

The Rowling Library  
Magazine



# Troubled Blood

ISSUE 38. FEBRUARY 2020.





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# EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In our last issue we asked if 2020 was going to be the year of Strike 5. Now we know!

February caught us busy but the issue of the month is finally here!

Little, Brown announced Troubled Blood, the fifth novel in the Strike series (Rowling hinted it in January sharing on Twitter that she had finished the manuscript!), and we can't wait for it. Our main article is about that: what we know and what we can expect from it.

Oliver Ho wrote a great article about Rowling's writing process, and Demi Schwartz a fantastic profile on Luna Lovegood, one of the most beloved characters from Ravenclaw. Also, we share a curiosity about Adalbert Waffling, magical theoretician, who in some editions is the author of "A History of Magic".

We hope you enjoy this issue and see you soon in March!

# HARRY POTTER AND THE VANISHING EDITOR

ALMOST THIRTEEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH,  
J.K. ROWLING STOPPED WRITING HARRY  
POTTER. THE STORIES REMAIN UNFINISHED.

BY OLIVER HO (NEWFRIEND999 ON REDDIT)

Thirteen years ago this month, J.K. Rowling stopped writing Harry Potter. The stories remain unfinished.

"There were a couple of the [Potter books] and ... they needed another year. I had to write on the run and there were times when it was really tough. And I read them [now], and I think 'Oh God, maybe I'll go back and do a director's cut'." – Joanne Rowling (BBC Interview, 2012)

In January 2007 J.K. Rowling defaced a bust of Hermes in her suite at Edinburgh's Balmoral Hotel to mark the full stop on writing Harry Potter. The seventh and final book was complete. All was well.

Note the author decided that **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows** was finished – not the editor or the publisher. The stop was not a stop. The author created a website, then a portal called Pottermore now Wizarding World, to publish further material on all things magical. She co-wrote a play, Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, a sort-of-sequel. Four Hogwarts e-books, released last year, unlock seven subjects from the Hogwarts syllabus. A third Fantastic Beasts movie begins production this spring: set in the 1920s-1930s these loose prequels to Harry Potter include several of its older players, and Rowling writes the screenplays. The author remains deep in her magical world, continues to tinker with characters such as Harry's headmaster Albus Dumbledore and manipulates perceptions of her marvellous magic.

## THE AUTHOR'S LAMENT

If J.K. Rowling believes the books are not finished, she has the power to transfigure them.

JRR Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, published in 1937, introduced Gandalf, dwarves, elves, Bilbo Baggins and a magic ring. But ten years after publication Tolkien rewrote an entire chapter to tee up his epic Middle Earth saga: *The Lord*

*of the Rings*. In chapter five of *The Hobbit*, Riddles in the Dark, Bilbo finds the ring and outwits the creature Gollum. The rewritten chapter presents a more wretched and treacherous Gollum, and a more precious ring. Retrofitted as *The One Ring To Rule Them All*, and entrusted to Frodo, Bilbo's lucky-find drives the plot of *The Hobbit's* sequel trilogy, *The Lord of the Rings*.

More recently, authors of sufficient wattage have returned to a published story simply to make it better, or more to their taste. Former scientologist and fantasy maestro Neil Gaiman upgraded two of his stories as "Author's Preferred Text": *American Gods* and *Neverwhere*. Stephen King overhauled his epic opus *The Stand*, to make a long book even longer.

Rowling has already employed retroactive continuity, or retconning, in the *Fantastic Beasts* movies: the last edition revealed an unimagined Dumbledore sibling and aged Hogwarts deputy headmistress Minerva McGonagall by several decades.

## HARRY POTTER AND THE EDITORS QUEST

Rowling has been critical of two Harry Potter books:

**Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire**: a story crisis meant a lot of time lost to rewrites. She struggled to hit the deadline agreed with the publishers. Pottermania was in full swing, and the movies underway.

**Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix**: press reports at the time claimed she had writer's block (as with no.2, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*). J.K. says that writing *Order of the Phoenix* was a chore. She ran out of time and energy at the finish.

The unique success of Harry Potter hit the author and the publishing world like a meteor from a clear blue sky.





By the fourth book, published in 2000, the series was a global phenomenon and a thing apart. To prevent spoilers, release dates in the UK and USA were synced.

Midnight launch parties began. Harry Potter became an industry. By the fifth book Rowling was already richer than The Queen. Secrecy clouded the sky like so many Dementors. How can a mere book editor tell the billionaire goose to revise her magic eggs?

On *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, when J. Rowling was unknown and the initial print run was just 500, the benefits of the editor are clear. Rowling wrote the book long hand. She has since displayed a few pages from the original manuscript, which we can compare with the published version. In one scene, Harry, Ron and Hermione (the Golden Trio) battle a Troll in the girls' lavatories. The author's detail-laden paragraphs became brisk sentences in the published version. Action is simplified. The story gains pace. The editor's cuts mean energy.

### STEPHEN IS OUR KING

*Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* has some of the best writing in the series. But portions of the book are – as the author said – a chore. When the role of editor is diminished, the writer's imperfections shine. Horror writer Stephen King reviewed *Order of the Phoenix* upon release. He celebrates the book and champions Rowling. Of course, he enjoys the darker tone. Dolores Umbridge, he writes, is the best villain "since Hannibal Lecter".

But King criticises the author's over-reliance on cliché. "Characters never just put on their clothes; they always get dressed at top speed," he observes. Adverbs to explain dialogue "pile up at the rate of 8 or 10 a page." He offers a list: Sirius – "exasperatedly", Mrs Weasley – "sharply", Tonks – "earnestly", Harry – "quietly", "automatically", "nervously", "slowly" and "ANGRILY".

JKR's most notorious adverb is calmly, to define Dumbledore's question "Did you put your name in the Goblet of Fire?". The line is yelled furiously by actor Michael Gambon in the movie adaptation, upsetting literal-minded fans.

