



Harry Potter Page to Screen: The Complete Filmmaking Journey

Bob McCabe

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"Harry Potter: Page to Screen" opens the doors to Hogwarts castle and the wizarding world of Harry Potter to reveal the complete behind-the-scenes secrets, techniques, and over-the-top artistry that brought J.K. Rowling's acclaimed novels to cinematic life. Developed in collaboration with the creative team behind the celebrated movie series, this deluxe, 500-plus page compendium features exclusive stories from the cast and crew, hundreds of never-before-seen photographs and concept illustrations sourced from the closed film sets, and rare memorabilia. As the definitive look at the magic that made cinematic history, "Page to Screen" is the ultimate collectible, perfect for Muggles everywhere.

Harry Potter Page to Screen: The Complete Filmmaking Journey Details

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Mackenzie says

Just how much information is too much information? This is something each fan of the Harry Potter movies need to ask themselves before buying the book. **Harry Potter Page To Screen: The Complete Filmmaking Journey** is a book that promises to do exactly like the title says. It gives the complete story of the filmmaking process of the *Harry Potter* movie franchise. Do some people, who've probably closed the chapter to that part of their life when the last movie came out last July, actually want to know everything about the films that looked so magical on screen? There is, after all, always the danger of being disillusioned after getting to know a certain thing (or a person) to the minutest detail. Familiarity, they say, often breeds contempt.

Furthermore, seeing as there are some people who don't really adore the movie adaptations by Warner Bros. of JK Rowling's beloved novels, those who find the film series lacking should probably steer clear off the book. It's wordy, heavy and, yes, bloody hell, *pricey*. Not only could you actually break someone's toes if you accidentally drop it on their feet), you might actually break your own wallet buying the book. These people might end up hating the films instead of loving them if they were forced to buy the book.

Having said that, if you *are* a fan of the movies or at least fans of the people working in the 8 HP movies, this is the one book you simply must have. If **Harry Potter: Film Wizardry** by Brian Sibley is the fan's ultimate fun book, this is the budding filmmaker's ultimate textbook on how to make an epic franchise that lasts a whole decade. Whatever shortcomings the films have, you can not deny that a lot of thought went into the making of the films. From casting to scriptwriting to designing sets and characters, this book reveals all of them.

There are exclusive photographs of the actors and the crew. There's a list of the actors' heights at the start of the franchise, in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. There's sketches of Dobby and Kreacher and Quidditch. There are concept arts. There are costumes. There are character references. This book is what happens when someone converts all the behind-the-scenes portion of the DVDs into writings on the printed papers of a hardbound tome. (And the DVD's extra features still can't compete with even half of the book.)

A serious *Potter* collector will want this book to put on their bookshelf next to the Rowling novels. A casual *Potter* fan will want to borrow this book from a friend who's a serious *Potter* collector. Either way, this might be the very last *Potter*-related book to be published for a while. Now that this book is out, as well as the DVD for the last movie, the *Harry Potter* saga comes to an end. We hope that there will be more but, just in case there's not, do pull out \$75 from your bank accounts and use the cash for the book. Despite the mass, the oversharing and the price, it is a book well worth your time and dime.

Melissa says

This gargantuan tome details every stage of the process that transformed the J.K. Rowling books into the Warner Bros. movies. When the movies originally came out, I was seriously disappointed with the obvious discrepancies from movie to movie as well as some of the missing plot (as almost every fan of the books was, I suppose). This book gave me a look at the decision making process that the producers, directors, and most importantly the screenplay writer followed, and allowed for a better understanding of the theatrical

series as a whole.

One of my favorite aspects of the book, however, was the artwork. From conceptual art detailing the costumes, artifacts, and locations to the several different styles of death-eater masks and wands, it was a beautiful (and at times macabre) supplement to the Harry Potter experience as a whole. This is a must have for any Harry Potter enthusiast!

Natalia says

Review up on my blog - <https://boookishvegan.wordpress.com/2...>

MY FULL REVIEW:

This gigantic heavy books is pretty amazing, if I do say so myself. It makes a perfect present for anyone who is a big fan of Harry Potter books, films or the world in general, you can get it for someone special for Christmas and I'm pretty sure they won't complain. I received this book for my 16th birthday and it is one of the best birthday presents I have received for awhile now, as you grow up you require less and less things and even lose interest in the things that were dear to you in your childhood however you can never get enough of Harry Potter.

I remember the first time I watched the movies, I was so mesmerized and captured in the wizarding world of Harry Potter that every year I was counting down towards the next release date of the next movie. A couple years later or more like 10, I have once again been sucked into the world because of reading the books for the first time ever and they made the movies even more interesting as now I can sit and watch the movies and compare them to the books, sometimes I liked the book more than the movie but other times the movie more than the book.

