



## TEEN SERVICES COMMUNITY SERVICE TEEN BOOK REVIEW

# *Harry Potter And The Cursed Child* By J.K. Rowling Reviewed by Autumn Jacobs

**Name:** Autumn Jacobs

**Grade:** 7th

**Book Title:** Harry Potter And The Cursed Child

**Author:** J.K. Rowling

**Number of Pages:** 327

**Rating (on a scale of 1-5):** 4/5

### Character List:

- **Albus Severus Potter:** Albus is eleven-years-old when he heads off to Hogwarts for his first year, terrified of being sorted into Slytherin, the house well-known for turning out more dark wizards than any other house. And he does get sorted there. Are we sure he's Harry Potter's son?
- **Scorpius Malfoy:** This kid has it bad. Incredibly BAD. He's thought to be Voldemort's son, his mother dies, and he's sorted into Slytherin with Albus. Being sorted there was expected, but it's still not the best. But he has a best friend, Albus Potter, and together they get into all sorts of shenanigans, all of which are linked to time travel.
- **Delphi Diggory:** She brings her "uncle" Amos Diggory, whose son Cedric was killed by Peter Pettigrew in the final task of the Triwizard Tournament, to talk to Harry Potter about getting his son back. Later, she works with Albus and Scorpius to get the only Time-Turner in the Wizarding World and go back in time to try and save Cedric from being killed.
- **Harry Potter:** Yes, this is the famous Harry Potter, the one who made the Dark Lord disappear twice. But war and time has taken its toll on him. He now works at the Ministry of Magic as Head of Department of Law Enforcement. And his distance with his son ends up getting him killed (in a parallel universe, of course).
- **Draco Malfoy:** Who knew that Draco Malfoy could have such a kind son? Yes, it is true. He has also changed so much. He's no longer the absolute enemy of the Golden Trio. But he, like Potter, is distant from his son. And he teams up with Harry, which has never happened before, to find their sons when they become lost in time.

### Review:

Albus Severus Potter and Scorpius Malfoy aren't exactly the popular kids on campus. For Scorpius, that's expected as he's the son of a Death Eater and some believe his true father is Lord Voldemort. And that doesn't exactly earn you popularity points. But that's weird for Albus Potter. I mean, he's the son of the Harry Potter, the one who got rid of You-Know-Who twice. But since he's a Slytherin and not very social or good in class, his only true friend is Scorpius. That is, until he meets Delphi Diggory who, using Harry's words to describe Bill Weasley, is "cool." Very Tonks-like, whom he has heard stories of from Harry, she is very rock-and-roll and punk. I envision her as a Hot Topic employee who gave you a great discount on your purchase. Harry lies to Amos Diggory, an old man who just wants his son back who was taken

from him too soon. Together, Delphi, Albus, and Scorpius break into the Minister of Magic's office, or Albus's Aunt Hermione's office, to steal the only Time-Turner, illegally created by Theodore Nott. They then use it to travel back in time to save Cedric Diggory from death. But not everything is as it seems. It turns out that Delphi Diggory is not Amos Diggory's niece, but the secret daughter of Bellatrix Lestrange and Lord Voldemort. And the reason she's trying to save Cedric Diggory is to initiate a prophecy that will make the Dark Lord rise again. When Albus and Scorpius are lost in time with no way to get back, will their fathers be able to save them or will they be trapped in time forevermore?

This story is different than the other Harry Potter books because of one large component of this story's layout. It's in the format of a play's script. The story is incredible, with so many plot twists, your head will spin. Another exciting part is that the story is opening on Broadway on April 22, 2018, which is incredible because if you wanted to, you could see it live. But this story is not all sunshine and rainbows. There are several dark components to this story. It covers how some wounds never heal; the loss of a loved one is one of them. That is shown many times when Amos Diggory is portrayed, as he is always shown as a grieving father, even though his son died so many years. This also shows that not everyone is like their parents. Albus is not the popular kid his father was at Hogwarts and Scorpius is not an enemy of the Potters like his father was. But it also shows that some people can be the exact same as their parents. For example, Delphi is so much like her parents, so evil, that she killed Craig Bowker Jr. simply because he was at the wrong place at the wrong time. This is something Bellatrix Lestrange and Lord Voldemort have done many times. But this story shows that two people can be friends through the toughest of circumstances. The one fault of this story is that it doesn't correlate with time travel laws. According to a post on Pottermore, "As our investigations currently stand, the longest period that may be relived without the possibility of serious harm to the traveler or to time itself is around five hours." However, in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, many characters travel several years in the past.

This is a must read for any Potter fan. But in order to fully understand it, I would recommend to everyone to read the other books first so they do not get any spoilers. Much of the plot is based on the other books so it is hard to understand without any background knowledge of the Potterverse. But it is a truly interesting read for anyone, young or old, who loves Harry Potter. This book is an especially good read for teens as it shows that not everything is perfect, that not everything is going to go the way you want. It shows that no matter what hand you're dealt, always play your cards.