third book. For Sarah, Order of the Phoenix is her number-one because she enjoys diving into all the emotions.

The Hosts’ Patronus Memories

Tiffany’s happiest memory is from walking into Diagon Alley in Orlando with her best friends for the first time. Megan’s is from riding Hagrid’s Magical Creatures Motorbike Adventure with the others and being able to share that experience with their listeners. Katie’s highlight is from when she met Chris Rankin, the actor who portrays Percy in the films, at LeakyCon. She said, “It wasn’t Potter fan to Potter celeb. It was just talking as friends.” For Sarah, experiencing LeakyCon is her happiest memory. She’d never experienced anything like that before, and it was an amazing time.

How Swish and Flick Started

They originally got the idea to start a book club. Megan printed out questions, and they got together and made a bunch of dishes. They had a full feast and wore their Harry Potter merch. Swish and Flick became the name right away, and they were so excited that the next day, they decided to start a podcast and ordered everything for recording.

Details About Swish and Flick

Swish and Flick has a new episode every Sunday. They are doing rereads of the books, and depending on how deep they go, chapters can be split across two episodes. Each

host has a section to focus on, and they like to come up with new perspectives that people may not have thought about. Additionally, they post two bonus episodes a month on Patreon and have been doing character profiles.

They look forward to recording because as Sarah pointed out, they enjoy bringing light and happiness into other's lives. They want listeners to feel like they are part of the experience of hanging out and talking about what they love right alongside them. Tiffany said, "People often say to us they feel like they're hanging out with their friends." The podcast has an active social media community. The hosts enjoy interacting with listeners and meeting other fans at conventions.

Swish and Flick has built a large and accepting community and opens the door for new discussions on the books. Tiffany said, "It's a fresh way to keep the Potter fire burning." Most importantly, the podcast is like a big family. Listeners of the podcast call themselves Swishers. Megan pointed out, "Swishers are always there for each other as well. It's not just the four of us. It's literally, everybody, and the support that people give to each other is amazing." So, what are you waiting for? Become a Swisher and listen to this incredible podcast.



FANATICAL FICS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

Do you love Harry Potter? Of course, you do! Do you love fanfiction? If so, Fanatical Fics and Where to Find Them has you covered.

Get to Know Sequoia and Kim

Sequoia, a Slytherin, and Kim, a proud Hufflepuff, are your hosts. Sequoia's favorite book is Deathly Hallows because

she loves how everything is wrapped up. Kim said Goblet of Fire is her favorite because she feels it's a turning point in the series, and she read it eleven times when she was younger. Harry Potter has always been a part of their lives. Sequoia feels like Harry Potter has made her more accepting and less shy.

Sequoia and Kim's Patronus Memories

Sequoia's happiest memory is when the podcast got its first tweet and email from listeners. For Kim, her happiest memory is from the first time they did the podcast live. It was extra special because the live show was for their friends and family and on Kim's birthday.

How Fanatical Fics and Where to Find Them Started

When they were in college, Sequoia and Kim would build a blanket fort in their living room and read fanfiction. Years later, they came up with the idea to start the podcast because they love fanfiction so much. They wanted the name of the podcast to play off the series in some way. An initial idea was Fantastic Fics, like Fantastic Beasts. Then, they tied in fanfiction, arriving at Fanatical Fics.

Details About Fanatical Fics and Where to Find Them

Episodes come out every other Monday. Sequoia and Kim read a crazy, funny, and captivating fanfiction each episode and give a recommendation of a fanfiction they love at the end. All fanfictions they read were written before Deathly Hallows came out.

They are always interacting with their listeners and have a Patreon. They have listeners predict what will happen next in fanfictions, and sometimes, they read their listeners' fanfictions on the show or recommend them. To keep listeners engaged creatively, they also host writing competitions.

Sequoia and Kim get people to love fanfiction from listening to the podcast, and they play a role in encouraging fans to contribute to the fandom. Kim said, "People have said that we've changed their mind on fanfiction." If you love fanfiction or want to start diving into this aspect of the fandom, Fanatical Fics and Where to Find Them is for you.

