

The Rowling Library  
Magazine

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Greenlandic

Macedonian

Nepali

Malayam

Gujarati

Asturian

# The Big Six Translations

ISSUE 43. JULY 2020.





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by Fausto Giurescu.

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THE ROWLING LIBRARY MAGAZINE

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# EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Did you like  
Troubled Blood  
cover and  
synopsis?

The cover for J.K. Rowling's two new novels have been released this month: *Troubled Blood* and *The Ickabog* now have a public face. However, our July issue is not about that.

Carly wrote a brilliant piece about the hardest Harry Potter translation to find, specially for book collectors. We also feature an interview with Pol Peiró about his career as an artist and his Harry Potter artwork. Oliver Horton writes about Harry Potter and his dreams, Demi about Neville Longbottom and his wand, and Jessica shared with us an article about the Goblet of Fire 20th Anniversary.

Our cover, once again, is by the greatest Fausto Giurescu. His is cat chasing the hardest Harry Potter translations to acquire? Probably!

Hope to see you next month!

# THE WAND DIDN'T CHOOSE THE WIZARD

## NEVILLE LONGBOTTOM AND HIS DAD'S WAND

BY DEMI SCHWARTZ

The Wizarding World is full of fascinating objects, but wands are the most magical of them all. A wizard's wand is much more important than simply being a wooden stick for casting magic spells. In the Harry Potter series, wands are mysterious and can be thought of as having minds of their own. The first interesting piece of information about wands is shared by the incredible wandmaker, Mr. Ollivander. After Harry gets his wand during his first trip to Diagon Alley in *Sorcerer's Stone*, Ollivander says his famous line, "The wand chooses the wizard."

In *Deathly Hallows*, this statement holds a great significance. By looking at the results of characters using wands other than their own, the importance of being chosen by a wand becomes crystal clear. After Harry's phoenix feather wand breaks in Godric's Hollow, he uses Hermione's wand, until he eventually uses the

blackthorn wand that Ron gets from the Snatcher. The blackthorn wand gives him major trouble because his magic doesn't flow nearly as well as it did with his own wand. However, after Harry wins Draco Malfoy's wand at Malfoy Manor, Draco's hawthorn wand works much better. Additionally, the Elder Wand is a powerful wand that is not only one of the Deathly Hallows, but is also a wand that changes hands through a shift in loyalty that occurs when the wand is won. Even Lord Voldemort, the most powerful dark wizard, struggles to perform magic at the best of his ability with the Elder Wand because he doesn't own the loyalty of the wand. Ollivander explains the importance of owning a wand's loyalty when he says, "Oh yes, if you are any wizard at all you will be able to channel your magic through almost any instrument. The best results, however, must always come where there is the strongest affinity between wizard and wand. These connections are complex. An initial attraction, and then a mutual quest for experience, the wand learning from the wizard, the wizard from the wand."

With all of this in mind, it's interesting to take a deep dive into Neville Longbottom's wand situation. His parents, Frank and Alice Longbottom, were tortured into insanity by Bellatrix Lastrange, who used the Cruciatus Curse on them. Neville was brought up by his grandmother, Augusta, and when Neville showed magical ability when he was eight and started at Hogwarts three years later, Neville's grandmother gave him his father's wand to use. Even though this was a kind gesture on his grandmother's part, the wand Neville uses when he starts at Hogwarts didn't choose him. This big reveal comes in *Order of the Phoenix* during the Battle of the Department of Mysteries. After Neville's dad's wand breaks, Neville tells Harry, "My gran's going to kill me, that was by dad's old wand." Poor Neville has a broken nose and can't speak clearly, but the huge significance here is that Neville used his dad's wand for five years. With Ollivander's insights in mind, Neville wasn't exactly set up for success when he started at Hogwarts.

If Neville would've been chosen by his own wand from the beginning, would he have been better at magic? Absolutely. Neville's first five years at school are rough ones. Aside from being often anxious and forgetful, Neville struggles with performing spells. One of the most significant parts that captures Neville's



NEVILLE LONGBOTTOM IN  
HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX  
(WARNER BROS., 2007)





NEVILLE LONGBOTTOM IN HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN (WARNER BROS., 2004)

struggles comes during the Dueling Club in Chamber of Secrets. Professor Lockhart suggests for Neville and Justin Finch-Fletchley to demonstrate “Expelliarmus.” Professor Snape has something to say about this idea. It’s no secret that Snape targets Neville almost as much as Harry. After all, Snape is Neville’s boggart. So, Snape has to go and humiliate Neville in front of his peers by saying, “A bad idea, Professor Lockhart. Longbottom causes devastation with the simplest spells. We’ll be sending what’s left of Finch-Fletchley up to the hospital wing in a matchbox.” If Neville had a wand of his own, his earlier Hogwarts years would’ve been much better. This is also interesting to think about because it’s not Neville’s fault he has a difficult time with casting spells. It’s clear from Harry’s experiences in *Deathly Hallows* and the whole situation with the Elder Wand not working well for Voldemort that Neville’s situation is due to using a wand that isn’t loyal to him.

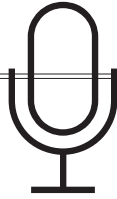
Additionally, Neville lacks confidence throughout the series. Due to being constantly picked on by Snape and Draco and having a hard time at performing magic, Neville experiences feelings of unworthiness. Even Professor McGonagall realizes that Neville struggles with his confidence. In *Order of the Phoenix*, she tells her Transfiguration class that she sees no reason why everyone in the class shouldn’t achieve an O.W.L. in Transfiguration, as long as they put in the work. When Neville makes a sad little disbelieving noise, Professor McGonagall says, “Yes, you too Longbottom. There’s nothing wrong with your work except lack of confidence.” It’s no surprise Neville doesn’t feel confident in himself. Constantly feeling behind his peers in magic is enough to lower anyone’s self-esteem. Still, through patient instruction and guidance by Harry in Dumbledore’s Army, Neville does begin to improve and gain confidence. Imagine how he would’ve grown if he had a wand of his own.

Neville finally gets his own wand after his dad’s breaks in the Battle of the Department of Mysteries. On the Hogwarts Express in *Half-Blood Prince*, Neville, Harry, and Luna are talking about their wild adventure at the

Ministry of Magic and how it’s all through the Daily Prophet. Neville says, “I thought Gran would be angry about all the publicity, but she was really pleased. Says I’m starting to live up to my dad at long last. She bought me a new wand.” He shows Harry his brand-new wand, which is cherrywood with a unicorn hair core. Neville also says that his wand is probably one of the last wands Ollivander sold before he vanished from his shop in Diagon Alley. It’s evident that Neville is proud of his new wand, as he very well should be. From this point forward, Neville grows into a true Gryffindor and leader. He fights again in the Battle of the Astronomy Tower, and while Harry, Ron, and Hermione are off hunting for Horcruxes, Neville becomes one of the strongest leaders back at Hogwarts. He fights as much as he can from inside the castle walls, and most of all, his courage and confidence peaks when he stands up to Voldemort during the Battle of Hogwarts and kills Nagini with the Sword of Gryffindor.

Neville has one of the greatest character arcs of the series, and his wand adds another layer of mystery to him. In the first five books while he uses his dad’s wand, Neville is seen as the student who lags behind and struggles with magic. The Battle of the Department of Mysteries is truly the turning point for him. It’s the first time Neville starts to show significant bravery and confidence, and it’s not a coincidence that this life-changing battle is also when his dad’s wand breaks. The wand breaking is symbolic in that it shows Neville’s transition from a follower into a leader and from being unsure of himself to being confident. There’s no way of knowing for sure how Neville’s journey would’ve been different if he’d had his own wand from the start. That is up to the imagination of dedicated readers of the Harry Potter series. Still, through aligning Neville’s growth with the story behind his wand, it’s clear how substantial it is for a wizard to be chosen by a wand. Ollivander is extremely intelligent and fantastic at wandmaking, and his beliefs and knowledge about wands shine through in Neville’s story.





A QUOTE BY JO

*“I love freakish names and I have always been interested in folklore and I think it was a logical thing for me to end up writing even though it came so suddenly.”*



ITV INTERVIEW  
16TH JULY, 2005





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# The Big Six Translations of Harry Potter

## THE HARDEST HARRY POTTER BOOKS TO GET IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

BY CARLY (FROM ALL THE PRETTY BOOKS)

**H**arry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is the most translated of all seven Potter books, having been translated into over eighty languages. For some languages, the translations continue through the remaining six Potter books, but some do not. These translations can be found all over the globe, from Greenland to Indonesia to Brazil and soon to New Zealand with their publication of a Te Reo Maori *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* translation. These

translations sometimes feature unique cover art only found on that one translation while others have the well-known and beloved covers from either the U.S. or the U.K. books. To some, seeing Harry Potter printed in another language is a short conversation topic or something to point at while browsing an international airport's bookstore, to others, these translations are something to be snapped up and collected in their quest to "have them all."



