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**GRAMMY AWARD WINNER JIM DALE RETURNS TO READ
HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX
JUNE 21st LISTENING LIBRARY AUDIOBOOK**

Jim Dale, the Grammy Award-winning narrator of the Harry Potter audiobook recordings, will reprise his performance for HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX, J.K. Rowling's fifth volume in the series. His role was announced today by Tim Ditlow, Vice President and Publisher of Random House, Inc.'s Listening Library publishing line.

Each of the four previous Harry Potter North American audio editions were read by Jim Dale and published by Listening Library, the children's audio imprint of the Random House Audio & Diversified Publishing Group. The new unabridged recording from Listening Library is scheduled to go on sale in cassette and compact disc formats in the U.S. and Canada on Saturday, June 21, 2003, day and date with the hardcover book publication by Scholastic.

Returning to the recording studio with Mr. Dale will be Orli Moscovitz, Executive Producer, Random House Audio, and a senior member of the team which created HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE, the 2000 Grammy Award Winner for "Best Spoken Word Album for Children."

Jim Dale's contributions to the Harry Potter listening experience have been widely acclaimed. According to the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, "Dale has an unerring sense of character and gives each person—or should it be each wizard?—a unique and splendid voice..." He is a Tony Award winner for his performance as "Barnum" on Broadway and has received three Drama Desk, the Lucille Lortel, and three Outer Critic Circle Awards for his work on and off Broadway. He also was nominated for an Academy Award for his lyrics for the song "Georgy Girl."

"Being the reader for the Harry Potter audiobooks is an absolute joy for me as an actor. I 'played' 127 characters for HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE and I hope to revisit those old friends and meet many more in J.K. Rowling's addition to the Harry Potter series," said Jim Dale.

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