



Magazine

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A magazine about Harry Potter & J.K. Rowling

SECRETS REVEALED

SPECIAL EDITION

FANTASTIC BEASTS
THE SECRETS OF
DUMBLEDORE

54
PAGES



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WELCOME

After waiting for four years and a pandemic, the third installment of *Fantastic Beasts* is finally out. This April 2022 issue is completely dedicated to *The Secrets of Dumbledore* and, of course, it has spoilers (we advise that you watch the movie before reading). This issue has been made possible by the hard work and effort of many people who have contributed with articles, pulled all-nighters with last minute details and designed the magazine, so we really hope you enjoy it! Without any further ado, here is issue 64 of *The Rowling Library Magazine*.

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SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE OUR REVIEW

Review first published on April 5th

After the unenthusiastic reception of *The Crimes of Grindelwald*, Warner Bros. knew they had to do something different for the third part of the *Fantastic Beasts* series. Something different that would appeal back to the casual fans of the Wizarding World: that something different is *Fantastic Beasts - The Secrets of Dumbledore*.

Warner Bros. knew that J.K. Rowling's writing (more suited to books than film) was not something that would appeal to

the general movie-going public, and so they decided to make (together with Steve Kloves) a film with all the necessary ingredients for the average movie-goer to enjoy. *Secrets of Dumbledore* is a simpler film than its predecessor, but no less enjoyable for that. On the contrary: simplicity is perhaps its strongest point, going at a fast pace all throughout the movie.

The main plot and conflict is presented in the first scenes, without too many twists and turns. From that moment we embark on

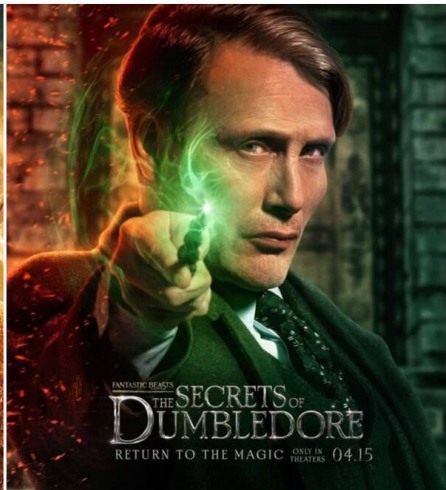
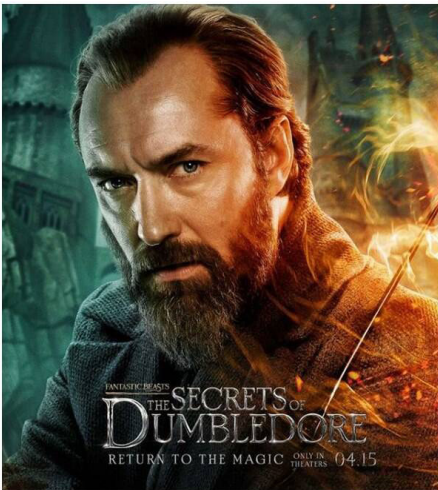


an adventure with a young Albus Dumbledore (played by a Jude Law who knows how to do it very well) and his team that will help him face a Grindelwald he himself can't fight. As if it were a bank robbery movie, we see a formula that has been successful on the big screen before: recruiting, planning and executing a plan against a more powerful entity (sometimes a bank, this time a government).

knew. Also joining the cast are Richard Coyle as a less refined Dumbledore than his brother, and Oliver Masucci as Anton Vogel: the current Supreme Mugwump who seems to be hiding something. The rest of the cast consists of the already familiar Eddie Redmayne, Alison Sudol, Dan Fogler, and Callum Turner among others, who stand out even more this time than in the previous films.

As well as returning to familiar

The creatures this time are not too



locations in the Wizarding World (such as Hogwarts and Hogsmeade), we see new places such as the German Ministry of Magic, and new characters. Lally Hicks (played by Jessica Williams) has a high chance of becoming a fan favourite, while Mads Mikkelsen's new version of Gellert Grindelwald could be considered a new character as he is so different from the Grindelwald we already

many but their role is paramount to the story: the Qilin, a crucial beast from the first to the last scene; the manticores, in what is possibly one of the most visceral scenes of the saga; and even Pickett the bowtruckle and Ted the Niffler, now being more useful allies of Newt. All of these beasts (and the rest too) are very well achieved in visual terms.

Perhaps the high point of the film (and we are getting repetitive) is the action and the constant speed, which will be what the general public will enjoy most. There is no respite throughout the film: short dialogue and constant progress of the plot. In turn, this is also perhaps the strongest proof that it was not written by J.K. Rowling. The film, while entertaining, feels like the end product of hours of marketing research: giving the audience exactly what they want, even if that goes a little against the philosophy of the Wizarding World.

But still, something has been achieved that will make people leave the cinema happy with what they've just seen (except, of course, those obsessive fans of the World of Harry Potter). With two good scenes before the opening titles (a great slow conversation to tease

out the main character's inner conflict and a Harry Potter-esque Death Eater chase), you know that *The Secrets of Dumbledore* is likely to be one of those films that years later, if you find it on TV, you'll leave it on to watch again.

We move on to discuss the movie with spoilers. The film answers perhaps the biggest question of the previous film: who is Credence? But in doing so in such a simple way it also raises another question: was it worth all the mystery beforehand? What was the point of the whole Lestrangle plot if the resolution was so simple? One can't help but wonder if in fact the original resolution was different and this version was chosen so as not to further complicate the plot.

But even so, this film raises other questions, perhaps not so much on a plot level but on a Wizarding



JUDE LAW AS ALBUS DUMBLEDORE, AND EDDIE REDMAYNE AS NEWT SCAMANDER IN *FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE* (WARNER BROS., 2022)



MADS MIKKELSEN AS GELLERT GRINDELWALD IN
FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

World level. The first of these comes from one of the elements most present throughout the film: the Mirror Dimension, or the Nightmare Dimension, as the producers called it in an interview. What is it, how is it generated, how does one enter it, and even how does it work? True, it does not contradict the established canon of the books, but one feels that it does not belong to the Wizarding World of the books we grew up with. How is it possible that this “tool” so useful to Dumbledore has not been mentioned at all in any of the books? Of course, the easiest answer is that it is a tool for the filmmakers themselves that allowed them to have a duel in the middle of Berlin without worrying about Muggles, and even better: a duel between Dumbledore and Grindelwald that no one witnessed.

Other facts might make more noise to the canon purists: from a Portkey going into a Floo Network chimney to another Priori

Incantatem wand connection. There are perhaps other things that seem to go against it entirely: an Avada Kedavra stopped by another spell, which is really strange (not to mention that this makes the most powerful wand known, the Elder Wand, to have failed two Avada Kedavras in its history). Or the fact that a creature like the Qilin (which is known to any child according to Vogel himself) is not in any of the books written by Newt Scamander.

But these are details that the filmmakers decided to sacrifice in order to make a film that will make people leave the cinema happy. Some of them work very well, like the fact that most of the spells are non-verbal: that makes it very difficult to know what spell is being cast and if they follow the logic of the Wizarding World.

The film will definitely spark off debate about the changes introduced to the lore of the

Wizarding World we know, and we will be here to continue the debate and try to shape what's new in the world we continue to enjoy.

The final question may be maybe the one that is based on the real world: is this the final film in the *Fantastic Beasts* series? The ending of the film seems to say yes. With Queenie and Jacob's fate sealed, the scene seems to show that Newt and company are done with this war, now that Dumbledore is free to fight Grindelwald himself. It is even mentioned by the main character, who thanks Newt for what he has done for him. So what's next?

With Newt (and his beasts) not being needed anymore, the filmmakers have more freedom since they are no longer tied to the *Fantastic Beasts* franchise. A final

film to show the duel between Grindelwald and Dumbledore could be made without the need to have Newt Scamander back. Or this could even be a TV show for HBO Max.

