

# JOANNE ROWLING

### **JOANNE ROWLING**



She was born at the 31<sup>th</sup> of July 1965 in England **Occupation:** Novelist Education: Bachelor of Arts Alma mater: University of Exeter Genres: Fantasy Notable work: Harry Potter series Children: 2 daughters, 1 son

Joanne Rowling was born in Yate, near Bristol, a few miles south of a town called Dursley.



### CHURCH COTTAGE, TUTSHILL

It is Rowling's childhood home



### **GRADUATED FROM EXETER UNIVERSITY.**



## She is a former English teacher.





In 1988, Rowling wrote a short-essay about her time studying Classics entitled "What was the Name of that Nymph Again? or Greek and Roman Studies Recalled", it was published by the University of Exeter's journal *Pegasus* 



She writes all of her books in longhand, rather than with a computer.

When the first "Harry Potter" novel was published, the publisher asked her to use initials rather than her first name, because boys would be biased against a book written by a woman. Since she only had one given name, they then asked her to make up another initial; she took "K." from her favorite grandmother, Kathleen.



#### THE ELEPHANT HOUSE

"The Elephant House" – one of the cafés in Edinburgh in which Rowling wrote the first *Harry Potter* novel





HER BOOK, "HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE", WAS THE TOP-SELLING BOOK OF 2000, WITH 7 MILLION HARDCOVERS SOLD.



# Harry Potter is now a global brand worth an estimated £7 billion (\$15 billion)



## In October 1998, Warner Bros. purchased the film rights to the first two novels for a seven-figure sum





Rowling had gained some creative control on the films, reviewing all the scripts as well as acting as a producer on the final two-part installment, Deathly Hallows



Forbes has named Rowling as the first person to become a **U.S.-dollar** billionaire by writing books, the second-richest female entertainer and the 1,062nd richest person in the world



She was awarded the **O.B.E.** (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the 2000 Queen Elizabeth II's **Birthday Honors List for her** services to literature and received it from one of her fans, Prince Charles, the **Prince of Wales.** 

Rowling, once a single parent herself, is now president of the charity Gingerbread (originally One Parent Families)





In 2006, **Rowling** contributed a substantial sum toward the creation of a new Centre for Regenerative **Medicine at** Edinburgh University

In September 2008, on the eve of the Labour Party Conference, Rowling announced that she had donated £1 million to the Labour Party





She believes that poor and vulnerable families will fare much better under the Labour Party than they would under a Cameron-led Conservative Party As a resident of Scotland, Rowling is eligible to vote in the 2014 referendum on Scottish independence, and intends to vote in favour of the union



Over the years, some religious people have decried Rowling's books for supposedly promoting witchcraft; however, Rowling identifies as a Christian

**Rowling has received** honorary degrees from St Andrews University, the **University of Edinburgh**, Napier University, the **University of Exeter,** the University of **Aberdeen and Harvard** University, for whom she spoke at the 2008 commencement ceremony. In 2009 **Rowling was awarded** the Légion d'honneur by French President **Nicolas Sarkozy** 





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