B Magazine
Issue 7. May 2017.



J.K. ROWLING

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HARRY POTTER

and the Philosopher's Stone

REAL OR FAKE?

20 YEARS THE PHENOMENON IS ALIVE

CHILD NEWS

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**BLOOMSBURY KEEPS RELEASING THE SAME BOOK WITH A DIFFEERENT LOOK** 



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### **CONTENTS**

**EDITOR'S LETTER** 

Page 4

20 YEARS OF POTTER THE PHENOMENON IS ALIVE

Page 6

**SUPPORT US** 

Page 9

**CURSED CHILD NEWS** 

Page 10

**DO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER** 

Page 12

WHAT YEAR IS IT?

Page 17

**AMERICAN COLLECTOR'S EDITION** 

Page 20

**REAL OR FAKE?** 

Page 22

**UPCOMING EDITIONS** 

Page 24



The Rowling Library www.therowlinglibrary.com

May 2017 Issue 7 - Year 1

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### **EDITOR'S LETTER**

It is issue number seven of **The Rowling Library Magazine**! As you already know, number seven is important throughout the Harry Potter series, so it is important for us too. Now not only can we say we publish a issue per Harry Potter book, but also Voldemort can use our magazine for his Horcruxes. How cool is that?

This issue comes with articles we hope you enjoy, but also with two new sections. One of them is "Real or Fake?", a short but useful piece where we will try to advise fellow Harry Potter collectors about current auctions on eBay. The other one is "What year is it?", a simple game in which you have to guess the year the photo was taken just by looking at Rowling herself.

As always, if you enjoy The Rowling Library website and magazine, you can become a supporter for only \$2 on our Patreon page: <a href="https://www.patreon.com/rowlinglibrary">www.patreon.com/rowlinglibrary</a>.

Hope you like it! See you on next issue of **The Rowling Library Magazine**!



**COLLABORATED ON THIS ISSUE** 

**BELÉN SALITURI - CRISTINA MARINI - SHAUNA** 



Comic by Franzi. You can visit her Tumblr Page where you can find more Harry Potter comics: floccinaucinihilipilificationa.tumblr.com

# 20 YEARS OF POTTER THE PHENOMENON IS ALIVE

**Harry Potter** was born two decades ago and the phenomenon is still more alive than ever. A review of current projects and why the fandom is so important for the brand.

**SHAUNA (@ohmyhorcrux) -** This year marks the 20th anniversary of Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone yet the Potter fandom is still going strong.

2016 saw two major releases within J.K Rowling's Wizarding World that were ground-breaking. Firstly, the extremely popular play Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, which is still sold out until 2018, hit the West End in June 2016 along with the quite literally 'fantastic' Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them which hit the cinemas in November. With people coming to London from all over the planet to see Cursed Child, and Fantastic Beasts being pretty much everywhere in the world, the Potter fandom was almost guaranteed to gain some new faces. But there's always one question, why do so many people still love Harry Potter so much?

For so many people in the world, the Harry Potter books are unbelievably relatable. There will always be one character or situation that people relate to, and that is what makes this series so incredibly special to so many people, if you can relate it to a part of your life, you feel like it is no longer just Harry's story that you're reading but it's also your own. This can be seen on Twitter daily, as so many people tweet J.K Rowling thanking her for the Harry Potter books, because it really does mean that much to people! Not only do people relate to Potter,

but they see the books as a comfort, or a friend! I've certainly felt this over the years. If I've been down or lonely, Harry Potter has been there for me and for some people Harry has quite literally saved their lives and as cheesy as it sounds, it truly is a magical thing!

Not only do we have the books and films to reaffirm our love for Potter, there are several amazing fansites and other ways to express our love for the Wizarding World. The biggest site for the world of Harry Potter that cannot be ignored is Pottermore! With lots of extra writings by J.K Rowling herself such as Professor McGonagall's backstory and the story about the Marauders (which, on behalf of a lot of people, we want more of!) it is an incredible way to get an insight into the author's mind.

