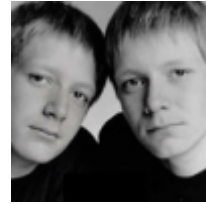




[2009-04-01 08:42:00](#)

(no subject)

***I solemnly swear that I am
up to no good***



 [alternity](#)

 [alt_forge](#)

We have several important observations to make about the Lord Protector. Yes, that Lord Protector:

**The Supreme Governor of the Council of British Rule
Patron of the Pure
Sovereign of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the
Wand and Rose
Grand Sorcerer
Paramount Chief Warlock of the Wizengamot
and proud holder of the Order of Merlin, Crystal Star**
(they had to make a special level above First Class just for Him, you know. They don't do that for just anybody!)

or as we also like to call Him,

**Marvellous Marvolo the
Magnificent Malcontent
Lord Pustule
King of the Swill
His Fartulance**

**We think it is extremely important that everyone knows that
this rather famous individual:
wears girls frilly knickers and sleeps with a fluffy Teddy Bear
named Clarence,
that he cries at thunderstorms,
that he is scared of little bunny rabbits,**

**that his wand core is a dragon turd,
that he picks bogies from his nose and eats them,
that he can't find his own arse without a compass
AND
that he needs a regiment of his adoring followers to wipe his
bum every day.**

And in case we haven't made it perfectly clear:

**His Excellency, the Lord
Protector, is a stupid PONCE!!!!**

**Thank you for your attention to this VERY IMPORTANT public
service announcement!**





 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-01 12:44:17](#)
(no subject)

Very nice. Happy birthday, bro.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-01 12:44:30](#)
(no subject)

Why, happy birthday to you, too, mate. What a coincidence!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-02 14:55:28](#)
(no subject)

Has anyone noticed yet?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-02 14:55:40](#)
(no subject)

Nope. I think we can officially declare that the lock works.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-02 14:55:52](#)
(no subject)

It's time. Let's grab Lee. I'd say we're ready to roll.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-04 23:17:22](#)
(no subject)

Bloody hell!

2009-04-01 12:14:00

Order Only: Big Announcement

Right, well, it's no use denying it anymore: I've a confession to make.



 [alt_sirius](#)

I've been corresponding with a woman for the better part of a year and I've decided to ask for her hand in marriage. This may shock some of you, particularly when I tell you who she is. But I'll get to that.

There are some problems we'll have to face. I like to go out dancing or ride the bike; she thinks Voldemort is pretty cute, in a creepy sort of way. She doesn't know I'm an Animagus, nor would she approve, I'm sure. We've not discussed finances - I'm sure she has more money than I have currently, but I don't know if she'll mind having a 'kept man' or whether she'd expect me to continue working (though certainly not with the Order). She's in England and I'm, well, *here*, and for me to return, as you all know, means I'd likely be captured. Well, sure to be captured, in fact, if I show up at her place of business or allow myself to be seen anywhere with her in public.

There's a bit of an age difference, too. And the obsession with pink, kittens and a severe need for a steady supply of cough drops.

But I think we can get past all that. If anyone can arrange a pardon, well -- it's not her. But it's worth it to be with the woman I love.

Yes, it's true: I'm in love with Dolores Umbridge, the Bullfrog of the Ministry. Trust me, I'm as mystified as anyone.

I wanted you all to be the first (well, third, fourth, fifth, etc.) to know.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2009-04-01 18:47:43**

Order Only

Sirius Black!

I've nearly had heart failure over this. Just as I first glanced at it, I was interrupted by six young Ravenclaws who'd got themselves a bit purple in a hex gone wrong sort of way... and all the while I was sorting them, I was thinking you'd said you were marrying and leaving the Order!

For pity's sake.

Well.

All I can say is that if you propose to the Minister, please persuade her to elope and live with you beyond the wards! That would be a bit of bright news for those of stuck on this side.


Really. You nearly did me in!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-01 18:56:53](#)
Re: Order Only

You wouldn't really want me to give myself to the Minister? After all, I'm still a young man. I've so much left to live for!



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-01 23:46:53](#)
(no subject)

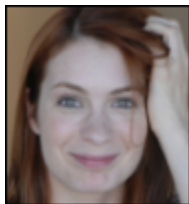
Oh, Sirius.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-01 23:55:49](#)
(no subject)

What?

I know it's an awful choice, Alice, but it's true love, I swear!



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-01 23:57:16](#)
(no subject)

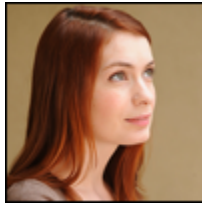
Well, I wish you both the best.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-01 23:58:16](#)
(no subject)

Cheers.

Does that mean I'm forgiven?




 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-02 00:03:32](#)
(no subject)

Of course you are, you silly man.

I only hope the point I was trying to make originally didn't get lost in the wash.



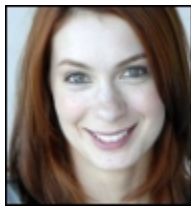
 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-02 00:15:44](#)
(no subject)


No, not lost.

I don't only see the worst, either. I just wish we could be sure, that I could talk to him for myself.

Owls are no good; and communicating openly through the journals isn't an option.

Any bright ideas?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-02 00:25:09](#)
(no subject)

Well, I suppose not!

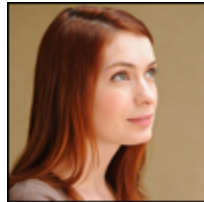
You could always ask Minerva to use her fireplace for a little chat. I know she has a connection in her office. Does it work overseas, I wonder? I honestly have no idea.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-02 00:50:50](#)
(no subject)

Hm, the only one I'm aware of that can connect through the wards is in the *charger d'affaires* office in Calais. I'm sure there are others, but they're all official in some capacity. Which means they'll be monitored.

But maybe I can rig something up, if we arrange it ahead of time. Bound to be ticky, and mind I'm not promising it'll work at all.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-02 01:02:39](#)
(no subject)

Well, it's certainly worth a try.


Thank you, Sirius.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-05 19:13:19](#)
(no subject)

Well, this certainly gave Molly and me a good belly-laugh, Sirius, but I'll pass on one tip (speaking as the father of very experienced pranksters): the pranks like this one that work best are the ones that are at first glance believable, so there is a chance that someone might actually fall for them!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-05 20:55:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, trust me, Arthur, this wasn't a lack of practice or inexperience with pranks of my own. I didn't really want to give anyone heart failure. Between the physical distance and the medium of the journals, I thought it best to be gentle - more for the laughs than for any real hope of tricking anyone.

(Though it seems Poppy didn't read my notice all the way through, and *was* actually fooled for a brief while! Don't tell her but getting told off like that is what gave me *my* April Fool's laugh.)

2009-04-01 15:05:00

(no subject)

Todger tonic for the masses! Have a warehouse full and need to move it!

Perk up the Hampton Wick, it will! Know what I mean, know what I mean?



 **alt_wagstaff**

[2009-04-01 18:47:00](#)

1 April

And another April Fools nears its end.

Fortunately there was little permanent damage done to anyone. There was the usual flurry of activity after breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus a few unfortunates who found themselves ambushed between classes.