However, the ending of the movie also is the end of Grindelwald's charismatic side: his cover is blown and it is hard to believe the Wizarding population is interested in him anymore. Without that populism plot, what is left to be told besides the Great Duel? Is there enough content to make another movie? Grindelwald's quest now feels a lot like Voldemort's, and clearly going on the same path.

The answer to all these questions is not here yet and we will have to wait for Warner Bros. to announce the next steps in the Wizarding World film universe.



JUDE LAW AS ALBUS DUMBLEDORE AND RICHARD COYLE AS ABERFORTH DUMBLEDORE IN *FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE* (WARNER BROS., 2022)

SECRET HISTORY OF THE WIZARDING PHENOMENON

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



Read an excerpt



Buy it now



This is an unofficial book and it has not been authorized by J.K. Rowling or Warner Bros.



BY ANNIE A.

DIPLOMACY IN THE WIZARDING WORLD

If you already watched *Fantastic Beasts 3: The Secrets of Dumbledore* (SOD), you know by now that **the International Confederation of Wizards (ICW)** has a prominent role in the plot of the movie. As a Diplomat myself, I never paid much attention to how Diplomacy and International Relations are carried out in the

Wizarding World. The most I can remember are the events that take place in *Goblet of Fire*, where the Department of International Magical Cooperation is mentioned several times.

However, I read the original books many times, and I do not remember much of the ICW. After watching



SOD, I decided to go back to the previous material and search for any reference to the ICW, to better understand how it works and the influence it has on the international wizarding community. In order to do this, first, I will briefly sum up the mentions to the ICW in the primary and secondary canon of the Wizarding World¹, and then take a closer look at the events in SOD and the working of the ICW.

ICW IN THE PRIMARY CANON

The ICW is mentioned occasionally in the original *Harry Potter* series; it only took me some searches in my Kindle version of the books to find a handful of references². The ICW is mentioned in *Philosopher's Stone* (PS), *Chamber of Secrets* (CS), *Prisoner of Azkaban* (PA), *Goblet of Fire* (GF) and *Order of the Phoenix* (OP). So, what exactly do we know about the ICW from the books' canon?

For example, in Chapter 4 of PS, we found that Albus Dumbledore, the Headmaster of Hogwarts, is also the Supreme Mugwump of the ICW. In Chapter 2 of CS, a note from the Ministry mentions that “any magical activity which risks notice by muggles is a serious offence, under section 13 of the ICW's Statute of Secrecy.” In chapter 3 of PA, we learn that “Fudge has been criticized by some member of the International Confederation of Warlocks for informing the Muggle Prime Minister of the crisis”

(referring to the escape of Sirius Black from Azkaban). In chapter 17 of GF, Karkaroff threatens to lodge complaints to the ICW, after Harry's name is picked from the Goblet to be the second Hogwarts's champion.

During the events of OP, Harry visits the British Ministry of Magic, and studies the origins of the ICW for his History of Magic O.W.L. exam, so the organization is mentioned several times during this book, and we learn some interesting facts about it.

In chapter 5 of OP, we learn that Albus Dumbledore was “voted out of the Chairmanship³ of the International Confederation of Wizards,” after he made a speech announcing that Voldemort was back. In chapter 7 of OP, we find out that, within the Department of International Magical Cooperation, you can find the “International Confederation of Wizards, British seats.” In chapter 15 of OP, an article from *The Prophet* mentions that Albus Dumbledore was once Supreme Mugwump of the International Confederation of Wizards. In chapter 31, Harry is studying the origins of the ICW and reads that “the first Supreme Mugwump of the International Confederation of Wizards was Pierre Bonaccord”; and finally, in chapter 38, we learn that Albus Dumbledore was “reinstated member of the International Confederation of Wizards.”



OLIVER MASUCCI PLAYS ANTON VOGEL, LEADER OF ICW, IN *FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE* (WARNER BROS., 2022)

ICW IN THE SECONDARY CANON

Outside the core books, we find some mentions of the ICW in *Quidditch through the ages*, *Pottermore* writings, and of course, the *Fantastic Beasts* series. For example, during the events of the first *Fantastic Beasts* movie, the ICW closely follows the situation in New York City, and even holds an emergency session to receive explanations from the Magical Congress of the USA (MACUSA). However, the most clarifying line about the ICW comes from JKR's Twitter account, where she stated, in 2015, that the ICW is the equivalent of our United Nations (UN).⁴

After reviewing the mentions to the ICW in the primary and secondary canon, I find several differences between the functioning of the ICW and the UN.

ICW IN PRACTICE AND THE EVENTS IN *SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE* (SOD)

The main event in SOD is the election of the of Supreme Mugwump of the ICW, that takes place in 1932. However, for some reason, the term "Supreme Mugwump", as much as I can remember, is not specifically mentioned in the movie (they use more generic terms like "leader of the Confederation"). The *Fantastic Beasts* franchise seems to be hesitant to refer to things by their previously accepted canonical name (for example, the term MACUSA, widely used in in the first movie, is not used in the second or third movies to refer to the Magical Congress of the USA).

Back to the election of the Supreme Mugwump, **what stands out for me is that the leader of ICW seems to often be a Minister for Magic in**

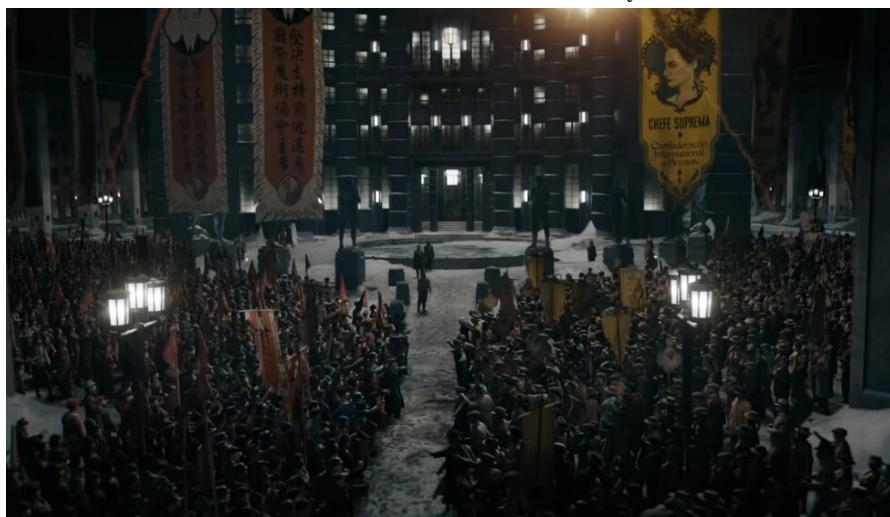
office. For example, Vogel was the German Minister and the Supreme Mugwump, and the candidates Liu Tao and Vicência Santos were the Chinese Minister for Magic and the Brazilian Minister for Magic, respectively. And again, this is not exactly mentioned in the movie, but we learn these facts from the shot of the German wizarding newspaper.⁵

In that sense, **the position of Supreme Mugwump seems to be “non-exclusive”**: you can be Supreme Mugwump and Minister for Magic of your country, or even Headmaster of a school, like Dumbledore was. This seems totally absurd from a workload point of view: are they really able to handle all of their duties?

According to the *Harry Potter* books, Albus Dumbledore was

Supreme Mugwump at least from 1991 to 1995. Was he able to lead the international wizarding community and properly manage Hogwarts’ affairs, all of this at the same time? Maybe this explains how Hogwarts was a security nightmare sometimes; Dumbledore was a really busy man. However, if we take into consideration the events in SOD, it makes sense that Dumbledore was later appointed as Supreme Mugwump; after all, the Qilin bowed to him first.

To compare the ICW with our Muggle reality, let me recall how the UN works: the UN is a huge inter-governmental organization, led by a Secretary General, and with thousands of employees. The Secretary General of the UN and the employees do not represent States Parties; they are international



ICW ELECTION CROWD, IN
FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

employees. The different countries are represented at the UN by diplomats in New York or Geneva, but the organization works on its own. Also, the Secretary General usually won't hold any other position while leading the Organization.

