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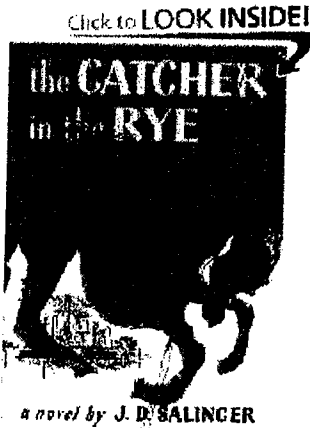
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by [J.D. Salinger](#) (Author)

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Editorial Reviews

Amazon.com Review

Since his debut in 1951 as *The Catcher in the Rye*, Holden Caulfield has been synonymous with narrates the story of a couple of days in his sixteen-year-old life, just after he's been expelled sounds edgy even today and keeps this novel on banned book lists. It begins,

"If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Co like going into it, if you want to know the truth. In the first place, that stuff bores me, and in t have about two hemorrhages apiece if I told anything pretty personal about them."

His constant wry observations about what he encounters, from teachers to phonies (the two of capture the essence of the eternal teenage experience of alienation. --*This text refers to the H*

Review

Novel by J.D. Salinger, published in 1951. The influential and widely acclaimed story details th Holden Caulfield after he has been expelled from prep school. Confused and disillusioned, he s "phoniness" of the adult world. He ends up exhausted and emotionally ill, in a psychiatrist's off breakdown, Holden relates his experiences to the reader. --none --*This text refers to an out of title.*

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ISBN-13: 978-0316769174

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A Brilliantly Unique Look at a Universal Problem, July 21, 2000

By **A Customer**

This review is from: [The Catcher in the Rye \(Mass Market Paperback\)](#)

In J.D. Salinger's brilliant coming-of-age novel, Holden Caulfield, a seventeen year old prep school adolescent relates his lonely, life-changing twenty-four hour stay in New York City as he experiences the phoniness of the adult world while attempting to deal with the death of his younger brother, an overwhelming compulsion to lie and troubling sexual experiences.

Salinger, whose characters are among the best and most developed in all of literature has captured the eternal angst of growing into adulthood in the person of Holden Caulfield. Anyone who has reached the age of sixteen will be able to identify with this unique and yet universal character, for Holden contains bits and pieces of all of us. It is for this very reason that The Catcher in the Rye has become one of the most beloved and enduring works in world literature.

As always, Salinger's writing is so brilliant, his characters so real, that he need not employ artifice of any kind. This is a study of the complex problems haunting all adolescents as they mature into adulthood and Salinger wisely chooses to keep his narrative and prose straightforward and simple.

This is not to say that The Catcher in the Rye is a straightforward and simple book. It is anything but. In it we are privy to Salinger's genius and originality in portraying universal problems in a unique manner. The Catcher in the Rye is a book that can be loved and understood on many different levels of comprehension and each reader who experiences it will come away with a fresh view of the world in which they live.

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Published 9 days ago by Anonymous

Must read!!

A must read for any teen, young adult, or works with a teen.

Published 16 days ago by R. Veronika

Perhaps It's Just

This is a classic American novel that has been read by many. I read it first time and then I read it over a few more times.

A work of true genius, images of a catcher in the rye are abundantly apparent throughout this book.

While analyzing the city raging about him, Holden's attention is captured by a child walking in the street "singing and humming." Realizing that the child is singing the familiar refrain, "If a body meet a body, comin' through the rye," Holden, himself, says that he feels "not so depressed."

The title's words, however, are more than just a pretty ditty that Holden happens to like. In the stroke of pure genius that is Salinger, himself, he wisely sums up the book's theme in its title.

When Holden, whose past has been traumatic, to say the least, is questioned by his younger sister, Phoebe, regarding what he would like to do when he gets older, Holden replies, "Anyway, I keep picturing all these little kids playing some game in this big field of rye and all. Thousands of little kids, and nobody's around--nobody big, I mean--except me. And I'm standing on the edge of some crazy cliff. What I have to do, I have to catch everybody if they start to go over the cliff--I mean if they're running and they don't look where they're going. I have to come out from somewhere and catch them. That's all I'd do all day. I'd just be the catcher in the rye and all. I know it's crazy, but that's the only thing I'd really like to be."

In this short bit of dialogue Salinger brilliantly exposes Holden's deepest desire and expounds the book's theme. Holden wishes to preserve something of childhood innocence that gets hopelessly lost as we grow into the crazy and phony world of adulthood.

The theme of lost innocence is deftly explored by Salinger throughout the book. Holden is appalled when he encounters profanity scrawled on the walls of Phoebe's school, a school that he envisions protecting and shielding children from the evils of society.

When Holden gives his red hunting cap to Phoebe to wear, he gives it to her as a shield, an emblem of the eternal love and protectiveness he feels for her.

Near the beginning of the book, Holden remembers a girl he once knew, Jane Gallagher, with whom he played checkers. Jane, he remembers, "wouldn't move any of her kings," and action Holden realizes to be a metaphor of her naivete. When Holden hears that his sexually experienced prep school roommate had a date with Jane, he immediately starts a fight with him, symbolically protecting Jane's innocence.

More sophisticated readers might question the reasons behind Holden's plight. While Holden's feelings are universal, this character does seem to be a rather extreme example. The catalyst for Holden's desires is no doubt the death of his

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Holden is me.

I must say the first time I did not think much of it. I and found it to be just another sat on my bookshelf. **Read**

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younger brother, Allie, a bright and loving boy who died of leukemia at the age of thirteen. Holden still feels the sting of Allie's death acutely, as well as his own, albeit undeserved, guilt, in being able to do nothing to prevent Allie's suffering.