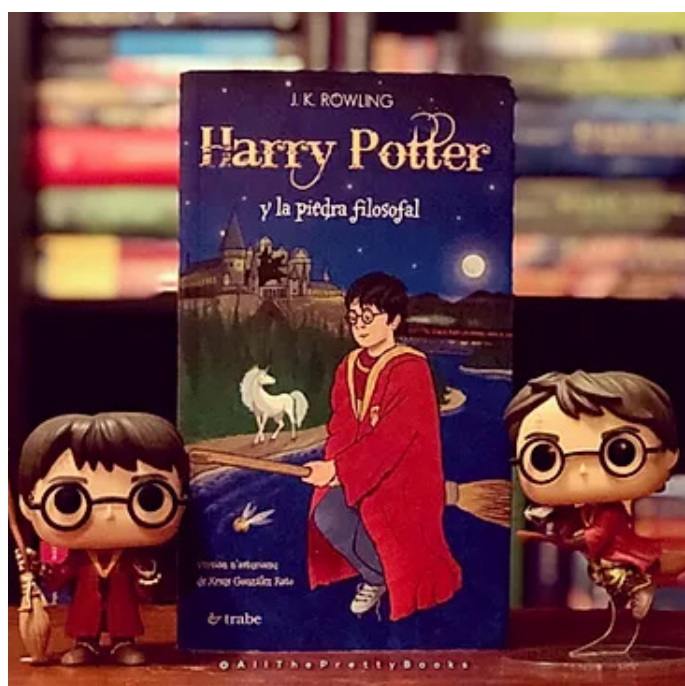


Collecting Harry Potter translations is not a new phenomenon. I have met Harry Potter translation collectors who have been collecting for the past fifteen years, mostly using their travels or traveling friends as means to slowly grow their respective collections. I have met others who use their creative sourcing skills to acquire books from around the world. However, over the past few years Potter translation collecting has been gaining in popularity within the mainstream Harry Potter collector and fan base. I think this is mostly due to popular collectors, such as The Potter Collector, on Instagram and YouTube showing off their exhaustive and beautiful collections. Excitingly, this momentum does not look to be slowing down. Quite frequently, I receive emails from *Potterheads* around the world wanting to begin their own Harry Potter translation collection and wanting to know where to start. It is at this point that I reply that eBay and Amazon will be their best friends. I also inform them about “The Big Six” Potter translations.

The phrase, Big Six, was coined a few years ago by Peter, the aforementioned Potter Collector, and the phrase quickly took hold within the Potterhead collecting community. It is not uncommon for me to receive emails from hopeful new and long-time collectors alike asking for help in finding just one of these elusive Potter translations. In these emails, I have often read comparisons between hunting these six books and horcruxes – they are elusive, often hidden in some of the most far-flung and strangest places, and they’re captivating.

Not surprisingly, the Big Six is currently comprised of six *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone* translations: Asturian, Greenlandic, Gujarati, Macedonian, Malayalam, and Nepali. Originally, when Peter coined the phrase, the Big Six included the Faroese Philosopher’s Stone translation, *Harry Potter og Vitramannasteinurin* in place of Malayalam. However, the Faroese publisher reprinted the first book in softcover and illustrated editions, making this translation easier to find than the Malayalam Philosopher’s Stone translation, which many collectors have discovered, is all but impossible to locate, let alone purchase. It is important to note that this Big Six list is based on the difficulty in acquiring a translation only, not a specific edition of that translation. For example, there are quite a few editions of the first Russian translation and several of these editions are quite hard to find, but the first edition of that translation is quite easily found. Just type in “Harry Potter in Russian” into an eBay search, and you will find quite a few listings for not only the first Russian translation

but also the second. Editions of French, German, and Spanish translations are very easy to find as well. On the opposite end of the spectrum sit the Big Six where you can hunt with specifics like ISBN and book titles and pull up only a handful of entries on Google. These six books are exceedingly hard to find in the countries from which they come and even more so outside of them. Searching for these six books takes a great deal of patience, time, and luck.

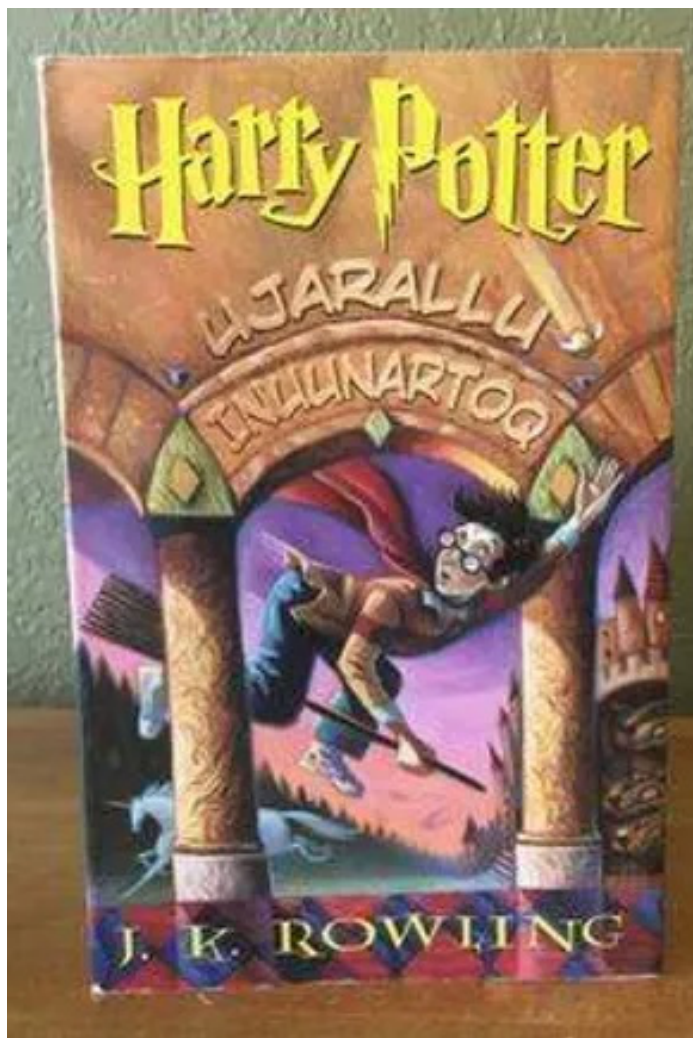


ASTURIAN TRANSLATION

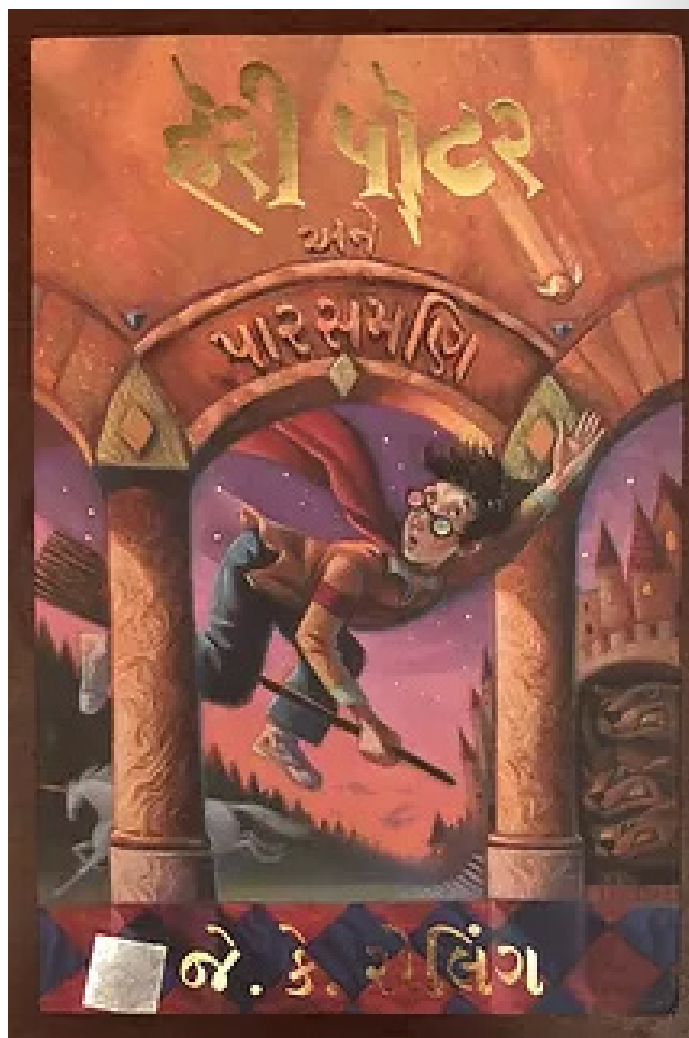
The Asturian translation, *Harry Potter y la piedra filosofal*, translated by Jesús González Rato and published by Trabe, is a translation out of the Asturias region in Spain. Only the first book has been translated into Asturian. While the publisher is still around, the likelihood of books two through seven being published is quite slim. Also, Asturian speakers have access to the Potter books via the ubiquitous Spanish translations. The book features beautiful cover art that loosely resembles that of the much more easily found Spanish translation. The publisher has confirmed only 700 copies were produced, making this book almost as rare as the hardcover first print, first edition Philosopher’s Stone. In fact, during my search for this translation, I was told by quite a few people in the Asturias region that this book did not exist and/or that they had never seen nor heard of it.