Not only is it a place for fans to find out more information about their favourite characters, it also has a personal touch to it. Fans can make their own **Pottermore** accounts and whilst doing so they are able to get sorted into their Hogwarts house, and two of the newest additions which were added late 2016, allowed people to get sorted into their Ilvermorny house (the American school of magic) and even more exciting for everyone, finding out what their Patronus is. Getting sorted into houses really adds to the world of Harry Potter, making people feel like they truly are part of that world!

#### 20 YEARS OF POTTER THE PHENOMENON IS ALIVE



Photo: Ramonromero123

#### 20 YEARS OF POTTER THE PHENOMENON IS ALIVE



Nevertheless, websites made by fans (fansites) share so many amazing things such as cast updates, theories and so much more that do nothing but increase love for the boy who lived. On top of sites that have updates, and so much more within the Wizarding World, there are several communities on Instagram, Twitter and Tumblr that increase the love for Harry Potter. For those fans who don't really have anyone to talk to in real life about Harry Potter, fan accounts on these social media outlets are a great way to express your love – everyone is so welcoming and if anything shows the size of the Potter fandom, these social media outlets definitely do that.

Outside of the world of the internet, there are so many places to visit that make you fall more in love with Harry Potter. The Warner Brothers Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter has just recently hit its fifth anniversary and is still attracting thousands of fans per day to see the sets, props, and costumes from the films!.

Also, a new addition since the opening of Harry

Potter and the Cursed Child is the House of MinaLima, where you can see dozens of pieces of artwork from the Harry Potter and now the Fantastic Beasts films. Alongside these beautiful places to visit, there are so many other things that show why the Potter fandom is still going! In places such as London, Oxford, and Edinburgh, you can go on a Harry Potter film location tour and as someone who has experienced this, I can tell you, it sure is magical.

Whether you attend somewhere that is completely Harry Potter related, or simply just read the books or watch the films, know that you are not alone in the world and there are so many people who love it just as much – and there are constantly new generations of fans, whether they be young kids, or older people.

As J.K Rowling once said, "whether you come back by page or by the big screen, Hogwarts will always be there to welcome you home" and this is still true twenty years on and this is why, in my opinion, the fandom of Harry Potter is still thriving.

## SUPPORT US!

On February, we launched a Patreon.com project for our readers. You now have the opportunity to support The Rowling Library financially, for a small monthly amount.. This works around the world and it is very easy to set up. In exchange for your support, the platform gives rewards. The project is presented to support the monthly magazine - but as the team that works on the website and the magazine is the same one, the support goes for both media: the monthly PDF you can download for free and the website you can visit everyday where we publish the latest exclusive news and last minute articles.

You can join the group of our awesome supporters: Kelly Slack, Gertjan Kerstens, Suzanne Lucero, Elena Barnes and Vicky McKinley. (It may be a small group, but we aim to keep growing, we are taking baby steps!)

Become a Patron for only \$2 per month



### **CURSED CHILD NEWS**

#### Broadway opening date announced

Sonia Friedman, Colin Callender and Harry Potter Theatrical Productions, producers of **Harry Potter and the Cursed Child**, have confirmed on May 4th that the production will have its Broadway premiere in the Spring of 2018 at the newly renovated Lyric Theatre in New York.

As previously announced, the Lyric Theatre is currently undergoing a complete redesign and transformation in preparation for the North American premiere of the production. The exact opening date has been announced too, it will be on **Sunday**, **April 22**, **2018**. Preview performances, casting and all further details will be announced in the upcoming months.

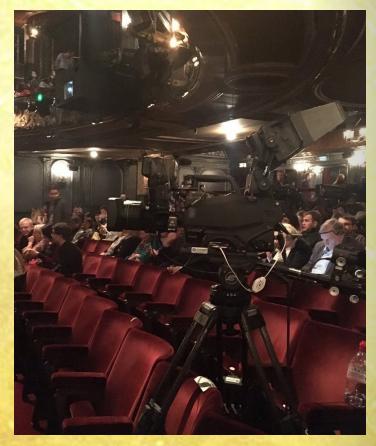
Tickets will go on sale this fall via the official website only, and details of how and when tickets can be purchased will be released soon. All the information will be published on the official website: www.HarryPotterThePlay.com.