King describes Jo Rowling as "a natural storyteller who is obviously bursting with crazily vivid ideas and having the time of her life" But, for the money, "Ms. Rowling could do better." (King is the world's second wealthiest author. JKR is worth double.)

### HARRY POTTER AND THE EDITORS QUEST

Cliches and adverbs niggle if you care about good writing. J.K. Rowling has written thrilling stories packed with wonderful characters and beautiful moments. JKR is a good writer and her tales have plenty to enjoy just as they are. But even the best writers need an objective set of eyes. The stories of Harry, Dumbledore, Voldemort and Snape are concluded – but the final HP books do not read like finished works.

In the saga's latter half the basic rule to show-not-tell is often ignored. The Weasley twins, Fred and George, do something funny and everyone laughs, but we are not supplied the joke, only a nod to some antics. Harry's schoolmate Dean Thomas drifts into *Harry Potter and*

the *Deathly Hallows* (no.7), twice, by coincidence! Harry's future wife Ginny, who blossoms with interest through the books, is a trophy in the final instalment, an object Harry repeatedly puts away for safekeeping.

Rowling planned her stories with detailed notes, but some passages remain stuck between planning and writing. They do not take life. An empowered editor smooths away such oddities, strengthens the writers choices and makes good the minor beats as well as the major ones. Which was not possible back in January 2007: how can an editor stop an industry and delay the gratification of all that lovely money?

#### FOR LOVE AND FORESHADOW

In Book One, Hagrid the half-giant tells Harry, "Yeh've got your mum's eyes". He says dragons guard the vaults of the wizarding bank Gringotts. Ollivander the Wandmaker shares lore: "The wand chooses the wizard." All details paid off in the final book, wherein the author deftly undermines the earlier, childish certainties about the wizarding world.

The clever author scatters clues to the characters' histories and to the carefully laid path ahead. J.K. Rowling dares you to solve the puzzle: she drops hints and foreshadows, and readers play treasure hunt for the Easter Eggs.

But a close read reveals aspects to the stories that J.K. did not intend. An attentive reader might infer that Dumbledore = gay from aspects of Book Seven. But they would also spy a proper gay relationship at the edge of Harry's vision. Teacher-werewolf Remus Lupin spends 40 lines just looking at Sirius Black. Sirius is Harry's godfather and the titular Prisoner of Azkaban. Sirius came

out as Gryffindor to his intolerant parents aged 11. He left home at 16. After a dozen years in prison, Sirius takes ownership of his family's abandoned London house. His friend Remus Lupin moves in. Happy days... until Sirius dies.

The thread disappears. Rowling had decided that Harry, an orphan, will himself be godfather to an orphan. Lupin is thrust into an awkward relationship with Nymphadora Tonks, an adult woman. Lupin resists the relationship. He briefly abandons his wife and newborn son to hang out with 17-year-old lads Harry and Ron (and, if he must, Hermione). Lupin returns to his family but the marriage lasts a year: Lupin and Tonks die in the final battle of good vs evil.

Fixated on the end goal Rowling does not allow her characters to speak to her. Harry and Hermione pull together in Book Seven; Harry even takes the girl to visit his parents. But a late-breaking romance between Harry and Hermione is not in the story plan, even if readers feel the frisson. Would a foolish coupling, one that can be blamed on evil influence, make the finale more epic? Harry and Hermione dance in Steve Kloves' screenplay for *The Deathly Hallows* movies, to release the tension and dismiss the temptation. The author ignores these possibilities. She sacrifices organic moments to stay on target. She simply powers through. Her decision is understandable – the arc is amazing. But the resolution leaves much unexplored. The story does not reach the end of the line.

And so, another unimagined consequence. From the unfinished parts, readers steal a gift: they fill the gaps with their own imaginations. Harry Potter belongs to the fans. No effort by writer or editor can reclaim him.





## A QUOTE BY JO

***"MOSTLY THEY [KIDS] ARE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT RON. AS IF I'M GOING TO KILL HARRY'S BEST FRIEND. WHAT I FIND INTERESTING IS ONLY ONCE HAS ANYONE SAID TO ME, "DON'T KILL HERMIONE," AND THAT WAS AFTER A READING WHEN I SAID NO ONE'S EVER WORRIED ABOUT HER... THEY SEE HER AS SOMEONE WHO IS NOT VULNERABLE, BUT I SEE HER AS SOMEONE WHO DOES HAVE QUITE A LOT OF VULNERABILITY IN HER PERSONALITY."***



**"ESSAY: A CONVERSATION WITH J.K. ROWLING; A GOOD SCARE," TIME MAGAZINE, OCTOBER 30, 2000**



# LOTS OF LOVE FOR LUNA LOVEGOOD

BY DEMI SCHWARTZ

Luna Lovegood is a special character in the Harry Potter series. Of course, she can appear quite extraordinary at times in the eyes of her classmates at Hogwarts, but her kind heart and loyalty shouldn't be overlooked. She was born on February 13, 1981, so the month of February is the time to show lots of love for Luna.

Luna is introduced in *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* when Harry, Ginny, and Neville share a compartment with her on the Hogwarts Express. At first glance, "she had straggly, waist-length, dirty-blond hair, very pale eyebrows, and protuberant eyes that gave her a permanently surprised look." Luna also has her wand behind her left ear and is wearing a necklace made out of butterbeer caps. As if that isn't odd enough, she's reading *The Quibbler*, a magazine run by her father that's considered to be a laugh in the Wizarding World, upside-down. Ginny tells the others that Luna is in her year but in Ravenclaw. At this moment, Luna shows she's a true Ravenclaw to heart when she says in her dreamy voice, "Wit beyond measure is man's greatest treasure." It's true that Luna is one of a kind, but she wastes no time in showing her pure kindness when she offers to carry Ron's owl, Pigwidgeon, when they arrive at Hogwarts. From here on out, Luna becomes a special character who sparkles like a precious jewel.

