

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Book Review by Sarina

The final installment of J.K. Rowling's beloved series, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows," follows Harry Potter, Hermione Granger, and Ron Weasley as they embark on a dangerous mission to defeat the dark wizard Lord Voldemort. After all of the first six books, I did not expect this to happen! This story picks up directly after the events of "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," with the trio now part of a world where Voldemort's power has grown significantly, leading to chaos and fear within the wizarding community.

The story opens with Voldemort having gained control over the Ministry of Magic. Harry, now 17 and no longer protected by his mother's sacrificial magic, is targeted for capture. The Order of the Phoenix devises a plan to move Harry from the Dursleys' home to safety. During this operation, known as the "Seven Potters," several members of the Order are attacked by Death Eaters, resulting in the deaths of Mad-Eye Moody and Harry's beloved owl, Hedwig. Following the escape, the trio attends the wedding of Bill Weasley and Fleur Delacour as a little mental break from all the chaos, where they learn of the Ministry's fall to Voldemort's forces. In the chaos that ensues, they are forced to flee to Grimmauld Place, the ancestral home of Sirius Black, where they begin to create a plan to find and destroy Voldemort's Horcruxes.

As they delve deeper into their quest, Harry, Ron, and Hermione discover that Voldemort has hidden several Horcruxes, and they must locate and destroy them to weaken him. Their journey takes them to the Ministry of Magic, where they infiltrate the building to retrieve Salazar Slytherin's locket, one of the Horcruxes. The search is tense; Ron, feeling increasingly sidelined, leaves Harry and Hermione during a particularly difficult moment.

Harry learns more about the Deathly Hallows, three powerful magical objects that could make their possessor the Master of Death. The Hallows include the Elder Wand, the Resurrection Stone, and the Invisibility Cloak. Harry becomes obsessed with the idea of acquiring these artifacts, believing they could help him defeat Voldemort. Throughout their journey, significant revelations about Albus Dumbledore's past come to light, complicating Harry's understanding of his mentor. The trio encounters various characters, including Xenophilius Lovegood, who reveals the significance of the Deathly Hallows symbol, and they also learn about the dark history of Dumbledore's youth and his connection to Gellert Grindelwald.

The trio's adventures lead them to be captured by Snatchers and taken to Malfoy Manor, where they are imprisoned alongside other captured witches and wizards. Here, they confront Severus Snape and Bellatrix Lestrange, leading to a dramatic escape facilitated by Dobby, the house-elf, who sacrifices himself to save them.

After escaping, the trio regroups and continues their mission, now more determined than ever. They manage to destroy more Horcruxes, including the locket and Nagini, Voldemort's snake. As they prepare for the final confrontation, they return to Hogwarts.

During the Battle of Hogwarts, Harry and his friends, along with the Order of the Phoenix and Hogwarts staff, face Voldemort and his Death Eaters. Harry learns the true nature of the Elder Wand and the significance of his own choices in the fight against Voldemort. Ultimately, Harry confronts Voldemort in a final showdown.

Nineteen years after the Battle of Hogwarts, Harry, now married to Ginny Weasley, is at King's Cross Station with their three children: James, Albus, and Lily. It is Albus's first year at Hogwarts, and he is anxious about being sorted into Slytherin. Harry reassures him, emphasizing that the Sorting Hat takes personal choice into account. Ron and Hermione are also present, seeing off their own children, Rose and Hugo. See, all that fighting was worth it!

This conclusion was intense and dramatic. I rate this book an 8/10!