

## Biography

J.K. Rowling is the author of the bestselling Harry Potter series of seven books, published between 1997 and 2007, which have sold over 500 million copies worldwide, are distributed in more than 200 territories and translated into over 80 languages, and have been turned into eight blockbuster films.

She has written three companion volumes: *Quidditch Through the Ages* and *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* in aid of Comic Relief; and *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* in aid of her non-profit children's organisation Lumos.

Her first novel for adult readers, *The Casual Vacancy* was published in September 2012 and adapted for TV by the BBC in 2015. Her crime novels, written under the pseudonym Robert Galbraith, were published in 2013 (*The Cuckoo's Calling*), 2014 (*The Silkworm*) and 2015 (*Career of Evil*), and were adapted for a major new television series for BBC One in 2017, produced by Brontë Film and Television.

J.K. Rowling's 2008 Harvard commencement speech was published in 2015 as an illustrated book, *Very Good Lives: The Fringe Benefits of Failure and the Importance of Imagination*, and sold in aid of Lumos and university-wide financial aid at Harvard.

J.K. Rowling collaborated on the stage play *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: Parts One and Two*, an original new story by J.K. Rowling, Jack Thorne, and John Tiffany, a new play by Jack Thorne, now running at The Palace Theatre in London's West End.

In addition, J.K. Rowling made her screenwriting debut with the film *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, a further extension of the Wizarding World, released to critical acclaim in November 2016. A prequel to Harry Potter, this new adventure of Magizoologist Newt Scamander marked the start of a five-film series to be written by the author.

As well as receiving an OBE for services to children's literature, she has received many awards and honours, including France's Legion d'Honneur and the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

J.K. Rowling supports a number of causes through her charitable trust, Volant. She is also the founder and president of the international non-profit children's organization Lumos, which works to end the institutionalisation of children globally and ensure they grow up in a safe and caring environment.