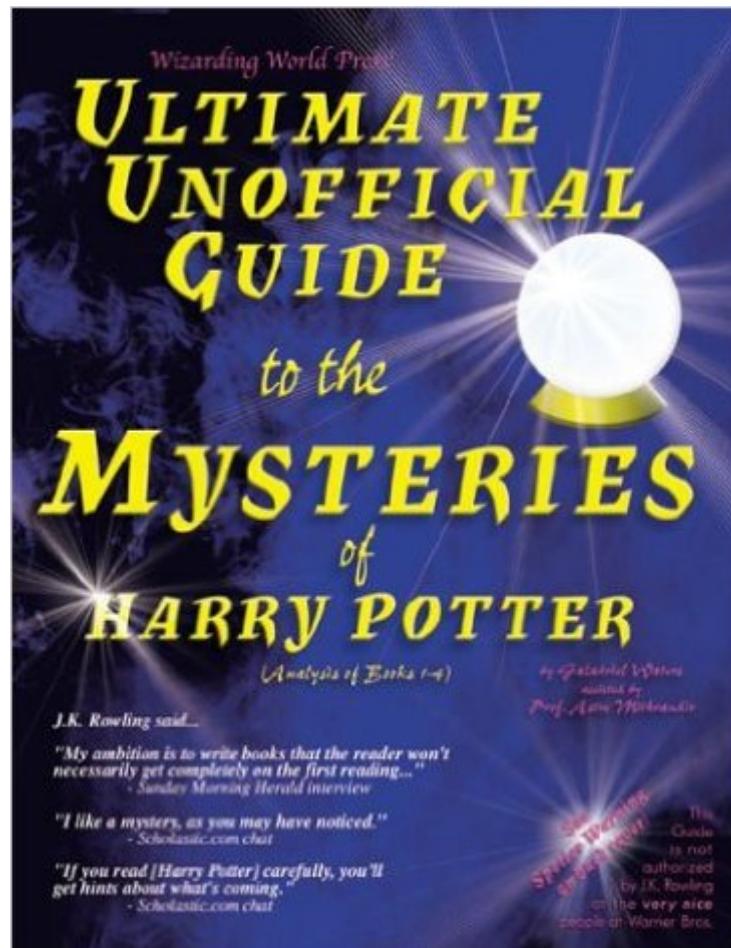


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Ultimate Unofficial Guide To The Mysteries Of Harry Potter (Analysis Of Books 1-4)



Synopsis

The Ultimate Unofficial Guide to the Mysteries of Harry Potter: Books 1-4 shows would-be sleuths how to hunt for JK Rowling's clues in a fun-to-read manner. With this Guide in one hand and the Harry Potter books in the other, you'll read the series in a whole new light as you: & uncover the detail with which Rowling has crafted her story and her world & delve below the surface to ferret out Rowling's sly clues Not only will you be amazed at how deceptively Rowling's hidden those clues, you'll learn how to discover new ones on your own! There are questions in Books 1-4 Rowling still hasn't answered, even after Book 6! Do you know what they are? The Ultimate Unofficial Guide to the Mysteries of Harry Potter is for you if: & You're new to the series and want a leg up or & You've read all the books, but it's been a while. Pull out your memories for another look and tighten your skills! Do you know how to solve Snape's poison bottle puzzle in the room "through the trapdoor?" Did you know there are actually 2 solutions to that puzzle? Do you know what Rowling told us in the first four books about the secrets Neville and Professor Snape hold? Do you understand exactly how Dumbledore's "Mirror of Erised" worked? (Rowling's said we'll see it again!) Are you aware that what Harry saw in the Mirror was not accurate? Here's what the Guide says about spotting a clue: "In chapter 16 of Book 1, J.K. Rowling writes that Harry 'watched an owl flutter toward the school across the bright blue sky, a note clamped in its mouth.' Even after reading the book several times, it still catches readers by surprise when they realize that this note was the message used to trick Headmaster Dumbledore into leaving the school for a trip to London. That clue doesn't help us solve the plot of the book and it was never explained or mentioned again, but when we then see a similar clue in Book 4, we need to pay much closer attention! Look for yourself - it's awesome!" The Ultimate Unofficial Guide to the Mysteries of Harry Potter is best read alongside JK Rowling's books; not as a replacement! It does not give the plot away in advance, but there IS a spoiler warning because it discusses the endings of each of the books in chronological order. No Harry Potter collection is complete without the Guide. Written by fans for fans, it is the perfect holiday gift for the Potter fan in your life; or yourself!

