破纪录！《哈利·波特》初版封面画拍出190万美元

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近日，苏富比拍卖行表示，第一版《哈利·波特与魔法石》小说的封面图原画以190万美元的高价售出，成为迄今成交价最高的哈利·波特主题拍卖品。这幅封面图上绘制了怎样的画面？距离初版已经过去27年，这幅画作还能卖出这样的高价意味着什么？一起来听今天的讲解。

英文原文

Artwork now most valuable Harry Potter item ever sold

By Kathryn Armstrong

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Artwork now most valuable Harry Potter item ever sold

An original watercolour illustration has become the most valuable Harry Potter item ever sold - fetching $1.9m (£1.5m) at auction in the US.

The artwork for the first edition of JK Rowling's Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone sold for more than three times the expected price. It was first auctioned in 2001, before the book series was complete, for £85,750.

"This is really the first visualization of Harry and the wizarding world," said Kalika Sands from Sotheby's auction house. It took nearly 10 minutes for the four-way bidding to finish. The identity of the buyer was not revealed.

The artist behind the illustration, Thomas Taylor, was only 23 years old in 1997 when he created the iconic image of Harry Potter standing in front of the Hogwarts Express - the train that would lead the young bespectacled wizard into the magical world.

Mr Taylor, who grew up in Wales, was one of the first people to read the manuscript for the original Harry Potter book, which went on to sell millions of copies and spawned a lucrative franchise including movies and theme parks.

Ms Sands said the difference in auction price between 2001 and now reflected just how popular author Rowling's creation had become. "New generations have come to appreciate Harry and his journey as well."

V. FAQ

Mat老师在今天的答疑环节中讲解了「book something 和 reserve something」的区别。欢迎同学们把笔记分享到留言区～

【内容拓展】

生词好句

1.fetch a price

If something "fetches a price," it means that it is sold for a certain amount of money.

拓展:

The painting fetched a high price at the auction.

这幅画在拍卖会上拍出了高价。

These rare coins often fetch good prices if you sell them online.

如果在网上出售，这些罕见的硬币通常能卖到好价钱。

2.first edition (of a book)

the first version that was printed and published and sold

拓展:

The first edition of any Harry Potter book is very valuable.

《哈利·波特》任何一本书的第一版都是非常珍贵的。

She was very excited to find a first edition of her favourite novel in a second-hand shop.

她非常兴奋，因为她在一家二手店找到了最喜欢的小说的第一版。

3.be auctioned

When something "is auctioned," it means it is sold to the highest bidder in a public sale.

拓展:

auction n. 拍卖，拍卖会

The antique vase is going to be auctioned next week.

这只古董花瓶将于下周拍卖。

Many rare items will be auctioned at the charity event.

许多稀有物品将在慈善活动中拍卖。

4.visualization

英 [ˌvɪʒulaɪˈzeɪʃn] 美 [ˌvɪʒulaɪˈzeɪʃn]

n. "The process of visualization" is changing ideas or information from something that you can't see into something that you can see, either with your eyes or in your imagination. Today, it's about eyes.

拓展:

The numbers are difficult to understand, so I’ve made this simple visualization. Look, you can see them on this graph.

这些数字很难理解，所以我做了一个简单的可视化处理。请看，大家可以看这张图表。

An artist has created a series of visualizations based on the characters in the novel.

一位艺术家根据小说中的人物创作了一系列形象。

5.illustration

英 [ˌɪləˈstreɪʃn] 美 [ˌɪləˈstreɪʃn]

n. An "illustration" is just a picture or drawing that explains or decorates something.

拓展:

The book has beautiful color illustrations on every page.

这本书每一页都有精美的彩色插图。

She has found her dream job: creating illustrations for children's books.

她找到了梦寐以求的工作：为儿童书籍创作插图。

6.bespectacled

英 [bɪˈspektəkəld] 美 [bɪˈspektəkəld]

adj. If somebody is "bespectacled," it means they wear glasses. You can see them wearing glasses. And we often use the word to describe someone who likes reading, or someone who's a little bit nerdy.

拓展:

The bespectacled boy was reading his book quietly in the corner of the library.

那个戴眼镜的男孩正在图书馆的角落里安静地看书。

The silent, bespectacled librarian was arranging books on the shelves.

那位沉默寡言、戴着眼镜的图书管理员正在书架上整理书籍。

7.manuscript

英 [ˈmænjəskrɪpt] 美 [ˈmænjəskrɪpt]

n. A "manuscript" is a handwritten or typed version of a book or article before it is printed.

拓展:

The author sent his latest manuscript to his publisher.

作者把他的最新手稿寄给了出版商。

He spent months working on his manuscript for the new novel.

他花了几个月的时间在写这部新小说的手稿。

8.spawn

英 [spɔːn] 美 [spɑːn]

v. If one thing "spawns" something else, it creates or produces something else, usually something successful, but it can also be used for negative things.

拓展:

The story of her life has spawned many books and films.

她的人生故事催生了许多书籍和电影。

The popular video game spawned a series of films.

这款流行的电子游戏衍生了一系列的电影。

9.lucrative

英 [ˈluːkrətɪv] 美 [ˈluːkrətɪv]

adj. When we say something is "lucrative," it means it makes a lot of money.

拓展:

She started a lucrative business selling handmade jewellery.

她开始了一项利润丰厚的买卖手工珠宝的生意。

The job offer sounds very lucrative, with a high salary and many benefits.

这份工作听起来收入可观，薪水高，福利多。

10.come to do something

We use the expression to mean gradually do that thing. It gives the idea of something happening slowly, gradually, a gradual, step by step process.

拓展:

He has come to enjoy reading poetry.

他开始喜欢读诗歌了。

I finally came to accept that I needed to change my job.

我最终接受了需要换工作的事实。