 [alt_poppy](#)

There were the usual cases of bat bogeys, bulging eyeballs, cackling fits, cauliflower ears, swelling hexes, rubber necks -- and a fair few charms that cannot possibly have been executed as intended (because who would cast a hex to make hair grow on the backs of someone's knees? or make a person's vision go all yellow? or grow feathers on someone's ribcage? -- I think that one was meant to be wings, but I'm not certain).

Today I've seen purple-bellied Ravenclaws (they might not have realised except that the colour extended right up their throats to their ears!), twenty-fingered Hufflepuffs, Confused Slytherins (slipped a potion in their pumpkin juice at breakfast, I gather), and all manner of altered and addled Gryffindors.

In fact, I've had to set warming charms in the ward because I can't yet close the windows after a certain group of first-year Gryffindors arrived here smelling very ripe indeed thanks to a masterfully applied Dung Drencher hex. I believe the lads may have lost points for arriving late to their afternoon Astronomy lesson; it's unfortunate that Professor Acton was not witness to the hexing because the young ladies who cast the spell might have won back those points for their House as reward for their proficiency -- quite beyond the usual first-year level.

To be honest, days like this (and Valentine's) make me glad that I will never again have to live through that age when affection and animus alike are so violently felt and expressed!

Addendum. The March inventory was, as expected, quite routine. New stores are arriving daily, which is exciting after such a long spell of making do and doing without.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2009-04-02 00:33:30](#)

(no subject)

They were rather apologetic and chastened, actually. (Whatever did you say to them when you sent them up to me?)

I went lightly on them - five points total from Gryffindor, for being late, rather than than five points off each, or any such thing. Some charms hit harder than others - and it seems unfair to me to penalise them for needing your help (when I'm sure there was a line of students waiting for you, as well.) It is April Fool's, after all, and a little chaos is really to be expected.

When they explained what the charm was after class, I was certainly glad they'd been to see you first. My brother was quite good at Dung Drencher hexes in his school days, and it's certainly not a smell I care to be around any more, thank you.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-02 02:20:56](#)

(no subject)

They did have that beleaguered look of hounds who've got crosswise with a skunk.

I shall be quite pleased if we do not see a rash of Dung Drencher hexes now that someone's introduced it to the collective imagination. Unfortunately, this is one of those things that seems to inspire copycatting and paybacks.




 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-02 01:24:51](#)

(no subject)

Thank you, Poppy, for your tireless record of students' behavior. I am consistently interested in the inmates in your Hospital wing. Deeply informative!



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-02 02:16:17](#)**
(no subject)

Why, Minerva, I believe you might be having me on!

This was largely for my own benefit, you know. Now we have these journals, it strikes me that it may be interesting next year (and thereafter) to look back and see what sorts of things the inmates got up to on days like this one.

Perhaps one day I shall write a paper on the sorts of mischief managed in magical institutions like our own.

2009-04-01 21:47:00

Oh, ha-ha

Professor Vector said that every year someone tries to tell her why ravens are like writing desks - I told Linus that the 3rd-years were having us on, but he was so sure we could get 100 points for Ravenclaw.



 **alt_padma**

And by the way, Finnigan, you completely deserved what Parvati and Lavender did. Honestly.

Boys are such morons.

(Just for the record, no, Chambers and Bradley did not push me into a bathroom cubicle and seal it. That was Su Li, and we don't look a thing alike, so stop asking about it, Smith!)



 **alt_seamus** at **2009-04-02 04:57:21**
(no subject)

But we didnt make THEM stink like dungbombs! They smelled like perfume!



 **alt_gredforge** at **2009-04-02 22:06:02**
(no subject)

Excellent show, youngster!



 **alt_padma** at **2009-04-02 22:33:06**
(no subject)

It was not! You stay out of this!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-03 21:33:13](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, it *that* what it was supposed to be? They smelled like an old witch's wardrobe.

2009-04-02 18:06:00

April Fools Day

Well April Fools Day was kind of stupid. I didnt get fooled at all. And my fool was really stupid and some people pretended they still were fooled. What's the point of that?!



 [alt_harry](#)


Also people who tried to pull pranks on Granger need to stop. I dont think that anyone in my year tried but she was upset about it and it isnt okay. Its usurping my power. I'm going to talk to Professor Slughorn if people do it again because it isnt right. Shes my mudblood and not yours so dont mess with her.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-02 22:30:41](#)
(no subject)


Who would bother?



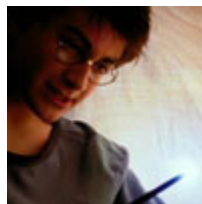
 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-02 22:32:42](#)
(no subject)

One of the fifth years said that they were trying to be mean to me. By being mean to her. But that only irritates me it doesnt make me mad.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-02 22:34:27](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, but who would want to be mean to you? I mean, thats not very clever, concidering.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-02 22:35:00](#)
(no subject)

I dont know. Maybe they're jelous.

[2009-04-04 13:02:00](#)

ORDER ONLY

Sirius, mate, we finally got the boat working properly. we tested it this morning using the fog as cover. Haven't seen a patrol about lately, but they got all antsy after Derby and have stepped things up in general, so you can never be too careful. the starter-thingy was a little sticky, but once we got it started, it ran just fine. And quiet, too. The sails were a damn hassle, though. none of us have ever used them before, so it's taking us a while to figure out how to turn them the right way. We're working on it.



 [alt_frank](#)

took her up about a kilometre, then brought her back safe and sound. Tomorrow night we'll take her out for a nice long time to get the feel of her.

That's all to report, really.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-05 00:29:34](#)

(no subject)

Brilliant, Frank! Knew you'd come to it given time.

I've little news to match it, I'm afraid. Dolores turned me down, sadly, so I won't be tying the knot anytime soon. And despite crawling the wharf bars every night while Marc was on shore leave, the closest I've come to finding a transport is a quite mad old Basque called *Le Morticien* - apparently so-named because he's survived so many shipwrecks. Marc says this is not a ringing endorsement!

But I'm not giving up. There's got to be a captain somewhere who'll risk the trip.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-05 22:41:43](#)

(no subject)

you let me know once you have and we'll be ready for it.

2009-04-04 18:12:00

first one, really

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

terry



 [alt_terry](#)

2009-04-04 18:15:00

the truth

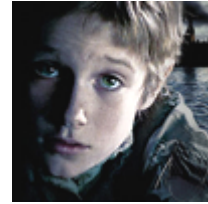
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

MY NAME IS TERRY BOOT

I AM A WIZARD

I HAVE BEEN SORTED BY THE SORTING HAT OF HOGWARTS SCHOOL OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY

MY HOUSE IS RAVENCLAW



 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-05 19:56:03](#)
(no subject)

Yes you most certainly are.


Congratulations



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 19:59:31](#)
(no subject)

You swear, you absolutely swear that he'll never be able to read this, never, no matter what? Swear by your wands, by your own magic!



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 20:00:01](#)
(no subject)

Because if he ever sees this, he'll kill me.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-05 20:09:29](#)
(no subject)

We swear that he will never, never, EVER see it.
We know it be an absolute, positive fact.