The Greenlandic, or Kalaallisut, translation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, *Harry Potter ujarallu inuunartoq*, was published by Atuakkiortfik Greenland Publishers and translated by Stephen Hammeken. Like Asturian, only the first book was translated, and it is more than likely going to stay that way. A few years after this translation's publication, the translator died. A few years after that, the publisher shuttered its doors. Importantly too, Greenlanders have access to the Potter books via the Danish and English books. From the few native Greenlanders I have spoken with about this translation, it looks to have been done well and sold out fairly quickly. However, while the book was popular in Greenland when it was released, the only print run was more than likely 1,000 copies or less. From my research, Greenlandic books rarely have print runs as high as 1,000 copies, with exception being for a predicted bestseller. Most of the Greenlandic books are limited to



GREENLANDIC TRANSLATION



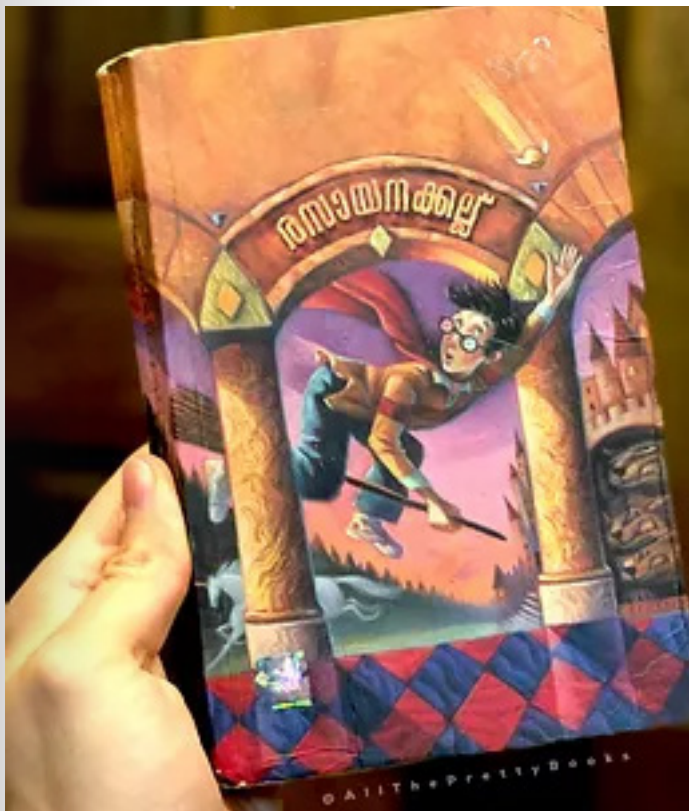
GUJARATI TRANSLATION

just a few hundred prints or fewer. The remote location and limited internet access of the country from which this book hails help make this translation extremely hard to find. The Greenlandic translation may be the most well-known of the Big Six – it is certainly the one that I am asked about the most. Interestingly, of these six, this translation is usually the easiest for collectors to find. That said, easy is relative; this book usually takes quite a lot searching around and luck to find.

The Gujarati translation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, *હેરી પોટર અને પારસમણિ*, was published by Manjul and translated by Harish Nayak and Jagruti Trivedi. Only the first book was published in this language. The Gujarati translation comes from the

Gujarat area of India. If you are translations collector, you will likely know that India has six Harry Potter translations, with four of them being fairly easy to find and the other two being in the Big Six. You may also know that Manjul publishes all six of those Potter translations and that they look fairly similar, all bearing the Mary GrandPre cover art. I am not sure on the print run of the Gujarati translation, but from talking with a few locals and collectors, I believe there are one or two print runs of around 1,500 copies each. With potentially 3,000 books floating around, it is easy to think this book would be easier to find, but it is absolutely not. Gujarati is the sixth most widely spoken native language in India with approximately 55.5 million speakers as of 2011. Interestingly though, while there are a lot of native speakers, there do not seem to be as many native readers. With the exception of two native speakers, the people I talked to read in other Indian languages, but not in Gujarati. While Manjul is still printing some of their other Potter translations, they currently have no plans to reprint this one.

The Malayalam translation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, ഹാരിപോട്ടർ രസായനക്കല്ല്, is also



MALAYALAM TRANSLATION

published by Manjul as stated earlier and is translated by Radhika C. Nair. Books one and two were published in this language, and both books are extremely hard to find, but mainly due to quickly increasing demand, only the Philosopher's Stone translation is on the Big Six list. Here again, I am not sure how many books were made, but I have heard from fellow collectors that think there were two print runs of around 1,500 books each. Again, however, there are many millions of speakers. India has approximately 45 million native speakers of Malayalam. From my own personal experiences, Malayalam seems to be similar to Gujarati in that there are more speakers than readers. And like the Gujarati translation, locating a Malayalam Philosopher's Stone translation takes quite a bit of poking around and even more luck.

The Macedonian translation of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, Хари Потер и Каменот на мудроста, which was published by Publishing House Kultura and translated by Blagorodna Bogeska-Ančevska is now actually the first Macedonian translation. A few



MACEDONIAN TRANSLATION



months ago, a new Macedonian *Philosopher's Stone* translation from a different translator and publisher was released. Shortly thereafter, there was some talk among translation collectors about whether or not the first Macedonian should remain in the Big Six. Ultimately though, the first Macedonian translation is still just hard to find as before the publication of the new one. Additionally, all seven books were published in Macedonian, but not all by the same publisher. Books one through five were published by Publishing House Kultura and the last two were published by Mladinska Kniga Skopje. Interestingly, the first five books were published in softcover only and feature the original Bloomsbury cover art and the last two were only published in hardcover and feature the Mary GrandPre covers from Scholastic. I am not sure how many of the first Macedonian translations of *Philosopher's Stone* were made. At some point in production, the cover was darkened significantly, so there are at least two print runs. Both covers are equally rare and sought after.

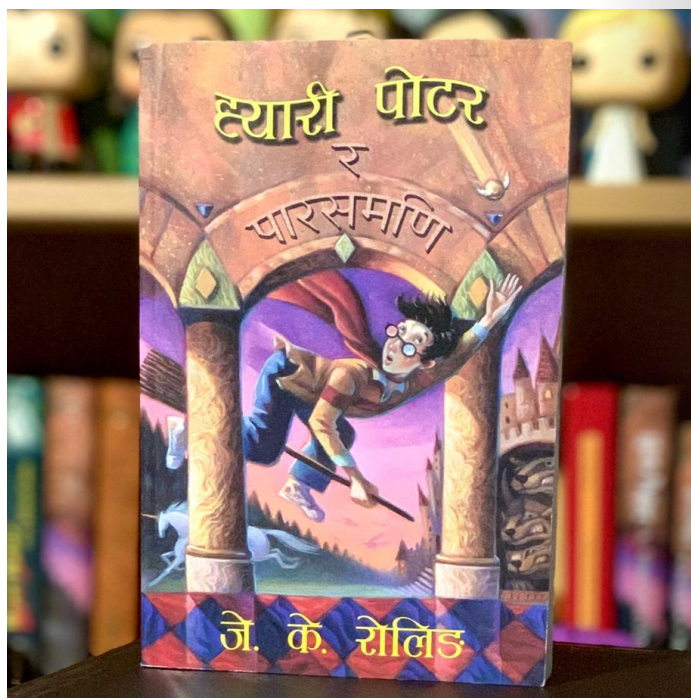
The Nepali translation, ह्यारी पोटर र पारसमणि, was translated by Shlesha Thapaliya and Bijaya Adhikari and published by the now defunct Sunbird Publishing House. Again here, I am not sure how many books were printed, but it is again likely fewer than 1,000. Honestly, I feel 1,000 is a generous number. Sunbird Publishing House was formed by five women who wanted to combine their professional talents to help improve falling literacy rates among the poorer Nepali youth. After much consideration, the women thought that Nepali children and teenagers would enjoy reading the Potter books. The women also hoped that having Harry Potter translated into Nepali would also encourage native Nepali writers to write for their youth. After writing to J.K. Rowling about their idea, Rowling responded positively and the rights were purchased for a nominal royalty. The book was sold around Kathmandu but was ultimately aimed at the youth in Nepal's interior villages. This factor along with a probably very low print run and the difficulty for outsiders to access parts of Nepal even via the internet has made this book extremely hard to find. Importantly, this book is the only authorized Nepali translation of Harry Potter. There are unauthorized versions of books one through three found in Nepal and their covers are different. Unauthorized versions of books four through seven are rumored to exist as well.