Luna proves her loyalty to Harry right off the bat, despite his hesitancy toward her. After the negative spotlight placed on Harry and Dumbledore by the *Daily Prophet* over the summer, the school is buzzing with a false perception of them. Many students don't believe that Voldemort is back, but Luna makes sure Harry knows she believes what he's been saying about the Dark Lord's return. Even better, she speaks up in front of both her and Harry's classmates. Wearing what look like orange radishes for earrings, Luna walks over to Harry and says, "I believe He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named is back, and I believe you fought him and escaped from him." Announcing her belief that Voldemort's back foreshadows Luna's role in his defeat. Soon enough, she finds herself training in defensive magic, which prepares her for the battles to come.

When Dumbledore's Army is born, Luna is right there in the group. Harry starts off with *Expelliarmus*, the Disarming Charm, during the first D.A. meeting, and like many of the other students, Luna has a lot of room for improvement.

Nevertheless, she finds herself getting better with every meeting, and she puts her training to the test when it comes time to head out for the Ministry of Magic.

After Harry has his falsified vision of Voldemort torturing Sirius in the Hall of Prophecy, he desperately wants to get to the Ministry of Magic as soon as possible. Ginny and Luna come into the room where Harry is arguing with Ron and Hermione, and when Harry brushes aside Ginny's offer to help, Luna says, "You're being rather rude, you know." Luna calls Harry out for his attitude, and in no time, she and Ginny help keep students away from Professor Umbridge's office by standing on either side of the corridor and saying that someone let off a load of Garroting Gas, so Harry can go into Umbridge's fire to check if Sirius is at Grimmauld Place. When in the fireplace, Kreacher lies to Harry, saying that Sirius wouldn't come back from the Department of Mysteries. After Harry and Hermione get Umbridge taken away by the centaurs and Ron, Ginny, Luna, and Neville get away from the Slytherins that were holding them in Umbridge's office, it's time for them to go to the Ministry of Magic. When they're discussing ways of getting to London, Luna says, "Well, we'll have to fly, won't we?" The Ravenclaw





in her leads the group to fly thestrals to London, but Harry has his doubts about Luna and the others coming along. When there are only two thestrals at first, Hermione says they need three. Then, Ginny jumps in, saying they need four. Luna puts a stop to the conversation when she says, "I think there are six of us, actually." When more thestrals show up, Harry has no choice but to let Luna, Ginny, and Neville come. Harry shouldn't have worried, though, because the others prove their abilities in the Department of Mysteries, especially Luna. More significantly, she's the only one going who isn't a Gryffindor, which truly shows how loyal and strong of a person she is.

Luna takes part in the Battle of the Department of Mysteries, which is the first major battle of the Second Wizarding War. She stands behind Harry in solidarity and raises her wand

along with him. When Harry gives the order, Luna yells, "Reducto," and launches herself into the battle. Besides dodging curses and casting spells of her own, she proves herself as an incredible friend once again when she helps Ginny to her feet because Ginny had broken her ankle. Luna also comes to Harry's aid in the Time Room, helping him bewitch the doors to keep the Death Eaters out. Unfortunately, Luna doesn't make it to one of the doors fast enough, and five Death Eaters burst through. Luna is thrown backwards, hits a

desk, and lands on the other side of it, unconscious. Still, Luna put up a fantastic fight against the Death Eaters during the Battle of the Department of Mysteries.

At the end of Luna's fourth year, she starts to really open herself up to Harry. Luna is hanging up notices when Harry finds her. When Harry asks Luna what she is doing, she says, "Well, I've lost most of my possessions. People take them and hide them, you know. But as it's the last night, I really do need them back, so I've been putting up signs." Harry finds himself feeling sorry for Luna, and they share a heart-to-heart moment when they talk about the deaths of Sirius and Luna's mother, who had died when one of her experimental spells went wrong when Luna was nine. The friendship between Luna, Harry, and the others only grows stronger in the years to come.

The next year, Harry shares a compartment on the

Hogwarts Express with Luna and Neville once again. Luna asks Harry if D.A. meetings would continue this year, and Harry tells her there isn't really a point to keep doing meetings because Umbridge is gone. Luna tells Harry that she enjoyed the meetings because "It was like having friends." She goes on to say, "People expect you to have cooler friends than us," referring to herself and Neville. As for Harry, he recognizes that Luna and Neville stood by his side in the Department of Mysteries, and therefore, they are cool in his eyes. Luna is cheered up by Harry's kind words, and she finally is starting to know what it's like to have friends.

Later on, Professor Slughorn's Christmas party rolls around, and after Luna tells Harry she feels a bit lonely without the D.A. and tells him about how Ginny stopped two boys from

calling her "Loony" during a Transfiguration class, Harry asks her to the party. Luna is delighted and says, "I'd love to go with you as friends." When it's time for the party, Harry meets Luna in the entrance hall. She's wearing a set of spangled silver robes, and Harry thinks to himself that she looks quite nice. Luna chimes in with her unusual beliefs during the party, but Harry even admits that it was worth asking her for the laughs.

Luna's moments of bringing laughter aren't over. She commentates a Quidditch match between Gryffindor and Hufflepuff,

and her commentating style is one of a kind, just like her. Instead of focusing on the score and who has possession of the Quaffle, she points out interestingly shaped clouds and the possibility that Zacharias Smith could be suffering from "Loser's Lurgy." Even Ron, who was in the hospital wing during the match but could hear the commentary, tells Harry that he hopes Luna commentates from now on. Once again, Luna shows her kindness when she goes to the hospital wing to see Ron, but she's told that he'd left. When she catches up with Harry, Ron, and Hermione, Luna gives Harry a scroll of parchment, which is his next lesson with Dumbledore. When Ron tells Luna that she did a good job commentating the match, Luna says, "You're making fun of me, aren't you? Everyone says I was dreadful." Ron reassures her by saying, "No, I'm serious! I can't remember enjoying commentary more!" After Luna walks away, Ron turns to Harry and Hermione and says, "You know, she's



grown on me, Luna.”