Terry, the lock has three protections. There is the

password, of course, but even if he somehow knew the password, he couldn't see anything because of the age charm. We tested it on mum and Acton, and neither of them could see it. We even gave that password to Acton, and she still couldn't see it, so the age charm works. No one can see it who's older than seventeen. And even if someone under seventeen got ahold of your journal, they can't read it without writing the password at the top. And you can't write under the lock unless you have the special ink. It's foolproof, don't worry.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 20:12:48](#)
(no subject)

boot just can't get over that you went through all this, that you did this for a mudblood!




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-05 20:18:57](#)
(no subject)

First of all, when you are under the lock no more of this mudblood malarky. You are a student of hogwarts, the hat sorted you, yeah? You are equal to anyone else Terry, and don't you forget that.

Second, we did it because you deserve it (see above) and because it gives us and Lee a chance to talk openly without stupid adults sniffing around and monitoring everything.

Also, its one up over the Carrows, and good fun besides.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 20:24:33](#)
(no subject)

That first thing, ~~boot will have to~~ I'm going to have to think about that. It will be hard. I can't slip, I can't let on that I'm anything but what he thinks I am, not even once!


If it is true, if you really think that ~~boot~~ that I'm equal then--then could I ask? Could we let Hermione know, too? If I could only have a way to talk to her that he could never see!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-05 20:27:38](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, if you really truly trust her, we could let her in. She'd have to make the same promises you did, of course, but it could be arranged.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 20:35:47](#)
(no subject)

You can trust her. I'm absolutely sure of it. Please?

But don't ever EVER give the lock to that Dennis, whatever you do. He's a snake. See, my magic, it sort of tells me things. Dunno if I can exactly explain it, but every time he gets near me, I can feel it, it's warning me about him.

If you do want to add other people later, I'm sure I'd be able to tell if it'd be a good idea or not.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-05 20:40:47](#)
(no subject)

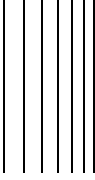
Well, now that Lee agrees, and we're fine with it, why don't we let her in.


Do you want to do the honours Professor?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 21:21:00](#)
(no subject)


Yes, please! I'll try to find a way to talk to her. If I can't find her eating her dinner tonight, during my free time, I'll see her in the hospital wing tomorrow morning, at least for a few moments. I'll ask her if she can meet me out by the lake tomorrow afternoon during my free time, and I'll tell her all about it then.



 **alt_lee** at [2009-04-05 20:38:54](#)
(no subject)


That's alright with me



 **alt_lee** at [2009-04-05 20:41:22](#)
(no subject)

Hey, when did you get sorted?



 **alt_terry** at [2009-04-05 21:13:28](#)
(no subject)

It was yesterday. ~~Mr Fred and Mr I~~ mean, Fred and George-- they snuck up behind me and grabbed me and blindfolded me! I was really scared at first, until I heard their voices. I don't know what I would have done if it had been anyone else. They said they were taking me somewhere, and it would all be good. They asked me if I trusted them.


As soon as I said I would, they hustled me along really fast somewhere. I couldn't tell where we were going. Then we were climbing some stairs, and one of them said something, and we went into somewhere, and they sat me down. And just as they whipped off the blindfold and I saw I was in the Headmistress' office, sitting on the top of her desk (!) they jammed the Sorting Hat down on my head!

I was just terrified, but I was too scared to even scream. I mean, what if we got caught? But just then, the Hat spoke inside my head. I wanted to take It off, but Fred and George were holding my arms down. So I told It that I couldn't be there, that I was just a stupid muddblood. But the Hat said It had been waiting for me, that It knew I needed to be sorted. It told me my name had been set down for Hogwarts when I was born, that I wasn't stupid at all, that I belonged in Ravenclaw!

It also said It was sorry that my name couldn't have been left out of the false book, but I was born too soon. What did It mean by that?

(I never saw you in the journals before, Mr Jordan. Did you do some posts, but I just missed them?)



 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-05 22:17:17](#)
(no subject)

Hey, Gred and Forge, how did you manage to get into McGonagall's office?




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-05 22:23:09](#)
(no subject)

Remember that night we got called up to her office? Well she was just a *leetle* tipsy, and Fred overheard the password.

And she hasn't changed it since then, not very good security is it? It's been a couple of weeks...



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-06 03:28:08](#)
(no subject)


I just realised. boot was so surprised, so overwhelmed, it never even got said.

just--thank you. never dreamed that anything like this could ever happen, could barely even sleep last night. Just so happy.

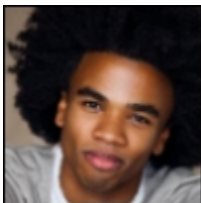
Thank you. you have no idea what this means to boot.


to me.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-11 14:57:36](#)
(no subject)


Yes, YOU, Terry!!!!!!!



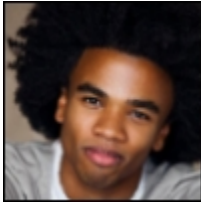
 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-05 22:18:24](#)
(no subject)


and call me Lee, not Mr Jordan



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-05 22:29:26](#)
(no subject)

will try, but might not always get it right. dont want to slip when other people are around.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-05 22:27:36](#)
(no subject)

and no, I havn't posted at all. I dont want the stupid ministry reading what I have to say so they can get me in trouble for it. Keep a low profile I say, easier to stay out of trouble, which is always a good thing.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-11 14:57:10](#)
(no subject)

That's ever so clever, also hello, I don't think we've properly met ever! I'm Hermione, you've probably seen me, I mean I know you've seen me, but we've never gotten to shake hands or anything

proper like that.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-11 14:54:11](#)
(no subject)

Oh Terry!!!!

2009-04-05 10:21:00

Roll on Wednesday

The children have been wild this week. You certainly couldn't miss the fact that Easter holidays are coming up. I never thought I'd say it, but I'm almost looking forward to heading off to Fenrir's camp on Wednesday for a break!



 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2009-04-05 20:59:45**

Order Only

Alice....



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at **2009-04-06 15:19:34**

Re: Order Only

I haven't noticed him growing fiercer, Sirius, else I would have said something. I believe he's merely starved for company. And who can blame him for seeking out his own kind?



 [alt_alice](#) at **2009-04-06 17:03:56**

Re: Order Only

thank you, Minerva.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2009-04-05 21:06:50**

(no subject)

Really, looking forward? Looking **forward** to spending time with Fenrir, that cannibal? What's on the agenda this month, then, How to Bite for Maximum Scarification? Another baby roast?

Merlin, Morgana and Mordred, Remus.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2009-04-06 06:40:02](#)
(no subject)

I did say 'almost'.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2009-04-06 17:01:57](#)
(no subject)


How can you think I was being serious.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2009-04-06 17:20:16](#)
(no subject)

You don't know me at all, do you.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-07 17:53:46](#)
(no subject)

I once thought I did, yeah.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-05 23:22:19](#)
(no subject)

It always gets worse this time of year. Think it's the combination of warmer weather, hols, and approaching exams.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2009-04-06 17:35:09](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure you're right, especially about the exams. I stumbled across another sobbing fifth year today, convinced she was going to be cast out of the family home for failing a charms exam she hasn't taken yet.

Perhaps my school days were just spent with the brainy and the

self-confident, but I don't remember any of us worrying so much about OWLs, or even NEWTs.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-06 18:30:41](#)

(no subject)

Spent time with the brainy...meaning yourself?