The only reminder Holden has of Allie's shining but all-too-short life, is Allie's baseball mitt which is covered with poems Allie read while standing in the outfield. In a particularly poignant moment, Holden tells us that this is the glove he would want to use to catch children when they fall from the cliff of innocence.

In an interesting, but trademark, Salinger twist, Holden distorts the Robert Burns poem that provides the book's title. Originally, it read, "If a body meet a body, comin' through the rye." Holden distorts the word "meet" into "catch." This is certainly not the first time Holden is guilty of distortion; indeed he is a master at it.

This distortion, however, shows us how much Allie's death has affected Holden and also how much he fears his own fall from innocence, the theme that threads its way throughout the whole of the book.

By this amazing book's end, we must reach the conclusion that there are times when we all need a "catcher in the rye." We are, indeed, blessed if we have one.

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An American Classic, July 5, 2001

By **James Tyler** (New York, NY) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **The Catcher in the Rye (Mass Market Paperback)**

It is difficult to remember what it was like to read this book for the first time. It is also difficult to imagine a book where each new reading provides so much more illumination into the main character and his personality. I can remember finding Catcher to be funny the first time I read it. I now alternately find Holden to be walking a fine line between witty sarcasm and dangerous cynicism. He is funny, there is no way around that, but his belittling nature also causes him to dismiss much from his life that may not be perfect, but should be included. There is nothing that he, in the end, does not dismiss as being phony, whether it is the nuns with whom he shares a cup of coffee, the teacher at the end who most likely was just trying to help, the Egyptian wing of the museum, Pheobe's school...everything. As soon as one little detail slips in which is not completely on track with what he is thinking whatever it is he is contemplating becomes useless, phony, not worth dealing with. His humor is sharp

To: the Holde the world

The Catcher in the Rye is Salinger's most famous ar work. It is often simplified wall-of-reality' story or (e' 'coming-of-age'... [Read m](#)

Published 2 months ago by Sybil Ca

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and witty and I often laugh out loud while reading, but it is also an easy way for him to detach himself from a world which he no longer feels he belongs in, or wants to belong in. I can remember finding the ending ambiguous the first time I read it. I now see it as the only way it could end, with Holden finding happiness watching his sister Pheobe going forever in circles, and being able to pretend that that is never going to change. She is the one thing in his life which he still deems worthy of existence, and placing her on a merry-go-round is his best attempt to keep her there. Things change and grow and move on, but Holden refuses to accept this and is yearning to stop things forever where they are, to go back to when D.B. was a writer full of dreams and Allie was still alive. He mentions once how he used to take field trips to the museum, but how it was never the same and that takes something away from it. Even if the exhibit was the same, YOU would be different, simply by having traveled a bit farther in life, and this is what Holden is incapable of dealing with. The ending is Holden trying to keep the one thing in his life he still truly loves exactly the way she is. I can remember finding Holden's journey to be a bit all over the place. I now can see that there is not a single detail which Salinger does not use to illuminate Holden. On Holden's last night at school everything is covered with snow. He stands there holding a snowball looking for something to throw it at, but he can not bring himself to throw his snowball and disturb a fire hydrant or a park bench. Everything is peaceful under the snow and Holden can not bring himself to alter this just as he can not handle a world that keeps changing. Or there is Holden's history class, which he is failing. The only topic he is remotely interested in is the Egyptians and their process of mummification. The only thing he cares about is how to preserve things just as they are. I can remember enjoying this book the first time I read it. But I had no idea that with each subsequent reading I would find more and more to enjoy, and more and more evidence of Salinger's genius.

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70 of 78 people found the following review helpful:

A masterpiece, April 8, 2000

By **[Alex LeClair](#)** (Madison, Wisconsin United States) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **[The Catcher in the Rye \(Mass Market Paperback\)](#)**

I read Catcher in the Rye while on break from school. I'd heard many allusions to the book, and many people said they liked it, yet I didn't really know what it was about. It is fascinating, a true inspiration. Holden is so complex that you can't stop thinking about him when you're not reading. Salinger's amazing insights into human nature and his clever

style of cynicism is unique to much of literature and better than all contemporary literature. As Holden starts to spiral down, you can't help but feel incredibly sad thinking about his situation. A boy, on the brink of breakdown, speaking of things that make so much sense. It makes you wonder if he's the one going crazy or if it's the way society is that is truly crazy. I will always love this book and I plan on going over it again to underline all the lines that I adored. For the people giving bad reviews, and as I've analyzed their comments, I must say that you missed the boat. I'm sure that you are the people that Holden is making his social critiques on. No symbolism, a boring character that is whining? Come again? Salinger's phrasing of his words is simplistic, but his message is not. Read it again, try and be more perceptive, and think harder about what is really being said. There is enlightenment waiting for you.

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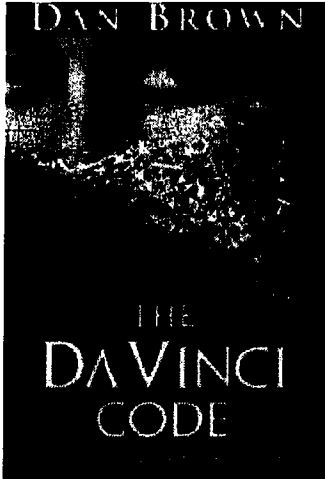
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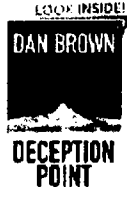
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Editorial Reviews

Amazon.com Review

With *The Da Vinci Code*, Dan Brown masterfully concocts an intelligent and lucid thriller that m murder mystery with a collection of fascinating esoteria culled from 2,000 years of Western his

A murder in the silent after-hour halls of the Louvre museum reveals a sinister plot to uncover a clandestine society since the days of Christ. The victim is a high-ranking agent of this ancien his death, manages to leave gruesome clues at the scene that only his granddaughter, noted c Robert Langdon, a famed symbologist, can untangle. The duo become both suspects and detect grandfather's murderer but also the stunning secret of the ages he was charged to protect. Me the deadly competition, the mystery leads Neveu and Langdon on a breathless flight through F Brown (*Angels and Demons*) has created a page-turning thriller that also provides an amazing Brown's hero and heroine embark on a lofty and intriguing exploration of some of Western cult nature of the Mona Lisa's smile to the secret of the Holy Grail. Though some will quibble with t therein lies the fun. *The Da Vinci Code* is an enthralling read that provides rich food for though the **Hardcover** edition.