#### Shows recorded for archival purposes

On the first Wednesday of this month, both shows of Harry Potter and the Cursed Child were recorded at the Palace Theatre in London. The production announced to the assistants that the recording was for "Archive Purposes", although the fans are still hoping to get an official release in DVD, BluRay or even theater screenings of the stage play.

People shared with us some photos of the cameras that were recording the play. According to some calculations of a fan group, the production could have lost up to £7.000 due to the seats they could not sell because the place occupied by the equipment.

Fans reported that there were at least six cameras in the theater filming the whole performance. This may be one of the last shows with the original cast too, so it makes sense to keep a record of it.



#### Cast change for the London production

CRISTINA (@cristina\_\_gia) - On May 21st, under just one year after previews opened, the West End production of Cursed Child will be changing its cast.

It was announced on April 3rd that Jamie Glover will take on the role of Harry from Jamie Parker, with Thomas Aldridge and Rakie Ayola playing Ron and Hermione. Emma Lowndes will also join the cast as Ginny, with Theo Ancient and Samuel Blenkin making their West End debuts as Albus and Scorpius. Current Rose and Draco understudies, Helen Aluko and James Howard, will now be playing their respective roles full time.

Although their new roles haven't been confirmed, other significant members of the original cast will also be staying on: Sandy McDade, who currently plays McGonagall and the Trolley Witch; Barry McCarthy as Amos Diggory and Dumbledore; and Annabel Baldwin, who plays Moaning Myrtle, Lily Potter Snr and is also the popular Delphi understudy. Several of the understudies for many of the main roles will also remain in the company.

While a new cast will undoubtedly make some fans anxious, comfort should still be taken in John Tiffany and his team's casting record. After all, Cursed Child swept the acting categories at the recent Olivier Awards. Even the current understudies have been praised by fans throughout the year -- I was fortunate enough to see James Howard as Draco in September and it does not surprise me that he is taking the role on full time.

If you're looking to see the current cast before they leave or to become one of the first to see the new cast, Premium and returned tickets are now becoming available for dates throughout May.



#### DO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

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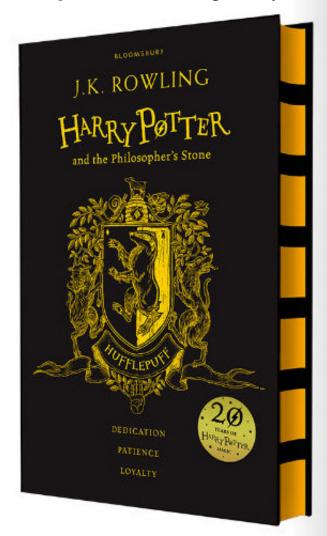
The British publishing house keeps releasing new editions of **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone**, but they only change their looks. Do we need them? Is it fair for the followers of the series? Don't we deserve more?

In June, it will be 20 years since the publication of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone in the United Kingdom by Bloomsbury. As it happened with previous anniversaries of the book release, the publishing house is expected to do something to commemorate the event so it was no surprise when It was announced that The British Library and Bloomsbury worked alongside to create "Harry Potter: A History of Magic", an exhibition in London that will run from 20 October 2017 to 28 February 2018. The objects on display will include from ancient books and illustrations to J.K. Rowling's own manuscripts, and other Harry Potter artwork and internal files from the publisher.

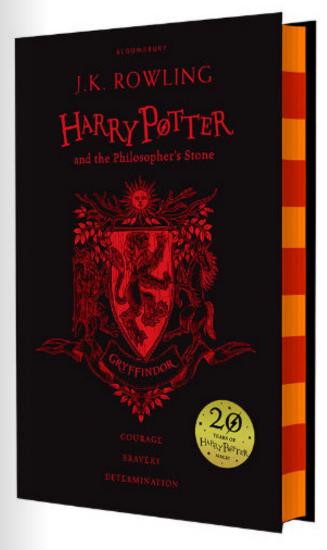
However, besides this event, Bloomsbury decided it was a good idea to publish a new edition of the first book on the occasion of the special date. Not only one new edition will be released, but also eight different ones of *The Philosopher's Stone* will see light this year. There will be one edition for each of the Hogwarts Houses, being the hardback and the paperback different, which means that Harry Potter collectors will probably have to buy eight new books in June.

