

# JK Rowling says she received ‘loads’ of rejections before Harry Potter success

By Alison Flood

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JK Rowling has offered hope to aspiring authors everywhere, after revealing that the first literary agent she sent the manuscript of Harry Potter to responded with just a slip of paper rejecting it.

To add insult to injury, the agent also held onto the folder she submitted her work in, Rowling wrote on Twitter, in response to a question from a fan who asked if she would “ever get nervous emailing agents” when she first started out.

“The first agent I ever inquired sent back a slip saying ‘My list is full. The folder you sent wouldn’t fit in the envelope,” replied Rowling. “I really cared about the folder, because I had almost no money and had to buy another one.”

Asked: “How many folders do you have now JK?” by one of her 4.38 million followers, the novelist replied, jokingly: “I now have over a million folders, all made of costly silks, each one hand-gilded by artisans in Paris,” adding the hashtag JK, for “just kidding”, or in her case, Joanne Kathleen as well.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone had been written in English cafes while Rowling and her daughter lived on benefits from the government. It was accepted by Christopher Little, the next literary agent she submitted it to.

She told another fan on Twitter that she received “loads” of rejections before she finally got published – Little sent the manuscript to 12 different publishers before it ended up with Bloomsbury.