From Publishers Weekly

Brown's latest thriller (after *Angels and Demons*) is an exhaustively researched page-turner ab coverups and savage vengeance. The action kicks off in modern-day Paris with the murder of t is found laid out in symbolic repose at the foot of the Mona Lisa. Seizing control of the case are police cryptologist, and Harvard symbol expert Robert Langdon, reprising his role from Brown's puzzling codes at the murder scene, all of which form a treasure map to the fabled Holy Grail. England, Neveu and Langdon are confounded by two mysterious groups—the legendary Priory o secret society whose members have included Botticelli and Isaac Newton, and the conservative have their own reasons for wanting to ensure that the Grail isn't found. Brown sometimes ladl the expense of pacing, and Langdon is a hero in desperate need of more chutzpah. Still, *Brown* that will please both conspiracy buffs and thriller addicts. --*This text refers to the **Hardcover** €*

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Product Details

Paperback: 496 pages

Publisher: Anchor; 1st edition (March 28, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1400079179

ISBN-13: 978-1400079179

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 4.2 x 1.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces

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Just Read It, DON'T Base Your Life On It!
October 18, 2003

By **Janet** (outside Portland) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: [The Da Vinci Code \(Hardcover\)](#)

An excellent read, but it's truly SAD to think that some readers assume that Dan Brown's contrived history is factual and would even base their spiritual beliefs on a book of fiction. Just read some of the other reviews to see what I'm talking about. It reminds of the guy who watched too many episodes of Highlander and decided he was an immortal! (I'm

not making this up.)

One reader compared Da Vinci Code to James BeauSeigneur's Christ Clone Trilogy and suggested that like BeauSeigneur, Brown should footnote all the factual material. While BeauSeigneur and Brown have a similar style and both deal with controversial religious topics, BeauSeigneur can footnote the facts in his fiction BECAUSE THEY ARE FACTS. Brown's "facts" cannot be footnoted because they are a fictitious as the rest of the book.

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291 of 317 people found the following review helpful:

LOVELY!!! No More Read & Internet Search for Pictures, November 23, 2004

By **Otto Yuen** (Toronto, ON Canada) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **The Da Vinci Code, Special Illustrated Edition (Hardcover)**

I've never been in Paris. I wasn't a DaVinci's fan and didn't know much about his works & paintings except Mona Lisa. When I picked up Dan Brown's Da Vinci Code to read, I did have a hard time to follow the Da Vinci's works and some sightseeings in Paris described in the book. Thus, I had my computer connected to Internet besides me to dig out different paintings and photos of what the book mentioned like Louvre, Pentacle, The Last Supper, Opus Dei Headquarters, etc. Luckily, The Da Vinci Code Special Illustrated Edition is just out.

I couldn't wait and purchased immediately regardless I have the regular hardcover edition of Da Vinci Code, which I plan to give it to one of my friends. This Special Illustrated Edition is not a cartoon or comic edition of Dan Brown's Da Vinci Code, nor it is an abridged version. It's a full original version embedded with over 126 colorful pictures & photos besides the text. It saves you lots of time & effort to search from Internet if you don't know how Château de Villette looks like, the overview map of the Louvre, and many other scenes, buildings, paintings mentioned in Dan Brown's Da Vinci Code. Overall, it's LOVELY!

Undoubtfully Dan Brown has done amazing jobs to his book "The Da Vinci Code". The story is powerful and magnificent. Mixing with a lot of traceable truth and facts, he made his novel sound extremely convincing and inevitably deluded you from what's real and what's fictional. However, please don't take it too serious, it's just a novel, not a research paper trying to make a breakthrough statement. Overall, the book has quite a lot of twists shocking you. Even the ending has double meanings. Make sure you read the Epilogue chapter,

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Highly Recom

I took my time reading thi 2004. What a wonderful r and time this author put in amazing and I look forward more. [Read more](#)

Published 6 days ago by J.R. Reard

or you won't know where the Holy Grail rests that Dan Brown suggested as the poem below:

"The Holy Grail 'neath ancient Roslin waits.
The blade and chalice guarding o'er Her gates.
Adorned in masters' loving art, She lies.
She rests at last beneath the starry skies."

For people who love deciphering codes, Dan Brown wisely placed some codings on the regular hardcover edition's paper cover. If you pay attention you may find some bold fonts seemed appearing randomly. Link them up and you should see a hint to read.

(Reviewed by Otto Yuen, 21-Nov-2004)

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300 of 351 people found the following review helpful:

Factual, Fast, and Fun, April 28, 2003

By **Alex** (New York) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **The Da Vinci Code (Hardcover)**

I was introduced to the books of author Dan Brown only three weeks ago, but have quickly absorbed all four of his published works. It is easy to see why some are comparing the work of Dan Brown and James BeauSeigneur (THE CHRIST CLONE TRILOGY). Both Brown and BeauSeigneur deal masterfully with the more mysterious features of religion, politics, and science. Both bring to light amazing bits of information, which they weave into the intricate patterns of their stories. Both are highly imaginative and write with a ring of authenticity that makes for a compelling read. While Brown compresses labyrinthine plots into brief time periods to provide page-turning suspense, BeauSeigneur trilogy is of epic proportion, covering several decades. While Brown applies the mysteries of history to the drama of "today," BeauSeigneur uses both history and prophecy (from perhaps a dozen major world religions) to transport the reader from the world of today, to the very dawning of a new age in a story reminiscent of the scope of Asimov's classic, FOUNDATION.