This seems too much considering Bloomsbury

has been publishing several new editions of *Philosopher's Stone* in the past years: there was a 2010 edition with artwork by Clare Melinsky; a 2013 publication featuring art by Andrew



#### DO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER



Davidson; and a 2014 release with new covers by Jonny Duddle, which even had a gift edition in 2015. In that same year, Bloomsbury also launched an illustrated edition by Jim Kay. If you think about it, during the last decade we almost got a new Harry Potter edition per year! This would've been wonderful if they had been corrected or expanded editions, but unfortunately, the text remains the same, they only change the covers and dust jacket (and sometimes they add a Pottermore ad in the last pages).

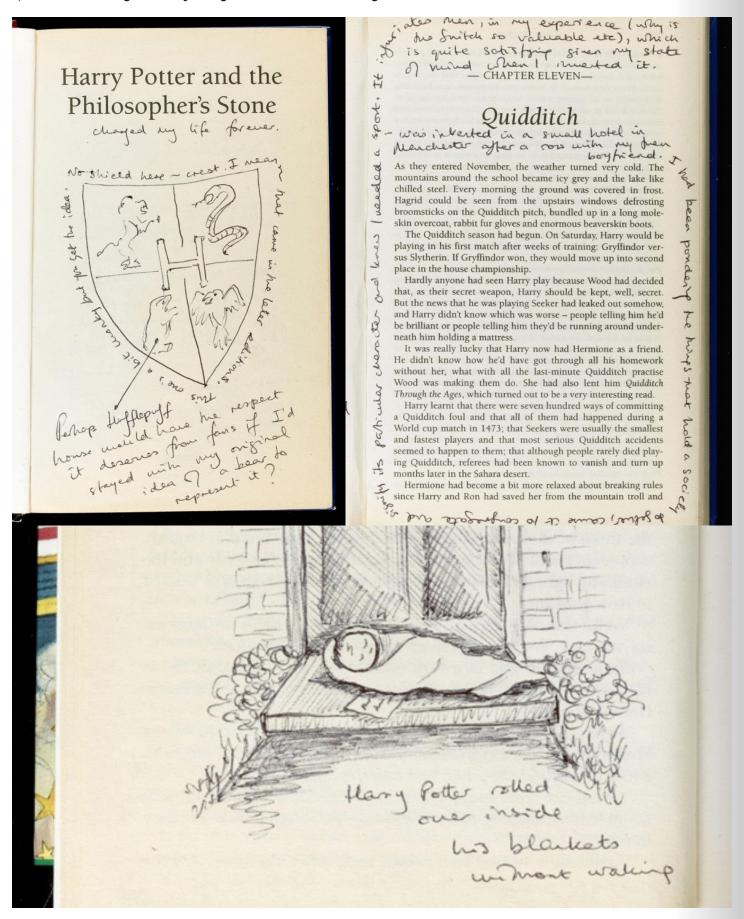
Now Bloomsbury decided it is time to resell the first book with eight different covers. It is understandable, though. Scholastic secured the rights to publish the screenplay of Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, and also Harry Potter and the Cursed Child script. But Bloomsbury did not. Little, Brown and Company published what some fans calls Harry Potter 8 and the Harry Potter Prequel in the United

Kingdom, leaving Bloomsbury with only the chance to relaunch the old and known books to keep squeezing the wizard boy phenomenon.

Bloomsbury needs to innovate as they amazingly did two years ago, when they launched the illustrated editions. While it is true that fans were asking for editions with illustrations, no one expected this level of quality. It was a triumph for Bloomsbury and sales proved it. They needed another masterstroke to get the fandom excited for a new Harry Potter edition. It is not enough anymore to republish the same old book with different covers. We have Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone in all possible styles and formats - we demand new content.

