

H.P. & GLASSES OUTLINE
FOUR-EYES FTW (Working title)

I. Intro

- other glasses wearing famous figures → stereotype
- HP's influence/summary
- Thesis: Over the course of the Harry Potter series, Harry's glasses characterize various views of himself as his independence and success are contingent upon embracing his peculiarities to put his past behind him, while never losing sight of our

II. Definition Defense Shared Reality

- 1.) "engrave, imprint" → in/into (fixed); "write" "define" (societal perception)
- 2.) "describe/delineate peculiar qual." → "strange, odd, unusual" → what makes HP special → family
- 3.) "to attribute character to" → positive (moral & ethic); upstanding/courageous → HP as Gryffindor

III. Def. 1 - "to engrave, imprint, impress; to inscribe, write; to define in form or outline"

paragraph 1

- Move from novel to life; can't be escaped/avoided (defining)
- Before realizing he is a wizard, glasses cause torment → social isolation
↳ 3 quotes on page 3 of notes (p. 20, 24 & 30) → "broken" metaphorically = weakness
- Research shows children find them undesirable (Factors Assoc. article on pg. 2)
- JKR decided glasses "couldn't protect you" (Edinburgh press conf., p. 1)

paragraph 2

- In fact, w/rt Harry as the snatchers in book 1 identify him by glasses (453, p. 7)
- Death Eaters "slammed" them back onto his face so he was identifiable after death (727, p. 7)
- "Cutting into his temples" upon return to his body (724) → first thing felt > Unlike scar, which has some benefits
- glasses bring both physical & emotional pain (imprinting) themselves on his body & identity
- Unavoidable/irremovable → Animagus like McGonagall/Skeeter (p. 9, p. 5)

paragraph 3

- JKR "outraged" when they're left of Italian cover (Boquet, p. 2)
- Often the only thing visible on new VS covers (p. 8 & 9)
→ not on VK adult covers (vulnerability for kids) → specifically tied to coming of age
→ Radcliffe took two pairs (one small, one larger) (p. 2)
- "I just put on my glasses and then I became Harry again" (p. 2)
- "lense-less" glasses (p. 2) as transition to Def. 2 (positive assoc. & illusion v. reality)

IV. Def. 3- "to attribute character to"

Section 1
Paragraph 1
Paragraph 2

- The hero-worship of Harry as a book and movie "character" have made glasses desirable, even if only in the realm of fantasy ("lense-less glasses")
- Move from real-life impact back to character (end w/ metaphorical sight)
- ~~Rowling was tired of books~~ Kids attribute intelligence (Kokkanis, p. 4)
- Rowling wanted her w/ glasses (not just bookish) (p.1)
 - ↳ But still plays on stereotype ("didn't know you could read") (p.2)
 - ↳ utilizes Archetype → Dumbledore "half-moon glasses" → Wise Old Man (p.707, p.7)
 - ↳ OHP cover (p.9)
- Children now wanted glasses = status symbol (p.4)
 - ↳ appeared "smarter" whether or not test subject wore glasses (p.4)
- Glasses seem like a prop at times (not actually used on SS & OotP covers) (p.8 & 9)
 - Harry still excels @ Quidditch (p.3, p.4)

Section 2
Paragraph 3
Paragraph 4

- Moral & Ethical attributions of "honesty" as well (p.4)
 - ↳ perhaps glasses make the wearer look more grown-up = integrity
- Harry is the quintessential ~~courageous~~ courageous Gryffindor
 - ↳ courage facilitated by sight ("but he could see") (177, p.5)
- Time and time again, Harry "sees" through various plots (p.6)
 - ↳ trust in sight allows him to stand up to teachers, Ministry, friends
- When battling the Basilisk he "couldn't help" "opening his eyes wide" (310 p.6)
 - ↳ desire to know; must see evil to fight it.
 - Harry's eyes = Mother's love; Voldemort has "snake-like" animal eyes
- Moody's fake eye helps him see through objects
 - ↳ (Transition to eyes stolen/misused) → Identity