While these Big Six books typically take a great deal of time and effort to locate, collecting Harry Potter

translations is one of the most fun and fulfilling things I have ever done. I have met some of the best people and found and connected with Potterheads from all over this beautiful planet. If you are thinking about joining me and many others in our quest to have all the Harry Potter translations, I hope you do! We really have fun!

*If you'd like to hear what Harry Potter sounds like all over the world, check out [www.thebookthatlives.com](http://www.thebookthatlives.com).*

*You can follow Carly on Twitter and Instagram on @AllThePrettyBooks and visit her website, a great resource for Harry Potter fans and collectors: [www.alltheprettybooks.net](http://www.alltheprettybooks.net)*

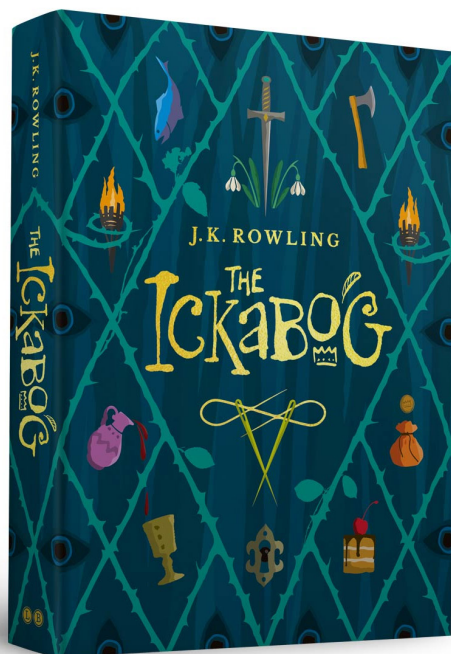


NEPALI TRANSLATION

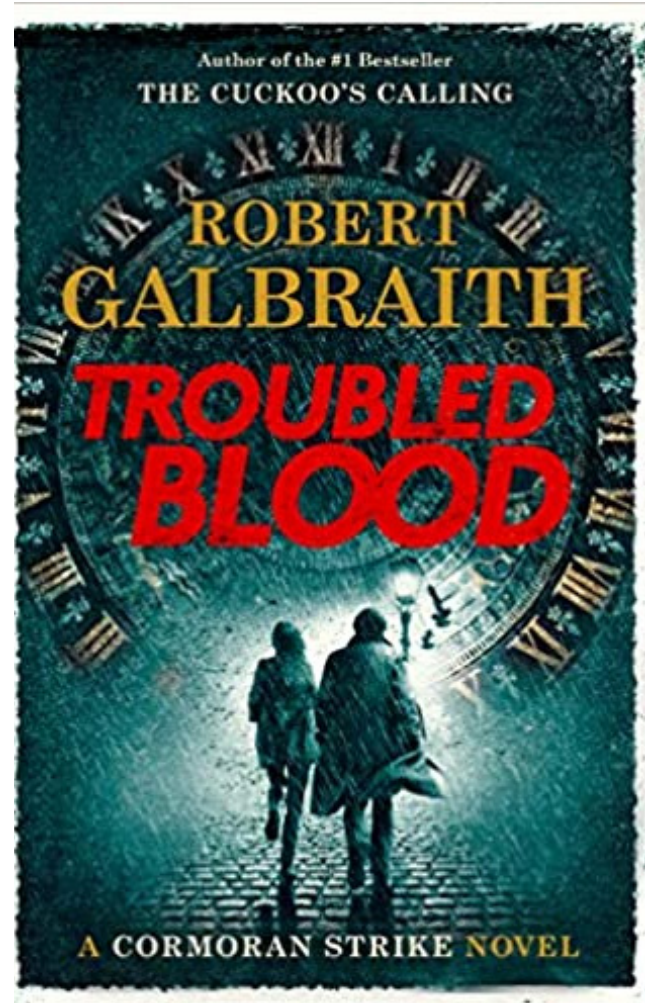
# Covers revealed

The two original novels by J.K. Rowling to publish this year received their official cover announcement during July. *The Ickabog*, although it has already been released in a serial online format, will be published on November 10th and now we can see its cover.

Something similar happened to *Troubled Blood*, the fifth novel of the Cormoran Strike series. Despite the fact the release date was already known (September 15th), we did not know the cover or the synopsis. Both of them were shared by Little, Brown & Co (the publisher) in the second week of July.



THE ICKABOG COVER



TROUBLED BLOOD COVER



# The Draw Who Lived

WE PRESENT ARTIST POL PEIRÓ FROM BARCELONA AND HIS STORY ILLUSTRATING HARRY POTTER CHARACTERS.



RUBEUS HAGRID, BY POL PEIRÓ.





SUPERNOVA - POL PEIRÓ EXHIBITION

Pol Peiró knew he was skilled since he was a kid. “I drew the characters from memory from the films I liked”, he recalls. He is one of the many fans who arrived in the Wizarding World through the films and then dived into the books. “It was in 2002 when I did my first illustration of the Harry Potter series”, he says, “and I added the character’s names in Catalan because that’s the version of the books I read.”

In 2009 he started art school in the afternoons, after school, but he didn’t like doing landscapes and regular stuff - he wanted something else. That’s how he proposed to his art teacher to do portraits of the Harry Potter characters. And after getting some practice by drawing Albus Dumbledore, Draco Malfoy, Severus Snape, and many more, he discovered he really enjoyed creating art. When his teacher told him it was time to move into painting landscapes, he started with another piece from the Wizarding World: Hagrid’s Hut.

When finishing high school, Pol decided to study art in a more serious way, so he got his Art Degree at the University of Barcelona. Harry Potter stopped being the main theme of his works, but it was the initial spark that allowed him to become a professional painter. He

sold some artworks, held a few exhibitions and he even had the chance to open his own shop to teach art to more people. As a tribute to the series that changed his life, he called it l’Andana (The Platform in English). “I learnt to draw and paint thanks to the Harry Potter books, and like Platform Nine and Three Quarters, I wanted my space to be a door into a world where people could enjoy art and free themselves from their daily problems”.

But although Peiró became a professional painter (with astonishing paintings centered around topics such as loneliness, seasons and roots), he knew he was going back to Harry Potter. And that’s how *The Draw Who Lived* was born.

In 2019, to promote *The Crimes of Grindelwald*, Warner Bros. asked fans from around the world to illustrate some pieces. Pol Peiró did some artwork that was shared on the official accounts to promote the movie, and he noticed how much he enjoyed going back to work with the Harry Potter World. “In 2019 it was the 10 year anniversary since I started to paint, so I thought it was a good idea to revisit these characters applying everything I’ve learnt. So that’s how I opened





POL PEIRÓ  
PAINTING SEVERUS  
SNAPE

my Instagram account for The Draw Who Lived and I uploaded a new drawing every day.”

Pol wanted to do something different from other accounts that create fan art, so he decided he was going to create a portrait from every character in the series, even the secondary ones, or the ones that appear in the background for just a fraction of a second. He started with the main ones, like Harry Potter, Ron Weasley, or even Bellatrix Lestrange. But slowly he started to illustrate minor or unnoticed characters, such as the black student in the third year who is just in the background, or the professor who is killed in the film version of the Battle of Hogwarts and is discovered by Trelawney and Padma Patil. He wanted to pay tribute to all the characters, even the peripheral ones. But his take did not end there: he wanted to have these profile illustrations also signed by these actors. And he often gets them! He sends them two copies of the paintings: one for the actor to

keep, and one for the actor to sign and send it back to Pol. “The excitement of seeing a new signature in the mail is something I cannot describe”.

Of course, J.K. Rowling was also part of this project, and Pol reached out to her via social media. First, it was with a full colour illustration of Rubeus Hagrid, one of Rowling’s favourite characters. Pol shared it on Twitter on May 1st, and the British author re-shared with all her readers saying it was an amazing illustration [[https://twitter.com/jk\\_rowling/status/1256147565231386624](https://twitter.com/jk_rowling/status/1256147565231386624)]. The next day, on the Hogwarts Battle Anniversary, Pol tried again and sent to J.K. Rowling a collage with a variety of the portraits he made for his project. [[https://twitter.com/jk\\_rowling/status/1256549152953114624](https://twitter.com/jk_rowling/status/1256549152953114624)]. She shared it again, this time saying they were extraordinary.



J.K. Rowling  
@jk\_rowling

These are extraordinary!



