

# Who Is J.K. Rowling

## Political views of J. K. Rowling

34–35. *Schwirblat, Freberg & Freberg 2022, pp. 367–368. Rowling, J. K. (10 June 2020). "J.K. Rowling Writes about Her Reasons for Speaking out on Sex and*

British author J. K. Rowling, writer of Harry Potter and other Wizarding World works, has garnered attention for her support of the Labour Party under Gordon Brown and her criticism of the party under Jeremy Corbyn and Keir Starmer, as well as her opposition to the American Republican Party under Donald Trump. She opposed Scottish independence in a 2014 referendum and Brexit during the 2016 referendum to leave the European Union.

Since late 2019, Rowling has publicly voiced her opinions on transgender rights and related issues. Rowling has used language and expressed her views towards transgender people in a manner which has frequently been referred to as transphobic by LGBT rights organizations and some feminists, even as she has received support from other feminists.

## J. K. Rowling

*Joanne Rowling (/ˈroʊlɪŋ/ ROH-ling; born 31 July 1965), known by her pen name J. K. Rowling, is a British novelist and author of Harry Potter, a seven-volume*

Joanne Rowling ( ROH-ling; born 31 July 1965), known by her pen name J. K. Rowling, is a British novelist and author of Harry Potter, a seven-volume series about a young wizard. Published from 1997 to 2007, the fantasy novels have sold over 600 million copies, been translated into 84 languages, and spawned a global media franchise including films and video games. She writes Cormoran Strike, an ongoing crime fiction series, under the alias Robert Galbraith.

Born in Yate, Gloucestershire, Rowling was working as a researcher and bilingual secretary for Amnesty International in 1990 when she conceived the idea for the Harry Potter series. The seven-year period that followed saw the death of her mother, the birth of her first child, divorce from her first husband, and relative poverty until the first novel in the series, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, was published in 1997. Six sequels followed, concluding with *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* (2007). By 2008, *Forbes* had named her the world's highest-paid author.

The novels follow a boy called Harry Potter as he attends Hogwarts (a school for wizards), and battles Lord Voldemort. Death and the divide between good and evil are the central themes of the series. Its influences include Bildungsroman (the coming-of-age genre), school stories, fairy tales, and Christian allegory. The series revived fantasy as a genre in the children's market, spawned a host of imitators, and inspired an active fandom. Critical reception has been more mixed. Many reviewers see Rowling's writing as conventional; some regard her portrayal of gender and social division as regressive. There were also religious debates over the Harry Potter series.

Rowling has won many accolades for her work. She was named to the Order of the British Empire and was appointed a member of the Order of the Companions of Honour for services to literature and philanthropy. Harry Potter brought her wealth and recognition, which she has used to advance philanthropic endeavours and political causes. She established the Volant Charitable Trust in 2000, and co-founded the charity Lumos in 2005. Rowling's philanthropy centres on medical causes and supporting at-risk women and children. In 2025, *Forbes* estimated that Rowling's charitable giving exceeded US\$200 million. She has also donated to Britain's Labour Party, and opposed Scottish independence and Brexit.

Beginning in 2019, Rowling began making public remarks about transgender people, in opposition to the notion that gender identity differs from birth sex. She has been condemned as transphobic by LGBT rights groups, some Harry Potter fans, and various other critics, including academics, which has affected her public image and relationship with readers and colleagues, altering the way they engage with her works.

## Wizarding World

*J. K. Rowling's Wizarding World) is a fantasy media franchise and shared fictional universe centred on the Harry Potter novel series by J. K. Rowling*

The Wizarding World (previously known as J. K. Rowling's Wizarding World) is a fantasy media franchise and shared fictional universe centred on the Harry Potter novel series by J. K. Rowling. A series of films have been in production since 2000, and in that time eleven films have been produced—eight are adaptations of the Harry Potter novels and three are part of the Fantastic Beasts series. The films are owned and distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures. The series has collectively grossed over \$9.6 billion at the global box office, making it the fourth-highest-grossing film franchise of all time (behind the Marvel Cinematic Universe, Spider-Man and Star Wars).