There you have it. These six Harry Potter podcasts are full of magic. Start off the new year by picking one or two off this list to start. Then, listen to all of them when you get around to it because they all contribute something fresh to the Harry Potter community.



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JEFFREY LEYH, JOHN LIVINGSTON, JOSEPHINE GLAZOV, KENNETH
MONTFORT, LYN AREY, MARGARET CONWAY FLOWE, MARY BETH
MURPHY, PATRICIA KLOSE, RACHEL HAMMER, RENA KLEIN, RENJIE FU,
SHELYNN, SHERRI RAWSTERN, STEPHANIE VARNELL , SUSAN SIPAL,
SUZANNE LUCERO AND VICKY MCKINLEY.

BY Sean Thomas

WHY IS THE MAGIC IN THE HARRY POTTER UNIVERSE GETTING WEAKER?

OLD WIZARDS LIKE MERLIN, THE PEVERELLS, AND THE FOUNDERS SEEM FAR MORE POWERFUL AND CREATED THINGS LIKE THE HALLOWS, THE VEIL, PENSIVE. AND VOLDEMORT COULDN'T OVERCOME LILY'S OLD MAGIC.

Wands.

Wands are the reason.

In the fictional universe of Harry Potter, magic is a fundamental force of nature. It is complex, wild and untamed. It doesn't respond to cute, latinized incantations and pretty runes written on paper.

A small fraction of humans are born with the ability to control this force with varying degrees of strength.

Prior to the invention of the wand, use of magic required exceptional intellect, focus and practice. It was haphazard and imprecise and frequently went terribly wrong. Wizards and witches had to control the magic consciously, using their sheer willpower to make it do what they wanted it to do.

Then wands were invented.

Wands made magic easier to use, and over time wizards discovered that once a magical effect was keyed to



a spoken incantation, wands were able to produce that magical effect reliably and consistently with much less mental effort on the part of the caster. In this answer, I detail my theory as to why that happens.

Modern witches and wizards are, for lack of a better word, spoiled by their wands.

Frankly, they are magically lazy. The vast majority of them are perfectly happy restricting their magical education to learning the various useful wand spells created by better wizards. Very few wizards experiment with magic as a raw force of nature. It's difficult to do so, not to mention dangerous, and by the time of the Harry Potter stories there is a wand spell for almost every conceivable use.

Much as modern youth are spoiled by smartphones and Google, modern witches and wizards are spoiled by their wands.

There isn't much motivation to learn about the vagaries and complexities of the fundamental force of magic.

Their wands work just fine, thanks.

Those ancient wizards? They had to be creative. They had to invent the spells. They had to invest years of their lives into mastering magic as a fundamental force,

understanding it in ways that modern wizards would find completely unnecessary for living a normal life. Sure, they had wands, but far fewer incanted spells had already been invented. Many more magical tasks had to be accomplished the "old fashioned way," even though yes, wands make that kind of magic a little easier to use, too.

Think about the difference between an everyday teenager and Steve Jobs. Steve Jobs had the motivation and brains to change the world by doing what had never been done. The everyday teenager doesn't care about changing the world, all they care about is that their iPhone works. They don't care how it works, or why, and they sure as well couldn't fix it if it broke.

That's why wizards like Dumbledore, Voldemort and Grindelwald are becoming rarer and rarer.

Do you think Voldemort found an incantation in a book that let him create a magical rock door that would only open if you put blood on it? No. He willed that enchantment into existence through sheer willpower, focus and a deep understanding of the laws of magic.

And some magic is beyond even the understanding and power of witches and wizards.

The Sacrifice Charm that Lily inadvertently placed on



Harry when she gave her life for him wasn't a human creation. It wasn't created by some ancient wizard. It was an expression of the deepest, fundamental laws of magic. It was pure nature, reacting to Lily's selflessness and placing protection around Harry that no mortal wizard could hope to understand, much less undo.