Still, Luna knows when to be serious when she needs to be. She steps up once again to fight during the Battle of the Astronomy Tower, remaining a loyal friend to Harry and the others. It’s a heartbreaking night for everyone when they hear about Dumbledore’s death, and Luna’s tears sparkling in her eyes show that her heart is in the right place.

During the summer between Luna’s fifth and sixth years at Hogwarts, she attends Bill Weasley’s wedding at the Burrow. She is wearing bright yellow robes with a large sunflower in her blonde hair for the occasion. Once Luna leaves her father’s side, she sits alone at a table, and Harry



goes over when he notices her. Soon after, a waltzlike tune begins to play, and Luna “glided onto the dance floor, where she revolved on the spot, quite alone, eyes closed and waving her arms.” It isn’t long until Luna’s life becomes much more complicated than dancing at a wedding.

While Harry, Ron, and Hermione are off hunting Horcruxes, Luna is doing her part to help from inside Hogwarts Castle. She, Ginny, and Neville break into the headmaster’s office to try and steal the Sword of Gryffindor. It’s clear Luna is doing everything she can to keep fighting back, and eventually, she gets captured by the Death-Eaters because of the support her father has been giving Harry in *The Quibbler*. While at Luna’s house, where he learns about the Deathly Hallows, Harry notices that Luna’s room has an empty and unwelcoming feeling to it. Also, he sees that she’d decorated her bedroom ceiling with painted faces of Harry, Ron, Hermione, Ginny, and Neville, and they were connected by chains of the word, “friends,” repeated over and over again in gold ink. Harry feels both a rush of affection and concern for Luna, and he confronts Xenophilius. Luna’s father tells Harry that Luna had been taken because of what he’d been

writing. Fortunately, Harry, Ron, and Hermione escape from Luna’s house after the Death-Eaters arrive, but soon, they find themselves captured and taken to Malfoy Manor, where Luna is.

Bound by ropes, Harry and Ron are taken down to the cellar in Malfoy Manor. With help from the light from the Deluminator in Ron’s pocket, Luna hacks at the ropes until they break free. Luna wants to stay and help, but once Dobby arrives, Harry tells Dobby to take her to Shell Cottage, along with Dean and Mr. Olivander. When Dobby returns, he gets Harry and the others out safely, but Dobby loses his life from being stabbed by Bellatrix’s knife. The thoughtful and caring person that she is, Luna closes Dobby’s eyes and says, “Thank you so much, Dobby, for rescuing me from that cellar. It’s so unfair that you had to die, when you were so good and brave. I’ll always remember what you did for us. I hope you’re happy now.” Luna also arranges sea lavender in a jam jar beside Dobby’s headstone to pay respect to the elf.

Luna plays an incredibly significant role during the Battle of Hogwarts, which is the final battle of the Second Wizarding War. First, when Harry arrives, he’s searching for the last Horcrux, something he believes to belong to Ravenclaw. Luna tells him about the Lost Diadem and takes Harry to Ravenclaw Tower to show him a replica of it on the statue of Rowena Ravenclaw. They are taken by surprise when they realize Alecto Carrow is in the common room. After Alecto presses her Dark Mark, Luna stuns her, which is her first time stunning someone outside of D.A. meetings. Still, the Death-Eaters are coming, and the battle has begun.

While Harry, Ron, and Hermione hurry to find the Lost Diadem of Ravenclaw and destroy it, Luna fights in the battle. She joins forces with Ernie and Seamus to help Harry, Ron, and Hermione fight off dementors on the grounds. Luna continues to cast her Patronus, a silver hare, and encourages Harry to think of something happy. When Harry falters, Luna says, “We’re all still here. We’re still fighting.” Luna never stops fighting until the end. After Voldemort fails to kill Harry and the battle moves into the entrance hall, Luna fights Bellatrix with Hermione and Ginny until Molly Weasley takes over and hits Bellatrix with a curse.

After Voldemort is defeated at last, Luna shows her kindness one more time. While everyone is celebrating in the Great Hall, Harry finds himself sitting on a bench with Luna. She tells Harry, “I’d want some peace and quiet, if it were me.” When Harry expresses that he feels the same way, Luna distracts those nearby when she says, “Oooh, look, a Blibbering Humdinger!” While everyone’s eyes are averted, Harry pulls on the Invisibility Cloak.

So, Luna may be a little odd on the surface, but she is one of the kindest and most loyal witches in the Wizarding World. From fighting alongside Harry to being an all around incredible friend, Luna truly glows even brighter than the moon in the night sky.



# TROUBLED BLOOD

THE FIFTH INSTALLMENT IN THE  
CORMORAN STRIKE SERIES HAS  
BEEN ANNOUNCED: EVERYTHING  
WE KNOW ABOUT ROBERT  
GALBRAITH'S UPCOMING NOVEL.

*“Building on the series’ central  
relationship between Cormoran  
Strike and Robin Ellacot,  
Troubled Blood is sure to delight  
Galbraith’s army of loyal fans”*

It was one of the articles of the January issue of The Rowling Library Magazine. J.K. Rowling returned to Twitter (her only social account, so far) to share with all her fans that she had finished the fifth novel of the Cormoran Strike series. She uploaded a photo of the manuscript, without making it clear if she had finished the first manuscript version or the final one, but it was good news for the fans of Robert Galbraith’s books. Let’s remember that *The Cuckoo’s Calling*, the first novel in the series, was published in 2013, followed by *The Silkworm* (2014), *Career of Evil* (2015) and *Lethal White* (2018). The three-year gap between the third and fourth book can be easily

