

SEVIN OKYAY

Sevin Okyay, known to many as the translator of the Harry Potter series was born on November 25, 1942, in Istanbul. She is a writer, translator, film, jazz, and crime critic, as well as a sports journalist and a radio-television programmer.

Sevin Okyay has translated works in various genres over the years, contributing significantly to Turkish literature. In 2014, she was honored with the Onur Ödülü (Honor Award) by the Translation Association for her contributions to Turkish literature. Although she is mainly known as the translator of the Harry Potter series, she has translated many works in various genres. Some of these include:

Hayvan Çiftliği (George Orwell)

Dokuz Öykü (J. D. Salinger)

Okumalar Okuması (Alberto Manguel)

Moby Dick (Herman Melville)

Vahşi Doyum (John Coyne)

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In an interview, she mentioned the first book she translated, "İnsan Vücudu" (Human Body), published by Arkin Yayınları in 1964, stating that even at her current age, she wouldn't accept the translation job if offered. Despite working on translations in various genres for many years, Okyay, when asked in an interview if she has a collection of the books she translated, replied, "I have most of the ones from the last few years. I don't even remember the names of the others, let alone keep another copy." She collaborated with her son, Kutlukhan Kutlu, who is also a translator, to translate the groundbreaking work, the Harry Potter series, and Manguel's "The Dictionary of Imaginary Places." When she initially accepted the translation of the first Harry Potter book, she never expected such success.