Dumbledore was able to tap into that powerful protection and, using the blood relation between Lily Potter and Petunia Dursley, forge a link that expanded that protection to Petunia's home and the surrounding area.

Do you think Dumbledore uttered a goofy Latin phrase and waved his wand to do that? No. It was a wordless expression of his willpower impressed onto the force of magic, an act of power that Dumbledore knew how to do because he was one of the few still alive that was so driven by intellectual curiosity that he had to explore the deepest mysteries of magic.

The average person lacks that drive.

And so, because of wands, the average wizard is much less knowledgeable and capable of wielding magic itself than before. They simply don't understand how it works anymore, apart from "this incantation produces this effect!"

However, the average wizard is also much more powerful and capable of using magic — via wand spells — than the average wizard from ancient world. They are just limited to the framework of existing spells, rather than needing to become adept at creating their own like more ancient wizards and witches.

If a typically-skilled modern wizard like Arthur Weasley went back in time to face Merlin, I think Merlin would be hard-pressed to defeat him. Mr. Weasley would have access to a dizzying array of easily-produced, fairly powerful offensive spells, while Merlin would be forced to wield raw magic against him.

But that makes sense. Send any one of us back a thousand years equipped with a smartphone and some modern firearms, and we could do some serious damage to even the most skilled, legendary warriors of the day.



