

Biography

J.K. Rowling is the author of the bestselling Harry Potter series of seven books, published between 1997 and 2007. The enduringly popular adventures of Harry, Ron and Hermione have now sold over 600 million copies worldwide, been translated into 85 languages, and were made into eight blockbuster films.

Alongside the Harry Potter series, J.K. Rowling also wrote three short companion volumes for charity: *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.

In 2016, J.K. Rowling collaborated with playwright Jack Thorne and director John Tiffany to continue Harry's story in a stage play, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, which opened in London and is now playing in multiple locations around the world. The script book was published to mark the plays opening in 2016 and instantly topped the bestseller lists.

In the same year, she made her debut as a screenwriter with the film *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. Inspired by the original companion volume, it was the first in a series of new adventures featuring wizarding world magizoologist Newt Scamander. The second film, *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*, was released in 2018 and the third, *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore* was released in 2022. The screenplays were published to coincide with each film's release: *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them- The Original Screenplay* (2016), *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald - The Original Screenplay* (2018) and *Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore - The Complete Screenplay* (2022).

J.K. Rowling's fairy tale for younger children, *The Ickabog*, was serialised for free online for children during the Covid-19 pandemic in the summer of 2020 and is now published as a book illustrated by children, with her royalties going to her charitable trust, [Volant](#), to benefit charities helping to alleviate social deprivation and assist vulnerable groups, particularly women and children.

Her children's novel, *The Christmas Pig*, an adventure story about a boy's love for his most treasured thing and how far he will go to find it, was published in 2021 and has been a bestseller in the UK, USA and Europe.

J.K. Rowling's novels for adults include *The Casual Vacancy* which was published in 2012 and adapted for television by the BBC in 2015. Writing under the pseudonym Rober Galbraith, she is the author of the bestselling crime fiction series featuring private detectives Cormoran Strike and Robin Ellacott. The first of these, *The Cuckoo's Calling*, was published to critical acclaim in 2013, at first without its author's true identity being known. *The Silkworm* followed in 2014, *Career of Evil* in 2015, *Lethal White* in 2018, *Troubled Blood* in 2020, *The Ink Black Heart* in 2022 and *The Running Grave* in 2023. All were published to critical acclaim and were bestsellers in the UK and internationally. The eighth in the series, *The Hallmarked Man*, is to be published in 2025. The books have all been adapted for television by the BBC and HBO.

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.

As well as receiving an OBE and Companion of Honour for services to children's literature, J.K. Rowling has received many other awards and honours, including France's Legion d'Honneur, Spain's Prince of Asturias Award, Denmark's Hans Christian Andersen Award and a Blue Peter Gold Badge.

J.K. Rowling is also a campaigner and philanthropist, supporting a wide range of humanitarian causes through her charitable trust, [Volant](#), particularly charities working with women and children and the [Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic](#), a world-leading research and treatment centre for Multiple Sclerosis and other degenerative neurological conditions in Scotland, founded in the name of her mother, who died from the disease.

She is also the founder and president of [Lumos](#), an international children's charity fighting for every child's right to a family by transforming care systems around the world and in 2022, she founded [Beira's Place](#), a women's sexual violence support service in her home city Edinburgh.