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The Bullsheet, a forum for news, humor, and community dialogue, is funded by DCGAand is printed each day that classes are in session. Submissions must be sent before 6:30pm for next day submission via e-mail to:bullsheet@denison.edu. **Submissions** herein solely reflect the opinions of the authors. We do not accept anonymous submissions, so please remember to include a full name or Slayter Box number.

Edited last night by: Isabella, sleepily **Delivered this morning by**: Katie, spryly vol. LXIII/ no. 40/ October 29, 2019

REVISTING S.P.E.W. J.K. ROWLING'S OG "WOKE QUEEN" DISASTER

Hey Muggles (or No-Majs, if you watch the Fantastic Beast movies, and are also no-fun.) I have with me today my beloved friend, roommate, and Ravenclaw Sarina Balraj–and in the spirit of Halloween Month, we're here to break down what may be J.K. Rowling's earliest swing-and-a-miss at tackling social issues. (She really tries, doesn't she?) That's right–S.P.E.W., a.k.a. the Society for the Protection of Elfish Welfare, a.k.a. Hermione's (somehow) ultra-radical movement to end the slavery of house elves in the Wizarding World. If you don't like Harry Potter, then you don't have to read this I guess. But also, like, what's your *deal*, man? Where's your childhood?*

*(@Zach Correia, Head Writer, Harry Potter Hater, childhood-less. Zach: "Don't put my name in that.")

FOUNDATIONAL ISSUE: "Hermione just got done dirty."

Let's take a second to appreciate and properly stan Hermione Granger, who at 14, single-handedly intiated a whole entire social movement to end centuries (millenias?) of instituitionalized slavery–a movement with the goals of establishing wages, pensions, sick leave, and an elf representative in the Ministry! Yes!! As per the course of all of human history, all of Hermione's horrible friends mock her relentlessly for her foolish girlish dreams of equal rights for all. And with Hermione being canonically black in the stage adaptation**, and in our hearts, the implications of this subplot are very much......a lot. **(Sarina: "Actually, The Cursed Child is more of a canonical addendum.")

FAKE ALLIES AND WHITE KNIGHTS: Harry (and especially) Ron

"Literally, Harry wouldn't have been shit without Hermione. Hermione did all the work. Harry just stood there and looked pretty." –Sarina. And she's absolutely right. But despite Hermione firmly holding the title of The Best member of the trio, and like, proofreading all of their homework for them for 7 years, it still takes an insane amount of cajoling for these two (MEN) to even begrudgingly consider joining her org. Weak. I guess Harry was too busy with Club Sport to invest in social justice. And Ron just sucks.

BAD RACISM ALLEGORY IS BAD: "There's some real sus rhetoric going on here."

So we can all admit that Jo was really on some other shit when she wrote this subplot, right? Like, let's break this down. The house elves are presented as intellectual and emotional equals to humans, with dreams, hopes, and desires. But since they're not the same species, they don't get the same rights. Just like racism with humans, right? NO. NOT RIGHT. Because, critically, people of color and white people are members of the same species. We know that J.K. Rowling loves her allegories for marginalized groups with different non-human, animalistic creatures (people with AIDS as werewolves, Jewish people as goblins, Asian women as...pet snakes...) But this allegory is especially yikes, given our next point...

THE WORST TAKE EVER: "Actually, Hermione was wrong to force emancipation onto the elves." So we literally cannot endorse this take. This is just awful. I see so many faux-woke think-pieces (WE'RE LOOKING AT YOU SPARKNOTES) being like, "uh, well, technically, the house elves didn't want to be free. They totally wanted to be slaves. It's their natural state. And Hermione really disrespected their culture by trying to end slavery." Um, hello??? Do y'all hear y'allselves? I really hope we don't need to explain why this is bad.

In conclusion, Hermione rocks, and we're forever side-eyeing J.K. until she retcons this mess of a plot (we know you love a #woke retcon, Jo.)

– Isabella Puccini, Senior Editor, Hufflepuff – Sarina Balraj, Student Contributor, Ravenclaw (though truthfully identifies more as a Slytherclaw)

PSA

HAPPY NATIONAL...OATMEAL DAY!

Hi Steve Carell stans! (You're either one, or you didn't get to see him scream "THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID" in Swasey Chapel last Saturday, and you're bitter.) I hope that we're all enjoying ourselves on this marvelous and nutrient-packed day of days, **October 29th, National Oatmeal Day!**

I really hope y'all weren't looking for more than that. It's oatmeal. I genuinely have funny nothing to say here. If you're reading this Mom, I know you must be excited about this holiday, so this one's for you. Also–LET'S GO CHICAGO TEACHER'S STRIKE!! In the immortal words of Chance the Rapper, "I fully support you." Sorry Lori Lightfoot. Maybe you can treat yourself to a nice piping bowl of oats, and workers rights.



are people really eating this, like in real life?

HUMOR



please say sike. this looks like something an oliver twist-era street orphan in an all-grey outfit would eat



this one's slightly better, but critically–it's still not a pancake. please love yourselves. eat a pancake.

– Isabella Puccini, Senior Editor

BECOME ONE OF US

Do you like late nights in a dank office shoving trail mix into your mouth so quickly you worry you might actually suffocate? Do you enjoy vaguely uncomfortable sit-downs with administrators after using their full names in contexts they aren't exactly thrilled with? Do you crave friendships that exist on GroupMe and GroupMe alone?

JOIN THE BULLSHEET!

The Bullsheet is on the hunt for people looking to join our Mötley Crüe as writers and editors. So if you like writing and editing (but not in the way ya think!) please email bullsheet@denison.edu and let us know you would like an application. Then, you'll fill it out, give it back to us, we'll look it over, laugh uproariously, and the rest will be history. May the odds be ever in your favor.