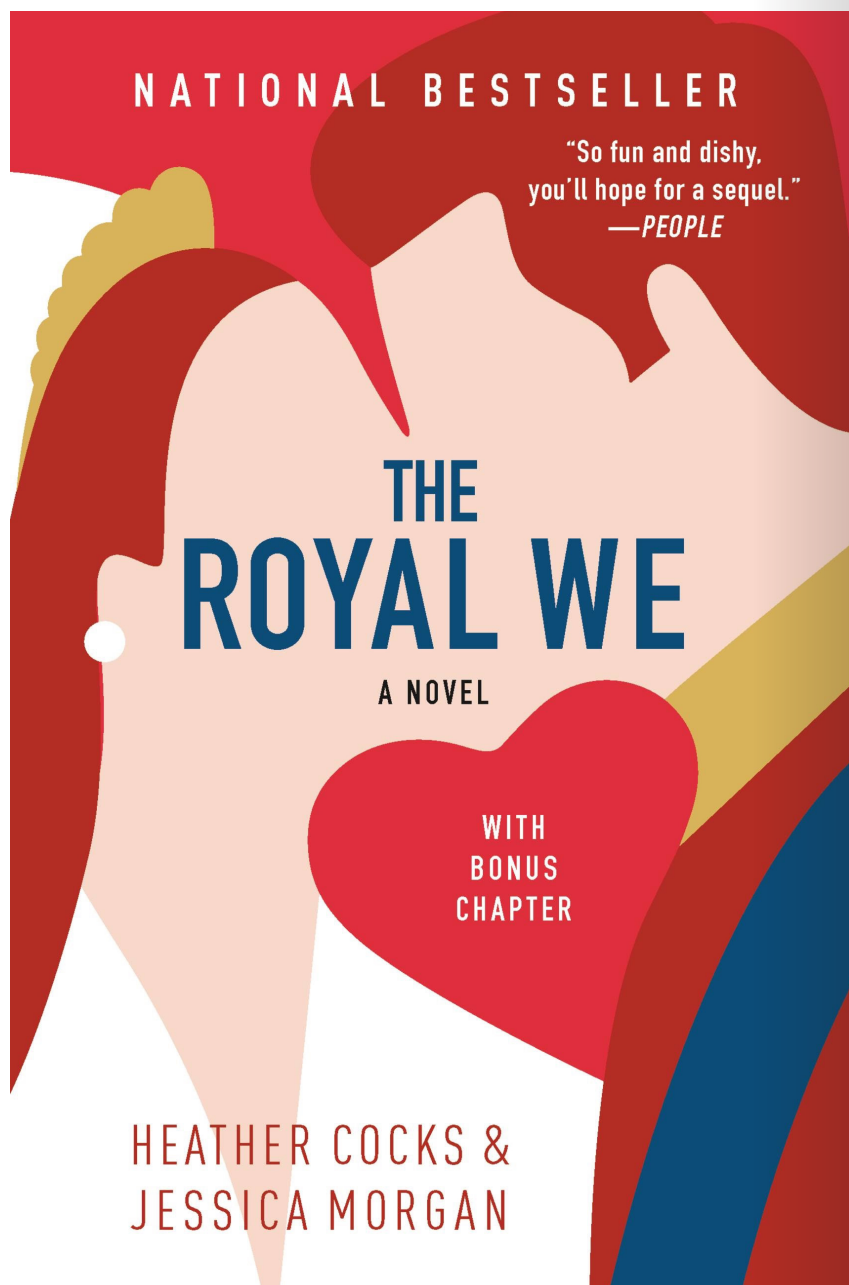
BOOK REVIEW

BY Ayelén Vegagil Espósito

THE ROYAL WE

BY **HEATHER COCKS & JESSICA MORGAN**

LET'S BE HONEST, WE ADORE THE ROYALS, WE FANTASISE ABOUT THEIR LIVES, WE THEORIZE ABOUT THEM, WE ARE SUCKERS FOR ROYAL DRAMA AND SPECIALLY FOR ROYAL WEDDINGS, SO MUCH SO THAT SOMETIMES WE MAKE MOVIES ABOUT THEM OR, AS IS IN THIS CASE, WE WRITE BOOKS ABOUT THEM. THIS MONTH, IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAST SCANDAL OF THE ENGLISH CROWN, THE ROWLING LIBRARY BRINGS YOU A BOOK THAT COULD QUENCH A BIT THAT THIRST FOR SOME MORE OF THESE MONARCHICAL NEWS.



'I might be Cinderella today, but I dread who they'll think I am tomorrow. I guess it depends on what I do next.'

American Rebecca Porter was never one for fairy tales. Her twin sister, Lacey, has always been the romantic who fantasized about glamour and royalty, fame and fortune.

Yet it's Bex who seeks adventure at Oxford and finds herself living down the hall from Prince Nicholas, Great Britain's future king. And when Bex can't resist falling for Nick, the person behind the prince, it propels her into a world she did not expect to inhabit, under a spotlight she is not prepared to face.

Dating Nick immerses Bex in ritzy society, dazzling ski trips, and dinners at Kensington Palace with him and his charming, troublesome brother, Freddie. But the relationship also comes with unimaginable baggage: hysterical tabloids, Nick's sparkling and far more suitable ex-girlfriends, and a royal family whose private life is much thornier and more tragic than anyone on the outside knows. The pressures are almost too much to bear, as Bex struggles to reconcile the man she loves with the monarch he's fated to become.

Which is how she gets into trouble.

Now, on the eve of the wedding of the century, Bex is faced with whether everything she's sacrificed for love—her career, her home, her family, maybe even herself—will have been for nothing.

The very first thing that caught me from this book was its cover. It's quite obvious in which Royal members is loosely based on, right? Taking that in mind, I can confirm that this book is quite like reading a fanfiction about Prince William and Kate Middleton, but with the big twist being that the girl in this story is American—quite funny if you take notice of the date in which this book was published, so yes, this could also count as a sort of prediction of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle fanfic.

Back to the story, this book follows Rebecca "Bex" Porter and her romantic story with Prince Nicholas, the Heir of the British Throne. Their story is a bit cliché, but it has a lot of twists that make the plot interesting, some of them are certain real-life aspects of the English Monarchy so that's why this book is quite catchy.

Although the plot started very good with hilarious and a bit clichéd moments, the development of the story went down before we got to the middle. I think it was because of the lack of character development that even the main ones had. At some points it was very difficult to connect with Bex and Nick, some of their interactions were a bit forced and maybe that's why I was totally shipping Bex with someone else even when we knew who she was about to marry.

