

# J.K. Rowling

## COMES TO TORONTO

### THE DAY I SAW J.K. ROWLING

**Mac Martin**

I am a true J.K. Rowling fan. I have read all the *Harry Potters* at least twice, and after the *Deathly Hallows* came out, I reread them in order to remember what I didn't know I forgot.

When I heard I was going to Toronto to see J.K. in person, I was amazed and totally freaked out. I couldn't wait to tell my friends, who are also all big Harry fans. My mom had volunteered to write about J.K.'s visit for the Ontario Library Association, and I was going to go along. The deal was that I had to contribute my impressions for this article. So here goes.

We took the train to Toronto from Windsor, which was a big deal, since I've never been on one before. I was surprised how shaky it was, but I had my 11 novels with me—my mom says to tell you I'm not kidding—and a Gameboy.

In the morning I was up at 6:30 a.m. and woke my mother up. Basically I didn't sleep all night. We ate at the hotel and then we were off by cab to... see J.K. Rowling!

We had to wait for three hours, but my mom was going to the press thing at 8:00 a.m., so I had to sit around with the rest of the fans and the reporters. I ended up being asked a bunch of questions by people from CBC, Global News, the Montreal Gazette, CFRB, and someone else I forget. Finally my mom was back, and we got to go into the theatre.

We had a little trouble with our tickets but my mom sorted it all out. We found our seats and

then we waited AGAIN. Eventually a guy came out and we all clapped when he invited J.K. to come onto the stage.

My first impression was "Wow." Kids were screaming and clapping, and then she got a standing ovation. We sat down and she told us she was going to read us one of her favourite chapters to write, "Ron Comes Back." Again the crowd went nuts.

She sounded like she was meant to read that; like it was the final piece in a puzzle we'd been waiting for. It was amazing.

We moved on to questions from the audience and then she got some big books filled with kids' thank-you notes or something. After that they moved stuff around and we got to go up and say hi in person, and get a free, signed copy that she autographed in front of us. Talk about cool!

When we left the theatre, some kids around me were chanting "this is the best day of my life." I have to agree... it was totally super-awesome-amazing-wonderful! ■



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