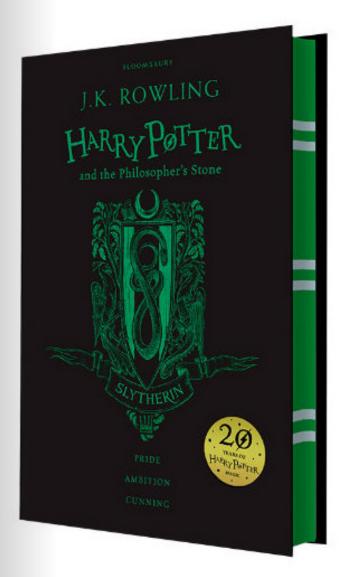
In 2013, J.K. Rowling donated an annotated edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone to writers' charity PEN. The book was sold at Sotheby's London for £150,000. The copy was a hardback first edition of Rowling's first book, but it contained 22 illustrations made by the author herself, and also annotations such as memories about the writing of the book, how she conceived some scenes and her opinion about the film adaptation - but unfortunately these tidbits from Rowling can only be enjoyed by the millionaire who paid the large sum of money, like it happened with The Tales of Beedle the **Bard.** Wouldn't it be awesome if a new edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was published by Bloomsbury including annotations by Rowling? It would be the perfect re-edition of a classic children's, containing commentaries by the author herself.

Another option would be to publish the first book including the trademarked drawings by Rowling, as they originally did with Quidditch Through the Ages, Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find them and The Tales of Beedle the Bard. Only Scholastic did this in the past: the deluxe edition and the 10th anniversary edition of the first book include one illustration by Rowling. We know J.K. did drawings of the Harry Potter



Photos from the annotated edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone donated by J.K. Rowling to writers' charity PEN.

#### DO JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER



series in the last years, so it would not require extra work from her apart from checking her own archive.

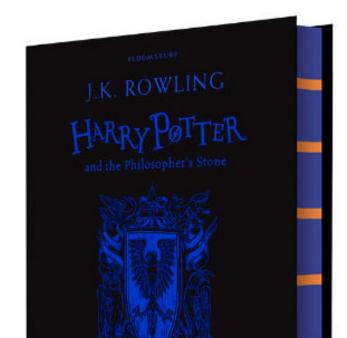
The main critic of these ideas is that Bloomsbury would need to request the copyright of this new material from Rowling to publish it, or at least get the permission. In my opinion, that should not be a problem, Rowling could easily grant it. Let's not forget that Bloomsbury was the publisher who trusted in her when she was unknown, and if now they need her, it would be a nice gesture on her part.

There are more ideas if Rowling does not want to participate or get involved. Annotated editions by critics, journalist or fellow writers are also a possibility - they already exist in the market

for other series. Without going any further, **The** Annotated Hobbit by Douglas Anderson and J.R.R. Tolkien is an explication of the sources, characters, places, and more, placed alongside the fully restored and corrected text of the original story. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have the original text explained by a scholar?

Bloomsbury is not the only one who is not innovative for the anniversary of the first book. Recently, Pottermore announced they will launch a Wizarding World Book Club. If the idea is only an online platform to debate with fellow fans the Harry Potter books while we all read them altogether, then it is not new. This has been done by fansites and podcasts in the past years. Pottermore promised rewards based on the reading pace, so let's hope for the best there, hope the rewards might be new writings by Rowling, like it happened with the old **Pottermore** (their best feature, in my opinion).

The truth is, Bloomsbury needs to find an excuse to republish the first book. New covers or dust jacket is not enough for the fandom that is getting used to this - they are making them tired, and if this continues, the sales of the new Harry Potter editions won't do it justice to its content. Let's hope, for the sake of the book, that the next time Bloomsbury announces a new edition, it is justified because we are tired of judging a book by its cover.



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www.wearelumos.org

### WHAT YEAR IS IT?

Just looking at the picture of J.K. Rowling, can you identify in what year it was taken? The solution at the bottom of the page.







### AMERICAN COLLECTOR'S EDITION OF HARRY POTTER AND THE SORGERER'S STONE

In 2000, Scholastic published the American Collector's Edition of the first book. It included an illustration by J.K. Rowling, depicting Harry Potter standing in the living room of The Dursleys.

As we mentioned in this issue article **Do judge a Book by its cover**, Scholastic published a deluxe edition of **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone** that included a drawing by J.K. Rowling. It was released in November 2000, a year before the film adaptation of the book.