One other difference is that BeauSeigneur has taken the novel (pun intended and forgiveness is asked) approach of including footnotes in his books of fiction. By doing so, he all but eliminates the necessity of suspending disbelief. Few authors employ such strong factual grounding as to make footnotes useful, but I believe Brown's work (and his readers) would benefit from BeauSeigneur's innovation.

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The Da Vinci Code

This is a: Mystery Novel, Thriller

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown straddles the line between fact and fiction. It's a historical drama, based on a number of theories (e.g., those outlined in "Holy Blood, Holy Grail") which do not have wide acceptance among historians, theologians or archeologists. ...

Author: Dan Brown; Characters: Robert Langdon, Sophie Neveu, Jacques Sauniere, Bishop Manuel Aringarosa, Silas; Key terms of the plot: Priory of Sion, Holy Grail, Fibonacci sequence, So dark the con of Man, O, Draconian devil!; ...

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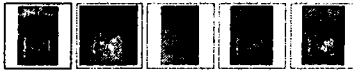
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Editorial Reviews

Amazon.com Review

Say you've spent the first 10 years of your life sleeping under the stairs of a family who loathe the twist of fate you find yourself surrounded by wizards, a caged snowy owl, a phoenix-feather wand, and every flavor, including strawberry, curry, grass, and sardine. Not only that, but you discover that exactly what happens to young Harry Potter in J.K. Rowling's enchanting, funny debut novel, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. In the nonmagic human world--the world of "Muggles"--Harry is a nobody, treated like dirt by the wizard who inherited him when his parents were killed by the evil Voldemort. But in the world of wizards, he is a survivor of the wizard who tried to kill him. He is left only with a lightning-bolt scar on his forehead and a host of mysterious powers to remind him that he's quite, yes, altogether different from his cousin Dudley.

A mysterious letter, delivered by the friendly giant Hagrid, wrenches Harry from his dreary, Muggle life. He is pleased to inform you that you have been accepted at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Most unpleasantly, "I AM NOT PAYING FOR SOME CRACKPOT OLD FOOL TO TEACH HIM MAGIC." Harry finds himself at Hogwarts with his owl Hedwig... and that's where the real adventure--his journey to win major awards in England. So far it has won the National Book Award, the Smarties Prize, and has been short-listed for the Carnegie Medal, the U.K. version of the Newbery Medal. This magical, gripping tale will be sure--will leave kids clamoring for *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* and *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (8 to 13) --Karin Snelson

From Publishers Weekly

Readers are in for a delightful romp with this award-winning debut from a British author who can write as well as Roald Dahl. As the story opens, mysterious goings-on rattle the self-satisfied suburban world of a trio of strangers depositing the Dursleys' infant nephew Harry in a basket on their doorstep. At the hands of his aunt, uncle and their swinish son Dudley, Harry suddenly receives a visit from a wizard who informs Harry that his mother and father were a witch and a wizard, and that he is to attend Hogwarts School of Wizardry himself. Most surprising of all, Harry is a legend in the wizard world for having survived the evil wizard Voldemort, who killed his parents and left Harry with a lightning-shaped scar on his forehead. Is he going off to boarding school like a typical English kid? Only his supplies include a message-carrying owl, a magic wand, enchantment, suspense and danger galore (as well as enough creepy creatures to satisfy the n

even a magical game of soccerlike Quidditch to entertain sports fans) as Harry and his friends of the forbidden third floor at Hogwarts to battle evil and unravel the mystery behind Harry's s open for a sequel; bedazzled readers will surely clamor for one. Ages 8-12.
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Product Details

Reading level: Ages 9-12

Hardcover: 309 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press; 1ST edition (October 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590353403

ISBN-13: 978-0590353403

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.3 x 1.1 inches

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Our first foray into Potter's world is truly magical!, October 17, 2007

By [Mike London "MAC"](#) (Oxford, UK) - [See all my reviews](#)

With this introductory novel was published in 1997, few would have predicted the unprecedented success this series would produce. And everything that made Harry Potter so

successful is all first shown, though hardly fully explained, in this book, HARRY POTTER AND THE PHILOSPHER'S STONE.

The novel opens with Harry living under the cupboard with his abusive aunt and uncle. He has had a mean, depressed life, and though an active boy, the sheer amount of trauma he must have endured would scar any child. But the door opens out of this lifestyle. I've read an interesting theory (obviously not true), that a much different writer than Rowling would have ended Book 7 with Harry having imagined all this fantasy world, where he was so prominent and famous, to help escape the neglect and abuse from the Dursleys.

He gets a letter (actually, hundreds) saying he is in fact a wizard. So he is enrolled the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Him, along with his new friend the giant Hagrid, go to Diagon Alley, a magical bazaar, and thus he is thrust into the magical universe so captured the imagination of millions. We soon learn Harry is world famous among wizards for conquering an evil Wizard named Vo - um - He Who Must Not Be Named. Sorry `bout that slip. =). Along the way, we learn that Voldemort is after a magical artifact called the Philosopher's Stone (which was, unfortunately, changed from the UK original title to "Sorcerer's Stone" in all other regions). So much of the novel is driven by the three main characters defending this stone from Voldemort.

