

NEWSREEL EASY

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Programmanus

av Carrie Morrison

Hi, and welcome to Newsreel Easy. I'm Carrie Morrison. Coming up:

- Removing offensive language from old books

Andy: Maybe it's because they think it's wrong. Sure. But you can't go back and change your mind.

But first...

Northern Lights

People in the South of England were able to see the Northern lights for two nights last month.

This was a very rare event as the lights are normally only seen in the north of the UK.

Thousands of people took photographs of the rainbow colours in the sky. The lights are caused by flares from the sun which send charged particles towards the earth. These particles then react with our atmosphere.

Scientists say we're likely to see the lights more often over the next two years as the number of solar storms increases.

New versions of James Bond books

Now, do you think old books should be rewritten if they use language which is offensive?

The publishers of the James Bond books are releasing new versions – with some racist and homophobic language removed.

offensive language

stötande språk

change your mind

ångra sig

northern lights

norrskén

rare event

ovanlig händelse

caused by

orsakade av

flares

lågor

charged particles

laddade partiklar

react

reagerar

increases

ökar

rewritten

skrivas om

publishers

utgivare

releasing

släpper / ger ut

This comes after some words were also changed in the books of Roald Dahl. For example, Augustus Gloop in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory was originally called “enormously fat”. In a recent version it had been changed to “enormous”.

So what do young people in London think about old books being changed?

Giulia: Hi, I'm Giulia.

Andy: Hi, I'm Andy.

Carrie: So there is that story about the James Bond novels potentially being edited by the publishers and getting rereleased to remove offensive language. What do you think about that?

Andy: It's a money move. Publishers really want to change it because they want to sell the books, right? Maybe it's because they think it's wrong. Sure. But you can't go back and change your mind.

Andy thinks that publishers are making these changes to sell more books, and they shouldn't change what's been written. Giulia, what do you think?

Giulia: I'm kind of in between when it comes to this because whereas I see the need for it, I don't know how this would go, to be honest. And it does feel like a bit of a loss.

Giulia feels the changes might not be liked and may not be needed.

Carrie: And why do you think publishers want to do this?

Giulia: To be politically correct, which is not necessarily a bad thing? I'm not sure in this case that it really matters, most people may not know or care that you're doing it just to conform.

Giulia says that publishers want to show they're aware of how attitudes to language have changed. I asked Andy why he thinks keeping the original language is important.

Andy: The use of language is kind of pivotal to the time it was written. I'm not saying it's good. I'm not saying it's great. And like, as long as you're aware of it, when you go in and read it, I think that's more important than tweaking it to make it fit to what it is now.

enormous

enorm

novels

böcker

edited

redigerade

rereleased

släppta på nytt

remove

ta bort

money move

(något som görs för att tjäna pengar)

in between

mitt emellan

loss

förlust

publishers

utgivare

necessarily

nödvändigtvis

conform

anpassa

pivotal

central

tweaking

vrida

Andy thinks that even though some of the words in these books are now seen as hurtful, they were written at a time when those words were normal.

Eurovision Song Contest

Musical interlude: Stefania – Kalush Orchestra

That was Kalush Orchestra, the Ukrainian band that won the Eurovision song contest last year.

This year, because of the war in Ukraine, the event will be held in Liverpool in the UK.

The British government has promised to give the organisers £10 million to help them stage the contest.

That's all for this week.

Speak to you again soon.

Goodbye!

hurtful
sårande

contest
tävling

will be held
kommer hållas

stage
iscensätta / sätta upp