However, the ICW seems to work differently from the UN. As I mentioned earlier, in OP5 we learn that the "British seats" of the ICW are located in the British Ministry of Magic, within the Department of International Magical Cooperation. This might indicate that **the ICW is not a formal and structured institution like the UN, and it seems to work more like an "ad-hoc Congress"** that holds special meetings from time to time.

From the canon, I figure that each country selects a group of wizards and witches to be Members the ICW on behalf of their country; and then, every couple of years, an election is held to decide who will be the Supreme Mugwump, as we witnessed in SOD (and I imagine that the Supreme Mugwump should be a Member of the ICW, but I am not sure if that was Grindelwald's case). Also, **the ICW does not seem to have permanent premises, like the UN has, and the different meetings and events take place in different countries, like Germany or Bhutan.**

THE REAL INFLUENCE OF THE ICW IN THE WIZARDING COMMUNITY

Another question that rises is the extent of the influence of the ICW in the international community and the laws of each country. As a Diplomat, for example, I gather the ICW's Statute of Secrecy works like an International Treaty: it is a document that the different countries signed and is legally binding for them. That seems very logical. However, **countries seem to have room to regulate some aspects of the wizarding legal order as they wish:** in FB1/FB2, we learn that marriages between muggles and wizards/witches are prohibited in America, but are legal in the United Kingdom (however, it seems that America legalized this before 1932, given that Queenie and Jacob got married in New York at the end of SOD).

The ICW seems to go further than the UN, **having the ability to investigate and prosecute individuals,** like Gellert Grindelwald. The UN does not have this power. In our Muggle reality, we have the International Criminal Court for this, a different entity to the UN, and its jurisdiction is not accepted by every country. Besides, the International Criminal Court will only act if the country where the crimes were committed does not investigate them properly. In SOD, we see that **the ICW investigated**

and prosecuted Grindelwald, declaring him innocent during a random cocktail party. Does this mean that the ICW is also a Criminal Court? It seems to have a wide range of duties...

Lastly, while in the **Fantastic Beasts canon the ICW seems to have a huge influence in the Wizarding community, this does not seem to be the case in Harry Potter.** The ICW is mentioned casually from time to time until OP, but during the events of the last two books, when a political crisis was evident, the ICW seemed to be completely oblivious of the events happening in UK. The ICW was worried back in PA, when Sirius Black escaped Azkaban, but not with Voldemort rising to power a couple of years later. The ICW is not even mentioned in HBP and DH. **If alive, would Voldemort have been judged by the ICW or by the British Ministry? When does the ICW intervene? Did the ICW lose influence over the years?**

To conclude, the role of the ICW in the Wizarding World canon is erratic and inconclusive. This is not a surprise, given that the Fantastic Beasts series is a prequel written after the core books, so it is natural to find continuity problems. When JKR wrote the *Harry Potter* books, she surely was not aware that she would have to expand on the ICW's role in further works. When in PS she wrote that Dumbledore was "Supreme Mugwump", I believe

she was just trying to find funny words to illustrate to little kids how important that old man was.

Footnotes:

[1] I use the criteria defined by HP Lexicon to establish what is primary canon and what is secondary canon, see: <https://www.hp-lexicon.org/canon/>

[2] The HP Lexicon notices that an International Confederation of Warlocks is also mentioned in the books (See: <https://www.hp-lexicon.org/thing/international-confederation-of-wizards/>). Is this Organization the same as ICW, but JKR messed up with the names? After taking a look at the different mentions, I consider that it is highly likely that they refer to the same Organization.

[3] Clearly another way to refer to the Supreme Mugwump position.

[4] See: https://twitter.com/jk_rowling/status/630125966606630912

[5] See: https://harrypotter.fandom.com/wiki/Die_Silberne_Fledermaus



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BECOME A PATRON



THE AVADA KEDAVRA SCENE

It's one of the most important scenes in the film: Gellert Grindelwald tries to kill Credence Dumbledore¹, but the Avada Kedavra curse fails. Credence is saved by the protection spells of his father Aberforth and his uncle Albus... but why and how?

In *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, Alastor Moody (or actually Barty Crouch Jr.) is very clear about how the quintessential unforgivable curse works:

'Not nice,' he said calmly. 'Not pleasant. And there's no counter-curse. There's no blocking it. Only one known person has ever survived it, and he's sitting right in front of me.'
(*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*)

However, in the Avada Kedavra scene from *Secrets of Dumbledore*, we see the spells clashing mid-air, similar to the “locking spells” effect used in the *Harry Potter* films. This effect started in the fourth film,

with the *Priori Incantatem*, and used through the series even when the wands were not connected to each other in any way (and as far as we know, Grindelwald's Elder Wand doesn't have a twin wand so it's not linked to any other).

It is interesting to note several things about the spells or counter-spells that the Dumbledore brothers use. The first is that they do so silently, which does not allow us to know which particular spell they are casting. This is something that happens throughout the entire film except on rare occasions, perhaps to avoid fans finding fault with their use. This is clearly seen in the battle between Lally Hicks and Helmut at the German Ministry of Magic dinner, where no spell is uttered aloud.

The second thing to note is that Albus and Aberforth's spells are not directed at Grindelwald, but are aimed at intercepting Grindelwald's *Avada Kedavra*: they were not cast as Harry does when he uses *Expelliarmus*, but literally those spells were meant to "crash" into the *Avada Kedavra* and slow it down. Unfortunately we won't know which spell was used, unless it's revealed in a behind-the-scenes feature. However, this hints that Moody (and the general lore of the books) was wrong. Albus Dumbledore not only knows a spell to block the *Avada Kedavra*, but has used it himself.

Of course, the consequences of that blocking extend a little further than just saving Credence's life (momentarily). As a result of the block, the Blood Pact between



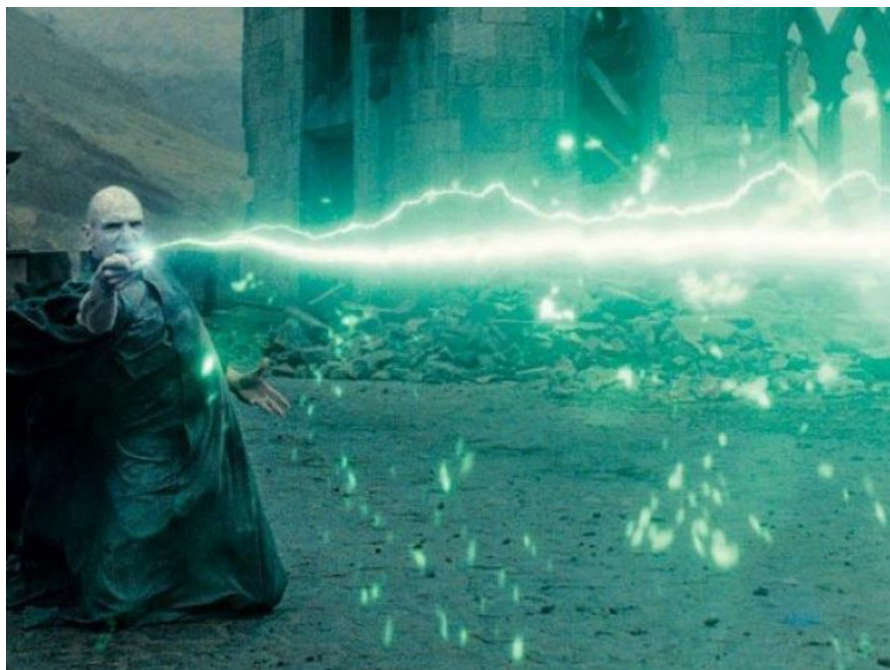
THE THREE SPELLS CLASHING IN FRONT OF CREDENCE DUMBLEDORE, *FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE* (WARNER BROS., 2022)

the two powerful wizards is finally broken. This is also unclear: if we take the block as an attack by Dumbledore on Grindelwald, the Blood Pact shouldn't have been broken, it should have attacked Dumbledore. Or at least that's what Albus explains to Theseus Scamander in one of the first scenes of the film.