As this book is all about the complete film making journey of how Harry Potter was taken from page to screen it is great for not only fans of Harry Potter but also people who enjoy learning about how films are created and how much work is actually put in into movies. I never really knew how the film production worked and now I really do admire everyone that put in the work to create the magic I learned to love throughout my childhood, it made it very magical and unforgettable.

Full of colorful illustrations from the Hogwarts castle to all the creatures we met in the books and important characters we start to love throughout the series this book is split into parts that I will give you a brief summary of now:

Part I: The Making of Harry Potter

This section goes through at first what happened before production actually started like who the director would be in charge and the casting of important roles, then it moves on to explaining in detail each movie and what actually happened and it also includes what the actors and other important people were feeling at the time. I love how as I'm reading it there are all these colorful illustrations of everything, these are pictures of props, actors and sets but also concept designs of all the props which helps me understand how much work was to be put in to make the final product. I'm not going to lie sometimes I did sit there looking at the images of certain things for hours especially when I got to the Goblet of Fire part as that is by far one of my favorite films.

Part II: The Art of Harry Potter

This is the section of when you learn about why each character was dressed as they were, how long the outfits took to make and that the actors themselves even had a say in what they wore as they know their characters best. If you read this book then you definitely need to look at the Dobby pages (314 -317) I'm so

happy they ended up with creating Dobby the way he is as some of the other concepts terrified me. You also get to learn about where each location was filmed: not that much in this section but throughout the book, this section is more focused on how they created props for each location and how their ideas came to be. Then we have the creatures, you learn about if they were created digitally or if actual props were made – the merpeople are probably my favourite in this section and Fawkes and the Dragons. The last section is the artifacts, my favourite pages were probably about the wands as I want my own wand to cast spells with. Who doesn't?

Part III: Epilogue

Now this section made me tear up as it was another ending to one of my favorite book/movie series that I just never want to end, it gives you a little bit of detail about what everyone did when they got to the last movie as they knew there was no next year, they were never going to work on a next Harry Potter movie again. Sob Sob Sob...

Overall the book was a great addition to the Harry Potter experience as it enables you to learn more about how everything was brought to life and I am definitely happy I finally got around to reading it. You should read it, it is really good!

I rate it ♥♥♥♥♥ as it has met my expectations and makes me want to watch the movies and read the books again.

P.S. for Christmas this year I asked for one of my presents to be the whole movie box set of Harry Potter so I'm going to have quite a magical Christmas break with revision and soon I'm planning on rereading Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone with some friends and if you would want to participate then tell me down in the comments as the more the merrier – it will start around 14th December I will post on Instagram nearer to the date and tell me also if you would like to see what I get for Christmas as they are all book related actually so that is quite exciting.

♥ ?

Parka says

(More pictures on my blog)

This book exceeded all my expectations, and it certainly befits the *Harry Potter* film saga.

This is a large format 532-page hardcover. It's so huge and hefty so you can't really hold it for reading without resting it on something, like your lap. The cover is beautifully designed with an embossed title and a window looking at Hogwarts.

There are three parts to the book. The first is "The Making of Harry Potter" and covers the complete film making process of all the seven Harry Potter titles. The second is "The Art of Harry Potter" and that covers the characters, locations, creatures and artifacts. The third is the epilogue. It took me several days to finish reading.

I want to make special mention on the layout of the content which is beautiful and thoughtful. All the stunning photos and art are published at high resolution. On some pages, there are illustrations or patterns printed on a thin gloss that gives the page a slight shine as you flip over. The text is set on light cream coloured paper. There's an illustrated drop cap that starts every chapter, and every section in the chapter ends with a nice symbol. Even the choice of typography used is excellent.

The first part featuring the film production stories are a joy to read. It starts right at the beginning, from getting the copyright to make the films, to casting and filming right to the last day. There are lots of interesting details to read about, such as interactions between the actors and film crew, how the stage and props are made and the challenges and considerations of filming.

You read about how the children were like deers in the headlight on their first day of filming. There were extensive laughing, constant looking into the camera. As you read along towards the last film, you know how much they have grown as actors.

The writing is wonderful. The author Bob McBabely is a master at weaving the stories, controlling the flow and transition from one section to another. There's a part where Emma Watson admits to having a crush on Tom Felton and in the next sentence Tom Felton says, "Poor Emma. Of course I knew; it was obvious. But I never mentioned it.". There amount of research and interviews done must be incredible. Every film crew mentioned are given introductions and a thorough background on what they do.