David Heyman and his company Heyday Films have produced every film in the Wizarding World series. Chris Columbus and Mark Radcliffe served as producers on Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, David Barron began producing the films with Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix in 2007 and ending with Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 2 in 2011, and Rowling produced the final two films in the Harry Potter series. Heyman, Rowling, Steve Kloves and Lionel Wigram have produced all three films in the Fantastic Beasts series. The films are written and directed by several individuals and feature large, often ensemble, casts. Many of the actors, including Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Tom Felton, Michael Gambon, Ralph Fiennes, Alan Rickman, Maggie Smith, Helena Bonham Carter, Gary Oldman, Eddie Redmayne, Katherine Waterston, Alison Sudol, and Dan Fogler star in numerous films. Additionally, Jude Law and Johnny Depp feature in two films each. Soundtrack albums have been released for each of the films. The franchise also includes a stage production (Harry Potter and the Cursed Child), a digital publication, a video game label and The Wizarding World of Harry Potter-themed areas at several Universal Destinations & Experiences amusement parks around the world.

The first film in the Wizarding World was Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (2001), which was followed by seven Harry Potter sequels, beginning with Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets in 2002 and ending with Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – Part 2 in 2011, nearly ten years after the first film's release. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (2016) is the first film in the spin-off/prequel Fantastic Beasts series. A sequel, titled Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, was released on 16 November 2018. A third film, Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore was released on 15 April 2022. The first Wizarding World-branded narrative video game, Hogwarts Legacy, was released in early 2023. Warner Bros. is also developing a television series for HBO, with a season adapting each of the seven Harry Potter books.

## Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. v. RDR Books

*Harry Potter author J. K. Rowling against RDR Books, an independent publishing company based in Muskegon, Michigan. Lawyers for Rowling and Time Warner argued*

Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc. and J. K. Rowling v. RDR Books, 575 F.Supp.2d 513 (SDNY 2008) was a copyright lawsuit brought on 31 October 2007 by the media company Warner Bros. and Harry Potter author J. K. Rowling against RDR Books, an independent publishing company based in Muskegon, Michigan. Lawyers for Rowling and Time Warner argued that RDR's attempt to publish for profit a print facsimile of The Harry Potter Lexicon, a free online guide to the Harry Potter fictional universe, constituted an infringement of their copyright and was not protected by the affirmative defense of fair use. The trial was held from 14–17 April 2008 in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. In

September 2008, the court ruled in Rowling's favor, and publication of the book was blocked. In 2009, RDR Books released an edited volume, eliminating the problematic long quotes found to be infringing.

## The Women Who Wouldn't Wheesht

*Essayists include author J. K. Rowling, MP Joanna Cherry, MSP Ash Regan, and former prison governor Rhona Hotchkiss. In the book, Rowling describes her belief*

The Women Who Wouldn't Wheesht: Voices from the front-line of Scotland's battle for women's rights is a 2024 book of gender-critical essays, edited by Susan Dalgety, a columnist for The Scotsman, and Lucy Hunter Blackburn, author and former Scottish Government civil servant. The book was published on 30 May by Constable, an imprint of the Little, Brown Book Group.

In a tweet about the book, J. K. Rowling explained to non-Scots that the meaning of the word 'wheesht' is to "'be quiet' or 'hush up', but I suspect you could have worked that out from the context".

## Order of the Phoenix (fictional organisation)

*The Order of the Phoenix is a fictional organisation in the Harry Potter series of novels by J. K. Rowling. Founded by Albus Dumbledore to fight Lord*

The Order of the Phoenix is a fictional organisation in the Harry Potter series of novels by J. K. Rowling. Founded by Albus Dumbledore to fight Lord Voldemort and his Death Eaters, the Order lends its name to the fifth book of the series, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. The original members of the Order of the Phoenix include: Albus Dumbledore, Minerva McGonagall, Alastor Moody, Kingsley Shacklebolt, James Potter, Lily Evans/Potter, Sirius Black, Remus Lupin, Peter Pettigrew, Emmeline Vance, Marlene McKinnon, Mary MacDonald, Frank Longbottom, Alice Fortescue/Longbottom, Benjy Fenwick, Edgar Bones, Sturgis Podmore, Caradoc Dearborn, Hestia Jones, Rubeus Hagrid, Fabian Prewett and his twin Gideon Prewett, Dorcas Meadowes, Severus Snape, Aberforth Dumbledore, Elphias Doge, Arabella Figg, Mundungus Fletcher and Dedalus Diggle.