Some fans prefer an explanation linked to the eighth film of the original saga: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows - Part 2*. What broke the Blood Pact was the Avada Kedavra itself, which travelled through the protective spell to Albus' wand and then to

the object to be destroyed. This theory seems to be aided by the way it was filmed: the camera follows that very path, from the curse to the Blood Pact. Even if this were true, what would be known is the how and not the why: why the Avada Kedavra went straight to the Blood Pact. Given that so far there is no plausible explanation within the canon, we'll just have to settle with what Dumbledore himself says when he tries to explain it to Newt, "Let's call it fate."

As for why the Avada Kedavra failed, a possible explanation is the love sacrifice that Dumbledore mentions to Harry in the original



LORD VOLDEMORT CASTING THE AVADA KEDAVRA AGAINST HARRY POTTER, HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 2 (WARNER BROS., 2011)



PRIORI INCANTATEM (POTTERMORE)

books. A way to see his action is that he seeks to protect Credence by knowingly putting himself at risk from a possible Blood Pact consequence, which would classify as a “love sacrifice”. However, the “love sacrifice” from the books is not a counter spell, but something that protects the victim when they are hit by the Avada Kedavra, something that doesn’t not happen here: the curse never reaches Credence.

The Avada Kedavra scene on a cinematic level is first-rate and worthy of a film ending of this style, however, for those of us who want to thoroughly understand every detail of the plot, it raises a lot of questions that it fails to clarify. Perhaps with a bit of luck answers will emerge in an interview given

by the filmmakers to promote the film, or in some extras of the DVDs / BluRay soon to be released.

To wrap up we’ll end this piece with more food for thought on the matter of how the Avada Kedavra spell actually works. We can’t help pointing out that the Elder Wand, allegedly the most powerful wand known, failed the Avada Kedavra curse twice: once cast by Grindelwald against Credence, and once cast by Voldemort against Harry Potter the day the Dark Lord was defeated.

Footnotes:

[1] We know he’s a Dumbledore, but is his true name Credence or Aurelius?

April, from the Twitter archive



J.K. Rowling 
@jk_rowling



With my favourite fantastic beast, two summers ago.



9:25 AM · 14 Apr, 2020

398 replies 853 shares 26.2K likes



BY KAREN LUAN

WHERE DOES THE QILIN COME FROM?

**A FANTASTIC BEAST WITH ORIGINS IN BOTH MYTH AND
REALITY**

At the very beginning of *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*, Newt Scamander witnessed the birth of a new fantastic beast under a waterfall. Immediately after the birth, it becomes evident that this creature is of paramount importance because Credence and other Grindelwald's acolytes are there to get hold of the beast and battle Newt until they finally achieve their goal. A wounded and defeated Newt discovered that it wasn't the only creature born that night and that the stolen baby had a twin. This paves the way for the events that will take place during the second half of the film, where this magical creature will decide the fate of the wizarding world. *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of*

Dumbledore introduces the Qilin (麒麟 in Chinese, pronounced "chillin" in English), a new creature with ancient origins in Chinese and Japanese culture we'll try to unearth in this article.

Qilin in myth and legend

In China, the Qilin is a symbol of auspiciousness (祥瑞) and there are many legends and myths that bring about that concept. As regards the looks of the Qilin, at least in the book of poems (诗经) of the Zhou Dynasty (BC 1046 - BC 256), there have been records of how people have imagined this creature. According to the records of Xu Shen (许慎 58-147) of the Han Dynasty, the body shape of the Qilin is one of an elk, with a horn and a dragon's tail.

漢山陽麒麟碑



A STONE TABLET RUBBING OF 山阳麒麟碑. THE ANIMAL ON THE LEFT IS A QILIN AND A FENGHUANG (鳳凰) ON THE RIGHT.

Confucius (孔子) is the greatest thinker and educator in ancient China. It is believed that a Qilin was sent to Confucius' parents with a written piece of silk on his mouth (other retales of this event say that the Qilin came baring an inscribed jade tablet) the day before Confucius was born. This was regarded as a foreshadow of the great future of the child about to be born. Therefore, in China, the auspicious pattern of "Qilin sending a child" (麒麟送子) became a common blessing for people trying to conceive a baby. This habit has been handed down and remains to the present.

Qilin in history

Confucius mentions the Qilin as a real creature in his book "Spring and Autumn Annals" (春秋), a compilation of historical Chinese

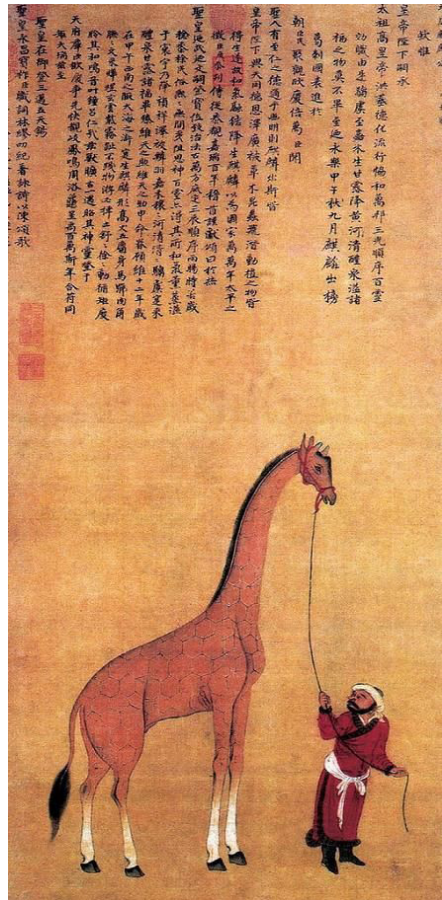


A COMMEMORATIVE COIN WITH THE PATTERN OF "QILIN SENDING A CHILD" ISSUED IN 2020.

classics. In one of the records of the spring of the 14th year of the reign of Lord Lu (鲁哀公), it says that someone caught a Qilin while hunting. The captured Qilin was killed because the hunter didn't know the animal and thought it looked strange. Confucius was called to identify the creature and found it was a Qilin. It is possible that it was an animal at that time that resembled the appearance of the mythical Qilin and was mistaken for it.

Another mention of the Qilin in historical records takes us to the reign of emperor Chengzu (明成祖) of the Ming Dynasty (1360-1424), when the navigator Zheng He (郑和) (1371-1433) was ordered by Emperor Chengzu to sail the seas on seven expeditions, where he sailed as far as Africa. After the fourth voyage, Zheng He's fleet brought back a tall grass eating spotted animal from Africa to Chengzu, an animal considered to be a Qilin. According to the painting depicting the event at that time, the Qilin is actually a giraffe.

Interestingly, the name for giraffe in Japanese (キリン) is pronounced similarly to the Chinese character 麒麟 that means Qilin. This is not because of the influence of the Ming Dynasty, but when Ueno Zoo bought animals in Japan, the giraffe was labeled キリン only because it looked like the Qilin in legends, as I mentioned earlier.



A PAINTING OF 瑞应麒麟图, WHICH RECORDED THE GIRAFFE COMING TO CHINA AT THE TIME.

Qilin in the film

We're told that the Qilin is a powerful creature that can understand the human soul. It will bow to the wizard or witch who is pure of heart, and this person will become the new leader of the magical world. In fact, this description is remarkably consistent with the legend

about the Qilin being an omen of greatness in others.

Another way of examining the meaning of the Qilin in the film is by focusing on the fact that Newt witnessed the birth of Qilin twins. One of them was robbed by Grindelwald; the other was left in Newt's suitcase, and it was part of Dumbledore's plan. These two Qilins may imply that Dumbledore and Grindelwald come from the same starting point, somehow complementary, and they clearly care about each other, but they choose to go to the opposite road, just like Yin (阴) and Yang (阳).

