

Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone

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Chapter 1 – The Boy Who Lived:

An infant named Harry Potter has mysteriously defeated the evil Lord Voldemort (You-Know-Who) thereby saving the wizarding world, yet manages to escape the battle with only a small lightning shaped scar on his forehead. Harry's parents, Lily and James, have been killed by Lord V, and thus Dumbledore, Prof. McGonagall and Hagrid take Harry to live with his muggle (non-wizard) family, the Dursleys. There Harry will remain until he is old enough to learn about the magical world he has miraculously saved.

Chapter 2 – The Vanishing Glass:

Harry has now lived in a small dark cupboard in the Dursleys home for ten unhappy years. His Aunt Petunia, Uncle Vernon and Cousin Dudley are a clutch-fisted foster family and are very unkind to him because he is different from most people. Strange magical happenings seem to occur around Harry and this is why the Dursleys detest him. Left with no option other than to include him, the Dursleys take Harry on Dudley's birthday outing to the zoo where Harry speaks to a large boa constrictor and unknowingly releases it by magically removing the glass window encasing the snake.

Chapter 3 – The Letters from No One:

A letter for Harry is delivered to the Dursleys' home, but his Uncle Vernon and Aunt Petunia refuse to let him read it. Harry can't imagine who would send him a letter as he has no family other than the Dursleys and no friends because of Dudley's incessant bullying at school. Letter upon letter is delivered to the house despite the fact that the mail slot, as well as the windows and doors have been nailed shut. In an effort to avoid receiving more, the Dursleys leave the house and stay in a series of moth eaten hotels, and finally a rickety shack in the middle of no where. At the stroke of midnight on Harry's birthday, a huge boom sounds and a mysterious visitor arrives.

Chapter 4 – The Keeper of the Keys:

Harry's visitor is an enormous giant of a man named Rubeus Hagrid, Keeper of the Keys and Grounds at Hogwarts; Hagrid not only brings Harry a birthday cake, but tells him that Harry is a wizard. Hagrid delivers the mysterious letter - an acceptance letter to the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry also learns that his parents were murdered by Lord Voldemort who terrorized the wizarding world, and that it was Harry who defeated him, although no one knows how. Harry also learns that his mother was a muggle born with magical powers.

Chapter 5 – Diagon Alley

Harry enters the wizarding world for the very first time. He learns that his inheritance is being kept in Gringotts, the wizard's bank run by goblins. Hagrid takes Harry to the wizarding world's Diagon Alley (a type of wizards' outdoor shopping district) to visit Gringotts during which, Hagrid picks up an unknown item from one of the vaults. They also purchase Harry's school supplies: robes, books, an owl and of course, a wand. We learn that the wand that "selects" Harry is the brother wand to Lord Voldemort's. During the outing, they meet the very nervous and very odd Prof. Quirrell, teacher of Defense Against the Dark Arts.

Moral: Having an open mind, unlocks a whole new world of possibilities.

Chapter 6 – The Journey from Platform Nine and Three Quarters

Harry runs straight into a brick barrier between the train station's platform 9 and 10 to gain entrance to the magical platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ where he boards the train to Hogwarts. On the train ride, Harry begins to become acquainted with people from the wizarding world; some will become friends and others will not. Harry meets the red-headed, down to earth Weasley family: Ron, George, Fred, Percy, Ginny and their mother, Mrs. Weasley. Harry also meets the ambitious and highly intelligent, Hermione Granger who is from the muggle world like Harry; and three malicious young boys named Draco Malfoy, Crabbe and Goyle whose families are rumored to have worked for Lord Voldemort. Harry learns that someone tried to rob a vault at Gringotts the same day that he and Hagrid visited it. Upon arriving at their destination, the students take a boat ride to the large castle that serves as their school, Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Moral: Believing in yourself, even when all odds seem stacked against you, can make the impossible possible.

Chapter 7 – The Sorting Hat:

The students meet the austere, no nonsense Deputy Headmistress, Prof. McGonagall and are sorted into four houses (Gryffindor – Brave and Daring, Ravenclaw – Wit and Learning, Hufflepuff - Just and Loyal and Slytherin (Lord V's House) – Cunning and Resourceful) by a magical talking sorting hat. The houses compete with one another by earning points through out the year; the winner receives the House Cup. Harry, Hermione and Ron are sorted into Gryffindor and the unpleasant trio of boys on the train, are sorted into Slytherin. Harry meets the Headmaster, Dumbledore and the Potions Master, Snape. Harry immediately realizes that Snape dislikes him for some reason. Later that night, Harry has a terrible dream about Prof. Quirrell's purple turban attaching itself to his head and urging him to fulfill his destiny and join Slytherin.

Moral: Others' actions and opinions effect the course of our fates, but it is ultimately our own opinions and actions that determine who we are and what we become.