In this novel we get the first ever glimpses of Hogwarts, Voldemort, Quidditch, Dumbledore, Severus Snape, muggles, the Forbidden Forest, the Invisibility Cloak, and any other number of thins Rowling's magical confectionary of an imagination has cooked up for us.

One of the best things about this book, and indeed about the whole series, is how Rowling plants details which, when reading, you may not necessarily pick up on, but are later rather important in later volumes. Who would think Griphook and Hagrid's admonition no one breaks into Gringotts would have such prominence in Book 7? Or the importance of Harry being able to talk to the boa constrictor, something which is not referenced again until Book 2 and then not fully explained until Book 7? Or the Invisibility Cloak, a device first introduced in this novel, but you have no idea of its importance, or even that it has real significane, until Book 7.

Another great example of this planting of clues is Neville Longbottom, who, but by fate, could easily have been the main star of the series, though you don't find out that information until much later in Book 5.

The book also introduces the relationship dynamics that would continue throughout the entire series, from the interplay between the three main kids (Harry, Ron, and Hermione), to the ambiguous Severus Snape, the wise

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Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling is about a boy who is orphaned and finds out he's a wizard.

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Not on bad w

Anyone who likes magic or fantasy has to read this book.

mentor figure of Albus Dumbledore, bumbling Hagrid with his love of nasty creatures, prim and reserved Professor McGonagall, evil incarnate Voldemort, Draco Malfoy, etc.

Overall, there are numerous memorable scenes in this novel. As the novels progressed, the children aged and the target audience would have aged as well. In this novel, they are still very young and immature, but already at this early point in their career, there are seeds of greatness for Harry, Ron, and Hermione.

The same can be said of this debut novel as well.

This is my order of Potter books by preference:

- Deathly Hallows
- Prisoner of Azkaban
- Order of the Phoenix
- Philosopher's Stone/Chamber of Secrets (I rank them both the same)
- Half-Blood Prince
- Goblet of Fire.

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Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,

June 21, 2000

By "[purelyjoy](#)" (Hong Kong SAR) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (Book 1) (Paperback)**

Harry Potter has lived a dismal life with his aunt and uncle, the Dursleys. He sleeps in a closet and has never had a birthday party or Christmas presents. Even worse, he has to endure life with his horrible spoiled cousin, Dudley. Then on Harry's eleventh birthday, things change when a letter arrives, (by owl), inviting him to attend the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Suddenly Harry finds himself among friends, learning about potion-making and magic-wand waving and broomstick riding. There're chocolate frogs and Every Flavor Beans and a three-headed dog and Quidditch-a game better than soccer. Also, Hagrid, a lovable gamekeeper who befriends Harry; Hermione Granger, a witch who's read all the school books and knows all the rules; and there's Ron Weasley, Harry's best friend who has quite a legacy of his own to fill. Hogwarts treats him well, even with the abomidable Malfoy's mean tricks or Professor Snape's

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obvious hatred of Harry. The soon Harry finds himself in the middle of a mystery at Hogwarts, and together with his two new friends, embarks on adventures he never dreamed possible.

The book is engaging with its imagery, humor, plot twists and real-life child problems. The book doesn't only appeal to children but adults as well. She's a master on fantasy. She really can, with no difficulty at all, think herself back to 11 years old. You will love the whimsical descriptions, humorous quotes and the fun characters.

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Love the books, but hate this Collector's Edition, October 24, 2000

By **Travis Prebble "attention span deficient"** (State College, PA United States) - [See all my reviews](#)

This review is from: **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (Book 1) (Leather Bound)**

Ever since my wife coaxed me to read the Harry Potter books, I have been an immense fan of the series, right down to the Hogwarts notebook that I take to business meetings. So, when I saw a display for the Sorcerer's Stone Collector's Edition, I just had to check it out. What a disappointment. ... [Y]ou get a leather binding, shrunken cover art, and some pressed gold. Oh, there's the illustration of Harry drawn by Rowling, but that's not really worth this cost. I found the book to be rather too flashy, gaudy even, and much prefer the simplicity of the UK special editions (which, by the way, cost half as much as this book and that includes the cost for shipping). Please know that I don't mind spending money on good editions of books I already have. The fact that I own 6 copies of Lord of the Rings will attest to this. But, I just am not excited about this pricey collector's edition. So, instead of purchasing this book, I would recommend popping over to Amazon UK and getting TWO of *those* special editions (keep in mind when you're looking that the original title of Sorcerer's Stone is Philosopher's Stone), because, really, part of the joy of collecting is that you will have something unique and rare. How many kids on your block have the unedited UK editions of this great story?

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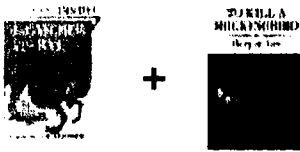
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Set in the small Southern town of Maycomb, Alabama, during the Depression, *To Kill a Mocking* 8-year-old Scout Finch, her brother, Jem, and their father, Atticus--three years punctuated by young black man accused of raping a white woman. Though her story explores big themes, Har eyes of a child. The result is a tough and tender novel of race, class, justice, and the pain of gr

Like the slow-moving occupants of her fictional town, Lee takes her time getting to the heart o the summer before Scout's first year at school. She, her brother, and Dill Harris, a boy who sp Maycomb, while away the hours reenacting scenes from *Dracula* and plotting ways to get a pee At first the circumstances surrounding the alleged rape of Mayella Ewell, the daughter of a dru penetrate the children's consciousness. Then Atticus is called on to defend the accused, Tom R themselves caught up in events beyond their understanding. During the trial, the town exhibit of counterbalance as well--in the struggle of an elderly woman to overcome her morphine habi Atticus Finch, standing up for what he knows is right; and finally in Scout's hard-won understa essentially kind "when you really see them." By turns funny, wise, and heartbreaking, *To Kill a* continues to speak to new generations, and deserves to be reread often. --Alix Wilber