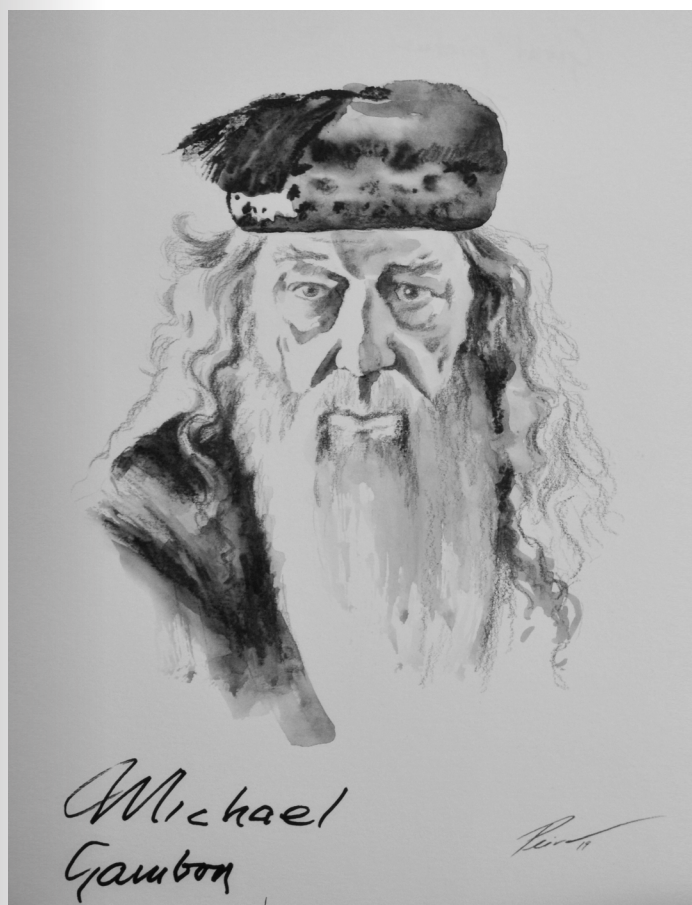
Pol Peiró @peiropol · Mar 28

Thanks @jk\_rowling for creating such a large universe. I'm spending my quarantine drawing all your characters, from professor Dumbledore to Bernadette! 🥰

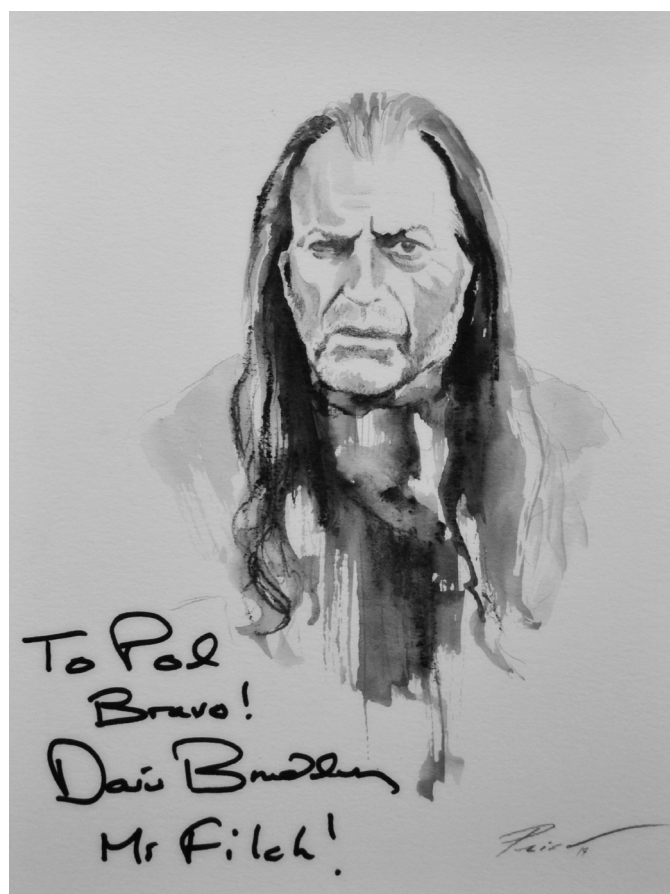


The technique Pol uses has to be quick, because he does one illustration per day, and some days he has not all the time in the world. "I use a regular pencil to do the base drawing, and then I add shadows and depth with a watercolor pencil. Using a brush, I spread the ink to give more volume and contrast to the drawing. The final result is subtle but elegant: something I pursue with these works".

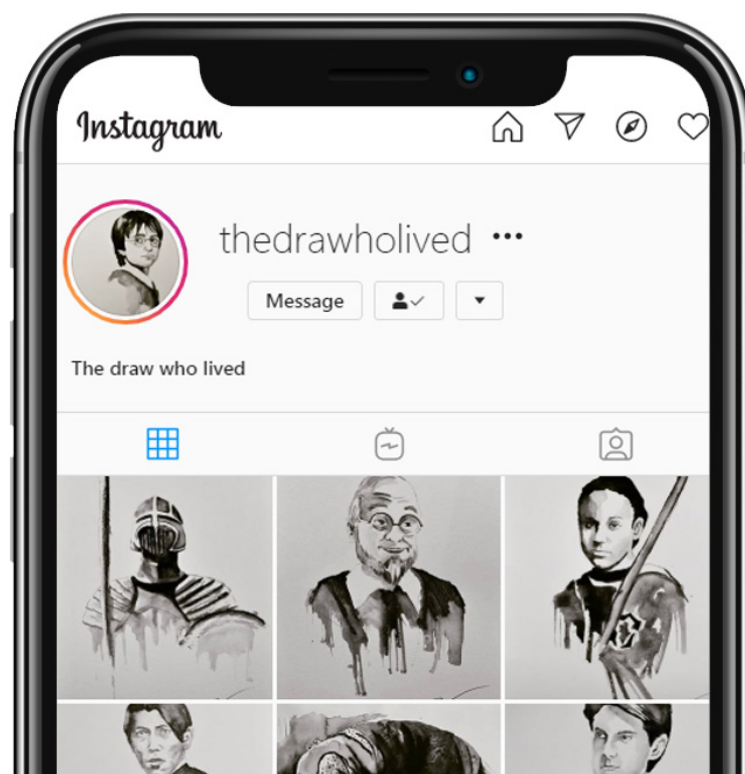
Getting a response from Jo was one of the dreams Pol Peiró had with his projects, but he says: "However, as it usually happens when you achieve a dream or a goal, another one appears, so... hopefully the next step would be to get her to sign me one of my drawings!"



POL PEIRO'S DUMBLEDORE  
SIGNED BY ACTOR  
MICHAEL GAMBON



POL PEIRO'S ARGUS FILCH  
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By Oliver Horton

# THE BOY WHO DREAMED

**“Of course it is happening inside your head, Harry, but why on earth should that mean that it is not real?”\***

Ten-year-old Harry Potter sleeps in a cupboard. He dreams of a magical world. His mean, adoptive family inspire the villains in his imagined adventures. Strange people he sees are transfigured into witches and wizards. Behind broken glasses he views the world askew.

Harry Potter in the absence of magic is a very dark place. Without magic we behold a terrified child whose safe space is the cupboard under the stairs. Harry’s family are dead. He stays with relatives who do not like him. He is under continual attack. His imagination takes flight... Can the saga be read as the projections of a traumatised child?

## The Boy Who Dreamed

The first thing Harry does is wake up. *Harry... tried to remember the dream he had been having. It had been a good one. There had been a flying motorbike.*

He sees things that may or may not be there:

*A tiny man in a violet top hat... A wild looking old woman dressed all in green... A bald man in a very long*

*purple coat... they seemed to vanish the second Harry tried to get a closer look.*

*‘It was a dream,’ Harry told himself firmly. ‘I dreamed a giant called Hagrid came to tell me I was going to a school for wizards. When I open my eyes I’ll be at home in my cupboard.’ ... But he still didn’t open his eyes. It had been such a good dream.*

*Harry had never been to London before... It was a tiny, grubby-looking pub... Harry had the peculiar feeling that only he and Hagrid could see it... For a famous place it was very dark and shabby.*

Harry is lonely and has no friends. He perceives the world unusually. He twists words amusingly: diagonally, Diagon Alley. When he finally gets friends they are super geeks: girly swot Hermione and hand-me-down Ron. But while the castle sleeps, Harry and pals are 11-year-old superheroes. Short-sighted Harry becomes a star sportsman whose role is to find and catch some tiny thing at high speed. Traumatized Harry dreams of his parents in an old mirror. Wishes fulfilled.

## World Building

Harry’s experience of Muggledom, in the first chapters of Book One, gives specific cues for the stories that follow. Harry and the Dursleys visit the zoo and there



HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX (WARNER BROS., 2007)

is an incident with a snake. In the magical world, Harry can communicate with snakes. The cupboard under the stairs is full of spiders. Harry meets the daddy of all spiders in Book Two. Dudley's friend Piers is a scrawny boy with a face like a rat. Harry the wizard encounters Wormtail.

In Dudley's spare room: *there was a large bird-cage, which had once held a parrot that Dudley had swapped for a real air-rifle, which was up on a shelf with the end all bent because Dudley had sat on it. Other shelves were full of books. They were the only things in the room that looked as though they'd never been touched.* In the next chapter Hagrid arrives and bends a rifle. Harry receives the owl, Hedwig, in a large bird-cage during the visit to London. Harry discovers a world of books at Flourish and Blott's.