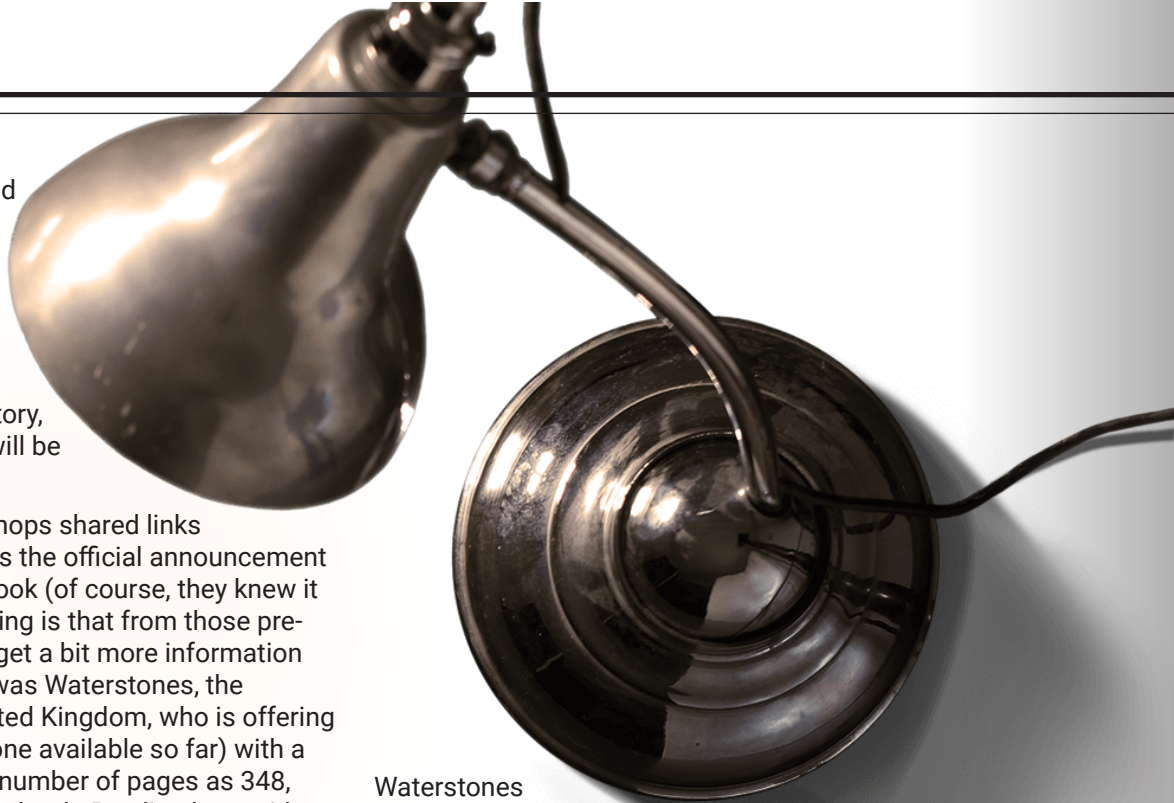
explained by the writing of the *Fantastic Beasts* and *Cursed Child* screenplays.

But since January 25th (the day Rowling shared the manuscript picture) we did not have to wait

even a full month to know more about the fifth book. On February 19th, Little, Brown revealed that the fifth part is going to be titled *Troubled Blood* and it will hit shelves in the United Kingdom and United States of America on September 29th, 2020 - just seven months away from now. Besides the title and the release date, the publisher only shared a promotional image that follows the spirit of the previous covers (although not the original ones, but the last designs), and nothing else. “Cover to be revealed”

can be read on this image, and although fans can't wait to see it, we doubt it includes any clues about the plot of the book. The artwork for the previous books never shared anything that could hint what was going to happen in the story, and we don't think this time will be different.

However, some online bookshops shared links to pre-order a copy as soon as the official announcement was up on Twitter and Facebook (of course, they knew it beforehand). What is interesting is that from those pre-order pages we were able to get a bit more information from the book. The first one was Waterstones, the bookshop chain from the United Kingdom, who is offering the hardback copy (the only one available so far) with a discount. They displayed the number of pages as 348, which seemed very short for a book. Rowling has said on Twitter that the fifth book in the Strike series was not going to be as long as *Lethal White*, but less than 400 pages is too short. We spoke directly to Little, Brown and they confirmed to us that 348 was not the correct number of pages. A few days later, Waterstones updated the page count and now it matches with the one displayed by Amazon - so we can assume *Troubled Blood* will definitely have 784 pages.



Waterstones was also the only one who shared a small fragment from the synopsis, while other bookshops just mentioned that "*Troubled Blood* is the next thrilling instalment in the highly acclaimed, international bestselling series featuring Cormoran Strike and Robin Ellacott, written by Robert Galbraith, a pseudonym of J.K. Rowling." Waterstones added that





"Building on the series' central relationship between Cormoran Strike and Robin Ellacot, *Troubled Blood* is sure to delight Galbraith's army of loyal fans", so will *Troubled Blood* be the definitive book about the couple?

As soon as the title was revealed, we checked when it was registered. The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) has a trademark filed for *Troubled Blood* in September 2019, a few months ago, by the legal company that handles all Harry Potter and J.K. Rowling's requests. So we can assume Rowling had the idea for the title a few months before, considering she doesn't register every title she comes up with and only the one that is going to be used. One can think that *Troubled Blood*, as a phrase, is highly related to the Harry Potter Universe (from Mudbloods to the blood protection from Lily that allowed Harry to survive), so it is interesting that Rowling didn't care about the connection and continued with her idea for this title.

*Troubled blood*, also, seems related to Cormoran Strike and the relationship with his mother and his father, Jonny Rokeby, the frontman of the 1970s rock band The Deadbeats. There was something interesting these past



days, too. Musician Marilyn Manson shared on Instagram that Rowling sent a bouquet of red roses to him - but the reasons are unknown. Is it possible that Manson helped Rowling with the Rokeby character? As some people noticed at [HogwartsProfessor.com](http://HogwartsProfessor.com), "troubled" and "blood" references appear in Marilyn Manson's song "Mind of a Lunatic", so maybe there is a connection after all. We will have to wait a few months, though, to confirm or deny these theories. As Rowling did with *Lethal White*, the title could be a reference not only to the main plot Strike is investigating, but also to the background plot, his relationship with his family and Robin Ellacott as well.