This deluxe edition has a green (though very dark) morocco leather binding, and all the details in its cover, backcover and spine are in gilt, as a thin layer to give the impression of being made in gold. The page edges also have the same effect. It is definitely a beautiful deluxe edition. Scholastic only did these editions for this book and for **Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets**, and never continued to work on these. No deluxe editions were produced for books 3 and 4, but when *Order of the Phoenix* came out, the already known deluxe edition changed its format to a new presentation in a slipcase with a full cover illustration made specially for the occasion.

This collector's edition (as how it was also called by the publisher) was not marketed as limited edition, in case they wanted to reprint it. Although not confirmed by them, it is believed there are 100.000 copies of this book. Until 2012, it was available for purchase from the official Scholastic store in New York.

What makes this edition interesting is the ink portrait of Harry Potter at no 4., Privet Drive. The illustration was made in August 1995, before the manuscript was complete. It also includes a

comment by the author: "Note the vase on the mantelpiece. I copied a real one which had been left in my apartment by the previous occupant, and which I thought was horrible enough to belong to the Dursleys."

This is a beautiful edition, although it is not the only one with a drawing by Rowling. In 2008, the 'Special Anniversary Edition' was published to mark a decade since the first American edition. It also included a portrait and a commentary from Rowling, this time about Severus Snape, made in 1992 or 1993.

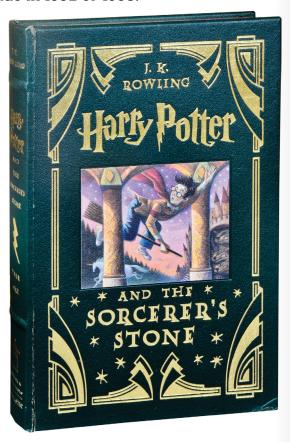
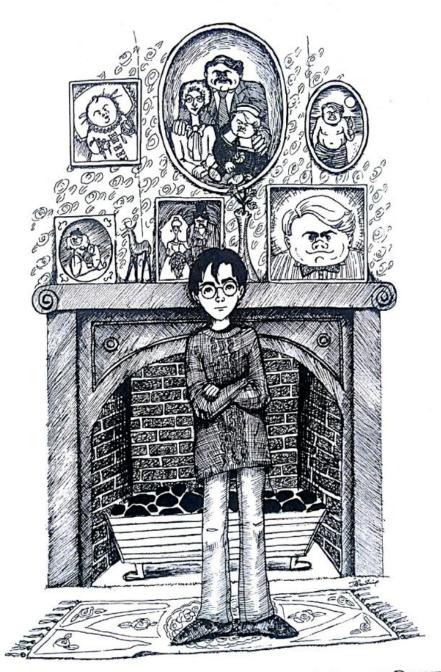


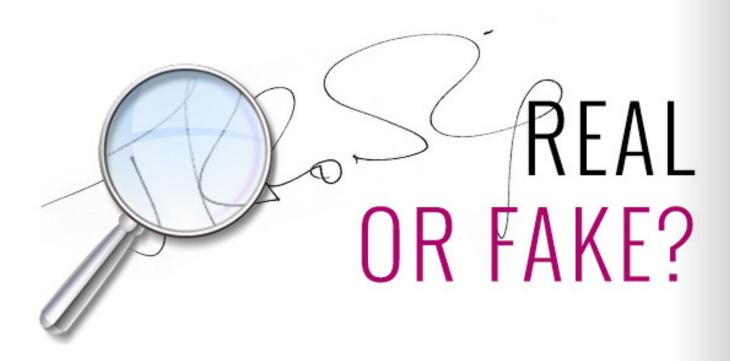
Photo: Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America



INK PORTRAIT OF HARRY POTTER AT NO. 4, PRIVET DRIVE

By J. K. Rowling, August 1995

Note the vase on the mantelpiece. I copied a real one which had been left in my apartment by the previous occupant, and which I thought was horrible enough to belong to the Dursleys.



Is that J.K. Rowling's signature real or fake? How can two books have the same perfect signature? Is J.K. Rowling able to sign like a robot? In this new section, some advice for the new collectors of the Harry Potter world.

