

**Book Title: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban**  
**Book Author: J. K. Rowling**  
**Reviewed by: Chinmay Sujith Nair, 14**  
**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**  
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It is now Harry Potter's third year at Hogwarts. After getting his first run-in with wizarding law, Harry is now struggling to re-integrate himself into his surroundings. The Dementors supposedly guarding the castle leave him fainting after witnessing visions of screaming. Harry seems to be seeing a strange black dog everywhere he goes. Sirius Black, believed to be Lord Voldemort's supporter, has escaped from Azkaban, the world's most secure wizarding prison, and is heading towards Hogwarts for his next victim. And what is the Marauder's Map, and who are Padfoot, Prongs, Moony, and Wormtail? New mysteries and questions arise in this third installment of the Harry Potter series.

The complaints I have with this book are few and far between. It offers excellent world-building, pacing that isn't sluggish, and sequences that vary between heart-pounding action and intriguing dialogue. It carries on from the two previous titles and expands upon the viewer's knowledge of the series. Many new plot points are added in this story, like the Marauder's Map, which allows one to view the location of any given person within Hogwarts. The final confrontation allows for more world-building and reflection, which is seen with other titles from further down the series, like *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*.

This book is suitable for readers ages 12-15. It is a great gift that can introduce people to other books by the same author or other fantasy works in general. It also works as a book one can get for oneself for light reading. However, since this book is the third book in the series, one will have to read the two previous novels to get the most out of this book. Overall, this critically acclaimed novel will definitely get any fantasy lovers indulged in the Harry Potter world.

**Recommended Titles:**

Take a Thief, Mercedes Lackey  
Keeper of the Lost Cities, Shannon Messenger  
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, J.K. Rowling