And Dudley's school uniform foreshadows Harry's Hogwarts robes and pointed hat. *Smeltings boys wore maroon tailcoats, orange knickerbockers and flat straw hats called boaters. They also carried knobbly sticks.* Harry carries a wand.

The Dursleys flee from magical mail. Alas, the letters follow: Mr H Potter, Room 17, Railview Hotel, Cokeworth. Curiously, Cokeworth is the home town of Harry's mum and aunt. Sounds like a family outing. If we are witnesses to Harry's fantasy might Hagrid be some Muggle-world uncle and Sirius an errant godfather? Are stern McGonagall and sweet-toothed Dumbledore granny and gramps?

### Dudley Dursley is Draco

First impression of Draco: *Harry was strongly reminded of Dudley.*

Dudley and Draco are blond. They hunt in packs. In Dudley's gang, he's the *biggest and thickest*. Draco is invariably flanked by a pair of dumb Dudleys, Crabbe and Goyle.

Harry is the usurper, the cuckoo. His arrival at Privet Drive upsets Dudley's privileged position in the household. His arrival at Hogwarts prevents entitled Draco from being the school's star. In time Dudley learns to respect his cousin and Draco unlocks empathy. "Perhaps he has decided to befriend Harry Potter?" taunts Voldemort.

Dudley makes amends with Harry in Book Seven. But try Dudley's speech in Draco's mouth: "I don't think you're a waste of space." ... [Draco] had turned red. Harry

*was embarrassed and astonished himself. "You saved my life." [Draco] subsided into scarlet-faced silence.*

"Coming from Dudley, that's like 'I love you,'" quips Harry in the book. The cousins shake hands. Draco is not awarded a pacific moment. But his final instruction to Crabbe and Goyle is for Harry's protection: "Don't kill him! DON'T KILL HIM!"

### Vernon Dursley is Voldemort

Harry's wicked uncle is big and beefy and angry, hugely intimidating to a small boy. The traumatised ten-year-old in the cupboard might naturally reimagine Vernon as the ultimate villain. What's in a name? Vernon Dursley... Ver- Dur-... Vol- Dur-... Voldemort. Harry feels under attack, with reason. His parents are dead. He fears being dead.

Like Voldemort, Grunnings director Mr Dursley is preoccupied with status – note the dinner party in Book Two, note Aunt Marge. Harry is not of his blood and destined to thwart him. In Book Five, Order of the Phoenix, angry Harry is shocked by his own rage. He fears turning into that role-model for angry men, the villain with a capital V.

Meanwhile, Vernon shares characteristics with other baddies: the superior Lucius Malfoy and the order-uber-alles Dolores Umbridge. Dolores also stops Harry's mail. In Book Five, Dolores' hands come grasping out of a fireplace. Vernon's hands grabbed for Harry through a window in the book's opening chapter.

### Petunia Dursley is Severus Snape

*She spent so much of her time craning over garden fences, spying on the neighbours.*

Aunt Petunia spies and Snape is a spy. Both characters grew up in Cokeworth and are described unkindly: horse-faced, uneven teeth, large hooked nose. They hate James Potter, who ruined their relationship with Lily and got her killed. Thin, spiteful and repressed, they love Lily painfully and cannot process their grief.

Petunia sees Lily's eyes in Harry's face. Does she feel judged? Or do Lily's eyes resurrect feelings of envy, the bitter memory of men drawn to the younger sister and rarely to her? Even before the news of her death, Lily is a toxic topic. Vernon, who has been glimpsing wizards all day, finally drums up the courage to enquire: "Er – Petunia, dear – you haven't heard from your sister lately, have you?" Mrs Dursley looked shocked and angry. After all, they normally pretended she didn't have a sister.



“No,” she said sharply. “Why?”

Shocked and angry... sharply... snapped... stiffly: Petunia conjures Snape in the very first chapter, the acidic Snape of the classroom, the furious Snape who catches Harry facedown in his Pensieve'd memories. At the close, Petunia chokes on her chance to make peace with Harry. Explains JK Rowling: “She almost acknowledged that her loathing... was born out of jealousy.” Loathing and jealousy? Very Severus.

### The Girl Who Dreamed

Joanne Rowling's childhood home in Gloucestershire mirrors the Dursleys' – including the cupboard under the stairs. The millionaire author bought the house in 2011. Harry returns to his cupboard in Book Seven and finds it full of shoes and umbrellas. What did Jo find?

Jo Rowling was 25 years old when she dreamt up Harry Potter on a broken-down train en route to Kings Cross. The death of her mother came six months later. “The books are what they are because she died”... “an attempt to make sense of death”. For the author and the hero, the stories are an exorcism.

Trace a portrait of the storyteller, one that doesn't move. Jo Rowling fled Portugal after divorce from the abusive first husband. She relocated to Edinburgh where she had no friends, only her sister. Jo was a poor single mother and suffered clinical depression. She escaped into a world of magic. Did sister Dianne seem *perfectly normal thank you very much*? Did the author have daughter Jessica in mind when Harry discovers his idolised father was a bully?

There was a child who dreamed these stories. Joanne Rowling wrote her first book at six-years-old. Aged 11, she wrote a novel about seven cursed diamonds and the people who owned them. Years later the author created bespectacled Harry, freckled Ron and Hermione the bookworm, and left a little of herself on the page: “I lived for books. I was your basic common-or-garden bookworm, complete with freckles and National Health spectacles.”

### Beyond The Veil

In The Wizard of Oz movie, a tornado whisks Kansas girl Dorothy to the magical land of Oz. She meets a cowardly Lion, a brainless Scarecrow and a Tin

Man with no heart. Her three companions, plus The Wizard and the Wicked Witch, are played by actors in dual roles – we initially meet them as family and acquaintances back home. In Peter Pan, Captain Hook and Wendy's father George Darling are the same guy: in the 2003 Peter Pan movie, Jason Isaacs plays both roles (yes, the actor who portrays Draco Malfoy's father, Lucius). Famous precedents.

Rejected ideas lurk in completed works. High-resolution scans of the Mona Lisa reveal painted-over eyebrows, a headdress and an alternate line of gaze. Rowling has shared little of her creative process but must have considered every angle on these stories, including the notion that Harry himself dreams these adventures as he grows up. Traces of Harry's fantasy hail us even in the final book, which strains the established rules of magic to accommodate Harry's survival, as if the story must protect its hero/creator. In Deathly Hallows, Harry has a significant conversation with dead Dumbledore. His wand acts on its own to defend against flying Voldemort. Harry's enemies put his glasses back on his face twice. Indeed, Harry's glasses are an inverted MacGuffin: readers worry about his specs more than the characters do.

Whether the seven books of Harry Potter are a fantasy within a fantasy, or simply a fantasy, does not matter much, because the stories are authentic. The books connect with readers via emotional truth. Harry experiences denial, anger, depression – stages of grief – on his road to acceptance. And so do we. His feelings, and ours, are real.

The saga in brief, from The Boy Who Lived to 19 Years Later: lonely orphan goes away to a new school, ultimately marries the first girl he sees, makes friends for life, grieves his parents and settles down happily with a family of his own. *All was well.*

**\*Jo Rowling's favourite quote from all Harry Potter: “Of course it is happening inside your head, Harry, but why on earth should that mean that it is not real?” – Albus Dumbledore, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.**

# WAVE A WAND

BY ALAN DELL'OSO

## RON WEASLEY'S

Ronald Bilius Weasley (AKA: Ron Weasley) is part of the famous “Golden Trio” with Harry and Hermione, but sadly, he has the most unpopular wand of the three.

He is the only character that really must change his wand in the third book/movie, because he broke his first wand (which previously belonged to his brother Charlie) while being attacked by the Whomping Willow in his second year.

I'm a “The Noble Collection” wands collector, so for me, the most important wands are the ones from the third movie and on... and now I'm going back to what I've said in the first paragraph: Ron's wand is the most unpopular wand in the Golden Trio.

I think that's because most of the people may think that its design has nothing special. When we see Hermione's wand, we look at an amazing ivy climbing plant around, and we have no clue where the handle starts and where it ends. Harry's wand has two completely different parts, where the handle has its bark in a dark brown color,

while the tip has a kind of wooden sleeve in the “nearest handle” part with a very peculiar shape, and in a lighter brown color.

### Now: What about Ron's wand?

Well, his second wand keeps a “cheap” look. Is well known that Weasley family is not rich at all, so we can expect a new wand, but with no luxuries.

If we look from some distance, Ron and Harry's wands are quite similar, but Ron's wand looks more rustic, with less ornaments and with a much shorter handle.

### The good parts

That's right, here we go. Ron's wand is the only design that has bumps all around the tip (which is very long). Also, in “The Noble Collection” replica, they've added some darker brown dots in the painting of the tip, that are not in the original design (is almost like a leopard animal print patron).