Hope your holiday goes all right. I'll be heading to the area 'round Perth, myself. Don't much like the castle when it's quiet, it doesn't feel right. But if you go somewhere where it's always quiet, well, that's different.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2009-04-06 18:57:45](#)

(no subject)

Hah hah, no not myself. I had quite someone else in mind.

I hope you have a good break too. I think we could all use one after the term we've just had. Some places are just meant to be enjoyed in peace and quiet, and the Perthshire countryside is definitely one of them.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-06 00:59:57](#)

(no subject)

I suppose it might be nice to get away from students every once in awhile, sir.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2009-04-06 17:24:32](#)

(no subject)

Nothing personal I assure you, Neville. I imagine you're looking forward to a break from your teachers too.

2009-04-05 18:28:00

(no subject)

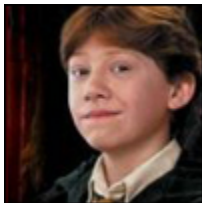
Finally got an owl from mum.


Unfortunately it's too late to stay here for the holidays. Professor Slughorn said the sign-up ended weeks ago.



 [alt_pansy](#)

I really wanted a kneazle, too.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2009-04-06 02:38:05**

(no subject)

So what are you going to do for hols?

You all right, then?

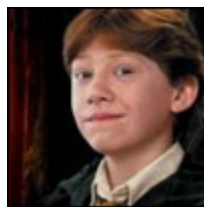



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2009-04-07 00:39:49**

(no subject)

I'm fine.

I'm going home, but it's all messed up.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2009-04-07 01:15:26**

(no subject)

Um. That doesn't sound very fine to me.

You sure you're all right?

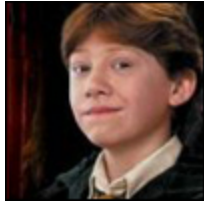
I was thinking of going for a bit of a walk just after breakfast tomorrow. Want to come?




 [alt_pansy](#) at **2009-04-07 01:23:30**

(no subject)

You could walk me and Sally-Anne to Herbology, if you want.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-07 01:25:21](#)**
(no subject)

Sure.

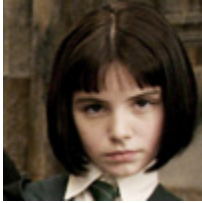
I'll look for you after breakfast then, yeah?




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2009-04-06 03:22:27](#)**
(no subject)

Oh Pansy I'm sorry.

You aren't going to have to stay with Mrs Black again are you?



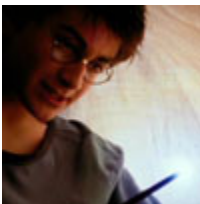
 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2009-04-07 00:40:31](#)**
(no subject)

No, I don't (although really, that was more all right than I worried it would be).



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2009-04-06 04:14:02](#)**
(no subject)


I don't mean any disrespect to Mrs Black of course but I know you'd rather see your mum.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-06 15:45:47](#)**
(no subject)

Praps youll be able to come see Draco and me though. Maybe?

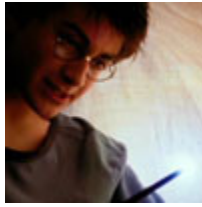


 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2009-04-07 00:42:54](#)**
(no subject)

Probably not. Mum doesn't like Lucius anymore, I guess.

She says I can't go with him to get a kneazle, which

I'm betting means she won't let me come to see Draco, either. Besides, aren't you going to be home with your Father?



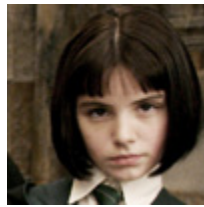
 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-07 00:54:47](#)
(no subject)


Yeah I suppose. I get used to Draco being around all the time though.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-07 00:55:12](#)
(no subject)

I wonder if Father would let Draco come with me?!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-07 01:19:15](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, but if you wanted him there and your Father said to, I don't think Lucius would say no.

But that doesn't really solve the problem.

Anyway, Lucius thinks he can still get me a kneazle, and no offense, but that's more important than banging around Buckingham with you and Draco.


(Not that Draco would want me there, anyway.)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-07 01:03:23](#)
(no subject)


I received communication from her as well. Do not rule out a kneazle quite yet, Little Bit.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-07 01:04:36](#)
(no subject)


But she said I can't go with you. She said I'm not supposed to be alone with you. Why?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-07 01:06:12](#)
(no subject)


She has tried to proscribe our spending time in company, true, but according to her own signature, she appointed me your guardian. She shall have a very difficult time convincing anyone that she distrusts me as your chaperone.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-07 01:14:09](#)
(no subject)

Do you really think I'll still be able to get a kneazle?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-07 01:15:45](#)
(no subject)

I think something can be arranged.

2009-04-05 22:23:00

(no subject)

Who else is staying here for spring hols?

It's going to be strange being at Hogwarts without any classes to go to.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_draco](#) at **2009-04-06 03:57:03**

(no subject)

Maybe you can sneak out into the forest like you've always wanted to.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2009-04-06 04:03:46**

(no subject)

Oh hush! You'll give away my secret plan!

ONLY JOKING PROFESSOR MACNAIR.

I probably will go on some walks though.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2009-04-06 04:06:12**

(no subject)

Too bad Pansy won't be around, otherwise you two could chum it up like you always do.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2009-04-06 04:11:10**


(no subject)

I know! I wish she were staying.

I don't think anyone's staying. You're not, Harry's not, Pansy's not. Millicent and Daphne are both going to be gone, I know Teddy's going home and I think Blaise is going on holiday somewhere with his family, and I can't imagine Vince or Greg spending any extra time at school if there were ANY alternative. There are some older students who are staying

to revise for OWLs and NEWTs but otherwise I think Slytherin House is going to be nearly empty.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-06 04:18:49](#)
(no subject)

Whatever happened to the Strettons? Are they not having you over? Anyway, maybe they'll be some Gryffindors left behind, or something.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-06 04:31:42](#)
(no subject)

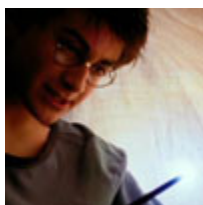
I sent them an owl to see if they wanted me to come, and they never answered it. They're my foster family so I think I could go if I wanted to and they'd sort of have to take me. And I wouldn't mind seeing Gemma again. But I'm not going to go there if they don't want me to come, not when I can just stay at school.

Also here I don't have to sit up with crying babies all night.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-06 04:38:22](#)
(no subject)

That's strange. Why'd they agree to be a foster family if they're not even going to answer Owls from their foster child? Probably trying to get a leg up with the Lord Protector.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-06 15:46:49](#)
(no subject)


Sorry Sally Anne, but I don't want to be stuck at Hogwarts. If only because the pudding is better at home.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-06 19:49:20](#)
(no subject)

I'll be going home. I'm sorry you won't have too many familiar faces around, but I'll admit I'm looking forward to seeing my sister and my Gran.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-06 20:13:58](#)
(no subject)

I reckon the hols'll mostly be a load Character Building Tasks for us: Mum always seems to have a list of chores on the longest parchment she can find when everyone comes home for vacations.

And top of the list for me and the twins? Is gonna be garden De-noaming (how do you even spell that?!).