It becomes evident from the descriptions from both mythological and historical records that the filmmakers took many of these aspects to envision the Qilin we get to see on the big screen. As they did with several animals with mythological origins (such as the phoenix and the manticore), they got inspired by the real tales of the Qilin and used it for the plot of the film. If you want to know more about the Qilin and its place in the Wizarding World lore, read *The New Beasts* on this issue.



A PAINTING BY WANG SU (王素 1794-1877)
"QILIN SENDS CHILDREN".



THE MIRROR DIMENSION

One of the new additions to the WIZARDING World was the “Mirror Dimension” (in terms of Marvel movies, hello *Doctor Strange*) or the “Nightmare Dimension”, according to what David Yates called it in different interviews. This parallel dimension is used three times in *The Secrets of Dumbledore*, and it is the first time we see something of these characteristics in the WIZARDING World.

Even after watching the movie several times it is not entirely clear

what it is and how it works. In this article we will try to put forward some theories and characteristics of this “Nightmare Dimension” and try to understand a little more about this “tool” that Dumbledore uses in certain circumstances.

The first thing one may wonder is how to enter this dimension. In the three times we see Dumbledore access, there is a common pattern: liquid. The first time it is the tea he is drinking while waiting for Grindelwald, the second time it is the rain (and the specific drop

he sends towards the window of a store). In the third circumstance, though a bit more far-fetched, it could be the blood in the Blood Pact container, although once again, this is not entirely clear.

If we linger a little while on how to access this dimension, we also need to consider how a second party enters. We see Dumbledore being the initiator, but how do

Credence and Grindelwald end up there? There's no official information on this, so we can only speak from what we see in the film. In the second and third occurrence of this Dimension, both Credence and Grindelwald were physically in the same place as Dumbledore. We could say that they had contact with the liquid conduit that we believe could be the way to enter



ALBUS DUMBLEDORE (JUDE LAW) AGAINST CREDESCENCE IN THE MIRROR DIMENSION,
FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

the Dimension (the raindrop in Credence's case and the blood for Grindelwald).

However, the first time we come across this Nightmare Dimension, it's not entirely clear (we're not saying that in the other two occasions it is) how Grindelwald is able to access it. This is the very first scene of the film, where we see Dumbledore getting off the Underground and talking to the waitress. He orders tea, the waitress brings the teapot to the table, he says he's expecting someone, and looks at his cup. And just like that Grindelwald appears. They have a conversation that ends with Grindelwald saying "Enjoy your cup of tea, Albus". The background becomes whiter and more incandescent as they get closer to exiting the Dimension before it catches on fire. Cut to Dumbledore in his study. He opens his eyes and we see a tray with a cup of tea. Is this the cup of tea Grindelwald is referring to? The shot makes it quite obvious, but blink and you miss it.

The scene is laid out in a way in which we can't be certain how Grindelwald ends up having tea with Dumbledore or when exactly they enter the Nightmare Dimension. It seems as if Grindelwald just pops up in Dumbledore's "dream" without any previous contact. From the way it's set, one possibility could be that they enter the Dimension while

they are both at a coffeehouse, in the real world. But given that at the beginning of the movie Grindelwald is still hiding at Nurmengard Castle, why would he go to London to have tea with Dumbledore? It wouldn't be a smart move.

A second option is that Dumbledore is in his office the whole time and the entire first scene in the movie is actually inside the Nightmare Dimension until he opens his eyes. And this is where we go a tad beyond and based on the following two occurrences of the Dimension later on we pose the question: were Dumbledore and Grindelwald actually together in Dumbledore's office having actual tea? Or if Dumbledore is indeed in his office in the real world, is there a way to summon someone to the Dimension without being in the same place? Can Dumbledore somehow summon Grindelwald to the dimension through the blood in the pact?

But if those weren't enough questions on the Nightmare Dimension, it is also unclear what happens to time while they are inside that parallel world. Judging by the duel scene between Dumbledore and Grindelwald, time goes much slower. The entire duel takes as long as it takes for the Pact to hit the ground, and something similar could be inferred from the scene between Dumbledore and Credence, but

not from the coffee between the two powerful wizards.

It is interesting to posit whether what happens in that Mirror Dimension is actually happening or is similar to the limbo at King's Cross, where an old Dumbledore suggests to Harry that something may be real even if it's happening inside his head. When Dumbledore confronts Credence, we see Credence on the floor of the

three occasions where we see this alternative reality belong to the same resource because they all develop in different ways.

The first one is when Dumbledore and Grindelwald share a coffee table and it ends with the place catching fire. In the second, the entire setting is reversed (the street signs read backwards, for example), suggesting that the name Mirror Dimension is not so

“This idea was born from a practical point of view to avoid contradiction with the canon, but it is a beautiful direction that also expresses the intimacy between Dumbledore and Grindelwald.” - David Yates

Berlin street, suggesting that what happens in that alternate reality does have a physical impact on reality. The use of that alternate reality could well be a device to show a showdown of total destruction in the German capital without having to worry about the consequences of doing so in a crowded Muggle city. We even cannot be 100% sure that the

misguided. The third, as we said, suggests a passage of time at a normal speed for the people inside it.

Despite not having official information about the Nightmare Dimension, David Yates, the film's director, actually provided some details about it for the Japanese medium CinemaToday¹.

He explained that he discussed the timeline of Dumbledore and Grindelwald's encounter with Rowling to see if there was any chance of placing them together in this third film before the big duel. And that's where the team came up with this visual idea of white surroundings and the world around Dumbledore and Grindelwald just disappears. According to Yates, "this idea was born from a practical point of view to avoid contradiction with the canon, but it is a beautiful direction that also expresses the intimacy between

Dumbledore and Grindelwald."

If we are fortunate that Warner Bros. continues the saga or extends the story in some other format with Jude Law as a young Dumbledore, perhaps the character will explain why he did not continue to use this very useful resource in his later years while fighting Lord Voldemort.

Footnotes:

[1]: See <https://www.cinematoday.jp/news/N0129589>



ALBUS DUMBLEDORE (JUDE LAW) AND GELLERT GRINDELWALD (MADS MIKKELSEN),
FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

WAVE A WAND

BY ALAN DELL'OSO

JACOB KOWALSKI

Jacob: Are you kidding me right now? Is this thing real?

Newt: Yes... well it doesn't have a core, so sort of, but yes.

Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore

Jacob Kowalski will always be remembered as the first on-screen Muggle to receive a “wand” from none other than Albus Dumbledore himself. Actually, as Newt soon makes clear to him: it’s a real wand, but it has no core. The fact that it has no core implies that it is just a “skeleton” with no magical utility whatsoever, since in J.K. Rowling’s *Wizarding World*, for a wand to work, it must necessarily contain a core to power and conduct magic through it... but after all, it is still

a wand.

As we know, only wizards and witches can use wands to do magic, because if a Muggle or Squib were to wave a wand with a core, it would probably reveal itself and send them flying backwards through the air, as Rowling points out in her article about Ilvermorny on the official *Wizarding World* website. That is why the team that will try to thwart Grindelwald’s plans for power in the ICW uses the strategy of confusion and multiple secret plans to make it less likely that Grindelwald can focus on what is coming and surprise him, such as giving a wand to a Muggle and taking him around the magical



world as if he has been a part of it his whole life.

Jacob's wand has a special feature in that it is made of snakewood. This wood actually exists in reality, and in the Wizarding World it is closely associated with the Ilvermorny College of Magic (U.S.A.). Isolt Sayre, the founder of Ilvermorny was a descendant of Salazar Slytherin and buried the Slytherin wand (with the core deactivated by her aunt) in the grounds of the College. Some time later, on the site where Slytherin's wand was buried, snakewood trees began to grow out of nowhere, and no matter how hard many tried, they could not destroy or remove them. It was later discovered that their leaves had healing properties.