If you are a collector or just someone who wants to own a signed book by J.K. Rowling, you should know you have to be careful when planning to buy an autographed copy from eBay. It is not new that the world - and especially the auction site - is full of scammers, and sometimes it is hard to identify them. However, some of these copies are not and they can be spotted pretty easily.

In the last few days, two signed books by J.K. Rowling appeared online on eBay. The seller is from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and the books are Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire and Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. At first sight, the signature looks nice: it has no weird curves or spots, neither robotic tell-tale signs. However, it looks so nice that is suspicious. Both signature are so perfect that they are identical!

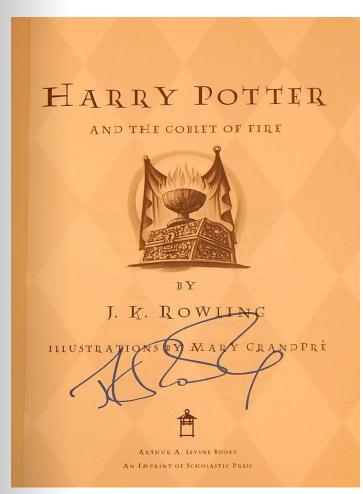
As you may see in the photos taken from the auction pages, both signatures are clearly

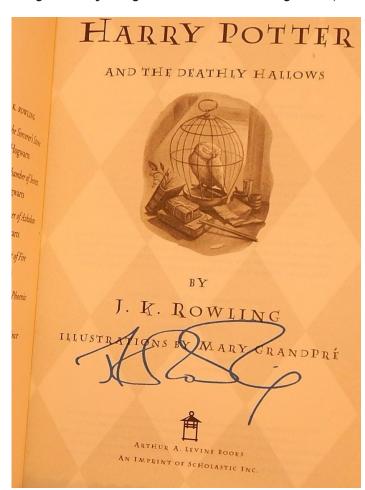
preprinted. The seller found a digital file of J.K. Rowling signature and printed in the title pages of the book in blue ink as if they had been signed by the author herself.

You may be thinking "Ok, but what if I only see one book and not both?" Well, the scammer did not do too much research. The digital file he used is from Wikipedia and the old J.K. Rowling archive, so you may recognize the shape of the signature from that website! As you can see, you can download the vectorized file from the Free Encyclopedia.

Here is the piece of advice: do some research before buying a signed book on eBay, and always think about every detail. Even if the signature seems legit, the reason for looking so perfect might be a different one. Happy collecting!







Photos from the eBay auctions. Notice that both signatures are identical.



Vectorized file of Rowling's signature. It is the same signature that appears in the copies above.

# UPCOMING EDITIONS

This is a list of the Harry Potter / J.K. Rowling books that are going to be published in the following months. Some of the dates are not yet confirmed, as well as some of the covers which are not final.



#### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone Gryffindor Edition

June 1st, 2017
Bloomsbury (United Kingdom)
ISBN: 978-1408883747
Hardcover (also available in paperback)

#### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone Ravenclaw Edition

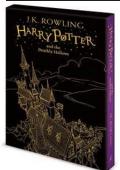
June 1st, 2017 Bloomsbury (United Kingdom) ISBN: 978-1408883785 Hardcover (also available in paperback)

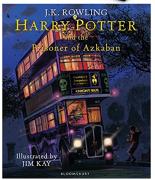
#### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone Slytherin Edition

June 1st, 2017 Bloomsbury (United Kingdom) ISBN: 978-1408883761 Hardcover (also available in paperback)

#### **UPCOMING EDITIONS**











#### Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone Hufflepuff Edition

June 1st, 2017 Bloomsbury (United Kingdom) ISBN: 978-1408883808 Hardcover (also available in paperback)

#### Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Gift Edition

July 13th, 2017 Bloomsbury (United Kingdom) ISBN: 978-1408869178 Hardcover (In box)

#### Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban - Illustrated Edition

October 3rd, 2017 Bloomsbury (United Kingdom) ISBN: 978-1408845660 Hardcover (also available in the United States by Scholastic)

#### Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them - Illustrated Edition

November 7th, 2017 Bloomsbury (United Kingdom) ISBN: 978-1408885260 Hardcover

Lethal White (by J.K. Rowling as Robert Galbraith)
Publication date unknown