Def. 2 "To describe or delineate the character or peculiar qualities of (a person or thing)"

- ↳ Downside → Dependency → Identity → Independence
- Mad-Eye Moody is defined by his ^{"peculiar"} eye (in name & behavior), which adds to his myth/prestige but also makes his identity easier to steal
 - ↳ Both Umbridge & Barty Crouch Jr. steal eye
- ↳ Pitfall of allowing an object to "characterize" you → possession of your objects creates you, but now identity is tied to a separate physical obj.
- ↳ Loss of identity/control ("the kid in the glasses")
 - ↳ Do "the glasses wear Harry," or does "Harry wear the glasses"
- In the most abstract sense, Harry = glasses based on p.v.r. "symbolic function... always Harry's p.v.r." (Edinburgh press conf., p.1)
 - ↳ Books written from 3rd limited, not 1st however → Harry not in control
- The "strangeness" of limited sight is repeatedly remarked upon
 - ↳ "Strange how nearsighted" (213); "It was a pair of glasses. How strange." (295, p.5)
- Harry may have special vision for plots/truth; but often wrong/gets tunnel vision
- ↳ Convinced of what he "saw" with visions in OotP → dependant
- Dependant in a physical sense → "holding broken glasses up to his eyes" (49)
 - ↳ "Eyes still tightly shut, Harry began to run blindly" (318) P.6
- Glasses/Glass demonstrate best and worst of Harry the idealist (rose-color glasses)
 - ↳ Brazilian boa constrictor; Mirror of Erised
- In Mirror of Erised sees parents → recognizes eyes & glasses (defined by parents)
 - ↳ Illustration on p.7 (looks at parents not self in mirror)
 - "eyes just like mine" "[his father] wore glasses" (208, p.5) → "comfort & strength" (Zimmerman)
 - Glasses = Parents (no separate identity while in their shadows) → Eyes = muggle-born mom; Glasses = pure blood dad
- ↳ "eyes behind his glasses were bright green" (6, p.5) → can't be altered
- "due to his vulnerability" (Boquet, p.2); "Everyman nature" (critical Perspectives, p.3); GoF cover (p.9)
- ↳ Continues to fall back on parents → GoF & DH (ghosts reappear) → give strength/explicit direction
- ↳ How others have defined him as well (Hagrid's remarks on appearance) child
- ↳ Snape "the green eyes found the black" → no mention of glasses
- ↳ In fact, through Snape's perspective ("Snape's worst memory" in pensieve) that relates to Harry becomes disillusioned, and can begin to define himself → "glasses slipped" (649, p.6) Snape
- Originally "took off glasses" and "extremely unusual though he was" "felt just like everyone else" (14-15) P.5
- Later believes his special/different because of his visions (actually Voldy's control)

- IV. (cont.)
par. graph 5
- Finally, after choosing to sacrifice himself "He was not wearing glasses anymore" at King's Cross Station → Dumb. still wearing his
↳ emphasis of the station on choice
- Upon returning to body, Voldemort tortures him and laughs (just as he did in the Chamber of Secrets) and Harry's "glasses flew off" but he maintains calm (and therefore control)
↳ (727, p. 7)
- ↳ In CoS, he can't resist opening his eyes and would have died if Fawkes hadn't blinded the Basilisk
- Harry has finally become his own hero & saved his life by playing dead, keeping his eyes shut, & leaving the Resurrection Stone in the Forbidden Forest

VI. Conclusion

- Similar transformation can be seen on covers of CoS & DH
→ Instead of reaching out, Harry clutches Fawkes, who leads the way (p. 889)
↳ now wears green shirt, choosing to play up mother's eye color
↳ or at least suggesting awareness
- Harry's glasses are not mentioned once in the Epilogue
→ None of his children wear glasses (although Albus has Lily's eyes)
⇒ No quick fix of "Oculus Reparo" in books; something's cannot be magically mended, but they can be overcome
- Independence & Success require that you embrace your differences, and past to turn your weaknesses into strengths, but never lose awareness ("sight")