One thing that was very great, was the research that the authors, Heather Cocks and Jessica Morgan, did on the British Monarchy. They really are very Royal enthusiasts. That's one of the main reasons why you could actually connect the real Prince William and Kate Middleton with Prince Nicholas and Bex Porter or even Freddie with Harry and Lacey with Pippa. It was quite voyeuristic to read some of those aspects that really happened to the real-life Royals, but again those were the aspects that made one to want to keep reading. Specially the ones where you can really connect with this Bex-Kate character and how she has to deal with all the scrutiny of the press.

There's a quote that I think could have fitted the good portion of this book:

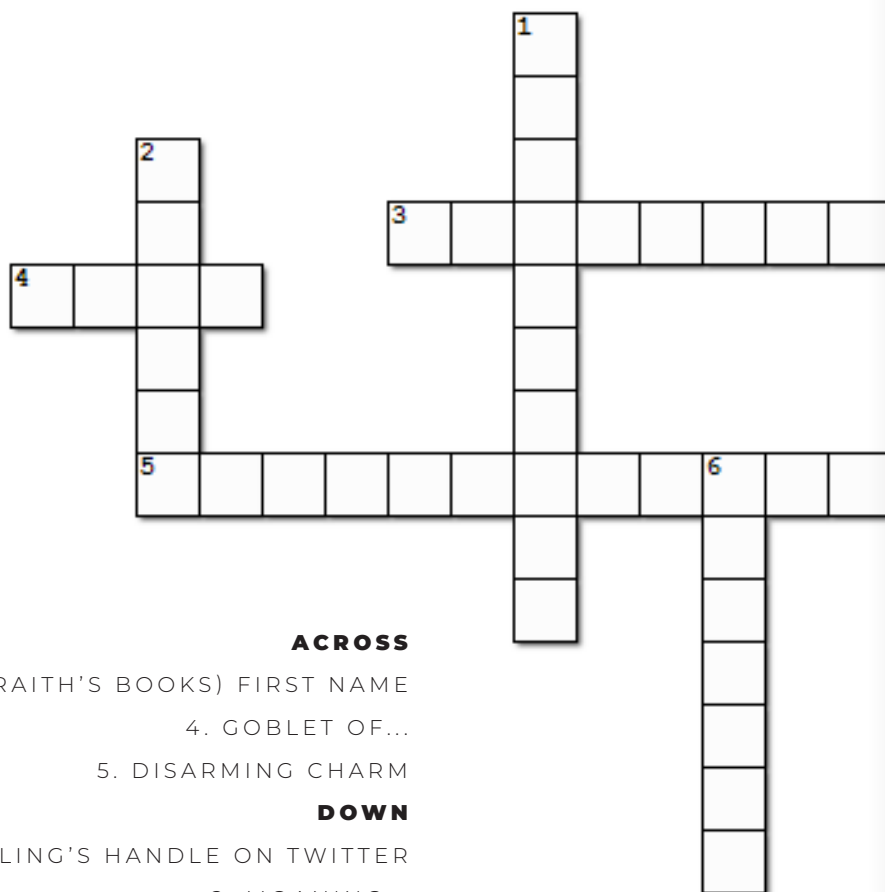
«I fell in love with a person, not a Prince; the rest is just circumstance.»

Heather Cocks and Jessica Morgan had an interesting Royal Plot that made us wonder how much art imitates life, so I would really like to see where this story is heading next with its sequel that is scheduled for June of this year.

Without further ado... Mischief Managed!

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ACROSS

3. STRIKE'S (FROM ROBERT GALBRAITH'S BOOKS) FIRST NAME

4. GOBLET OF...

5. DISARMING CHARM

DOWN

1. J.K. ROWLING'S HANDLE ON TWITTER

2. MOANING...

6. TOM RIDDLE'S SECOND NAME.



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