

The Casual vacancy
by J.K. Rowling

June the 10th at 6:30 pm

Hosted by Ruth Cory



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THE CASUAL VACANCY

A big novel about a small town, *The Casual Vacancy* is J.K. Rowling's first novel for adults readership. It is the work of a storyteller like no other. Major themes in the novel are class, politics, and social issues such as drugs, prostitution and rape.

When Barry Fairbrother dies in his early forties, the town of Pagford is left in shock.

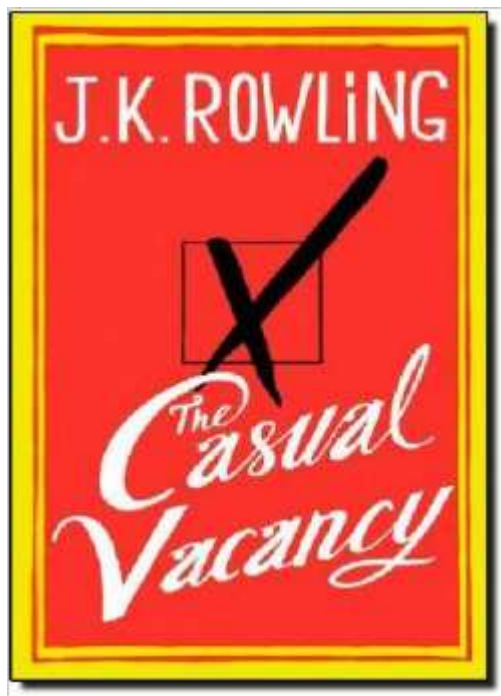
Pagford is, seemingly, an English idyll, with a cobbled market square and an ancient abbey, but what lies behind the pretty façade is a town at war.

Rich at war with poor, teenagers at war with their parents, wives at war with their husbands, teachers at war with their pupils...Pagford is not what it first seems.

And the empty seat left by Barry on the parish council soon becomes the catalyst for the biggest war the town has yet seen. Who will triumph in an election fraught with passion, duplicity, and unexpected revelations?

J K ROWLING

J.K. Rowling is a British novelist best known as the author of the Harry Potter fantasy series. The books have gained worldwide attention, won multiple awards, and sold more than 400 million copies. Born in Yate, Gloucestershire, Rowling was working as a researcher and bilingual secretary for Amnesty International when she conceived the idea for the Harry Potter series on a delayed train from Manchester to London in 1990. From 1995 to 2007, Rowling wrote seven sequels of the series of Harry Potter. In July 2011, Rowling parted company with her agent, Christopher Little, moving to a new agency founded by one of his staff, Neil Blair. On 23 February 2012, Rowling's new agency, the Blair Partnership, announced on its website that Rowling was set to publish a new book targeted at adults. In a press release, Rowling said that her new book would be quite different from Harry Potter. In April 2012, Little, Brown and Company announced that the book was entitled *The Casual Vacancy* and would be released on 27 September 2012. Rowling gave several interviews and made appearances to promote *The Casual Vacancy*, including at the London Southbank Centre, the Cheltenham Literature Festival, The Charlie Rose Show and the Lennoxlove Book Festival. In its first three weeks of release, *The Casual Vacancy* sold over 1 million copies worldwide.



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