

Moscow Bookstores Receive New Harry Potter Books After Confusion at Customs

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Neil Hall / Reuters

English-language copies of "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" have been delivered to Moscow's Dom Knigi book store, the company's head Nadezhda Mikhailova told the RIA Novosti news agency Friday.

Reports in the Russian media claimed that copies of the book were being held by customs officials due to an anti-terrorism probe.

"Copies of the eighth Harry Potter's book are currently being inspected by customs officers in connection with the country's anti-terrorism program," said PR Manager for the Moskva bookstore Natalya Chuprova, as quoted by the Izvestia newspaper. "Some problems have emerged there."

Moskva's Deputy Manager Yekaterina Mosina later confirmed that there had been a hold up, but would not specify any reason for the delay. "We do not know when the books will arrive yet," Mosina told the Moscow Times.

Managers at Dom Knigi said that there had been no information about customs delays. "We've received the books and will start selling within an hour," Mikhailova said.

The book is set to be translated in Russian by November this year, with some 150,000 copies expected to be published.

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