From the title, it looks as if this fifth installment will be a dramatic and dark one. As we said before, when we read "troubled blood", our minds immediately drifted to Cormoran Strike's lineage, and his relationship with his mother and father. We expect this upcoming novel to be at the same level of intrigue, mystery and character development as the last one. Personally, Rowling's career turned a turn for the better with the Strike series, after *The Casual Vacancy* and the scripts for *Fantastic Beasts*, so we hope Robert Galbraith delivers a great story when *Troubled Blood* hits the bookstores in September.



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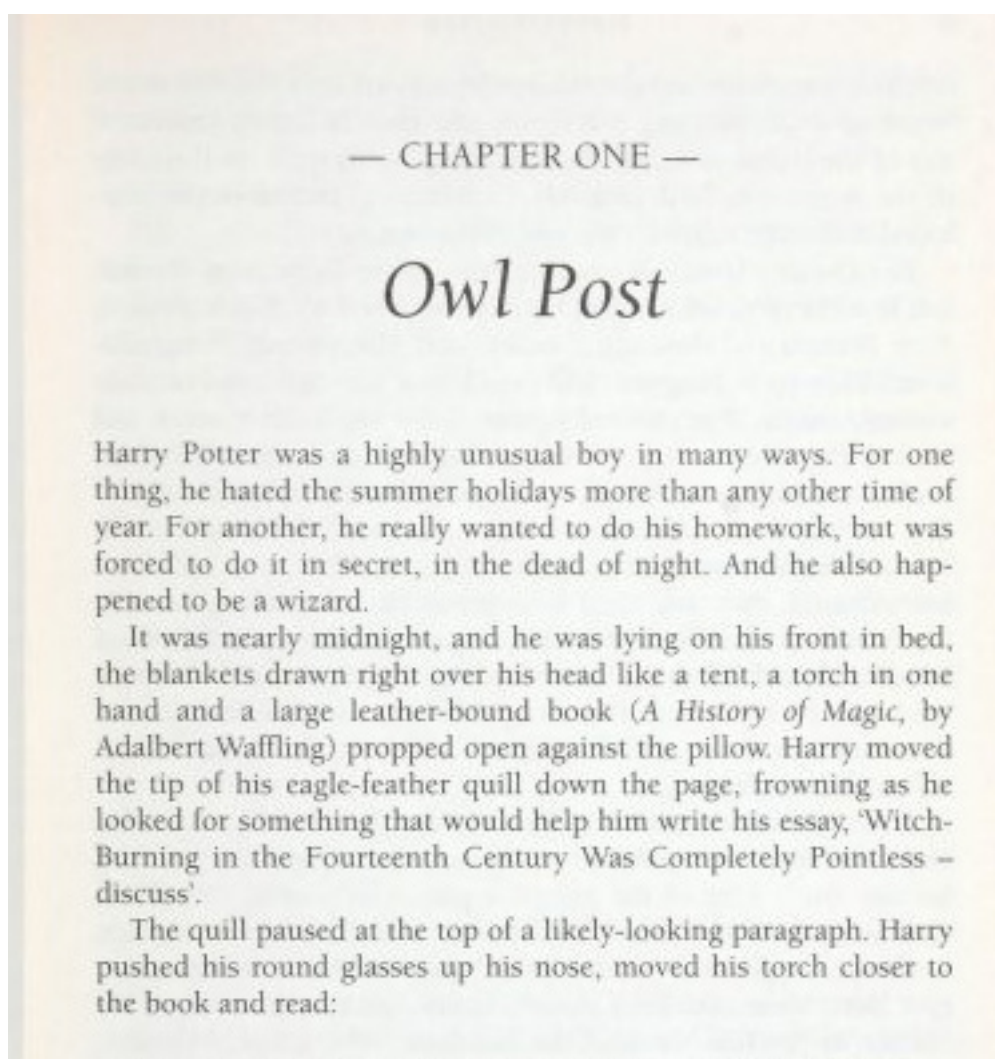


# ADALBERT WAFFLING'S CONFUSSION

ADALBERT WAFFLING APPEARED IN THE FIRST AND THE  
LAST HARRY POTTER BOOK, BUT THERE WAS A MINOR  
CONFUSION WITH THIS CHARACTER IN SOME PRINTS OF  
THE THIRD BOOK .

Let's say you are reading the Harry Potter books in a different language. It is possible you are from a non-speaking English country, as most of the Harry Potter fans are (yes, the Harry Potter phenomenon is worldwide), or you are just trying to learn a different language and thought that reading a book you know very well is a good idea (it is, in fact!). Then, in the first page of Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban in some foreign language editions, you may find a curious fact: it is not Bathilda Bagshot the author of *A History of Magic*, but a wizard called Adalbert Waffling. Yes, this happens in the first edition of *Harry Potter y el Prisionero de Azkaban* (Spanish) and *Harry Potter et le Prisonnier d'Azkaban* (French), among other translations of the third book.

Who is Adalbert Waffling? The first time we heard of him was in Chapter 5 of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. When Harry receives his Hogwarts letters with indications for his first year, among the books he has to bring to the magical school, it



is listed Magical Theory by Mr. Waffling. Magical Theory is shown, in fact, one line below A History of Magic, who every hardcore fan knows was written by Bathilda Bagshot. So how did this error happen in the third book?