The stories on set designs are really interesting. You can find out how sets are constructed, like Hogwarts and all the different rooms and secret locations. I thought the underwater scene in Goblet of Fire was totally CGI but it turned out that Daniel Radcliffe actually had to swim, while holding his breath, and act in a water tank. And of course, there are details on how that water tank was built, with heaters, bacteria-killing UV lights, and the little things that don't cross our minds.

The second part of the book is sort of like the encyclopaedic look at the characters, locations and artifacts. There are staff commentary on everything. You can look into the different classrooms of professors, read The Daily Prophet, check out The Weasleys' tent at the Quidditch World Cup, marvel at the different broomstick designs, etc. Amazing and detailed photos of the sets fill the pages.

There are concept art in the book as well, and they are great. There are designs for Dobby, dragons, props, environment art, etc. This is the only book where you can see them because there aren't any Harry Potter art books.

This book is highly recommended to fans of the Harry Potter films. It gives a new sense of appreciation for the film and the people who worked behind the scenes. It's something you'll want to make the magic last a bit longer.

Compared to Harry Potter Film Wizardry

Harry Potter Film Wizardry is like a condensed version of Page to Screen. Much of the content in terms of text and photos are duplicated. There are some information and photos that are not included in Page to Screen though. That book is designed like a scrapbook with little goodies — booklets, stickers, maps, even Harry's letter of acceptance to Hogwarts, etc - attached to the pages. The layout is nice, magazine-like.

If you're just looking to get one book, then there's no doubt about choosing Harry Potter Page to Screen. If you're the true blue Harry Potter fan, then of course you'll want both books.

Sarah says

It's the Harry Potter Bible! The movies are amazing, too. This book is very informative and artistic. The visuals are fabulous and the pages overflow with juicy information.

Raeleen Lemay says

It is criminal that I haven't read this book until now. I've had it since it came out back in 2011, and of course I've flipped through it multiple times, but I had never sat down to read it from front to back. I just finished doing that, and I only have great things to say!

This book is obviously a must-read for any huge fans of the books and/or movies, as it goes into great detail about EVERYTHING. The first portion of the book breaks each movie down and includes snippets of interviews with the producers, directors, actors, and insight into all of the hard work the hundreds of crew members put in. This first portion was my favorite part of reading the book, as it included tons of behind-the-scenes info I never knew about, as well as hilarious stories about the actors.

Part two is dedicated to art from the movies. This includes tons of concept art, costumes, locations, props, and the creatures created for the films. It's always been pretty obvious that a lot of work went into making these movies, but after reading this book I can more fully appreciate what the art and special effects departments went through to bring the wizarding world to life. I also found it fascinating to read about the creative processes that the directors and art teams went through to arrive at the finished products seen on screen.

All in all, this was an incredible book, and I highly recommend all HP fans read it! There's a lot of text for the first 200 pages or so, but it's 100% worth it.

Andrew says

This is an impressive book in anyones terms - over 500 pages of Harry Potter what more could you ask for (apart from a reinforced book case to house it)

Well okay I will admit I do enjoy the books and films - I do not class myself as a raving fan (took many other books and films out there to compare to for that) but I do think the phenomenon is both a credit to J K Rowling but also a joy to see reading being brought back in to lives of young readers (and possibly future authors).

The book pretty much is exactly as the title says a journey - with the first pages talking about the signing of deals and conversations had by various agents and representatives securing the film rights and what happened from there on. All the way to the last words as the production closes - you see the complete journey in all its glory.

The books is lavishly illustrated from production images both in front and behind the scenes - it shows a very intimate side to the films and the people who created them which is rarely seen especially on such film considering the huge budgets and massive attention they were drawing.

The book itself is broken in to several sections - not only covers the film production but also the costumes, creatures and locations. The book gives a very comprehensive view in to the massive amount of work that goes in to these films which is rarely credited and hardly ever seen. As a result this is an amazing book for both fans and casual readers alike.

Amanda says

Found at a goodwill for \$10! I plan on giving myself an entire month to read this

Sarah says

Well, this was an absolute treat. What a gorgeous book.

Katie says

At first, I was in love with this book. I am a big fan of the books and then the movies, and I always wondered how they adapted those wonderful books for the big screen. There is just so much information in this book, and it is presented artistically through pictures as well as words. When I finished it, I felt like I knew so much more than I could have ever asked for. However, after a while, I realized that something was missing. The book discussed the changing directors and how they brought their visions to films that became progressively more dark, but the changing composers that brought music to these films are never discussed. Being a musician, I was somewhat disappointed. I would have liked to read about how John Williams was chosen to start the series, why he left, and how he and the others created the music that brought so much feeling to these films.

Some might argue that the book is about adapting the books for the screen, and since the soundtrack is not really part of the books, discussing the soundtrack is not as important to this book. I say that music fills in a lot of emotion and other nuances of the books that can't be covered by the actors or the scenery. This book has plenty of information about making these movies; I just think it would have been more complete if they discussed the soundtrack.