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Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

This book analyzes (maybe over-analyzes) the Harry Potter books, but the results are very enlightening. It's like seeing the HP world with a whole new set of eyes. A typical item notes that Mrs. Figg's house (she's Harry's "babysitter" when the Dursleys exclude him from a family event) smells of cabbages, just like the apothecary shop in Diagon Alley. I had already noticed that Diagon Alley = "diagonally", but missed Knockturn Alley = "nocturnally". By tying small references from one book location to another, it makes connections that are easy to miss. These are not the usual "how could I have overlooked that?" tidbits, but things one could never connect without keeping detailed notes. Who reads a book of fiction like that? The authors also note the significance of character names, using knowledge that is way beyond my shallow understanding of mythology and magic. From what I've read so far, I'd say that calling Harry Potter a "children's book" is to miss the deeper meaning (and hard work) that makes the series so special.

If you shop around for books on the Harry Potter series, you will find information on the names, creatures, classes, and places used in the book. This guide, however, provides an analysis of the mysteries within the novels in addition to providing interesting facts. It points out all the subtle hints and guides that JKR so cleverly places in the tale. Using details from the book and information released by the author herself, Galadriel Waters provides us with the questions we need to be asking ourselves as we read the series. It even includes a restricted section containing theories as to what will happen later on and even as to how it will all end. This book is especially useful for those who have not yet read, or are still reading the series, as it does not reveal anything in advanced, but helps the reader solve the mystery him/herself. Overall an amazing read, a real guide,

and well worth the price.

Although I delightfully enjoyed this book, the author's style of interpreting and predicting annoyed me a bit. During many instances I found myself laughing at the mammoth conclusions that the author made from extremely minor coincidences. For instance, when ever any body part, any color, or any animal is mentioned more than once in the 1600+ pages in the Harry Potter series, the author mindlessly jumps to the compulsion that it is major evidence that will help us solve the rest of the plot for the entire series. Even though author jumps to conclusions with little evidence she make some good points once in a while that really made me think. So if you are an above average HP fan (which you probably are if your looking at this review) then take a look at this in depth Harry Potter guide.

This is a GREAT book! The analysis of all of the HP books to date, as well as the author's ability to pick out the hidden clues about Harry's future adventures makes for a book that is well worth the price. Whether you are a long-time HP reader or a new fan, young or mature, this is DEFINITELY a "must-have" for any fan! If you can, read it before the next movie comes out, or at least the next book. Unlike some fan-authors (and other psychics!), this author is certainly putting her (his?) reputation on the line by making some very specific predictions about the future books in the series. If you are getting it as a gift, PLEASE don't make your Harry Potter fan wait for whatever the occasion to get it! Let them read it right away. There is LOTS to go through in here, and the HP fan who reads this book will probably want to go back through the specific HP books that are mentioned to see the clues for themselves. WELL_ WORTH THE PRICE!

I got a tip on this book from a Harry Potter website and ordered it up immediately. It is a comprehensive analysis of the first 4 books in the HP series, chapter by chapter and sometimes paragraph by paragraph. The authors have cross referenced all the hints and clues they note in each book and build these clues and hints into their predictions for what's coming in books 5 - 7. A unique and thorough review of all 4 books and a must read to get ready for the release of Order of the Phoenix in June. 5 stars in a walk!

Honestly, I'm not really sure how to rate this book. It has undoubtedly enlightened me to a few of the secrets and hidden meanings in J.K. Rowling's brilliant and cleverly weaved tale, but the author(s) analyze nearly every paragraph in the books! According to this book, every word has a hidden

meaning. I do not deny that MOST words have hidden meanings or alternate meanings, but to say that so many of them is slightly ridiculous. Though J.K. Rowling is a very brilliant woman, indeed, no one is clever enough to find hidden meanings in everything. Though I enjoy the lighter tone the author(s) use throughout the book, it seems very unprofessional at times, and the excessive use of "smileys" is a little annoying. The "running bits" aren't always running bits, in my opinion. For example, in the analysis of "Chamber of Secrets," it is presented that every time a character's eyes are described, it is a "running bit" because of the Basilisk's eyes being fatal. This *could* be a clue to the plot, but in all reality, is she supposed to sacrifice her description of characters in order to NOT make it a plotline clue? Maybe the "eyes" in the book were merely there for descriptive purposes. The Ultimate Unofficial Guide is, of course, a very entertaining read if you can get past the basic plot summaries and the use of smiley faces, but I certainly wouldn't call it essential or true to the series. A lot of the statements made are merely opinions that can be found just as easily on a Web site. For hardcore "Harry" fans, I would suggest reading this, but only if you're looking for a filler while you wait for J.K. Rowling's next masterpiece.

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