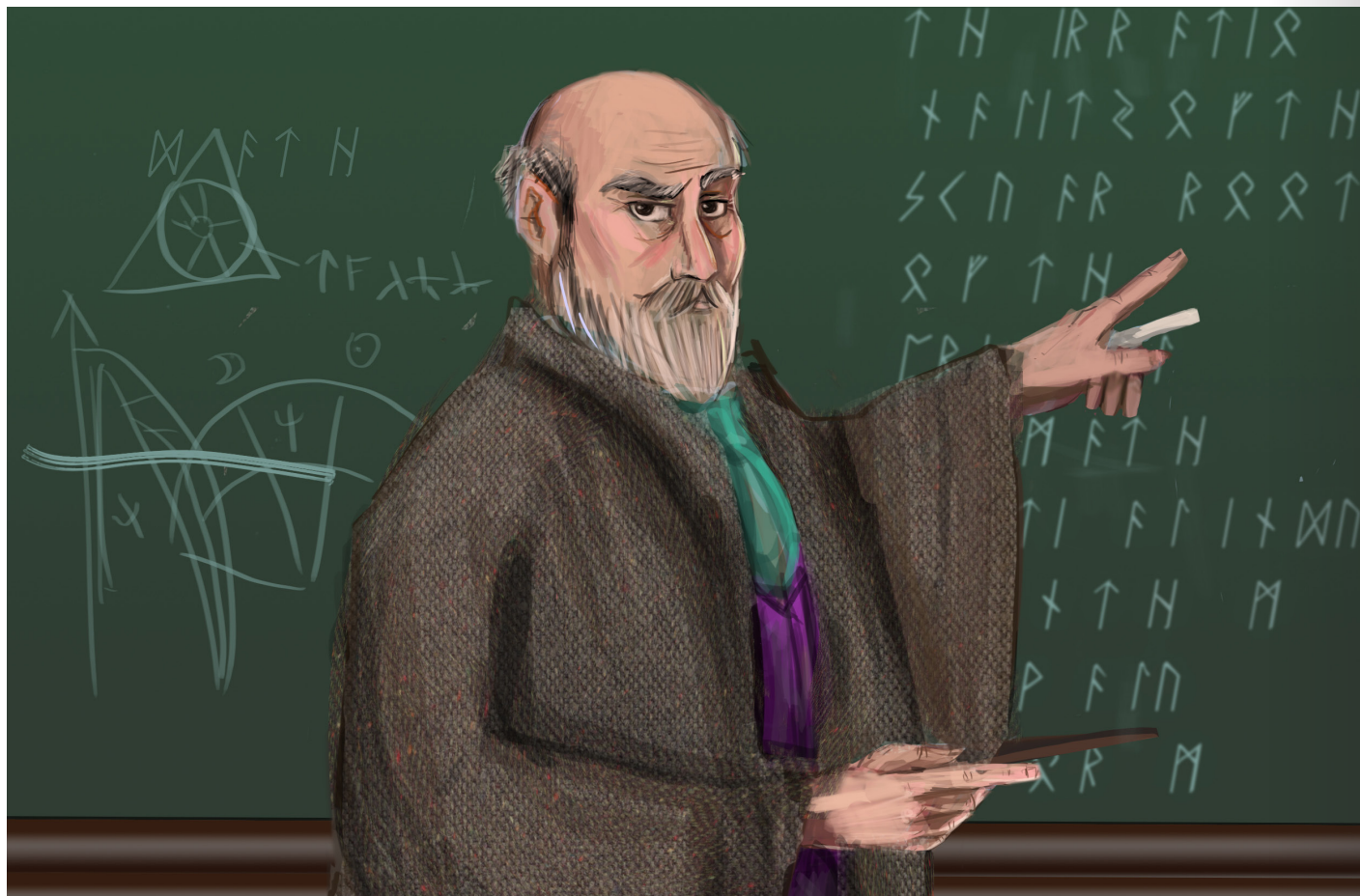
I was reading the book in Spanish when I found out about this. My first theory, after checking that the two books were almost together in *Philosopher's Stone*, was that maybe the translator went to the first book to check and, on a quick glance, confused both magical authors. Then I realized that this is not how translators work. They don't check for canon consistency or continuity, they are only responsible for translation continuity. If they didn't translate the names of the characters, why would they check consistency in this case?

That's how I realized this error may come directly from the original source. So I got my first edition of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (published by Bloomsbury in the United Kingdom in 1999) and I opened it. The first page was there, with the error that most of the translations around the world copied.

"...and a large leather-bound book (*A History of Magic*, by Adalbert Waffling) propped open against the pillow."

This error was fixed later in the British edition, the American edition, and all the editions around the world. But a simple mistake in the original book wide spreaded around the world like an infection. Of course, it isn't an important one in canon terms, mainly because it was fixed and cleared up later, but an interesting one.

However, it is not the only canon contradiction of Adalbert Waffling. The last book of the series says Dumbledore was in regular correspondence with him (also with Bathilda Bagshot, of course) while he was a teenager. However, Adalbert Waffling's *Chocolate Card Frog*, which is canon because it was written by Rowling, says he was born in 1899, after Dumbledore graduated school. This, of course, would be impossible. However, from here, we prefer *The Deathly Hallows* version, since its canonicity is higher than the *Chocolate Frog Cards*, so we still believe Dumbledore and Waffling exchanged letters about the Wizarding World.







# THE TALES OF BEEDLE THE BARD AUDIOBOOK ANNOUNCED

Audible has announced its latest project for the Wizarding World: the audiobook of *The Tales of Beedle the Bard*. The big piece of news? It is narrated by actors that participated in *Harry Potter* and *Fantastic Beasts* productions.

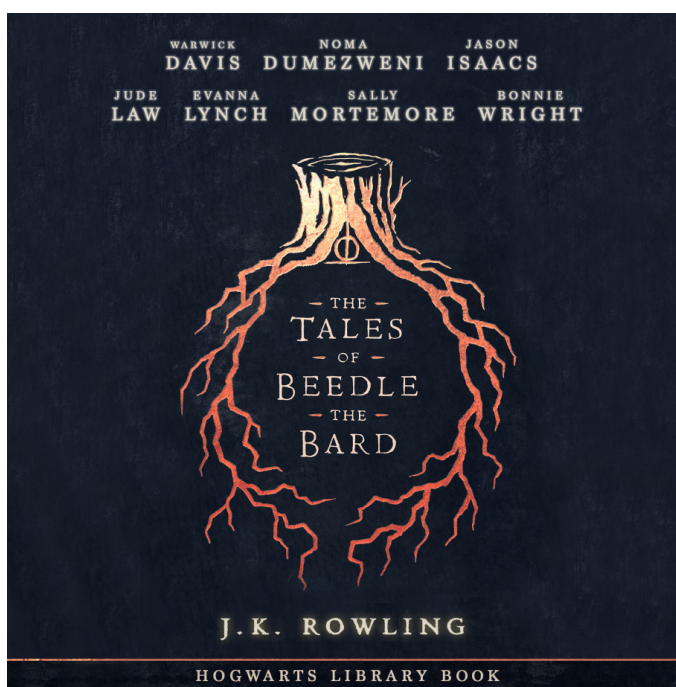
Noma Dumezweni (the original Hermione in the London production of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*), Jason Isaacs (Lucius Malfoy), Evanna Lynch (Luna Lovegood), Bonnie Wright (Ginny Weasley), and Warwick Davis (Professor Flitwick) will unite to narrate the five stories of *Tales of Beedle the Bard*, all in support of Lumos. Jude Law, who portrays Albus Dumbledore in the *Fantastic Beasts* films will also participate, probably reading Dumbledore's notes and comments on each story. The introduction from the author will be narrated by Sally Mortemore, the actress who plays Irma Pince, Hogwarts Librarian, in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*.