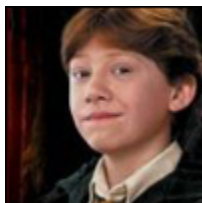
If we get wrongways with Mum, though, it could be a whole lot worse. I remember one holiday Charlie and Bill had to spend the whole time they were home up in the attic mucking out the ghoul dung. I can tell you that wasn't a pretty thing. Smelled almost as bad as that Dung Drencher hex the other day -- but at least it wasn't all over me -- but it did make the top floor of the house smell dead foul for a week.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-06 20:28:49](#)
(no subject)

A boy can always use more character building, Ron.

Come home prepared to work!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-06 22:46:29](#)
(no subject)

Oi! Mum! Don't add anything t'your list! I didn't mean anything bad -- just there's always a load to do and holidays ought to be, I don't know, holidays, innit? Other people don't have to spend days banging gnomes over the head and tossin' em down the lane. Couldn't we just, you know, sleep in a bit and rest up for all the work we'll have to do when we get back here? I mean, Mum, I

don't think you know how hard they make us work. And how early we have to get up, and then we've got to stay up all night practically for Astronomy, and it just wears you out. It does! Honest. I could sleep for a week, I truly could! And eat!!! Are you making us steak and kidney pie? I mean you make the best, Mum! So much better than what the elves give us here. And your puddings are absolutely sorcerous! I mean it. I'm just starving for good food like you make, Mum. I can't wait!!



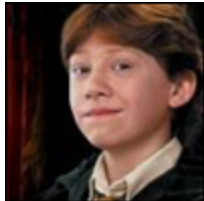
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-07 01:54:35](#)


(no subject)

Don't worry, it won't be all chores, son. You'll have plenty of time for some pick up Quidditch games. And I know your mum's ordering some steak and kidney from the butcher, so you can look forward

to that.

Ginny's getting quite excited to see you all again.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-07 02:45:53](#)

(no subject)

Wizard!

Tell Ginny hey from me.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-06 22:47:02](#)

(no subject)

Sheesh! You never know who's reading these things, do you?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-07 00:50:36](#)

(no subject)

I wish I were staying, too.

2009-04-06 08:20:00

Mudblood complications

Father's last Owl mentioned the importance of writing in my journal and not just writing comments in everyone else's. I hadn't forgotten, only I've been awfully busy and I'm looking forward to Easter holiday because I think that when I get back, my detentions are over at last.



 [alt_draco](#)

This last week's detentions were with Professor Lockhart. He wanted me to clean and polish the gallery of art in his office. It's all photographs and paintings of him, usually with someone famous, though in some of them he's standing with one foot on the back of some dark creature that he's conquered. There's really a great load of pictures, and they go all the way up to the ceiling so it's good he has one of those sliding ladders like there are in the library. It was funny, though, because I thought the pictures would just be dusty but instead a lot of them were sort of..smeary, I guess. So cleaning them really wasn't that easy.

The real problem was that Dennis came in and tried to help me. I didn't even see him because I was way up on top the ladder and he was way down low near the floor. Only Professor Lockhart came in to check on me and he said he was disappointed that I would recruit my mudblood servant to assist me. Dennis tried to tell him that he came in on his own to help and that Master Draco didn't know he was there, and Professor Lockhart just laughed after that and sent him on his way. But of course Dennis didn't move because he waits until I send him away before he leaves. So I sent him away. But I see now why Harry didn't think Dennis was a very good servant. Because he wants to help you so much but he's too little, or something, to know when and where he should be helping sometimes. I tried to talk to him about never doing anything for me unless I specifically ask for it, and he said that he wouldn't be a very good slave if he did that. That he needs to be able to anticipate my needs to be the best slave there is. I like the idea of him anticipating my needs, but so far he's not very good at it. So after my detentions are over I think I'll have to work on that with him.

One thing I like, though, is that even though they know Dennis is a mudblood, his magic has never manifested - at least not yet. He told me he hopes it never does and I told him I hope so too. If mudbloods steal magic they must steal it from the people they're closest to, so if

he decides he can't help it and he needs magic, I'm positive that it's mine that he'll get. I really do wonder how they do that, though. I suppose it's something that the grownups will figure out, eventually.

Here's something else: did anyone see my Aunt Bellatrix at school last week? Around Thursday I think? If she was here it must have been important business, because she didn't come round to say hi to me or to Harry.




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-06 15:48:29](#)**
(no subject)

Thats it about Dennis exactly. I didnt know quite how to put it. Good show. Only maybe hell get better when hes older? Hermione doesnt do anything like that. Hermione just does what I tell her to. She doesnt try

to anticipate.

I wonder how Hermiones magic manifested. I ought to ask her. I bet she turned her hair to snakes.

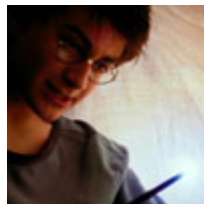


 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-06 15:52:00](#)**
(no subject)

Harry...I don't think you ought to ask about her magic.

Her hair's really awful. Maybe you should cut it off. I found a big long springy strand of it on my robes yesterday, ugh!

I thought you were calling her Granger.




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-06 16:02:02](#)**
(no subject)

Why not?

It is kind of awful isnt it. Maybe we should cut it off. Only if we cut it short it would look worse I think. Maybe we can give her some shampoo or something. Other girls hair doesnt look like hers so they must do something to it to make it less frizzled.

Well you call Dennis Dennis.

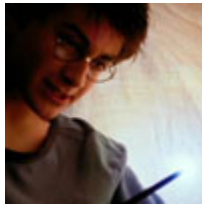


 **alt_draco** at [2009-04-06 16:07:22](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, but it seems like it might be dangerous to have her talk about magic. It might make her want to do some?

What about that thing Hydra does to her hair, plaiting? Or maybe get her a big hat and it could be all stuffed up inside of it.

I don't know if Dennis has any other name, I just remember that you that you said you were going to call her Granger, that's all. And when you're at Buckingham you just might want to keep on with that.




 **alt_harry** at [2009-04-06 16:10:23](#)
(no subject)

I suppose. Only I don't think she could. She doesn't have a wand so she couldn't really, except the kind you can't help. Eventually I suppose she'll do some of the kind you can't help. People always say you can't stop magic, don't they? But Dennis is probably all right as long as he just never starts.

A hat!!! What kind of a hat? It would have to be awfully big. I don't know how to knit. I suppose we could find someone who does know how. Or I could ask Father to buy one for me for her.

Good idea on that last part.

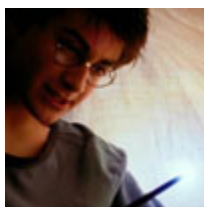



 **alt_draco** at [2009-04-06 16:30:30](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, but it'll look like you care, unless you can make it seem like you don't.

Millie has that really squashy knit cap she wore at winter, with the ear flaps and the pom-pom on top, and if it fit Millie's head you know it'll hold a lot of hair. We could try to


nick it, or maybe she could be talked into donating it if we gave her enough sweets.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-06 16:51:04](#)**
(no subject)


I bet shed give it. We can always send Herm Granger to Honeydukes if we dont have enough. Millys a glutton!!



