

Recitation A

Harry Potter Saved Her

Everyone loves Harry Potter! He is one of the most famous characters in the world. His creator, J.K. Rowling, is now a successful writer, but life was not always easy for her.

Born in 1965 in a small town in England, Rowling lived with her parents and her sister. She was a quiet child and loved to read and write stories. In fact, books were important to her family as well and there were lots of books in their house. Her mother loved reading, and so did her father. They often read books aloud to her. When she was only six, she started writing a book. From then on, to be a writer was her dream.

Misfortune hit when Rowling was fifteen. Her mother became ill and died several years later. Rowling was sad, and she wanted to leave England. She got a job as an English teacher in Portugal. She married a Portuguese man, and the next year, she had a daughter. However, she was not happy in her marriage and they finally broke up. She left Portugal with her daughter and went to live in Scotland. She became deeply depressed.

Harry Potter saved her. While sitting on a train in 1990, Rowling got the idea for Harry. "All at once, the idea for Harry just appeared in my head... I have never been so excited."

Unemployed and poor, Rowling started writing. She worked extremely hard, writing day after day in a café, with her baby next to her. In 1996, when she tried to sell her first Harry Potter story, twelve publishers refused it. Then she finally received good news – the thirteenth publisher had accepted it! "I felt so happy," Rowling said, "that it was going to be a real book on the shelf of a bookstore."

(299 words)