

WARNING: THIS ISSUE MAY CONTAIN 'CURSED CHILD' SPOILERS!



K M M S H A R R Y P O T T E R C L U B



# CURSE WORST? 'HARRY POTTER & THE CURSED CHILD'

by Rita Skeeter

The 2016 book *'Harry Potter and the Cursed Child'* - which, for those who don't know, is a rehearsal script for the stage play of the same name - is a love-it or hate-it type of book. Taking place 19 years after *'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows,'* the story follows Harry Potter's son, Albus Severus Potter, who is about to attend his first year at Hogwarts. The play was promoted as the 8th story in the Potter series and received an enthusiastic response from critics, but the book/script was not quite as well received by fans.

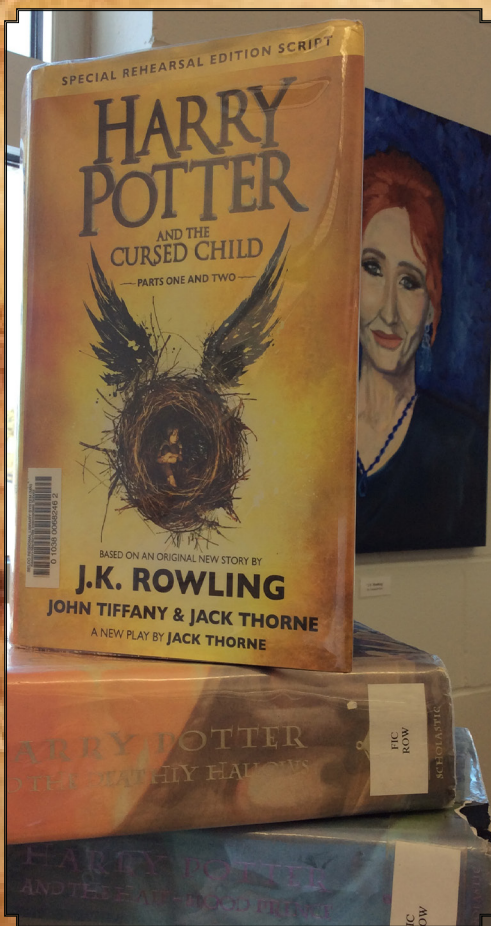


WORST POTTER BOOK?

Mr. Zahn of Slytherin House had this to say about 'Cursed:' "I distinctly recall my excitement when this book came out, and how thrilling I thought it would be to finally return to Hogwarts and the world of Harry Potter. Needless to say, my enthusiasm didn't last long. I found the story relied too heavily upon ideas and characters already explored in other Potter books; it honestly read more like fan-fiction than a true entry in the series. In fact, it's the only Harry Potter book I've only read once. Maybe it translates better when you see it on stage, but reading the script left me feeling like I'd been cursed myself, or at the very least, hit with a rather nasty Confundus Charm."

Headmistress Fraiser had an entirely different take on *'Harry Potter and the Cursed Child,'* saying, "I heard a lot of negative reviews for it and decided to not even read it. I actually did own a copy but I donated it a couple years ago."

*Story continued on Page 2*



Opinions from  
THE QUIBBLER

Deluxe 'CURSED' Arrives at KMMS!

by: Prof. M.D. Zahn

New at KMMS is the official behind-the-scenes book of the record-breaking, award-winning play, *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*!

One of the most celebrated stage productions of all time, 'Cursed Child' has smashed records, collected rave reviews, tons of awards, and dazzled pre-Corona audiences. Now you're invited behind the curtain to see the show's journey to the stage, from the earliest sketches to the writing of the eighth Harry Potter story with J.K. Rowling, director John Tiffany, and playwright Jack Thorne, and the selection of a huge team of talented artists and actors who all came together to bring a part of an older Harry Potter's story to the stage. With loads of amazing photos, interviews, and cool production sketches, notes, and backstage extras, this full-color deluxe edition gives you an incredible peak at this one-of-a-kind production. On a personal note, I actually enjoyed reading this book about how they **made** *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, more than I did reading the script itself!

Beautiful Behind-the-



Scenes Stage Book!

'CURSE WORST?' cont. from page 1



Headmistress Thornburg, who had the strongest opinion of all, was quoted as saying, "When *Cursed Child* first came out, I was genuinely excited for it. Skeptical, but excited. It had been over 9 years since I'd experienced any new Harry Potter content, and I was thrilled that I'd be able to dive back into the wizarding world. However, when I finally got my hands on a copy of the published script, I was quickly disappointed. It didn't read like the books I'd grown up with. It was as if someone else had written it - which, of course, I found out later was actually the case (the story was co-written by John Tiffany and Jack Thorne). It felt like J.K. Rowling was just trying to figure out a way to make more money by slapping her name on a story written by someone else.

The only way I was able to finish the book was to treat it like fan-fiction. Then the story became a little more enjoyable. There were moments in the story that I appreciated, like the redemption of certain characters and the exploration of the main trio as adults. I also loved that they cast a black woman to play the part of Hermione Granger, because the wizarding world could use a little more diversity and inclusion. However, at the end of the day, I do not consider it to be canon. In my opinion, J.K. Rowling cheapened the world of Harry Potter by legitimizing this story, and, in recent years, I've continued to hold a less than favorable opinion of this once-beloved author."

Story continued on Page 3

from the desk of  
**ALBUS DUMBLEDORE**

(Chief Warlock of the Wizengamot, Supreme Mugwamp of the International Confederation of Wizards, Order of Merlin, First Class)



**B**e on the lookout for next month's HPC newsletter coming by Owl Post to KMMS, where we'll hobnob about about some of our favorite Fantastic Beasts (and where to find them!), and gab with our Hogwarts Librarians about spellbinding new Potter books in the KMMS Media Center!

Until then, I'll leave you with a quote from...well, I'm not saying from whom. You'll just have to read *'Harry Potter and the Cursed Child'* to find out!

*"Those we love never truly leave us..."*

-???



**'CURSE WORST?' cont. from page 2**



Care of Magical Computers Professor, Michelle Poncelet, added: "Sorry to disappoint, but I am in the same camp with Headmistress Frasier. I did not read *Cursed Child*. The second I discovered it was set up as a play, I put the book down and never looked at it again. The premise sounded intriguing, but my idea of fun was not Harry Potter in play form. Maybe if they make it into a blockbuster film, I'll give it another look. Or better yet, J.K. Rowling disowns it and actually writes the next generation of Harry Potter books!"

And finally, from a student perspective here at Hogwarts, we have thoughts from Hufflepuffs, Max Hall and Luke Zahn. Said Hall, "Yes, I liked it. It was cool to see [SPOILER] all of the alternate realities that could have happened if Cedric didn't die. While it wasn't as good as the *Deathly Hallows*, it was still very good." Zahn agreed, saying, "I thought it was all right, but it definitely wasn't as good as books 1-7. I loved the angle about Cedric, but I couldn't help but feel that it didn't exactly feel like a J.K. Rowling book - she just had her name on it. I'd give it a 6 out of 10." So there you have it - what do *you* think about 'Cursed'?