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-06 16:53:38](#)**
(no subject)


I know, she can never have enough sweets. It'll be easy.



 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2009-04-06 17:32:14](#)**
(no subject)

Don't they *do* something to them to keep them from stealing magic?



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-06 18:23:13](#)**
(no subject)

I think they're still figuring that part out. It makes me feel better, though, to know that Dennis doesn't want to steal magic. He was practically crying at the thought of it.



 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2009-04-06 18:32:13](#)**
(no subject)

What? They don't? They're all around us where they could steal magic from anyone! And some of them are creepy. What if they do it by accident? Like when your magic starts and you don't know about it. And stuff happens. Before you have a wand.

I'm staying away from them. I don't know how you stand thinking about it.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-06 18:35:22](#)**
(no subject)

That's why they put them in camps, Jones. I can't believe you don't know about this yet. That old lady you live with doesn't teach you much, does she?

Being around them really bothered me at first but I'm getting more used to it. Plus I think if you act scared of them, it probably makes them feel like they have power over you.



 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2009-04-07 01:30:46](#)**
(no subject)

I know that. My guardian teaches me what I need to know. She's very painstaking, especially about making sure I know about mudbloods. And halfbloods. And purebloods. But the ones that are here aren't in camps. There's at least three of them. Right here with us.

I thought they'd made them safe. Somehow.

I suppose if they stole it we could steal it back. Since we're real witches and wizards.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-07 14:08:08](#)**
(no subject)

I think if they die you get your magic back.



 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2009-04-07 14:49:44](#)**
(no subject)

Ooooooooooh.


I wonder if it feels funny when you get it back.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-07 15:42:21](#)
(no subject)

Probably feels either really brilliant or really awful.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-07 12:01:53](#)
(no subject)

I guess that's a good point, about making them feel powerfull or what, by acting afraid of them.

Are you really used to it now? But yours is sort of like a puppy, where Marvolo's is all, er, not.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-07 14:10:38](#)
(no subject)

Just because she's bigger than a puppy doesn't mean Harry can't keep her in line.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-07 14:13:21](#)
(no subject)

No, I meant that he sort of looks like a puppy, and he acts like one, I mean, you can practickly see his tail wagging. It's kinda cute.

But Granger's not like that at all. Well, maybe she's eager, I dunno. But she doesn't look like something you'd want to pet.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-07 14:18:14](#)
(no subject)

Ha, I wonder if I should give him a tail! Except Father probably wouldn't approve so I won't. But it would be a good way to practise, maybe. I've never done magic that difficult before.

Harry likes that she's not eager, I guess.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-08 03:12:00](#)
(no subject)

You could practise your magic on your mudblood if you had spells you needed to practise couldnt you? Like the leg locker jinx. Or stunning spells when your older, dont OWL students learn that in

Defense?

So as long as you could convince someone that the tail was to learn something for school it would probably be okay.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-08 05:44:39](#)
(no subject)

Well for Jinxes Harry and me usually practise on each other. It's loads more fun that way. I don't think Harry would want a tail, though. And I don't know, I probably won't give one to

Dennis.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-07 00:48:00](#)
(no subject)

Dennis does kind of have a way of appearing to help when you don't expect him.

Do you think you saw your Aunt? I saw someone outside when I was looking out the window in History of Magic, but I couldn't tell who it was.


It could have been her, though.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-07 02:36:47](#)
(no subject)

I didn't actually see her, I heard someone else did.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-07 17:40:20](#)
(no subject)

I don't know if Dennis has any other name

Creevey, as I told you in the letter I sent when you embarked upon ownership. However, as he is so docile, it can hardly hurt to use his given name; I understand that the servants at Buckingham did so regularly.

We look forward to seeing you home, Draco.

I fear it may be lonelier than you are accustomed as Harry will be with his esteemed Father during the holiday and it is ... unclear at present whether other visitors shall be permitted. We ought to discuss whether there are other acquaintances you have made with whom you might wish to spend time. I have already spoken to your Great-Uncle Stephen about a visit with Seamus Finnigan.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-08 05:46:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, sorry. I forget that you said that in your letter, Father.

I suppose seeing Finnigan would be all right. I wish Harry could come too, though.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-08 03:08:59](#)
(no subject)

I thought mudbloods stole magic from wizard children whose magic isn't manifested yet and that's why there are squibs. So you'd be safe from Dennis. I mean if you weren't safe the Ministry wouldn't let mudbloods anywhere near wizards would they? But I still wouldn't want one in my dormitory.

Mr Rosier says your coming over some time during hols. If you bring your broom maybe we can go flying? Well if you don't bring your broom Mr Rosier has loads and you could borrow but I'd love to see yours. It sounds wizard.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-08 05:48:28](#)
(no subject)

Yes, well, it seems like their still figuring out a lot about mudbloods. You never know what might be possible.

I'd only ever bring over my own broom, of course. I've been dying to fly it. How good are you at flying? You helped Padma, didn't you?

2009-04-06 11:54:00

ORDER ONLY: I am going with Harry Marvolo!!



 **alt_hermione**

First off, Professor McGonagall, can I please come and see you in your office to-day? Harry told me that I could spend some time packing my own things to go to Buckingham for the holiday and he wont ever notice I was gone. I really want to see you. I can make sure no one sees me come.

Second off I am for sure going to Buckingham and if anybody wants me to keep my ears open for something specific, I will. I can't guarantee I'll hear anything because I don't yet know whether the Lord Protector will want me to stay with Harry all the time the way I do here. But I hope I will!



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2009-04-06 16:15:24**
(no subject)

Certainly, Miss Granger, you may see me. Come at two o'clock; Mr Marvolo ought to be in class then. I shall consider what your objectives at Buckingham ought to be, in the meantime.



 **alt_frank** at **2009-04-06 20:51:30**
(no subject)

you be careful now. don't go poking about too much.

I'd tell you to spit in his high and mighty's tea for me, but Alice'd have kittens if I did, so between you and me, I said no such thing.

2009-04-06 12:13:00

(no subject)

Tidbit, before I get back from lunch, go down and fetch my trunk from the school's trunk storage room. You'll need to get it packed over the next couple days for our little holiday.



 [alt_amycus](#)



 [alt_terry](#) at **2009-04-06 17:26:55**

(no subject)

your trunk, sir? is this for the school holiday?

where are you going?



 [alt_amycus](#) at **2009-04-06 17:27:44**

(no subject)

You're going, too.

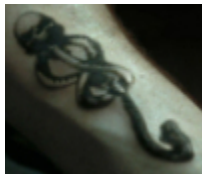
And you'll find out when it's your business to find out, and not a moment sooner.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2009-04-06 17:29:34**

(no subject)

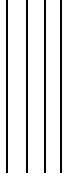
sorry, sir. boot was only asking so he could know what sorts of things to pack.




 [alt_amycus](#) at **2009-04-06 17:32:16**

(no subject)

Clothes for the length of the school break. Waterproof outerwear. Just the usual. I'll take care of packing up the notes I'll need. Don't want you messing with the parchments on my desk.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-06 17:34:13](#)
(no subject)

yes sir

2009-04-06 13:43:00

Order Only



 [alt_kingsley](#)

Greetings, my friends!

