

From books to movies; famous wizard breaks new ground

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Wizards, witches, and muggles abound! Come discover the boy who was born to astound! In wizarding school he'll learn his trade, Hogwarts' School of Magic and Wizardry, the proud institution's name. Wands! Quiditch! Magic all around! This is the world of the boy who was born to astound!

Already world renowned wizard hero, Harry Potter has just received a boost in his ever growing number of fans thanks to the November 16th release of the first of seven Harry Potter movies: **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**. But the one really reaping the benefits of this successful advancement from fictitious

character to big screen personality is the one who was there from square one, the authoress, Joanne Kathleen Rowling. Currently living in England, the 36 year old authoress is the brains and driving force behind all the magic at Hogwarts' school besides the pupils and the professors of course.

Looking back on the premiere of the movie released by Warner Brothers, when you really start to think about it, with all the characters mentioned in the first novel of Harry Potter alone, that must have been some casting job. Finding well accomplished actors and actresses to play the well known roles of Professor Albus Dumbledore, Professor Severus Snape, Professor Minerva McGonagall, Rubeus

Hagrid and the greatly feared Lord Voldemort were all relatively easy. The hardest ones to find were the actual heroes of the novel, Harry Potter, Ronald "Ron" Weasley and Hermione Granger. Daniel Radcliffe, the 11 year old who played Harry in the movie, has already had experience in another film production broadcasted on **BBC TV**. As for Rupert Grint, 12 year old who played Ron in the film, and Emma Charlotte Duerre Watson, 11 year old who played Hermione, they have only had prior stage experience in school plays.

Apparently, the critics are both kind and cruel to this Warner Brothers production. Some fans are raving about how perfect it is and skeptics of the Harry Potter mania have been

convinced to join the wizard hysteria, while other skeptics and fans complained about poor special effects, bad acting, bad directing, the two and a half hour movie length, and the butchering of the original story line. This is all a matter of one's personal opinion and particular tastes, but it can be said that in order to appreciate the movie, the viewer should expect that their own imagination will always exceed what the movies can do. It is because of this that the decision to see the flick is entirely up to you. If you're still indecisive about going to see the movie then consider this: Can you really call yourself a true Harry Potter fan if you haven't read the books and seen the movies? No matter which one you prefer?