



The Sorcerer's Companion: A Guide to the Magical World of Harry Potter, Third Edition

By Allan Zola Kronzek, Elizabeth Kronzek

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The *New York Times* bestseller, now fully updated to include the complete seven-volume series.

Who was the real Nicholas Flamel? How did the Sorcerer's Stone get its power? Did J. K. Rowling dream up the terrifying basilisk, the seductive veela, or the vicious grindylow? And if she didn't, who did?

Millions of readers around the world have been enchanted by the magical world of wizardry, spells, and mythical beasts inhabited by Harry Potter and his friends. But what most readers don't know is that there is a centuries-old trove of true history, folklore, and mythology behind Harry's fantastic universe. Now, with *The Sorcerer's Companion*, those without access to the Hogwarts Library can school themselves in the fascinating reality behind J. K. Rowling's world of magic.

Newly updated to include *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*, and *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, *The Sorcerer's Companion* allows curious readers to look up anything magical from the Harry Potter books and discover a wealth of entertaining, unexpected information. Wands and wizards, boggarts and broomsticks, hippogriffs and herbology, all have astonishing histories rooted in legend, literature, or real-life events dating back hundreds or even thousands of years. Magic wands, like those sold in Rowling's Diagon Alley, were once fashioned by Druid sorcerers out of their sacred yew trees. Love potions were first concocted in ancient Greece and Egypt. And books of spells and curses were highly popular during the Middle Ages. From Amulets to Zombies, you'll also learn:

- how to read tea leaves
- where to find a basilisk today
- how King Frederick II of Denmark financed a war with a unicorn horn
- who the real Merlin was
- how to safely harvest mandrake root
- who wore the first invisibility cloak

- how to get rid of a goblin
- why owls were feared in the ancient world
- what really lies beyond the Veil
- the origins of our modern-day “bogeyman,” and more.

A spellbinding tour of Harry’s captivating world, *The Sorcerer’s Companion* is a must for every Potter aficionado’s bookshelf.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Harry Potter aficionados: remember when Buckbeak, Hagrid's pet Hippogriff, was put on trial by the Committee for the Disposal of Dangerous Creatures? This crazy idea was not invented by Harry Potter's creator, J.K. Rowling. In fact, from medieval times all the way up to the 19th century, animals and even insects were often charged with crimes, arrested, imprisoned, tried, convicted, and sometimes executed. Harry Potter's fantastic world of magic has its roots in true history, mythology, and folklore; father-daughter team Allan Zola Kronzek and Elizabeth Kronzek have now made this wealth of astonishing information available to Muggles in their *Sorcerer's Companion*. From astrology to Grindylow to reading tea leaves to witch persecution, this fascinating volume gets to the bottom of every magical mystery connected with Hogwarts. Readers learn the unusual method by which premodern Europeans protected themselves from the cry of the uprooted Mandrake, involving a loyal dog and a rope. (Professor Sprout's solution was to have her herbology students wear earmuffs). Hermione probably knew, when she was hexed by Draco Malfoy so that her teeth suddenly grew past her chin, that hexes originated in Europe. But did she know the connection between hexes and the folk magic of the Pennsylvania Dutch? For fans of the tremendously popular Harry Potter series, or anyone who is intrigued by magical lore, the *Sorcerer's Companion* will quickly become a true friend. (Ages 9 and older) --*Emilie Coulter*

From Publishers Weekly

Father/daughter team Allan Zola Kronzek and Elizabeth Kronzek target the wizard's mature fans with *The Sorcerer's Companion: A Guide to the Magical World of Harry Potter*. Each alphabetically organized entry contains a potent blend of fact, fiction and folklore. The "Broomstick" entry, for instance, details the effects of a purported "flying ointment" that witches rub into their brooms to prepare for takeoff. The section on "The Sorcerer's Stone" explains the ancient Egyptian art of alchemy. A note at the end of each section shows readers where to find the reference in the Harry Potter books. Thorough research and period prints combine to create a memorable book.

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From School Library Journal

Gr 4 Up-Anyone who thinks that grims, grindylows, hinkypunks, and hippogriffs were invented by J. K. Rowling will be surprised by this offering. Each of the 84 alphabetical entries describes a subject studied (arithmancy, divination), an object used (wand, cauldron), or a creature that appears in at least one of the Potter books, including a specific reference to the title, chapter, and page number. Then, using references from ancient, medieval, and modern literature, legend, mythology, and religion (almost 100 sources are listed in the extensive bibliography), each entry goes on to describe where, when, and how that subject, object, or creature has also been part of Western history, literature, or oral tradition. Most entries are from one to three pages long, with some notable exceptions-12 pages on magic and 14 on magicians throughout history. A fascinating history of the uses and abuses of medieval alchemy is buried within the article on the sorcerer's stone, but most subjects are easy to find. Sidebars highlight specific aspects in detail-the mummy's curse, alchemical frauds, animals on trial. More than half of the entries are illustrated with black-and-white drawings, woodcuts, or reproductions. The material is interesting and informative, easy to read, and fairly wide-ranging. The same readers who can't get enough of Harry Potter will enjoy learning about arithmancy, spell casting, and much more here, while waiting anxiously for the next Rowling novel to appear.

Susan L. Rogers, Chestnut Hill Academy, PA

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frank Anderson:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite e-book and reading a book. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the guide entitled The Sorcerer's Companion: A Guide to the Magical World of Harry Potter, Third Edition. Try to the actual book The Sorcerer's Companion: A Guide to the Magical World of Harry Potter, Third Edition as your good friend. It means that it can be your friend when you truly feel alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than previously. Yeah, it is very fortunate in your case. The book makes you more confident because you can know almost everything by the book. So, let's make new experience and knowledge with this book.

Mary Hopkins:

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William Bottoms:

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