Chapter 8 – The Potions Master:

Students begin classes and Harry must learn to find his way around the unusual castle in which portraits talk, staircases move, and doors are tickled open. Prof. Quirrell tells Harry's Defense Against the Arts class that the unusual turban he dreamt about was given to him by an African Prince although no one in the class believes it. Later on, Harry attends his Potions class and realizes that the sinister and thoroughly disconcerting Prof. Snape, Head of Slytherin, not only dislikes him, but hates him. By the end of the class it is clear to Harry that Prof. Snape will be unfailingly critical of him, not to mention, unfair. Harry glimpses an article about the attempted Grignotts robbery which was foiled because the vault had already been emptied. It reminds him that Hagrid had taken something special from one of the vaults that very same day.

Moral: A strong mind can persevere in the face of adversity.

Chapter 9 – The Midnight Duel:

Gryffindor and Slytherin houses are paired together for their flying broom riding classes. During the course of the class, Neville Longbottom falls and breaks his arm and the teacher escorts him to the infirmary, leaving the class unattended. Malfroy tries to steal the Remembrall that Neville's grandmother gave to him, but Harry intervenes and chases Malfroy down on his broom. Prof. McGonagal witnesses Harry's superb flying ability and recommends him to the Quidditch team as a Seeker. Harry is now the youngest Quidditch player to play at Hogwarts in the last century. Malfroy later challenges Harry to a midnight duel and Ron volunteers to be a second. That night, Harry, Ron, and a disapproving Hermione sneak out to the duel only to stumble upon a sleeping Neville who forgot the password to reenter Gryffindor. As the foursome make their way out, they quickly realize they've been tricked into breaking house rules as Filch awaits their arrival. In their mad dash back to Gryffindor house, the foursome stumble upon a fierce three-headed dog guarding a trap door. Harry feels certain that the dog is guarding the mysterious item he and Hagrid picked up from Grignotts.

Moral: Decisions made in anger often turn out dreadfully wrong.

Chapter 10 – Halloween:

Prof. McGonagal gifts Harry with a state of the art broom, the Nimbus Two Thousand which provokes feelings of rage and jealousy in Malfroy. And as always, Hermione is at the top of her class; unfortunately, her talent and her know-it-all attitude rubs Ron (and many other students) the wrong way. Ron makes an unkind remark about her which she hears and is hurt by causing her to head to the ladies room to cry alone. Meanwhile, Ron and Harry head to the great hall to celebrate the Halloween festivities when it's announced that a troll is in the dungeon. All students are ushered back to their dormitories. Harry and Ron realize that Hermione is unaware of the emergency and head off to find her, but inadvertently run into the troll and lock it in the first room they see which happens to be the ladies room. Ron uses the spell that Hermione has taught him

(ironically the same spell that caused their argument earlier) and saves the day. The teachers crowd into the bathroom, angry that the students have placed themselves in danger, but forgo punishing them due to their heroic efforts. Their shared adventure/disaster has made, Hermione, Ron and Harry loyal friends from this day forth.

Moral: Accept criticism gracefully, regardless of how it is given for it can often be advice that makes you a better person.

Chapter 11 – Quidditch:

Harry prepares for his first Quidditch match by studying up, but a limping Snape confiscates Harry's book claiming that library books are not allowed off campus. Harry heads back to Snape's office to recover his book and over hears that the three legged dog hurt Snape's leg. Later that day, Harry participates in his first Quidditch match (Gryffindor vs. Slytherin) and is off to a good start until it becomes apparent that his broom has been jinxed by powerful dark magic. Hermione sees Snape whispering incantations while staring at Harry, so she sneaks up on him and secretly lights his robes on fire, distracting him and seemingly ending the jinx. Snape's apparent perfidy increases. Harry captures the snitch and wins the game for Gryffindor. Later in Hagrid's hut, Harry, Hermione and Ron learn that the three-headed dog was lent to Dumbledore by Hagrid and that the dog is guarding...something. The trio also learns that a man named Nicholas Flamel is involved in this secret business.

Moral: The loyalty of friends can often help you out of bad situations.

Chapter 12 – The Mirror of Erised:

Harry, Ron and Hermione continue to try and find out the identity of Nicolas Flamel. Harry and the Weasley brothers stay at Hogwarts for the Christmas holidays while Hermione returns home. Harry receives unexpected gifts from his friends on Christmas as well as an invisibility cloak left by an anonymous person whose letter claims that it belonged to his father. Harry decides to use the cloak to sneak into the restricted book section in order to continue researching Nicholas Flamel, but the books are charmed to screech upon being opened by unauthorized persons. Harry stumbles into a room with an enchanted mirror called the Mirror of Erised which shows the looker what they desire most. For the first time in his life, Harry glimpses his family and becomes obsessed with the mirror. Ultimately, Dumbledore follows Harry to the mirror and tells him he must remember that the mirror does not reflect the truth and serves only as a distraction. Harry learns that *"it does not do well to dwell upon dreams and forget to live."* Dumbledore removes the mirror the following day.