Kai says

This is some real Harry Potter porn. If you want to make a Potterhead really, really happy, give him this book and you'll have their love forever.

Find more of my books on Instagram

Caitlin says

An amazing Christmas gift... no way is this amazing volume going to be merely a coffee table book. I plan to read it cover-to-cover and soak up every amazing little detail that went into making this series.

It's fun to see which anecdotes I remember from magazine articles over the years, and which details are entirely new...

FUN TIDBITS:

This book has kind of made producer David Heyman one of my heroes. Love how he said he first grew interested in working on Harry Potter because he just generally adored reading so much.

Love the info about Robbie Coltrane and his Hagrid body double. And how his double started practicing his lines just for fun to the point where Coltrane felt "threatened" they'd just use the *real* big guy.

Also had no idea that they initially considered Tom Felton for Harry?!

Never knew they actually tried dentures to give Emma Watson Hermione's buck teeth. But sure enough, watch the end scene in the first movie, and there they are?!

Dan Radcliffe found out on the first film that he has a nickel allergy because the glasses were giving him odd rings around his eyes?!

Richard Harris was producer David Heyman's Godfather?!

Funny to hear actress Clemence Poesy talk about her character Fleur. She says she enjoyed playing the role, but that Fleur was just like all the girls she hated in high school. Lol

In addition to his role as a Weasley twin, James Phelps also served as an assistant director on the "Half-Blood Prince" set.

Alfonso Cuarón said he based the young marauders seen in flashback off of The Beatles.

For the library scenes, crew members wore gloves made out of green screen material in order to grab books from passing characters and re-shelve them. Then, their hands could be removed and it looked like the books were shelving themselves.

Richard Harris actually thought the animatronic Fawkes was a real bird, it looked that lifelike on the set.

The horcrux cave was filmed at the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland, which I have visited twice. Didn't even recognize the place, but I guess that's movie magic for ya!

Heather says

The first time I saw this, I flipped out. As someone who's obsessed with all things Harry Potter, I just had to get my hands on this massive book. Reading it was even more fun than I thought it would be. It goes through the entire process of making each movie, from selecting the cast to writing the scripts to bringing the incredible magic to life on screen. It's got the big-picture stuff, like the different directors' and producers' visions, as well as the details, like how they made each magical creature. There are tons of interviews and quotes from the cast and crew, plus memorabilia from the sets. Basically, this is the best coffee table book ever if you love Harry Potter.

Here are a few random things I learned while reading this book:

At the beginning, there was discussion of animating the films instead of using real people (how different that would have been!)

Daniel Radcliffe wasn't even going to try out for the role of Harry Potter; fortunately for him, his family ran into one of the producers at an opera and talked his parents into letting him audition

Michael Gambon (Dumbledore) has never read the Harry Potter books (shame on him!)

Emma Watson (Hermione) had a huge crush on Tom Felton (Draco) during the filming of the first several movies

One crew member's only job was gluing individual hairs and feathers into stuff, like the boar's head in Hogsmead and Dumbledore's bird, Fawkes

Megan says

Wow. Just wow.

As soon as I got this book, I knew I would have to read it cover to cover to really feel complete. I couldn't just skim, I had to know everything! And it was lovely and so rewarding. I knew a lot of stuff, granted, but that's what comes with being so immersed in this universe for so long.

This book really made me appreciate the movies more. I could understand more why they chose to do certain things, appreciate the changes they made. I loved the stories offered by the actors and the crew. And god, I got overwhelmed just thinking about the amount of attention, time, and detail they put into some of those props! Individual hairs! Moulds! Casts! 4 different Buckbeaks! It was astounding.

And the photography was crisp and clear, the foldouts were lovely, the details superb. I loved the owls and snakes and castles that you could only see if the page was tilted just right.

Seriously. This book was perfect and amazing and I learned a lot and it recreated the magic for me in a completely new way.

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

www.melissa413readsalot.blogspot.com

I think this book is brilliant! It's another going on my Amazon wishlist!

The book is like a tome and I love it! You get to read about how all of the sets of each movie were put together, who the directors were, how they found each person etc.

I loved seeing the illustrations in the book. Seeing the rooms that you could take your time and eat up each little part! They showed so many beautiful things, like some of the beautiful dresses and clothes the characters wore. I mean they looked so much better in these pictures!

The parts where they were putting together towers and parts for the school was just amazing. I was so enthralled with all of these things. It certainly makes me want to get out the blu rays and have my own Harry Potter day :)

I would recommend this book to anyone who doesn't have it already. It's magnificent!