RON'S MOVIE PROP WAND USED IN 1ST AND 2ND MOVIE, FROM PIERRE BOHANNA'S WEBSITE





RON'S MOVIE PROP WAND FROM THE BOOK "HARRY POTTER: THE WAND COLLECTION"

When you have it in your hand, it feels completely solid and bigger than it seems from outside, and is quite comfortable to grip.

#### Ollivander Facts

His first wand was made out of Ash wood with a Unicorn Hair core and Its length is 12", while his second wand is made of (You are going to find this very funny) willow

wood, yes! The same kind of wood that destroyed his first wand. It maintains the Unicorn Hair core and in this case is 2" longer than his old wand, giving us a 14" wand.

The Noble Collection replica is 13.78" (35cm), is not very common that movie prop wands measures like the "in book" wands, but this one has almost the right length.



RON'S WAND REPLIACE BY THE NOBLE COLLECTION, FROM ALAN'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.



*Taking a closer look to Harry and Ron's wands, it looks like Ron's wand complements the carving part of Harry's wand tip.*

# RAISE 20 GOBLETS FOR 20 YEARS OF *HARRY POTTER* *AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE*

BY JESSICA MINNECI

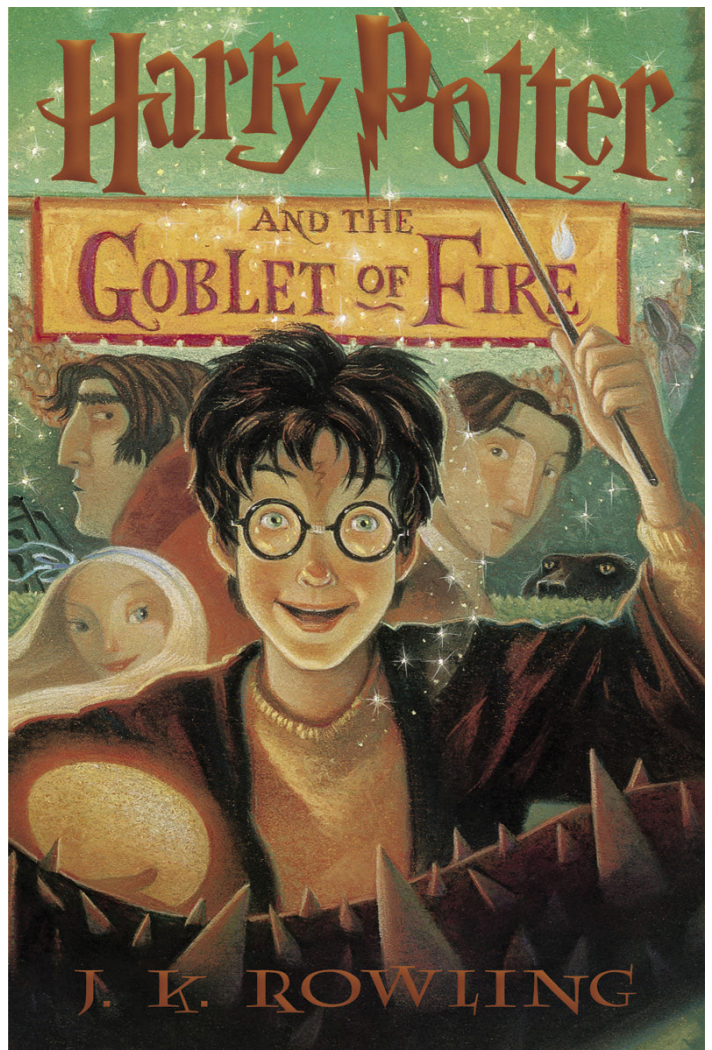
On July 8, 2020, Harry Potter fans celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the release of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. Let's dive into the pensieve and reminisce about this amazing day in 2000.

The title of Book Four changed multiple times before it became *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*. In an Entertainment Weekly article, J. K. Rowling said, "I changed my mind twice on what the title was. The working title had got out - *Harry Potter and the Doomspell Tournament*. Then I changed 'Doomspell' to 'Triwizard Tournament.' Then I was teetering between 'Goblet of Fire' and 'Triwizard Tournament.' In the end, I preferred 'Goblet of Fire' because it's got that kind of 'cup of destiny' feel about it, which is the theme of the book."

Published by Bloomsbury in the United Kingdom and Scholastic in the United States of America, fans in both countries received their copies on the same day: July 8th. Out of the four Potter adventures, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* was the longest. The UK edition contained 640 pages while the USA edition had 734 pages. Readers also had the option to listen to the audiobook, narrated by Stephen Fry in the UK and Jim Dale in the USA. Unfortunately for visually impaired fans, the braille edition of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* was not available until July 28, 2000. Braille books are much larger, longer, and more expensive than print books. In braille, one print page can equal two or three braille pages. As a result, the braille edition consisted of six volumes with 1037 braille pages and cost \$173 from the Braille Bookstore.

On the release date, fans in Great Britain purchased 372,775 hardback copies. Meanwhile, in the United States, J.K. Rowling held the top 3 spots on the New York Times best-seller list. For the first time, bookstores also held *Harry Potter* midnight book release parties, where 3.8 million books were sold throughout the country. Interestingly, the law prevented booksellers from opening the shipment and selling the books until one minute after midnight. Many people also joke that

the book was released on a Saturday so that children standing in long lines at the bookstore wouldn't cut class at muggle school the next day to read about Harry's adventures in wizarding school.



HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COVER  
SCHOLASTIC



In addition, a special treat was planned for children in the United Kingdom. The book was launched at Platform 1 at King's Cross Station in London, aptly renamed with signs saying "Platform 9-3/4." One of the oldest steam locomotives in the United Kingdom was renamed the Hogwarts Express and painted red for the occasion. Some cars date back to 1891. The train stopped in many cities along the way including Oxford, Manchester, and York. The final stop was Perth in western Scotland. J.K. Rowling, representatives from Bloomsbury and the press, and many, many books waiting to be signed rode along on this iconic book tour.

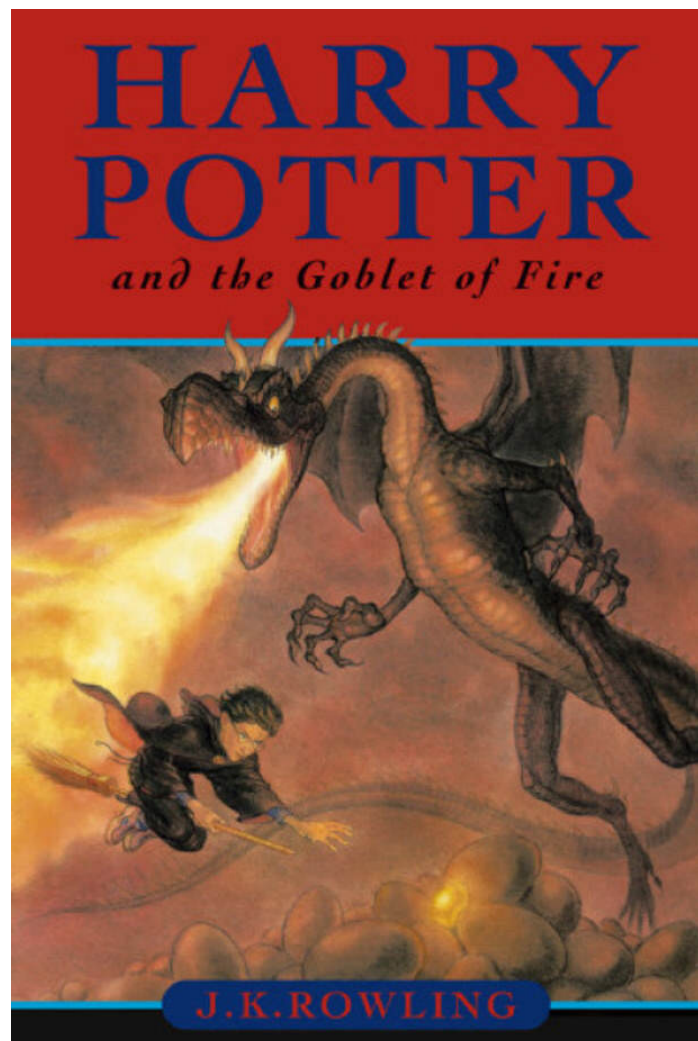
The Harry Potter Lexicon also lists some interesting quotes from interviews with J. K. Rowling about her novel. When asked how vital this book is for Harry, Rowling replied, "Crucial. Book Four's a very very very important book. Something very important happens in

Book Four. Also, it's literally a central book. It's almost the heart of the series, and it's pivotal."