As a Muggle curiosity, snakewood is native to Central and South America, it is considered one of the hardest and densest woods (along with the famed African ebony) and it is not very common in the usual markets due to its rarity

In terms of design, Jacob's wand is very simple in form and I personally think it works fine given that we are in front of a fake wand. Many noticed that it bears a strong resemblance to one of the wand designs officially released by the test on the official Wizarding World website, but going into the details, there are vast differences with any of those designs.

The handle is reminiscent of Tina's wand with an extra ring at the end and a slightly wider pommel, and the shaft seems to echo the type of wood the wand is made from by featuring a thin, snaky design.

The Noble Collection is the quintessential brand that offers official resin replicas of the Wizarding World wands, and on April 9th seven models of wands belonging to The Secrets of Dumbledore appeared on their website, announced officially on social media the following Monday. Among those models available for pre-sale, which will start being delivered on 30 August 2022, there is no Jacob wand. This may be because they plan to release the model at a later date (as they did in previous years with the Bunt, Rosier and Lestranger Sr. wands) or because it will not be officially released to avoid spoilers for those who haven't seen the film or haven't discovered the saga yet. Something similar happened with the Creedence wand presented in The Crimes of Grindelwald, which to date has also not been officially released.

For the collectors who are eagerly waiting for these wands, we have to keep on waiting for Warner Bros. and The Noble Collection to green light these models to become a reality off-screen and we can have another little piece of the films in our homes.

To end or not to end



IS *THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE* THE LAST INSTALLMENT IN THE *FANTASTIC BEASTS* SERIES?

Before the release of *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*, the rumours were that this could be the end of the saga, affected by many external factors and a not-so-good performance at the box office. If this were true, Warner Bros. had two possible paths: either cancel the saga in the middle, leaving it without the ending it deserved, or try to have an intermediate closure with this film in case they decided not to continue. The latter gives the studio more freedom if it comes to making such a decision in the future.

Current reports from film media such as *The Hollywood Reporter* and *Variety* claim that Warner Bros. is waiting to see how this third film performs before deciding how to continue. The studio may be hoping for positive reviews as well as a good box office performance, and it's hard to know what decision they'll make if only one of the two goals is achieved (or if they're only half achieved). But business and money aside, where do we stand in terms of the story?

The final duel between Dumbledore and Grindelwald that we were first promised is still

several years away (more than ten). And until this third film, it looked like it was going to be the only duel. However, David Yates and the creative team decided to close this third instalment with a showdown between the two wizards, perhaps to alleviate the anxieties and in case the saga is cut short, give us the pleasure of seeing the two wizards face each other even if it's in a sort of alternative world (you can read more about this in the article "The Mirror Dimension" in this issue).

Moreover, the film seems to have been designed in order to bring some of the main plots to a close. The love affair between

Queenie and Jacob finally comes to a conclusion when they marry in Queens (some suggest hastily, but what can't be denied is that it is illegal: Rappaport's Law was still in force). The other romantic relationship, Newt and Tina's, hasn't developed much since the second film and it was somehow stopped by the fact that actress Katherine Waterston barely appears in this third film. But there doesn't seem to be that much mystery either here: we know Tina and Newt end up together and married, so we won't be missing so much if we don't see them in subsequent films.

But the main plot also seems to



have been wrapped up somehow, and the conversation between Dumbledore and Newt in the final scene of the film makes it quite clear. Albus Dumbledore already got what he needed from Newt Scamander: someone to go against Grindelwald without having to do it himself. With the pact broken, he no longer needs Newt and the team he assembled. Not only is this reflected quite explicitly in the dialogue, but also in a slightly more subtle way by

Dumbledore no longer needs Newt Scamander for his crusade against Gellert Grindelwald, Warner Bros would no longer be tied to using the Hufflepuff mazoologist and has a wider range of options to choose from.

Firstly, the fact that Newt Scamander is no longer required allows the studio to be a little more honest and not cast him as the main character. This would allow the *Fantastic Beasts* saga

With the pact broken, he no longer needs Newt and the team he assembled.

showing Newt's group (including the newest member Lally Hicks) happily celebrating, free from worry, while Dumbledore looks at them from afar. The shot is composed in a way in which we can interpret that Dumbledore is looking now from the outside, in a way he seems to envy them for no longer being worried or part of this war against Grindelwald.

And just as breaking the blood pact relieved Dumbledore of a very heavy backpack, this ending may have the same effect on Warner Bros (and the creative teams behind the franchise). If Albus

to end here, and continue with Dumbledore versus Grindelwald in another format. By getting rid of the title, it is no longer necessary to include beasts in the different plots.

The interesting thing about getting rid of *Fantastic Beasts* is that in order to tell the rest of the story, you can even experiment with other formats. While it is true that the easiest option would be to make another film but with a different title, it should not be ruled out that the next part of this story and its outcome could come to us as a TV show. Warner

Bros. has the perfect platform for that: HBO Max. The *Harry Potter 20th Anniversary Reunion* was produced for that platform, so it is not crazy to think of an original HBO Max series that continues and develops the story or that just shows the final duel.

But perhaps even crazier things could be tried: an animated series or film, as Marvel has done, with Jude Law and Mads Mikkelsen returning just to provide the voices for their characters. An animated film would give the artists more freedom and the cost is usually a little lower than big CGI productions. On the other hand, it is true that such a film might not appeal to the general public and only to the fandom closest to the saga, something that Warner Bros. has not been trying to do lately.

Leaving the story aside and going back to business, reports from previously mentioned sources

claim that Warner Bros. is going to wait and see how *The Secrets of Dumbledore* does at the box office, and that seems the most sensible thing to do. On the other hand, some actors have slipped in a few hints. Such was the case with Mads Mikkelsen, who in a recent interview went so far as to say “I hope I will do more than this one [film].” Perhaps in an act of brutal and unintentional honesty, Mikkelsen evidenced that the studio hasn’t confirmed a fourth part yet and he has not been contracted for it. We expect Warner Bros. to make an official announcement soon so as not to depend on actors and filmmakers’ statements regarding the future of the franchise.

Footnotes:

[1] See <https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/movies/movie-features/mads-mikkelsen-interview-fantastic-beasts-johnny-depp-jk-rowling-1235129001/>





In her recent biography *Man or Monster? The TRUTH About Newt Scamander*, Rita Skeeter states that I was never a Magizoologist, but a Dumbledore spy who used Magizoology as a 'cover' to infiltrate the Magical Congress of the United States of America (MACUSA) in 1926.

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them
(2016 updated edition)
J.K. Rowling



BY POL PEIRÓ

WHEN DOES THE FILM TAKE PLACE?

Now that many of us have seen the events that take place in the timeline of *The Secrets of Dumbledore*, questions begin to arise about some of the key dates mentioned in the film.

The magical film, at first, does not seem to place the viewer in a specific year, as the two predecessor films did. Let's recall that *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* begins in 1926 in New York City. The next film begins only a few months later (specifically six months later, as Rudolph Spelman tells Seraphina Picquery), but what is interesting is that the opening of the film has a caption indicating both the place (New York, Britain, etc.) and the year in which the events depicted in the scene take place. In fact, after Grindelwald's escape with his carriage of Thestrals, the film indicates that three months pass until Newt Scamander's visit to

the British Ministry of Magic. It is easy to draw conclusions about the exact dates of *The Crimes of Grindelwald*: 1927 is the chosen year.

However, these captions seem to have disappeared in *The Secrets of Dumbledore*, so the only way the viewer can place themselves in time is by relying on the dialogue and statements given by the characters themselves. And that's where a lot of doubts arise.

On the one hand, we know that the film takes place in 1932 thanks to the dates on the Wizarding World newspapers seen in the film, which have been shared in promotional materials, both from the film itself and from the design studio MinaLima. Thus, approximately six years have passed between the events of the first film and this third instalment. On the other hand, when Professor Lally



GERMAN MAGICAL NEWSPAPER, DESIGNED BY MINALIMA STUDIO. THE DATE OF THE NEWSPAPER IS 1932.