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Lee's beloved American classics makes its belated debut on audio (after briefly blind and libraries through Books on Tape) with the kind of classy packaging that may spoil list two CD slipcases housing the 11 discs not only feature art mirroring Mary Schuck's cover desig for each disk. Many viewers of the 1962 movie adaptation believe that Lee was the film's narra Kim Stanley who read a mere six passages and left an indelible impression. Competing with St own path to a victorious reading. Spacek reads with a slight Southern lilt and quiet authority. young Scout Finch, there's no need for Spacek to create individual voices for various character emotion. Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning 1960 novel, which quietly stands as one of the most pow movement, has been superbly brought to audio. *Available as a Perennial paperback. (Aug.)*
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No wonder it's a classic..., November 7, 2001

that the people who inhabit this book spring fully grown directly from the mind of Harper Lee herself, rather than just the actors in the film.

Harper Lee has written not a single one-dimensional character, and has created a few of the best realized and strongest characters ever put into print: not just Atticus, Jem, and Scout Finch, but also the dignified Calpurnia, the eager Dill, the peaceful but ghostly Boo Radley, even the degraded and predatory Ewell family. These characters jump off the page like in no other novel I can recall. There is no doubt in my mind that these folks are as real as any of the people I see walking down the street, and I feel for Atticus in particular a similar sort of astonished respect as I do for my own father.

If somehow the book itself has passed you by, or if (sadly) it was imposed on you for a class assignment when you were young, revisit it. It's one of the best ever written.

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"Lawyers Were Children Once Too": To Kill a Mockingbird, July 28, 2002

By **William Errickson, Jr. "Will Errickson"** (Raleigh, NC United States) - [See all my reviews](#)

Oddly, I'd never read To Kill a Mockingbird as a high school student. Nor had I ever seen the famous film with Gregory Peck. Fortunately, I also avoided learning the entire plot through cultural osmosis. Sure, I knew who Boo Radley was-- didn't I? Atticus Finch... yeah, I know who that is... right?

Boy, was I wrong. Last week I finally decided it'd been long enough, and I sank into Harper Lee's only novel with high expectations. And I was certainly not disappointed. With its slow, warm and evocative opening chapters, Mockingbird starts off like a sultry summer day in the South. Lee depicts a South of "whistling bob white," biscuits and warm milk, and ladies who on the hottest days bathe twice by noon and then douse themselves in lavender-smelling powder.

Jean-Louise Finch, better known as Scout, narrates the story with the keen eye of an adult looking back on a childhood rich with incidents that shaped who she has become. Scout reminded me of some of Carson McCullers's heroines (Member of the Wedding, The Heart is a Lonely Hunter), but without the morbid loneliness and heartbreak. Scout might be described as a tomboy, but that would be doing her a disservice. Her adventures with her older brother Jem, and their diminutive friend Dill (real name: Charles Baker Harris.

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"Your name's longer'n you are," Jem points out) evoke the timeless place of childhood.

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As for Atticus Finch, what can one say about a father who seems to embody the greatest of virtues? He is tolerant, patient, kind, and understanding. He does not meddle with his children's affairs, he speaks to them as fellow adults (he allows them to call him "Atticus"), and his skill as a lawyer is legendary. Lee presents Atticus in a tough and sensitive manner, so that his believability is paramount.

The other characters in the book are also depicted with great skill: Aunt Alexandra, bane of Scout's existence; Miss Maudie, who gives as good as she gets when harassed by intolerant neighbors; Calpurnia, the ever-present black maid who has as much a hand in Jem and Scout's well-being as Atticus; and of course the Ewells, whose poverty and ignorance help set the plot in motion.

Harper Lee has written a wonderful book that pulses with life, with compassion, and easy good humor. Watching Atticus face down an angry mob set on lynching a black man, or racing with Jem as he escapes gunshots from the Radley house, or sitting with Scout as she forced to join her aunt's church lady reception, or taking that long midnight walk with Jem and Scout, is pure joy; these are scenes that reverberate in the reader's mind and surely in the minds of several generations of readers. I'm glad I can now say I'm one of them.

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Of Mice and Men (Steinbeck Centennial Edition) (Paperback)

by John Steinbeck (Author)

Key Phrases: stable buck, halter chains, nice fella, Jesus Christ, Aunt Clara, Old Candy (more...)

(1,102 customer reviews)

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Editorial Reviews

Review

Novella by John Steinbeck, published in 1937. The tragic story, given poignancy by its objective narrative, is about the complex bond between two migrant laborers. The book, which was adapted by Steinbeck into a three-act play (produced 1937), earned him national renown. The plot centers on George Milton and Lennie Small, itinerant ranch hands who dream of one day owning a small farm. George acts as a father figure to Lennie, who is large and simpleminded, calming him and helping to rein in his immense physical strength. When Lennie accidentally kills the ranch owner's flirtatious daughter-in-law, George shoots his friend rather than allow him to be captured by a vengeful lynch mob. -- *The Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature* --*This text refers to the Paperback edition.*

Product Description

Tragic tale of a retarded man and the friend who loves and tries to protect him. With illustrations from the movie starring John Malkovich and Gary Sinise. --*This text refers to the Paperback edition.*

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ISBN-13: 978-0142000670

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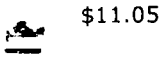
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A masterpiece -- and I will never forget it!,

November 3, 2001

By **Linda Linguvic** (New York City) - See all my reviews

This review is from: *Of Mice and Men* (Penguin Great Books of the 20th Century) (School & Library Binding)

John Steinbeck wrote this classic gem in 1937. It's been a Broadway play and there have been several adaptations of it in movies and TV. I was generally familiar with the story but this was the first time I actually read the book. Wow! I was completely blown away! This is the story of a two lonely and alienated men who work as farm laborers, drifting from job to job in California. Lennie is gentle giant, physically strong but mentally retarded. George guides and protects Lennie but also depends on him for companionship. Together, they have a dream to someday buy a little farm where they can grow crops and raise rabbits and live happily ever after. This, of course, is not to be as the title suggests. "The best laid plans of mice and men" is a line in a poem by Robert Burns, which describes how a field mouse's world is destroyed by a plow.

