**The Sorting Hat’s Riddle 2021**

Though in the July of 2020 I did not appear

On Harry Potter’s birthday as I had the previous year,

Just as you, I was not free to travel round and round

Because of the pandemic I remained on Hogwarts’ Grounds.

At Hogwarts an extension charm created social distance.

The students masked for safety at the Ministry’s insistence.

And Madam Pomfrey found that to encourage vaccination

Just give out chocolate afterwards—it was a big sensation!

And since the circumstances this year are judged much improved

I’ve come across the ocean with a riddle just for you.

The theme of *Tales and Tails* provides a guide for you this summer.

So magic beasts and creatures will appear here in great number.

Take the letters which begin each answer found below

And rearrange them in a line (a column or a row).

And once in order they will spell a name that we all know

From tales of Harry Potter. Are you ready? Good, let’s go!

This creature lives in Hogwarts Lake and catches at your feet

And tries to pull you under as you struggle to retreat. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Boggart lies in wait to find the thing that you most fear

Shout this word, and with your laughter it will disappear. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The sight of Aragog fills Ronald Weasley with sheer terror

What is this creature? (If you answer *spider* you’re in error.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Buckbeak is a member of this noble magic breed

When horse and eagle are combined that’s one fantastic steed! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Norbert’s species is well-known, it’s hardly worth a mention

If you don’t know it, I may have to put you in detention! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

These creatures are the living dead, they lurk within a lake

That Dumbledore and Harry cross, a horcrux for to take \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Now puzzle out this riddle, and then get up off your seat

Bring your answer to the library and get a birthday treat.

For right or wrong, your answer matters not, so don’t be wary

Come enjoy a treat and tell us why you love our Harry.

**The answer is.: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_**