Hicks meets Jacob in New York, the enchantment teacher begins a monologue/summary about the events of the previous instalments in which she literally states to Jacob that “a little over a year ago, [...] you made an acquaintance of Newt Scamander.” Of course, this may

be a mistake by Professor Hicks, who was not physically present when Jacob and Newt met... but it is certainly odd to intentionally include a mistake that may further confuse the audience.

But this is not the only moment where there is some confusion



THE DAILY PROPHET, DESIGNED BY MINALIMA STUDIO, FOR THIS FILM. THE DATE OF THE NEWSPAPER IS 1932.

with the dates established in the film: we know that Bunty and Newt met at the presentation of Newt's book¹, which took place in 1927 at Flourish and Blotts. After that presentation, Bunty began working as Newt's assistant in his London flat, as we saw in the second film. However, in the train scene, which takes place in 1932, Newt says that Bunty has been his indispensable assistant for the past seven years, to which she, with memorable accuracy, replies that it is eight years and 164 days. Newt's miscalculation is quite understandable given his absent-minded personality and his usual scatterbrained nature, but it does come as a bit of a surprise that Bunty gets it wrong while being extremely confident about the dates she started working with

Newt, with whom, according to J.K. Rowling herself, she was deeply in love.

Undoubtedly, the film has resolved many doubts, but it has also raised others. Let's hope we can finish filling in these temporal gaps with some clarifications or through the complementary books that are yet to be published. Perhaps with this material we could clarify what for now seem to be continuity conflicts that, although they do not make the film any less enjoyable, generate some doubts among the most diehard fans.

Footnotes:

[1]: See <https://www.wizardingworld.com/news/10-things-we-learned-from-the-crimes-of-grindelwald-cast-and-producer>



ACCORDING TO THE CAST, BUNTY MET NEWT SCAMANDER IN 1928, IN THE LAUNCH EVENT OF 'FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM'

A QUOTE BY JO

“”

“[Luna] ended up marrying (rather later than Harry & co) a fellow naturalist and grandson of the great Newt Scamander (Rolf)”

*J.K. Rowling and the Live Chat,
Bloomsbury.com, 2007*





THE NEW BEASTS



As in the previous instalments, *The Secrets of Dumbledore* brings us some beasts that play an important role in the plot, perhaps even more so than in the other two films (which makes it easier to justify the title). Even familiar creatures such as the Niffler (now renamed Ted) and the Bowtruckle (Pickett) also get more action and actually help Newt, moving from being lovable pets to being crucial characters in Dumbledore's plans.

The new film features three new beasts, although one of them is

already familiar to the Wizarding World by having been named several times. Let's take a look at each of them:

Manticore:

The beast of mythological origin is named in both the *Harry Potter* novels (*Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Goblet of Fire*, specifically), as well as in the original *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* book. Since the first trailer for *The Secrets of Dumbledore* and the first images that were released, there has been enough talk about



BABY MANTICORES

FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

how the appearance given to this creature neither matches the mythological descriptions of the beast, nor J.K. Rowling's own description of it within the Wizarding World.

However, we know that the Manticore was included by J.K. Rowling herself in the film. In the short speech she gave at the Avant Premiere in London (which was not included in the official broadcast but we were able to watch thanks to the fans who were present and recorded it), the author answered a question about the new fantastic beasts that she was excited for fans to discover in this movie: "My favourite is probably the scariest one, which is a Manticore. And I never got to use a Manticore on the Potter books, but you did see a Blast-Ended Skrewt, which is part Manticore. And so now they're seeing the real thing and it is one of my favourite parts of the movie," she said.

Qilin:

The Qilin (pronounced "chillin") is the most important beast in the plot, appearing in the first scenes of the film and setting the pace until the end, where it will be the one who finally chooses the winner of the election for the ICW position. If you want to know more about the Qilin and its mythological origin, you can read our article in this issue entitled *'Where does the Qilin come from?'*

What we will discuss here is its introduction into the saga at this point. It is strange that a beast of such importance in wizarding history has never been mentioned, and what causes more confusion is that Newt Scamander has decided not to include it in his *Fantastic Beasts* book. There seems to be no reason not to given that apparently, this is not an unknown creature. Vogel himself says in the film: "As every school boy and girl knows



NEWT HOLDING THE QILIN,
FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

the Qilin is the purest of creatures in our wonderful magical world,” which makes it rather strange that Newt decided to leave it out.

One possible explanation is that the Qilin is extinct by the time Scamander publishes the 52nd edition (the one that reaches us as Muggles), and decides to remove it from his bestiary. Let’s remember that the book only talks about non-extinct creatures, so this explanation would be valid. Unfortunately, it also seems to be the only possible one. It wouldn’t make much sense for Newt to discard a creature that, as Vogel said, is known to all the children of the Wizarding World.

Wyvern:

The Wyvern is the other of the new creatures, though its appearance is very brief, even before the film’s main title. This fantastic beast is tasked with saving Newt, who is injured after trying to rescue a Qilin from Grindelwald’s acolytes.

The Wyvern has a past in J.K. Rowling’s writings. It is first mentioned in a response to a fan letter Rowling received in 2001. Asked why it had not been included in the original book, the author replies as if she were Newt Scamander and says that the Wyvern is not real, that it is a Muggle confusion and that

the beast in question is actually a Common Welsh Green¹. But Rowling again names the Wyvern in the writing of Sir Cadogan, published in Pottermore in 2012²: “Sir Cadogan’s most famous encounter was with the Wyvern of Wye, a dragonish creature that was terrorizing the West Country,” which would make the Wyvern a creature of the Wizarding World.

However, it seems that its use in the film did not pass through the author’s hands. In the Production Notes that Warner Bros. studio sent to journalists with quotes from producers, directors and other crew members, visual effects supervisor Christian Mänz says: “One of our artists came up

with the brilliant idea of a kind of dragon that could blow itself up to fly, like a hot air balloon—something that was a bit bonkers and fun.” It would seem then that the decision to include such a creature was made by the visual effects team, who needed a beast that could rescue Newt from the situation he found himself in.

Footnotes:

[1] See <https://www.therowlinglibrary.com/2022/04/17/j-k-rowling-as-newt-scamander-ah-yes-the-fabled-wyvern-well-naturally-i-had-heard-the-rumours-2001/>

[2]: See <https://www.rowlingindex.org/work/pmsirc/>



THE WYVERN RESCUING NEWT,
FANTASTIC BEASTS: THE SECRETS OF DUMBLEDORE (WARNER BROS., 2022)

BY IGOR MORETTO & LARISSA ANDRIOLI

BRAZILIAN MINISTRY OF MAGIC HEADQUARTERS PARQUE LAGE

In *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore*, when Brazilian Minister for Magic Vicência Santos is elected as the new Supreme Mugwump of the International Confederation of Wizards, we get glimpses of celebrations from around the world, and amongst them is one that drove the Brazilian audience crazy: we see the wizarding

community of Brazil celebrating inside a mansion at a park in Rio de Janeiro, with the Corcovado mount in the background. Meet Parque Lage, possibly the headquarters of the Ministério da Magia dos Estados Unidos do Brasil.

Currently holding the EAV (School of Visual Arts), Parque Lage's history goes back to the XVI century, when Rio de Janeiro's



State Governor Antonio Salema built a sugar mill at the property, which he then owned. At the time, the land surrounding the mill extended to the banks of the Rodrigo de Freitas lagoon, a famous tourist spot today.

Over the years, the park passed into the hands of Antônio Martins Lage, and began to be called “Parque dos Lage” (Lage’s Park in English), although, shortly after in 1913, it was purchased by Dr. César de Sá Rabello. In the 1920s, the Lage family recovered ownership of the land, and began renovations that would end up building the mansion seen in *The Secrets of Dumbledore*.

