

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

J.K. Rowling

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Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K. Rowling is the first book of the seven book series. It is a fantasy fiction novel based on magic, wands, spells, friendship, loyalty, family, and most of all love. Harry Potter, the protagonist of the story, is a young boy whose parents get murdered by the all-time evil villain, Lord Voldemort. Lily and James Potter get murdered by Voldemort only when Harry was a young baby. And when Voldemort attempted to kill Harry, the spell backfired making Voldemort vanish from the magical and non-magical community. Some believe that he is dead while others do not. Ever since then, Harry has been living with his aunt, uncle, and cousin and has no idea that he is a wizard as his family completely dislike all things magic. The Dursleys are extremely hostile and harsh towards Harry because his aunt very much loathed her magical sister while she was not. Harry lives in a cupboard under the stairs, a sign of how unloved and neglected he is by his family. One day, he gets a letter from the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry that is inviting him to attend this magical school. Mr. and Mrs. Dursley however, refuse adamantly and their house starts to get bombarded by owls with the same letter consisting of Harry's invitation. Mr. Dursley in a rage, forces the entire family to move to an island that is in the middle of nowhere. Then, the moment the clock strikes twelve and it is Harry's eleventh birthday, a friendly half giant named Hagrid enters the Dursleys' tiny home and directly gives Harry the choice of going to Hogwarts.

Harry accepts and leaves with Hagrid to find himself in a new home where he is loved and no longer neglected. Harry makes two friends, who turn out to be his best friends. They are Ronald Weasley, or Ron, and Hermione Granger. Hermione is an above average student who excels in every subject, that too with much passion and exuberance. Ron, on the other side, is a slouch when it comes to school but is Harry's very loyal best friend. Ronald comes from a big family of nine who financially struggle but nonetheless show love and affection towards Harry, accepting him as their own. Together, the three discover that Voldemort is back and is plotting to steal the Philosopher's Stone because it gives immortality to the beholder of the stone. They go through a series of challenges and in the end Harry stops Voldemort from seizing the Philosopher's Stone. Voldemort, as a result of this, vanishes once again to find some other way to gain back his powerful but evil position in the world.

I am going to start off by saying that I became a true bookworm after reading the Harry Potter series. They are one of my most favorite books and will always continue being so. What I love about Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is reading about the magical, astonishing, extraordinary, and incredible world that J.K. Rowling has created. The protagonists are very endearing and the reader will soon find out that they are attached to the characters after reading the series for hours and hours. Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is most appropriate for ages 11-14.

This book should definitely be bought as a gift, along with the rest of the six books of the novel series. This series must be read because children and adults will find that they love to read after reading the Harry Potter series! After this book, there are six more books remaining in the series to read. They are Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, Harry Potter and the Prisoner



of Azkaban, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, Harry Potter and the Order of Phoenix, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, and last but definitely not the least, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.