Steinbeck's narrative voice is seemingly simple in his descriptions of nature of as well as the details of the bunkhouse. His characterizations of the people are magnificent. We meet the other workers, all loners, and appreciate the beauty of the unique friendship between Lennie and George. We meet Candy, the old man who is outliving his usefulness. We meet Crooks, the black stable hand, shunned by the men and therefore turning to books for companionship. We meet the cruel Curley who taunts Lennie into a fight. And we meet Curley's wife, another lonely soul who uses her femininity to get the wrong kind of attention.

There's tension in every word and I found myself holding my breath, knowing that something awful would happen, my eyes glued to the page, the world of Lennie and George deeply etched into my consciousness. I was pulled right into the story, wanting to shout warnings as I saw the inevitable consequences. The ending was incredibly sad, but yet satisfying. It couldn't have ended any other way. It's a small book, only 118 pages long. But it is a masterpiece and I will never forget it. I give it my highest recommendation.

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Post-Depression American Tragedy, March 17, 2004

By **A.Trendl HungarianBookstore.com "Lovely weath...** (Glen Ellyn, IL USA) - See all my reviews

This review is from: *Of Mice and Men* (Penguin Great Books of the 20th Century) (Paperback)

"Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck remains properly on the reading lists of high school students because of the regional imagery through succinct dialogue. Unlike "Grapes of Wrath," Steinbeck brings us swiftly into each moment, never letting us linger too long before walking us to the next place.

The American Dream has many variations, but always, it is about independence and the pride of being one's own man. Lennie and George want this independence more than most men, but have less than most men to get there. In their case, it isn't a white picket fence, but a farm where they can raise rabbits.

Lennie is not a bright man. He desires to care for someone and to be loved, but is unable to think past his own fear. George tries to protect him, but he



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Short book packed with ideas

This book has a crazy twist to it and the whole way it covers ideas on racism, jealousy, competitiveness, and every man's dream of just 'living on the fatta the land'.

Published 19 days ago by Alex Heikes

Of Mice and Men

This was my first book by Steinbeck and it surely won't be my last! Classic literature written so well that I was in the story seeing, feeling and living it along side the...

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Oh The dream

Lennie and George, migrant workers who move from farm to farm looking for work, are good friends despite their differences.

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Published 29 days ago by Medusa

Classic Steinbeck

Again a very classic work by John Steinbeck. This is a must read for everyone. The story is real and draws you in. It isn't a book that you will read and forget.

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A Novel Menagerie's Perspective on OF MICE AND MEN The Story Line

Lennie and his traveling companion, George, are on the road in the Salinas, California area looking for work.

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Published 2 months ago by Sheri

For the middle-aged who missed this one in school

I knew the title, I knew the name and

too, although smarter than Lennie, is managed by his insecurity and foolishness.

The story surrounds Lennie and George's efforts to get and retain work on ranch near Soledad, and more so, toward their American Dream. The big picture is always with them, but it is the day-by-day difficulties they have with being outsiders. Their intrinsic inability to be free is sheer tragedy, as they both fail again and again to make the right decision.

It's a lonely story about two men who hope more than they can think, who are destined by their misery never to enjoy true companionship and happiness.

Few books are as thematically pure as "Of Mice and Men," which follows Man's search for self and meaning carefully. It is harsh in language and image, and the abstract ideas might be too much for younger readers to comprehend, but any intelligent teen will gain from it where John Knowles' "A Separate Peace" and J.D. Salinger's "The Catcher in the Rye" leave off.

I fully recommend "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck.

Anthony Trendl
editor, HungarianBookstore.com

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24 of 26 people found the following review helpful:

"A guy needs somebody to be near him....A guy goes nuts if he ain't got nobody.", October 22, 2006

By **Mary Whipple** (New England) - See all my reviews

Written in 1937, when the Depression was still affecting all aspects of the farming community, this powerful novel depicts the lives of migrant workers--grim, pessimistic, and offering little hope for an improved future. Focusing on two characters who arrive in the Salinas Valley during peak season, Steinbeck creates touching scenes between Lenny, a big, severely limited worker who does not know his own strength, and George, a whippet-thin man who serves as Lenny's constant companion and protector.

Both Lenny and George have dreams of one day living on their own farm, where Lenny, who loves the feeling of soft things--even dead mice--wants to take care of rabbits. George hopes one day to benefit from his own hard work on his own farm and to create an environment where Lenny can be safe from his own impulses. As Steinbeck brings the characters on the ranch to life, he shows how every person there has dreams of a different life but few opportunities to change the lives they already have. Some are physically handicapped from accidents on farms, while others are emotionally handicapped by lack of opportunity or their own personal limitations.

Life is lonely, uncertain, and harsh but George tries to make life for Lenny more bearable by allowing him to have one of the new puppies in the barn. When Curley, the boss's son, brings his flirtatious wife to the farm, he introduces a new element which eventually leads to a tragic ending. Women are considered dangerous to the status quo, as they reinforce the need for "soft" elements in lives that otherwise offer little softness.