I apologise for going so long between reports, but I assure you there is a good reason: the Peacehaven Players are becoming a roaring success. We've played in four camps in the last three weeks! And every one of them wants us to come back. "Babbity Rabbity" is turning out to be one of our most popular pantos (although Benjy grumbles something awful about getting transfigured into a rabbit so often). Pity we can't do "Fair Fortune" -- that's always a crowd-pleaser, but the camp administrators would hex themselves before letting that one go through.

Arthur, thanks for that information you passed along from the personnel records at Derby, and Alice, I got the letter you forwarded to us from Stephen McGivern. Thus armed with these offerings, we set out for our rendezvous with William Davidson and his Sherwood group yesterday. A month camping in the woods hasn't done much to mellow Davidson's suspiciousness, but you've got to admit his caution has benefits. I'm just astounded they've managed to keep themselves from getting captured all this time. Guess our transfiguration really did the trick!

Anyway, Davidson met us where we'd agreed and allowed they were doing well enough. He made me open McGivern's letter and hold it out for him to read, not wanting to touch it himself at first--I don't know why, perhaps he feared it was a portkey or something. But once he read whatever Stephen put in the letter, he thawed out quite a bit. He led us to the place they've been using as their base.

Very snug it is among the old growth. Even without leaves on the trees, it's darker there than out near the town. All the branches are showing signs of green, though, so I imagine it will not be long before they are even more comfortable and hidden.

Jackie Porter was grateful for the news that Arthur sent about her brother, still in the camp, and even their best poker faces couldn't hide how pleased and relieved they were to get the potions that McGivern sent along. Larry Mason had an infected cut that he was reluctant to let us get near with our wands, but the wound dressing potion should clear that up. Otherwise, they seem to be in pretty good

condition.

They still are not willing to send anyone to Moddey Dhoo, but they gladly accepted the supplies and gear we provided: clothing and boots, a dowsing rod to help them find water and a collapsible cauldron for carrying it, an axe, flint and steel for lighting fires, dried food supplies, snares for catching rabbits, camouflage tarp to keep off the rain, and so on. I think they've been pilfering eggs from the local henhouses, but other than that, I don't know what else they've been living on.

I'm sure they'd be great assets to Moddey Dhoo, Frank and Alice, if we could ever get them to change their minds. But seeing the pride they took in their little camp, I think I can understand their point, their quiet determination to rely on themselves. Perhaps the stars they see at night seem to shine a little clearer when they look up at them, surrounded only by friends they can trust. Their food may be sparse, but maybe it tastes a little sweeter without the taint of slavery.

Still, I think this visit has helped us come a long way to establishing trust, and there was no difficulty about setting a date for us to meet next month.

Be well, my friends, and careful!



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-06 20:09:35](#)**
(no subject)

good thing that letter worked for you. Stephen said he'd written some things in it so they'd be sure to know it was really him and all, looks like it did the trick.

and seems like they're getting on alright, too. Almost wish I could be out there with them. it's understandable they don't want to come along to Moddey, but who knows -- they get any more families to escape, they might be willing to send 'em along to us.

we'll be owling some potions to you in a week or two for your next Derby trip. just some basic pepper-ups and sleeping draughts for the time being.

when are you lot free to come up and visit?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-07 01:42:07](#)**

(no subject)

I should have thought about it before you met with Davidson this month, but perhaps you can offer me to be a conduit of information in the other direction. Is there anything they might want the people back in the Derby camp to know? It might take awhile for them to trust you enough to provide the names of anyone there who might have been involved with planning the breakout (if there are any left that either didn't escape themselves or the Ministry haven't uncovered), but if the Sherwood group want to pass anything in that direction, let me know, and I'll see what I can do.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2009-04-07 15:26:53](#)**

(no subject)

I'll ask Davidson and the rest, next time we meet up with them.

2009-04-06 21:24:00

An update

The last week has been maddeningly busy, largely catching up on the lost days from the week before. Briefly:



 [alt_lucius](#)

Warrington asked me to sit in on a meeting regarding the mudblood placement programme. Very interested to see the testimonials; encouraging results. (Draco's comment about growing accustomed to his servant is not untypical, it seems. It is an interesting test case, if nothing else.) Also went by Selwyn's office to fill out additional parchmentwork related to our diplomatic trip during the summer holidays.

Bode, Croaker, Rookwood and the rest of the DoM held a quarterly meeting last Thursday which quite predictably went overlong. Rookwood heads out to the camps this week for field research; Bode's work remains ineffable but irrefutable nonetheless; Croaker manages to eke out more funding despite disappointing returns.

Our entry into importation has thus far been lucrative, though not necessarily as high-yield as I anticipated. Clarriker provided the quarterly statements for review, which raised a few questions (particularly regarding the list of substances requested by Hogwarts).

Ari owled to cancel tea to-morrow. Per his journal, he tripped on the stairs (one of Antonia's toys, I think, was the culprit?) and sprained his ankle. Poor timing, as Pandora is due any day, although still no motion on that front. This being her fourth, Pandora is more sanguine than Ari suspected, but he says their midwife recommended that if the situation has not changed by the week-end, they ought to go in to St Gerard's for the services of an obstetric Healer. Narcissa had little good to say about the obstetric specialist - though much to praise about the matrons at St Gerard's.

On a final note, all is in readiness for Draco's return on Wednesday. Unfortunately, the impending holiday has not escaped another's notice - necessitating a meeting with Caldecott.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2009-04-09 05:11:58](#)**
(no subject)

Mudbloods really can make excellent servants with proper training. They're less trustworthy than house elves, of course, but they're rather more readily available. You can also request servants with particular training already; if you'd like a really good cook or an expert laundress the camps can usually manage to send you what you asked for.



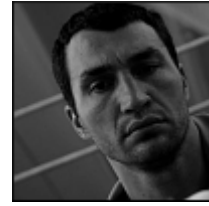
 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2009-04-10 00:37:54](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, Draco has been relating his opinions now that he has possessed such a servant for the last few weeks. It has been enlightening.

2009-04-07 08:30:00

Away

For any Gryffindor students staying at the castle over the holiday, know that I'll be away for most of the duration. I'm heading to parts elsewhere on business, so keep your noses clean, yeah? Professor Acton has agreed to help you out if you need anything. Hopefully, you won't.




 [alt_macnair](#)

I've no plans to return to the castle with a dragon. Or anything else dangerous.


Well, not too dangerous.



 [alt_megan](#) at **2009-04-07 14:53:52**
(no subject)

How dangerous is not *too* dangerous?



 [alt_macnair](#) at **2009-04-07 14:58:38**
(no subject)

I'll be gathering creatures for the OWL and NEWT exams, so they got to be more than garden gnomes, don't they.

2009-04-07 08:35:00

IX

Professor Sinistra, I've sent you an Owl this morning and I do hope that it has arrived in due course. It mostly includes detailed plans for the project, as well as a copy of the recommendation I penned for you following my observation of your class. Two others that I know of have been recommended for the position as well, but the fact that it is I who am recommending you should put you in good favour, I think. Please look the materials over and do not hesitate to Owl in return if you have any questions.



 **alt_bellatrix**

Along with that business, I've got to meet with Hoppykirk about the changes to the training programme, get her siggy all over everything before passing it on. Harkiss and Dawlish are feeling quite nervous, I believe. As they should be, a pair of lumps like that.

