

# New supposed J.D. Salinger stories now leaked on-line

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Opinion Editor

A compilation of short stories written by J.D. Salinger, *Three Stories*, was leaked online Thursday, November 28th. The three stories are titled "The Ocean is Full of Bowling Balls," "The Birthday Boy," and "Paula."

Salinger, who died January 27, 2010, was best known as the author of *The Catcher in the Rye*. Most students at Brighton High School should remember reading this sophomore year, or at least Spark-noting it the night before the test.

According to *The Daily Princetonian*, Salinger left unfinished manuscripts of his compilation at the Princeton library and other various research libraries. He also told his biographer that he had finished copies of the manuscript, but had no intentions of publishing it. When he died, he stated that *Three Stories* was not to be published until at least 50 years after his death.

This means that *Three Stories* shouldn't have been published until 2060, at the earliest. However, the stories were leaked early by an anonymous user on the file-sharing website, What.cd. The user claimed that his copy was a special edition published in London in 1999 without Salinger's permission. According to *The Daily Princetonian*, the Salinger estate is considering the idea of hiring a forensics team to hunt down the anonymous "leaker."

For fans of Salinger, it will be easy to identify his writing. Each of the stories in his compilation are reminiscent of his writing style that is found in each of his four novels, *Franny and Zooey*, *The Catcher in the Rye*, *Raise High the Roofbeam, Carpenters* and *Seymour: an Introduction*, and *Nine Stories*.

The first story in the leaked compilation, "The Ocean is Full of Bowling

Balls" features the Caulfield family, meaning that right away fans of Salinger will be greeted by familiar characters.

Although their names have been changed to Vincent and Kenneth respectively, Holden's brothers D.B. and Allie are the central characters in the story. The story takes place at their family home during the summer, while Holden is away at camp. Even though "Bowling Balls" is rather bleak and there is not much of a storyline, Salinger fans will recognize many parts that seem to have been directly removed from *The Catcher in the Rye*. For instance, at one point, Kenneth tells his brother to marry his girlfriend, because when they played checkers, "she kept all of her kings in the back row."

The second and third stories are titled "The Birthday Boy" and "Paula." It is easy to tell that both stories are clearly unfinished.

In "The Birthday Boy," the story focuses on Ray, a young man in a rehab center. It is suggested that Ray is on the verge of madness, which is also a familiar theme in Salinger's work.

The final story, "Paula" follows the story of the Hinchers, a young couple. The woman, Paula, desperately wants to be pregnant, and ends up faking a pregnancy when she is unable to actually get pregnant. She lies to her husband about her pregnancy, and throughout the story it is revealed that she acts too much like a child to be a successful parent.

The leaked stories have caused conflict and moral dilemma for many Salinger fans. Many people do not want to read *Three Stories* because Salinger was not yet ready for it to be read. Others are excited that new material of Salinger's is becoming public. Either way, it is apparent that J.D. Salinger's legacy continues.



Photo courtesy of New Line Cinema

# J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Desolation of Smaug* hits the big screen this holiday season

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The second film in *The Hobbit* trilogy directed by Peter Jackson (*The Lord of the Rings* trilogy) soared into theaters on Friday November 13. It starred the familiar faces of Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman and Richard Armitage. The film is the second movie in a line of three featuring the story of a hobbit in a band of dwarves traveling to reclaimed their homeland and slay a mighty dragon named Smaug.

The film starts roughly where the first one leaves off; they are running for their lives from a pack of vicious orks who intend to kill every last one of them. They take refuge in a house before moving on through Sherwood Forest, which is infested with giant spiders, giving the faithful adventures a tricky time.

While fighting for their lives against which seems like never ending waves of spiders they are saved by the a group of Elvish hunters who then go on to imprison them for being on their land. The

main character Bilbo is spared when he uses his magic invisibility ring to hide from them.

While the elves are away Bilbo slyly takes the cell keys and frees his companions. they make their escape in empty barrels that are released down a river where the pack of orcs that were hunting them are waiting for them. Along the river orcs are slashing swords and firing arrows as they hold up in the barrels fighting to protect one another from the orc pack.

When they are given a window of time they escape to shore they find a man they call Bard who is willing to take them across the lake to a village called Laketown where they can re-supply and get there bearings straight.

Meanwhile the wizard Gandalf goes on to figure out what is happening at an ancient fortress called Dol Guldur, where there is an alleged necromancer who is raising an ancient evil to take over the world. Gandalf faces off against this Necromancer after finding out that he is also raising an army of orcs to conquer the lands.

Gandalf fails and is imprisoned in a cage after his staff it is disintegrated in his hands.

Bilbo and the Dwarves get help and supplies from the town's people and then head on towards the Lonely Mountain, which is the location of Erebor and the lair of Smaug. They get inside and send Bilbo in to find the stone that can call upon the Dwarven cities to help restore the ancient dwarven city of Erebor.

While inside the lair of Smaug, Bilbo and the Dwarves are being chased down by the mighty dragon. They trick Smaug into Lighting the great forges in an attempt to kill the dragon by submerging him in a pool of molten gold. The plan fails and only makes Smaug angrier, and he decides to attack Laketown.

I think the sequel was much better than the first movie and leads on for the third and final one to be amazing so I'm giving it 4 out of 4 paws.

*The Desolation of Smaug*



# Disney does it again with their latest hit

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Disney has done it again with it's latest animated hit *Frozen*. Starring Idina Menzel (*Beowulf*, *Enchanted*), Kristen Bell (*Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, *When in Rome*), and Jonathan Groth (*Glee*) *Frozen* was fun for the whole family.

The first scene opens with a musical number centered on several villagers sculpting ice. Though the song was well written enough and fairly entertaining it was easily forgotten in the wake of the later excitement throughout the story. Immediately following the musical number we are introduced to our two protagonists.

The movie is centered around sisters Elsa (Menzel) and Anna (Bell), young princesses who are first seen as small children living within the palace. Elsa has mysterious powers linked with snow and ice and, at Anna's request, the young Elsa uses these powers to make it snow within the palace. The two happily play together until Elsa's powers accidentally injure her sister and her parents burst into the room. The king is less than thrilled and comments that his daughter's power is getting out of hand.

Anna is saved but loses all memory of her sister's magical abilities, which leaves her hurt and confused when Elsa shuts herself away in an effort to protect those around her from further harm. The two grow up living lonely lives, which is both beautifully and heart-wrenchingly illustrated in their musical duet "Do you want to build a snowman?". We witness their lives as they grow up and become young women. Along the way their parents die in a tragic

accident and Elsa, being the eldest sister, becomes the queen.

The palace hosts a ball to honor their new queen and Elsa is forced to leave her solitary confinement to appear before her guests. There are visiting nobles from all over and Anna joyfully dances and celebrates, wishing that they could enjoy parties more often. During the ball the two sisters argue and Elsa decides she's had enough. She tells them to close the gates; the party's

over. Anna goes after her and in a moment of anger Elsa reveals her powers to all the guests; including a shell-shocked Anna.

Horrified, Elsa flees the palace, inadvertently triggering an endless winter to fall over her kingdom. She disappears and creates a castle of ice to live in solitude. Anna is determined to bring her sister back. With the help of mountaineer Kristoff (Groth) Anna sets out to find Elsa and end the eternal winter.

*Frozen* is a movie that's sure to make even the coldest of hearts melt. With gorgeous animation, a collection of great music, and loveable characters the film has earned 3 out of 4 paws.

*Frozen*



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