

# Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, this is a book written by the famous author J.K. Rowling. The book itself was released on July 2, 1998 in the UK, as the second extension of the book series Harry Potter. This fantasy book collection was a bar-setting series for all fantasy books for years to come. This book delves deep into the year two of the lives of Harry Potter and his friends.

His friends are a big part of the story. Hermione is a short young girl with brown hair that was in the same year as Harry Potter. She is the stereotypical straight "A" student that all the teachers are fond of. After a few mishaps in the first book, she and Harry became good friends. The two are also friends with a ginger-haired boy named Ron Weasley. He comes from a disadvantaged family. He gets acquainted with Harry on the Hogwarts Express. Other main characters include Albus Dumbledore, Draco Malfoy, Lord Voldemort, Severus Snape, and Rubeus Hagrid.

The plot was an interesting one that bridged the first book with the rest to establish a sound foundation for the incredible plot to come and get expanded on in the next book. Harry spends another summer with the Dursleys, his only remaining family. Later Harry was visited by a house elf named Dobby, who tells him not to go to Hogwarts the next year. This was absurd to Harry so he decided to go anyways. So to stop Harry from going Dobby made a mess of the kitchen, enraging his family. As a result they locked him in his room as a punishment. So Harry got his friend Ron to take him away in a flying car to spend the rest of the summer with the Weasleys.

At the time it is to go and find school supplies for the following year Harry encounters two people that he isn't particularly fond of. He first runs into Professor Gilderoy Lockhart, who requests that he take a photo shoot. The second encounter was with Lucius Malfoy, the wealthy father of Malfoy, one of Harry's enemies. After much searching and gathering of books and what not they are ready to go back to school! There is a catch though: when they try to enter platform 9 3/4 they are unable to. To solve this they did what any sensible person would do and stole the Weasley car and flew to Hogwarts. It was later that they found out that people saw them flying through the sky and on arrival they got detention.

When everything settles in the school Harry has his first quidditch practice. When he arrives on the field the Slytherin were there too. There was a dispute about who gets to use the field, and it ended badly for Harry and his friends. It ended with Malfoy calling Hermione a mudblood, (an extremely offensive term in the magic world disgracing your whole bloodline), and Ron getting sick and puking slugs. Later that night somebody petrifies the school caretaker's cat. Soon after Harry, Ron, and Hermione investigated this and found out that 50 years prior a student opened a chamber at Hogwarts and was killed.

Even later in the book Harry wins the quidditch match against Slytherin, the game in which Harry got injured pretty badly. Dobby, the house elf, was the one that enchanted the ball to remove all the bones in Harry's arm to get him sent home. Though his bones did disappear he was just sent to the infirmary. During the time that he spent there he saw one of the first years come in petrified just like the cat. Afterwards Lockhart creates a dueling club. At which he scares the other people there by speaking in a strange tongue called Parseltongue. This is a language that only the heir of Slytherin can speak. It allows him to speak to snakes and the ability to open the chamber of secrets. Even latter the bodies of Nearly-Headless Nick and Finch Fletchley were found raising further suspicion.

To get to the bottom of this Harry, Hermione, and Ron brew a potion called polyjuice. This exotic serum allows them to take the form of a Slytherin and interrogate Malfoy without him finding out. They conclude that Malfoy can't be the heir. For a while there were no attacks and business went on as usual.

It was at a party for Valentine's Day that Harry stumbled upon a diary belonging to Moaning Myrtle. Myrtle is a ghost of a former student that haunts the women's bathroom. The diary has special properties, and when he writes in it text responds back. It was in doing this that Harry Potter finds out about a student by the name of Tom Riddle. Tom, years before when he was in school, said that Hagrid had opened the chamber of secrets. Soon after Hermione and a student from Ravenclaw became petrified, and then the search really starts to pick up. They went to talk with Hagrid about opening the chamber, but on finding them they find out that Dumbledore and Hagrid have been taken out of the school. As Hagrid is being taken away he managed to tell Harry that he needs to follow the spiders to find out about the chamber monster. It was then that they follow a trail of spiders to the forbidden forest and uncover that the monster that killed the girl wasn't a spider, and that the body was found in the bathroom. On top of all of that they discover that Hagrid is innocent. Piecing all of this together, Ron and Harry come to the conclusion that Moaning Myrtle is the girl that got killed.

A couple of days later that they discover a note in Hermione's hand while she is still petrified, and on the note is a depiction of a basilisk. Almost as soon as they found out it was told to them that Ginny Weasley had been taken into the chamber. Lockhart, Ron and Harry all move into the secret tunnels under Myrtle's bathroom. It was there that Lockhart mistakenly cursed himself and was not able to continue. With Ron tending to Lockhart Harry goes on alone into the chamber where he discovers Ginny's body and Tom Riddle. It was then that it became apparent that Tom was Lord Voldemort, but a younger version of himself. Harry makes an attempt to call to get help from Dumbledore, but only a phoenix and a mystical hat appear. Tom summoned a basilisk which got its eyes injured from the phenix. The hat gave Harry a sword to kill the snake. It was then that Harry used the phang from the basilisk to pierce the book thus destroying Tom and curing Ginny.

Harry then explains the whole thing to Dumbledore, and during that time Malfoy comes in with Dobby, the house elf. Harry manages to trick Malfoy into giving Dobby a sock thus freeing him. Then they all leave for the summer to continue next year.