## Lord Voldemort

2017). &quot;J.K. Rowling responds to Stephen Fry &#039;Harry Potter&#039; feud rumours&quot;.  
NME. London, England: TI Media. Retrieved 27 April 2018. Rowling, J. K. (1998)

Lord Voldemort ( VOHL-d?-mor, -?mort in the films) is a fictional character and the main antagonist in the Harry Potter series of novels by J. K. Rowling. He first appears in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (1997) and returns either in person or in flashbacks in each novel in the series except the third, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, in which he is only mentioned.

Voldemort, an anagrammatic sobriquet for his birth name Tom Marvolo Riddle, is the archenemy of Harry Potter, who according to a prophecy has "the power to vanquish the Dark Lord". After killing Harry's parents, Lily and James Potter, he attempts to murder the boy, but instead leaves him with a scar on his forehead in the shape of a lightning bolt. Nearly every witch or wizard dares not utter his name and refers to him instead with such monikers as "You-Know-Who", "He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named", or The Dark Lord. Voldemort's obsession with blood purity signifies his aim to rid the wizarding world of Muggle (non-magical) heritage and to conquer both worlds, Muggle and wizarding, to achieve pure-blood dominance. Through his mother's family, he is the last descendant of the wizard Salazar Slytherin, one of the four founders of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. He is the leader of the Death Eaters, a group of wizards and witches dedicated to ridding the Wizarding World of Muggles and establishing Voldemort as its supreme ruler.

## Harry Potter (TV series)

*series of popular fantasy books of the same name by English author J. K. Rowling. Produced by HBO Entertainment, Warner Bros. Television, Brontë Film*

Harry Potter is an upcoming fantasy television series developed for HBO. The series is based on the series of popular fantasy books of the same name by English author J. K. Rowling. Produced by HBO Entertainment, Warner Bros. Television, Brontë Film & TV, and Heyday Films, the series stars Dominic McLaughlin as Harry Potter, with Alastair Stout as Ron Weasley and Arabella Stanton as Hermione Granger. John Lithgow, Janet McTeer, Paapa Essiedu, and Nick Frost co-star in supporting roles.

Development on a Harry Potter series was revealed to have begun by January 2021, with a plan for a series spanning a decade as part of a faithful adaptation of the books. Creatively led by showrunner Francesca Gardiner and director Mark Mylod, casting for major roles began in November 2024, and confirmation came by April 2025. A casting call for the main roles of Harry, Ron, and Hermione was issued in September 2024; after considering 32,000 actors, McLaughlin, Stout, and Stanton were revealed to have been cast in May 2025. Principal photography began that July at Leavesden Studios in Hertfordshire, England.

Originally set for a HBO Max release, the series shifted to an HBO release by June 2024. Harry Potter is scheduled to premiere on HBO in the United States in early 2027, with an eight-episode first season.

## Ron Weasley

*Ronald Bilius "Ron" Weasley is a fictional character in the Harry Potter series of novels by J. K. Rowling. He is introduced in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's*

Ronald Bilius "Ron" Weasley is a fictional character in the Harry Potter series of novels by J. K. Rowling. He is introduced in Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone as a first-year student on his way to the wizarding school Hogwarts. During the school year, Ron befriends Harry Potter and Hermione Granger. Being the only member of the trio who was raised in wizarding society, he provides insight into wizarding customs and traditions. Along with Harry and Hermione, he is a member of Gryffindor House at Hogwarts and is present for most of the action throughout the series. Ron is portrayed by Rupert Grint in all eight Harry Potter films, and Alastair Stout in the upcoming television series.

## Cormoran Strike

*Cormoran Strike is a series of crime fiction novels written by British author J. K. Rowling, under the pen name Robert Galbraith. The story chronicles*

Cormoran Strike is a series of crime fiction novels written by British author J. K. Rowling, under the pen name Robert Galbraith. The story chronicles the cases of the fictional British private detective Cormoran Strike and his partner Robin Ellacott. Seven novels have so far been published in a planned series of ten. The seventh novel, titled The Running Grave, was released on 26 September 2023. As of February 2024, the series has sold more than 20 million copies worldwide and was published in more than 50 countries, being translated into 43 languages.

The novels are adapted into the television programme Strike, which began airing on BBC One in the United Kingdom in August 2017.

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