Giving vivid pictures of the natural surroundings while also creating vivid pictures of the interactions of these men, Steinbeck shows that even among those whose lives offer little hope, there is a desire to take advantage of each other. Crooks, the black stable hand who is forced to live alone in the barn, undermines Lenny. Carlson takes advantage of Candy's love for his old, smelly dog and causes pain to Candy. Lenny's puppy, Candy's dog, a heron capturing a water snake, and dreams of their own farm all become

background of the author, but somehow I didn't have to read this book in high school.
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Of Mice and Men

I read this book with my 17 year old son for school. He was reluctant to get started and the dialect in the book was challenging for him. **Read more**

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folk

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Of Mice and Men- Classic or

Not?

Of Mice and Men is a true classic, and I recommend it for all the English teachers out there. John Steinbeck is a legendary author, writing in vivid detail about life in the old... **Read more**

Published 3 months ago

Of Mice and Men

Three crucial pages were torn from the book: The "Introduction by Susan Shillinglaw"(Director of the Steinbeck Research Center); "Suggestions for Further Reading"; and "A Note on... **Read more**

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symbols which add to the drama of the conclusion. In this powerfully sad novel, Steinbeck offers little hope that the lives of these men will improve and even less hope that they will ever be able to control what happens to them. n Mary Whipple

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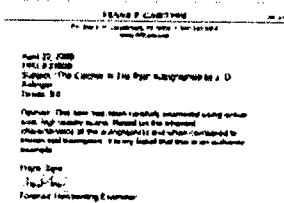
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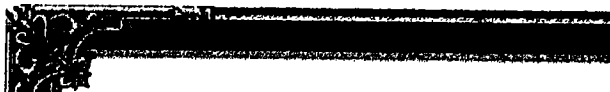
Special **1st Edi**

Attributes:

Category: --

Printing Year: **1951**

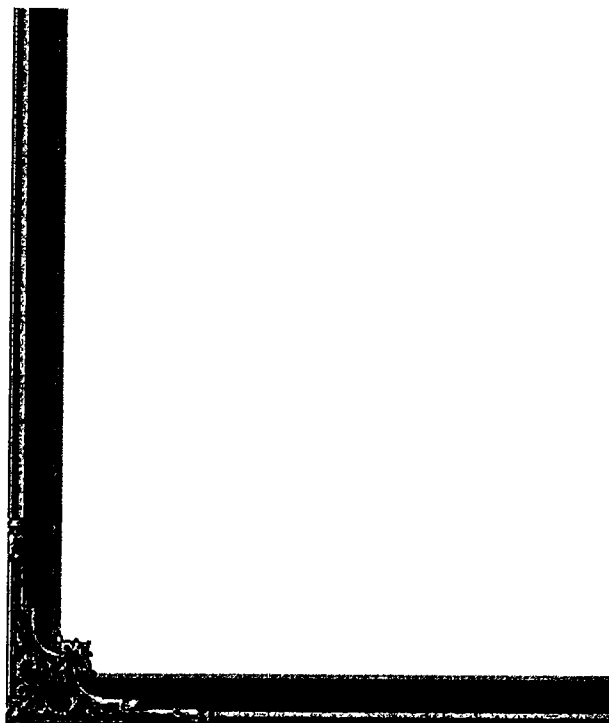
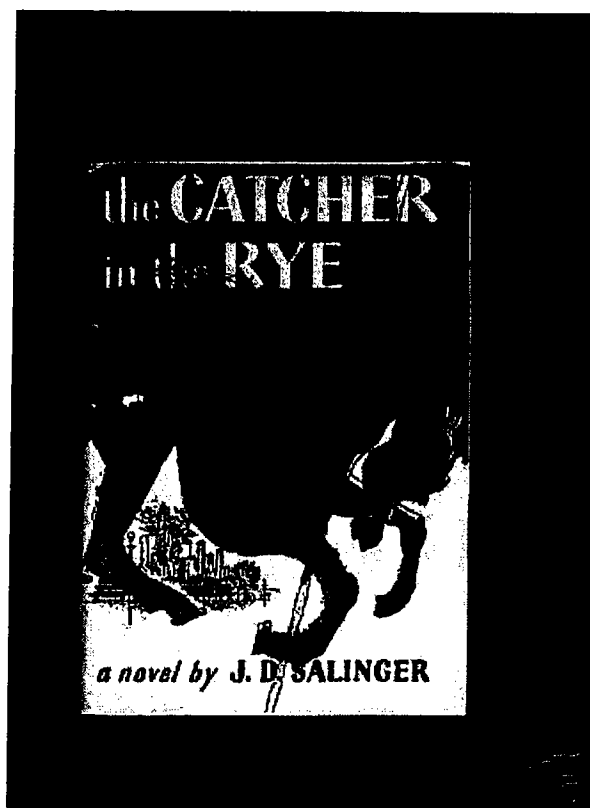
Sub-Category: --



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Supreme Gallery

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Shipping and handling

Ships to

United States

Country:

Shipping and Handling	To	Service
US \$4.00	United States	US Postal Service Priority Mail® Estimated delivery 5 - 6 business days after seller <u>receives cleared payment</u>
Free shipping	United States	Local Pickup

*Sellers are not responsible for service transit time. This information is provided by the carrier. Note that transit times may vary, particularly during peak periods.

Domestic handling time

Will usually ship within 3 business days of receiving cleared payment.

Return policy

Return policy not specified.
Read item description for any reference to return policy.

Payment details

Payment method	Preferred/Accepted	Buyer protection
     	Accepted	Pay with PayP covered See t



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Seller's payment instructions

Understandably so, there is no option for registered mail under shipping details, however this is how I will ship

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Item title: THE CATCHER IN THE RYE SIGNED BY JD SALINGER~1ST ED~VG

Buy It Now

Buy It Now price: **US \$14,000.00**

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You will confirm in the next step.

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