Moral: "it does not do well to dwell upon dreams and forget to live."

Chapter 13 – Nicolas Flamel:

The search for Nicholas Flamel's identity turns up nothing until Harry unwraps a chocolate frog and reads the collectable card of Dumbledore he read once before. It reads that Dumbledore and Flamel did ground breaking work together in alchemy. Hermione further finds out that Flamel is the only known maker of the Sorcerer's Stone, a stone that can turn any metal substance into gold and also produces the elixir of life which makes the drinker immortal. Harry learns that Snape is also perturbed about the lose of the mirror; he also follows Snape to a prearranged meeting with Quirrell where Snape threatens Quirrell into helping him breaking the spell Quirrell used to protect the Socerer's Stone.

Moral: Sometimes what we are looking for is right in front of us.

Chapter 14 – Norbert the Norwegian Ridgeback:

After a meeting with Hagrid, Harry, Hermione and Ron find out that several Profs. have cast protective spells over the Sorcerer's Stone, including Dumbledore, Prof. McGonagall, Prof. Snape and Prof. Quirrell. They also learn that Hagrid is keeping an illegal dragon that he won in a card game, hidden in his hut. The trio makes arrangements with Charlie, Ron's dragon taming brother, to have the dragon released back to the wild. Malfroy discovers their plan and plots to catch them in the act, but ends up being caught himself. Harry and Hermione are caught out after hours as well, but only after the safe delivery of the dragon.

Moral: Getting something we want which we know we shouldn't have usually ends up being more of a hassle than a pleasure.

Chapter 15 – The Forbidden Forest:

Harry, Hermione and Neville are shunned for losing Gryffindor's point lead over Slytherin. Harry vows to stay out of trouble and almost falters when he over hears Quirrell speaking to someone in a terrified, whimpering voice whom Harry is Snape. Harry, Hermione, Neville and Malfroy spend their detention in the Forbidden Forest with Hagrid. Harry, Hermione and Hagrid meet three centaurs in the forest who are preoccupied by the fact that Mars is very bright. Apparently, centaurs live by the stars and do not interfere with the outcomes they read there. Later, Harry stumbles upon a menacing, cloaked figure drinking unicorn's blood which is an act even more forbidden than the forest they've come to. The figure tries to attack Harry, but he is rescued by a centaur. Harry learns from the centaur, Firenze, that the cloaked figure is likely a weakened Lord Voldemort who is drinking the blood of unicorns to preserve his life long enough to steal the Sorcerer's Stone which is hidden at Hogwarts. Firenze breaks the vow of centaurs by rescuing Harry as he has interfered in the world's predestined outcome. He tells them that the centaurs have read of Lord Voldemort's return in the stars.

Moral: Breaking rules can bring great evil, but sometimes one must break the rules in order to do the right thing.

Chapter 16 – Through The Trapdoor

Harry's scar continues to bother him, likely due to the close proximity of Lord Voldemort. Ron makes the connection between the strange happenings at Hogwarts and Hagrid's suspicious acquisition of the dragon's egg. After speaking to Hagrid the gang quickly realizes that Hagrid was fooled into revealing the trick to get past the three-headed dog – music. Harry, Ron and Hermione, scramble to get to Dumbledore in time, but find out from Prof. McGonagall that he has been called away the Ministry of Magic. The students try to confide in her, but she adamantly refuses to believe them. Harry is convinced that Snape is behind the plot to steal the Sorcerer's Stone, so they decide to take matters into their own hands and sneak out using the invisibility cloak. Using teamwork, Harry, Hermione and Ron are able to maneuver their way through the Devil's Snare, capture a winged key to a locked door, play some "killer" chess, and show their smarts in a game of logic to finally reach the villain they've been tracking...

Moral: When you work together, and impossible task suddenly seems possible.

Chapter 17 – The Man With Two Faces:

Prof. Quirrell is the villain working for Lord Voldemort! The turban he wore concealed the distorted face of Lord V; his life is possible by living as parasite. Harry discovers that it was Quirrell, not Prof. Snape who tried to kill him during the Quidditch match; Prof. Snape was muttering a protective counter curse. The very last spell keeping Quirrell from the stone is the Mirror of Erised, but he can not get past it. The mirror would only show where the stone was if the looker wanted the stone, but did not intend to use it. Quirrell was unable to hurt Harry because he could not touch him. Harry's mother saved his life at the expense of her own and this loving act has served as a protection against the evil of men like Voldemort and Quirrell; they can not touch him. The Sorcerer's Stone was destroyed and the wizarding world saved once again. Harry learns that wanting more can drive a man to great evil. Harry, who has always had nothing, is grateful for every kindness he receives.

Moral: Sometimes, less is definitely more.