"The Wizard and the Hopping Pot" will be read by Warwick Davis (Flitwick), "The Fountain of Fair Fortune" by Evanna Lynch (Luna Lovegood), "The Warlock's Hairy Heart" by Jason Isaacs (Lucius Malfoy), "Babbitty Rabbitty and her Cackling Stump" by Bonnie Wright (Ginny Weasley), and the the most iconic of Beedle's stories, "The Tale of the Three Brothers", that will introduce listeners to the *Deathly Hallows*, will be read by Noma Dumezweni, who played Hermione Granger in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, first in the London production, then in Broadway. It makes sense to be her who will be reading this story, since Hermione Granger shared it with Ron and Harry for the first time in the seventh book.

Most fans welcomed this news with happiness, since *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* was the only missing Wizarding World book without its own audiobook edition. *Fantastic Beasts* and *Where to Find Them* is available read by Eddie Redmayne (Newt Scamander) and *Quidditch Through the Ages* by Andrew Lincoln (the only star that sofar participated in a Wizarding World audiobook but not in any movie or stage play related to the franchise!). However, the happiness came with some criticism too. Some fans are saying that this is another attempt by Warner Bros.

to keep pushing the films into the books, removing the barriers that were once between them in marketing aspects. Remember that the *Harry Potter* books are not allowed to put any film reference in their marketing: that's why we haven't seen a tie-in edition with Daniel Radcliffe on the covers, for example. Could this be different in a few years?

The *Harry Potter* and *Fantastic Beasts* stars participating in the audiobooks could be another step toward this - remember that a few months ago the logo for *Harry Potter* and the *Cursed Child* changed to be the same logo used in the films, so the idea of unifying the brand (books, films and theatre) is already a reality, only time will tell what the limits are and if in the future, films and books of *Harry Potter* will be marketed in the same way. Let's hope not, for the sanity of the vintage fans.



# WIZARDING WORLD CROSSWORD

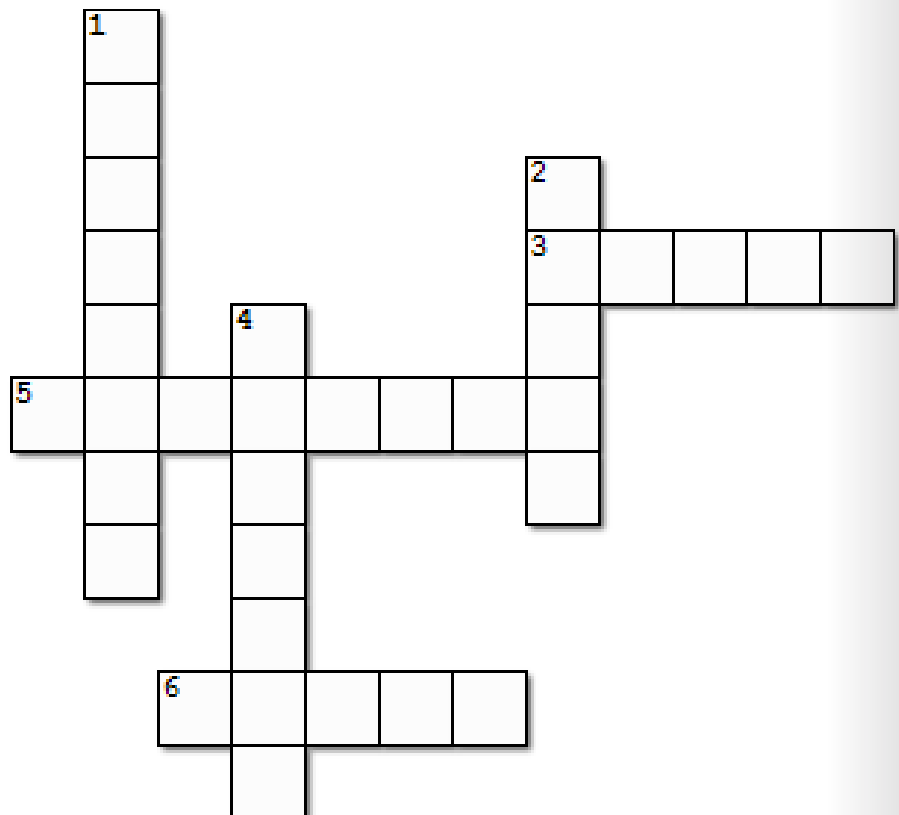
TEST YOUR HARRY POTTER KNOWLEDGE IN THIS PUZZLE

## ACROSS

3. FROM THE TALES OF BEEDLE THE BARD. THE WARLOCK'S HAIRY...
5. ROBIN'S SURNAME FROM STRIKE SERIES
6. MALFOY FAMILY'S HOUSE-ELF.

## DOWN

1. XENOPHILUS LOVEGOOD'S MAGAZINE.
2. FOURTH TITLE IN THE STRIKE SERIES. LETHAL...
4. AUTHOR OF A HISTORY OF MAGIC. BATHILDA...







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