When questioned about the ending, Rowling admitted that she cried when she wrote the section where Dumbledore tells the student body to remember Cedric Diggory when they're faced with the choice between what is right and what is easy. Rowling said, "The first time ever, I cried while writing. I actually cried twice during the ending of Book Four. It's a powerful ending, but there's a reason why - something very important happens. I have said all along that if you're writing about evil you should have enough respect for children to show them what it means. Not to dress up a pantomime villain and say, isn't it frightening?, when it isn't. It's the ending I planned and I was very happy when I re-read it."

This great novel also received many awards: the Scottish Arts Council Book Award 2001; the Children's Book Award in 9-11 category 2001; winner of the Hugo Award; winner of Whitaker's Platinum Book Award 2001; and winner of the Indian Paintbrush Book Award 2002. Entertainment Weekly listed *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* under "The New Classics: Books - The 100 best reads from 1983 to 2008." Under the Guardian's list of "100 Best Books of the 21st Century," the book was listed as #97.

At the time of publication, the magic of Harry Potter was getting ready to hit the big screen as casting for the movie of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* was in full swing. J.K. Rowling gave British producer David Heyman film rights for her first four books in 1999. In March the following year, Chris Columbus was selected to be the director of the first film, and Steve Kloves wrote the screenplay. As Rowling insisted on an all British cast for the films, Warner Brothers sought British children who were similar in looks to Harry, Ron, and Hermione to play these roles. Heyman went to the theater one night in 2000 and saw Daniel Radcliffe's father, who was an agent. Heyman proceeded to ask Daniel to audition and he did. As part of their auditions, actors and actresses for the three main roles underwent screen tests, where they auditioned together with different mixes and matches. Emma Watson was chosen first to play Hermione Granger followed closely by Rupert Grint as Ron Weasley. Harry was the last of the trio to be cast. Eight months after his initial meeting with the producer at the theater, Daniel received the role of Harry Potter. Before his role as Harry, Daniel starred as David in the BBC's *David Copperfield*. Emma and Rupert were virtually unknown as they had only performed in



HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE  
UNITED KINGDOM EDITION  
BLOOMSBURY

school plays before being cast in the Potter films. In the BBC article, “Young Daniel Gets Potter Part,” posted on August 21, 2000, J.K. Rowling gave the cast choices her blessing.

She said, “Having seen Dan Radcliffe screen test, I don’t think Chris Columbus could have found a better Harry. I wish Dan, Emma, and Rupert the very best of luck and hope they have as much fun acting the first year at Hogwarts as I had writing it.” Rowling also had a hand in the rest of the cast selection, picking Robbie Coltrane to play Hagrid; Dame Maggie Smith to play professor McGonagall; and Alan Rickman to play Severus Snape. There were only two exceptions to the all British cast

rule: Sir Richard Harris who played Dumbledore and Zoe Wanamaker who played Madam Hooch. Filming began in September 2000 at Leavesden Studios. A little over a year after *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* was published, on November 16, 2001, the movie *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone* premiered in theaters.

Stepping out of the pensieve, the year 2000 seems like such a long time ago. Although all the original seven books and movies have since been released, according to IMDB, *Harry Potter* enthusiasts still have more magic to look forward to. The third *Fantastic Beasts* movie premieres on November 12, 2021, almost 20 years after the first Potter film was released.

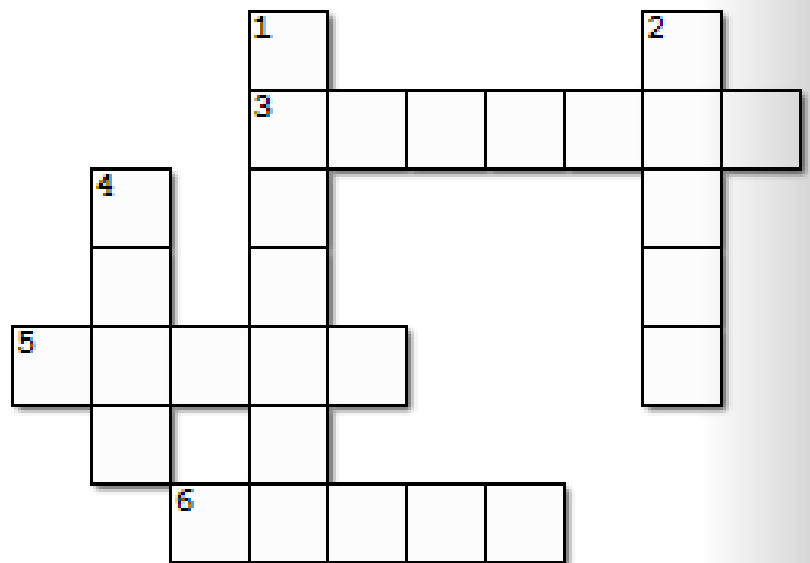


THE GOBLET OF FIRE - JUAN ANACHURI



# WIZARDING WORLD CROSSWORD

TEST YOUR HARRY POTTER KNOWLEDGE IN THIS PUZZLE



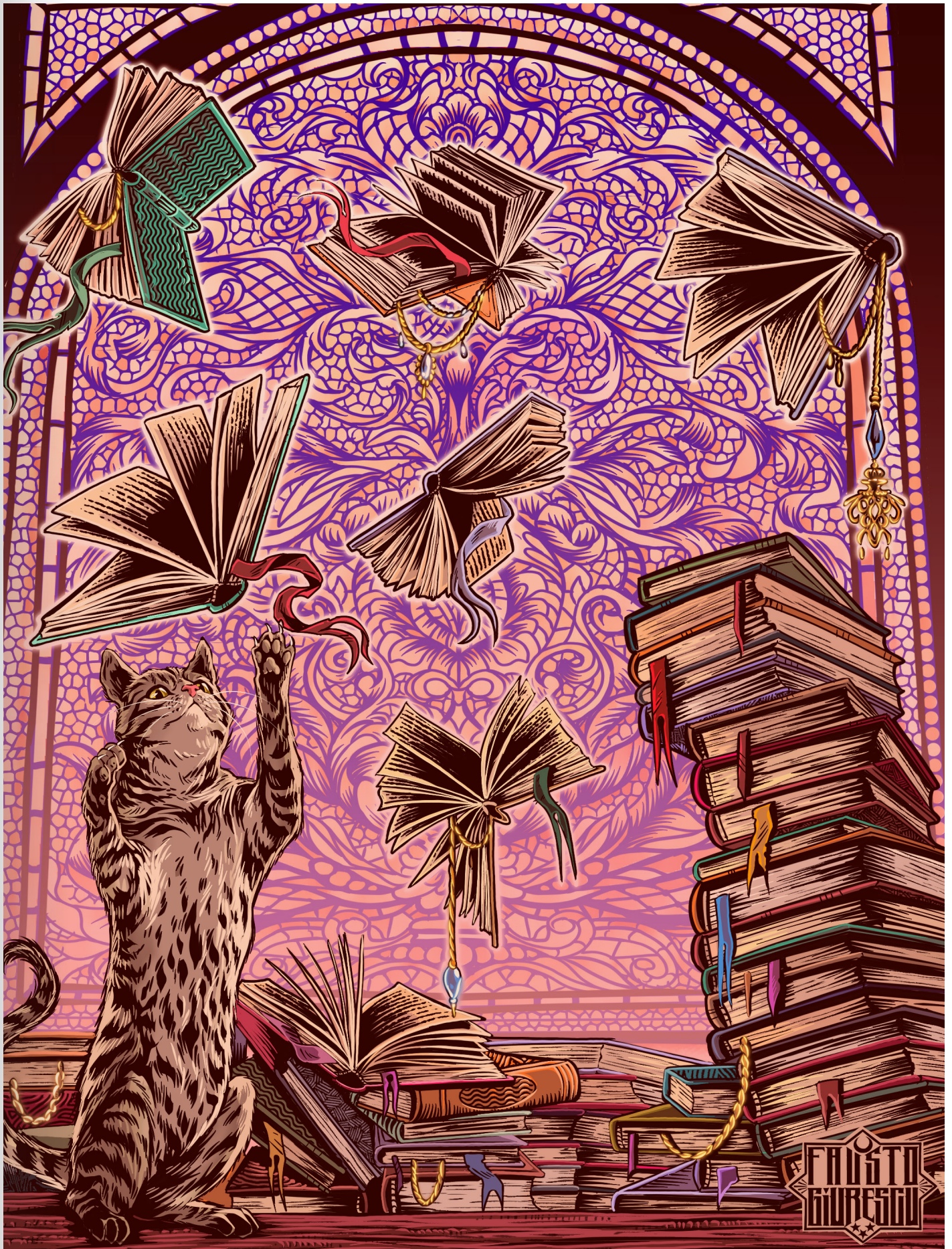
ACROSS

- 3. WIZARDING PRISON
- 5. TROUBLED...
- 6. PHILOSOPHER'S OBJECT

DOWN

- 1. SIRIUS BLACK'S NICKNAME
- 2. THE MAIN GIRL FROM THE ICKABOG
- 4. MONTH WHEN GOBLET OF FIRE WAS  
PUBLISHED...







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