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LISTENING LIBRARY'S UNABRIDGED AUDIOBOOK
HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE
BY J.K. ROWLING
NARRATED BY JIM DALE
ON SALE JULY 16, 2005

(New York, April, 28, 2005)—Listening Library, the children's audio imprint of Random House, Inc.'s Random House Audio Publishing Group division, and the audiobook publisher of the first five Harry Potter novels, has acquired the North American audio publishing rights to J.K. Rowling's HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE, the sixth in the acclaimed series. The audio edition will be published unabridged on cassette and compact disc and go on sale in the United States and Canada on Saturday, July 16, 2005, simultaneously with the book's hardcover edition from Scholastic. Books on Tape, also a division of the Random House Audio Publishing Group, will distribute the title in the library and educational markets.

Harry Potter is the most successful children's audiobook publishing series in the history of the medium. There are over four million copies of the first five Harry Potter titles in print all in Listening Library editions. Among the accolades earned by previous Harry Potter Listening Library audiobooks have been the Grammy Award in 2000 for "Best Spoken Word Album for Children" and the 2003 Audie Award for "Audiobook of the Year."

Jim Dale, the renowned narrator of the first five Harry Potter audios, will once again record all the characters in HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE. His work has earned him the Grammy Award (2000), three Grammy nominations, and several Audie Awards. Queen Elizabeth II named Dale a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for his work narrating the series and bringing British Children's literature to an American audience.

The audiobook edition of HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF-BLOOD PRINCE will be more than twenty-one hours long. The CD edition will contain 18 discs and carry a suggested retail price of \$75.00 US. The cassette edition will contain 12 cassettes and its suggested retail price will be \$50.00 US.

All Harry Potter titles are available unabridged on both cassette and CD formats from booksellers and libraries. In conjunction with the release of the new volume, Listening Library will be redistributing and cross-promoting HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE (1999), HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS (1999), HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN (2000) and HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (2000) and HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX (2003) to all its retailers and distributors.

Listening Library was represented in the recently concluded audiobook acquisition negotiations by David Naggar, President, Random House Audio & Diversified Publishing Group. Christopher Little of the Christopher Little Agency in London represented the author. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

The Random House Audio & Diversified Group is a division of Random House, Inc., the U.S. company of Random House, the trade book publishing division of Bertelsmann AG.

HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE

Unabridged

12 Cassettes, ISBN 0-307-28364-X, \$50/\$70 CAN

18 CDs, ISBN 0-307-28365-8, \$75 US/\$115 CAN

END 4/28/2005