Heir Henrique Lage began a remodel, led by Italian architect Mario Vodret, as a gift to his wife, Italian opera singer Gabriela Besanzoni. The main house was built with materials imported from Italy, such as tiles and marble, and has a cloister with a swimming

pool from where we can see the Corcovado (at the time without the Christ statue). The building’s architecture is imposing, with classic European elements and the contrast between the building and the surrounding nature creates an enchanting sight. The detail of the pool in the center of the patio, always with very blue waters, never fails to capture our attention.

One of the landmarks in the building’s history took place in 1936, when Gabriela Besanzoni founded the Sociedade do Teatro Lírico Brasileiro (Society of Lyric Theater of Brazil). From then on, the heir’s wife began throwing parties at the place which became famous for hosting the Carioca elite.

During the 1950s, however, Henrique Lage got into debt with Banco do Brasil, Brazil’s National Bank, and ended up handing over the land as payment. Then, in 1957, the park was listed as

a landscape, environmental and cultural heritage by IPHAN (National Institute of Historical and Artistic Heritage), opening up the mansion to EAV. The place is nowadays open to visitors and has exhibitions developed by both the institution's students and external artists, as well as open courses seeking to connect the arts to the surrounding communities.

Parque Lage is also important within Brazilian audiovisual history: in addition to having appeared in music videos by artists such as Snoop Dogg and The Black Eyed Peas, the place was the setting of remarkable films such as *Terra em Transe* (1967),

directed by Glauber Rocha, and *Macunaíma* (1969), by Joaquim Pedro de Andrade. *The Secrets of Dumbledore* joins a strong group that has already occupied this iconic space in Rio de Janeiro.

It makes sense to think that at the time of *The Secrets of Dumbledore*, the early 1930s, the mansion would have been used by wizards and witches, as it was (supposedly) a private property. Maybe it's the headquarters of Ministério da Magia dos Estados Unidos do Brasil, the Brazilian Ministry of Magic, and maybe the Lage family is somehow involved with the history of witchcraft in Brazil!



PARQUE LAGE, BY RODRIGO SOLDON,
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The reception of the Brazilian audience to the sighting of Parque Lage in the screenings we attended was deafening, and this generates, at further thought, a disappointment. As we know, the first version of the film's script had scenes in Brazil, and it is very likely that J.K. Rowling has written an interesting backstory about Brazilian magic, especially in Rio de Janeiro. It's impossible not to think about how amazing it would've been to see all of this on screen. But we also have some optimistic expectations: with two more movies to go (we hope), maybe everything will be revealed in future movies or in official material, considering that, after all, we gave the world the new Supreme Mugwump.



THE GLOBAL AVANT PREMIERE

On March 28th the Global Avant Premiere of *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* took place in London, more precisely at the Royal Festival Hall within Southbank Centre. **The Rowling Library** was honored to be invited to the event and to see the film with the cast and crew.

The invitation stated that the event was to start at 5:30PM, hosted by Yinka Bikinni and Tom Felton, an English radio personality and the actor who played Draco Malfoy in the original *Harry Potter* films, respectively. Fans who had secured their place in the crowd pen, however, started lining up

earlier in the day. Author J.K. Rowling arrived ahead of schedule, around 5PM, and signed books and posters for the fans who were there. She then spoke briefly on stage with Yinka, saying that she missed the fan events (suspended because of COVID), but was glad to be back to them.

Then producers David Heyman and Tim Lewis, director David Yates, and actors Eddie Redmayne, Mads Mikkelsen, Alison Sudol, Jessica Williams, Dan Fogler, Katherine Waterston, Oliver Massuci, Maria Fernanda Cândido, William Nadylam, Victoria Yeates, Richard Coyle, Poppy Corby-Teuch, Callum



THE ENTRANCE TO THE RED CARPET

Turner, Fiona Glascott and Maja Bloom made their appearance. We were lucky enough to walk the red carpet alongside them and other local celebrities who were also invited to the event, and other important Wizarding World personalities who work from the shadows to make it possible, without being celebrities!

After walking down the red carpet in front of the fans and journalists, the next step was entering the main hall and waiting until the time of the screening, which was announced to start at 7PM. Although the main cast and the main personalities entered through a different door so as not to be ambushed by the fans, some actors mingled among the regular guests, as was the case of Oliver Massuci and Richard Coyle (Anton Vogel and Aberforth Dumbledore),

with whom we were able to talk briefly and congratulate them on their roles (we had had the opportunity to see the film the day before).

Once in the auditorium, which featured Stalls, Rear Stalls and Balcony sections, the film was introduced by Tom Felton and Yinka Bikinni. Yinka asked that cell phones be turned off so as not to film what was going to happen next, and that did not allow us to record it. Producers David Heyman and Tim Lewis, along with director David Yates, came on stage and introduced the cast one by one and welcomed them. They then gave a speech, in which they thanked the actors but also the crew who participated in the film, making emphasis on the filming conditions, since the film was shot in what is considered the most



PRODUCERS, DAVID YATES AND CAST INTRODUCING THE FILM.

critical moments of the COVID-19 pandemic. David Yates thanked all the technicians who made the effort to be able to film this movie and hoped that viewers would keep this in mind when watching, saying that it was not just another film but a film shot under special circumstances that required extra effort.

Once the speech ended, they took their places in the auditorium and

after a round of applause, the film finally began.

When exiting the event, we were lucky enough to cross paths with followers of **The Rowling Library**, who upon recognizing us took a small souvenir that we had prepared: stickers with our logo and a set of postcards with original drawings made by J.K. Rowling herself.

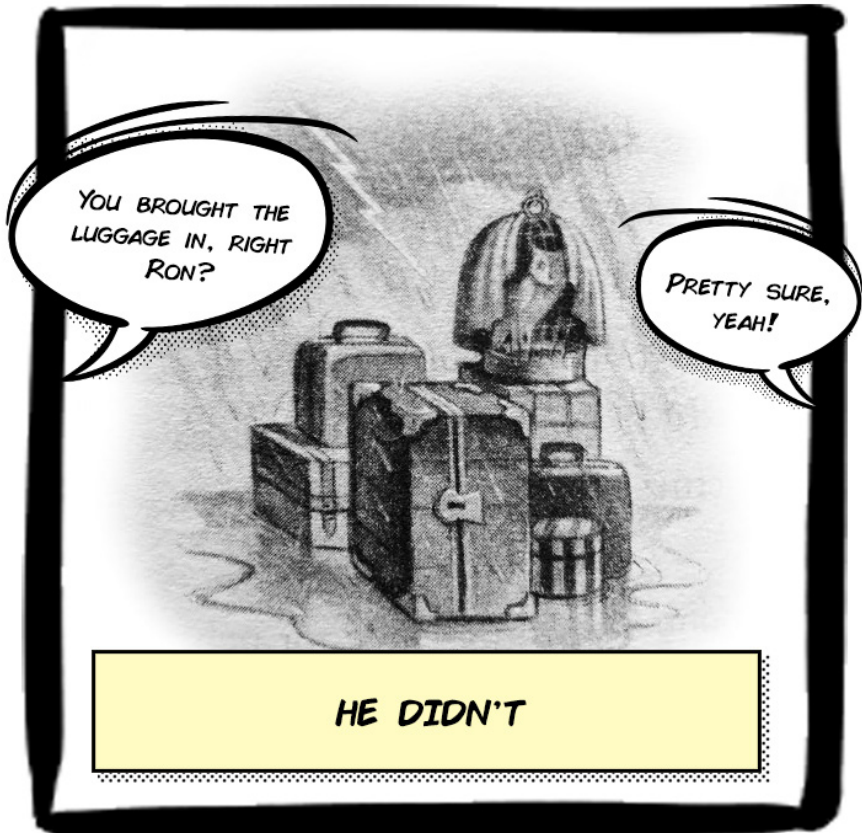


SET OF POSTCARDS AND STICKERS THAT WE GAVE TO OUR FOLLOWERS.

RIDDIKULUS!

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

Follow @[knockturnthepages](#) on Instagram for more humour!



ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION BY MARY GRANDPRÉ FOR
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE
(SCHOLASTIC, 2000)



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