My Lord has asked to be left alone this week. Time spent with the new pet project, no doubt. I only wish to be of service on that count, but if it is solitude He desires, He shall have it. Praise.

Ah, Cissy... we did the charm last week. It's a boy.

Yes, for all of you reading along: I'm pregnant. Almost into the third trimester. All looks safe and well this time, and Hydra is beside herself at the thought of having a brother. A son! I'll have to begin thinking of suitable names right away.



 **alt_narcissa** at **2009-04-07 15:03:27**

(no subject)

A boy!

How wonderful! It's lucky I never quite got round to packing up all Draco's old baby robes for charity. You ought to come this week, then, if you've got the time, and we can look through the cupboards in the north wing, give the things you want a good freshening before you need them.




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-07 15:20:40](#)
(no subject)

I shall be sure to make the time, Draco was a most excellently dressed baby.

Names... hmm, I wonder if Ophiuchus is too much a mouthful.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-07 15:44:35](#)
Order Only

Oh, for goodness sake! Ophiuchus. When that child arrives at school, he will spend all his time here in the hospital wing with me being patched up from all the beatings he'll take from the upper-years. I can't imagine that even being a Lestrangle could protect him from that. Think of the nicknames!

I'd expect Thomas or Marvolo or Little Lord P, but Ophiuchus?

At least he'd come to us knowing how to spell!



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-07 16:04:31](#)
Re: Order Only

'Ophiuchus' is hardly the worst she could do. He wouldn't appreciate 'Thomas,' however: he hates anything that reminds him of his childhood.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-07 16:06:56](#)
Re: Order Only

What, after all, can we expect from a woman who named her daughter 'Hydra'?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-07 18:31:19](#)

Re: Order Only

Just think, she might settle on Apophis.

Tempted to suggest Pythios instead. Or Oedipus.

Deimus?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-07 18:57:01](#)

Re: Order Only

Hmm. I picked up a smattering of Greek when I was first learning Latin (back in the village school, before I came to Hogwarts)... perhaps 'Hybris.' God of hubris, arrogant pride.

Goes so well with Hydra, don't you think?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-07 19:20:16](#)

Re: Order Only

Nah, only if they'd been twins.

I think she ought to cut right to the chase: Diabolus.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-07 19:35:57](#)

Re: Order Only

After making a grim joke on the subject myself, I find myself rather uneasy, reading this over again.

After all, each child is supposed to be a new hope for the future. Yes, Bellatrix Lestrange is despicable, but shouldn't the child be permitted to prove himself, setting aside who his parents are?

I just don't want to fall into the enemy's trap, insisting that "blood" tells you all you need to know about a person.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-07 19:45:19](#)

Re: Order Only

You're right, of course - only in this case, the blood in question tells you that the poor kid hasn't much chance. My cousin will ruin the prog if left entirely to her own devices.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-07 16:40:43](#)

Re: Order Only

You're right, of course: I'm wrong about 'Thomas', aren't I? I had heard that about him. I hate to think what it would bode if she were truly to send us a child named for the Protector. No doubt he would be a terror.

But, Minerva, I've just thought: she shared in the feast, did she not? Imagine the effect of unicorn roast on the child! What sort of monster might she be breeding? It's terrible to contemplate.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2009-04-07 19:56:25](#)

(no subject)

Perhaps as a middle name, dear sister. Cygnus Ophiuchus would do very nicely, I should think.

Come when you like and we'll discuss it. Has Rodolphus any strong opinions?




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-07 21:11:29](#)

(no subject)

He's only said that perhaps the name might begin with "R," but it's not a strong opinion. He hasn't said, but I think he might've been hoping for a girl. He's said he's going to miss Hydra when she's off to Hogwarts in the autumn.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-07 15:32:32](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations, officially.

Yes, I suppose you heard the creature's final attempts to save itself? Madness, clearly. I do hope Our Lord's desire to work in solitude has no bearing on any more ... troublesome reasons.

Though I wonder that if He wished to be left with His new project, why He has expressly wished for His son to attend Him all week? Understandably He wishes to see the boy and acquaint him with His work. Still, historically He has preferred to keep young Marvolo out from underfoot.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-07 15:39:21](#)
(no subject)

As to why He would like Harry present, I cannot say. Last we spoke, He seemed... shall I say, quite emphatic about His desire to see His son.


Solitude seems to call to Him oftener these days.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-07 15:51:13](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations!



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-07 16:02:15](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Minerva.




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2009-04-07 22:39:13](#)
(no subject)

First, my best wishes for your continued health and that of the little one. What wonderful news for any family!

I did, of course, get your Owl this morning. Thank you for the level of detail in what you are considering, and your hopes for this project. I am - as I said on Thursday - quite interested, but I also understand the importance of a thoughtful and well-considered decision.

I expect to have some further time to look closely at your notes tomorrow, and will certainly Owl with any further questions I have. Thank you again for your time, and your comments on our class topics as well.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-08 05:39:03](#)
(no subject)

Thank you. My husband and I have been hoping for this for some time.

Astronomy was always an important subject in our family, owing to the tradition of passing on celestial names. I confess it isn't something I've kept up with, as it isn't muchly used in my own profession - still, it was interesting how it all came flooding back. Though your lecture was very clear and straightforward, and I'm sure that helped.

2009-04-07 09:05:00

Order Only: Minerva?

Minerva:

Have you seen what Malfoy says in his latest post about there being questions regarding the items we ordered for our hospital stores? What on earth? Have you heard a word or whisper of this?



 **alt_poppy**

At least Spring hols are upon us. I can tell you that I look forward to giving this ward the thorough going over it needs -- and a proper airing out.

Some of my own sense of anticipation seems to be echoed by my young friends, Mr Boot and Miss Granger: they've both been humming with energy and what looked to me like barely suppressed glee, if that word could possibly be used in relation to Mr Boot. I caught him smiling yesterday morning! If I could bottle that smile, I would, and dose him with it each morning he comes to me. Such a good thing to see!

Only, I confess that it causes me concern to think that their lives here are so menial and so full of anxiety and humiliation that they smile only when there's a holiday on the horizon. Do they really wish to escape from us?

I suppose it's understandable, but how utterly sad. I would have it far otherwise if only I could.



 **alt_molly** at **2009-04-07 14:35:13**

(no subject)

I can well imagine that Hermione is quite excited to see Buckingham Palace. But do you know where Amycus Carrow is taking Boot off to for the holiday? Did he tell you? I hardly think that anywhere Carrow might take it in his head to go on holiday would be pleasant for the boy, but perhaps he's simply looking for a change in his routine.

Hermione, did he tell you?

But anyway, that's good news that he's apparently feeling better. Perhaps spring is bringing an improvement in his spirits.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-07 14:53:07](#)

Order Only

No, I've no idea where Carrow plans to take the boy. I shudder to think. -- Actually, it seems to me he's said something about his services being in demand elsewhere, which can only bode ill. Carrow's services to the Lord Protector do not bear reflecting on. But, no, the lad's said nothing on the subject. He does not speak to me about Carrow. Even when he's been injured by that-- no. And, of course, I've given up pressing him to speak of it.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-07 15:03:47](#)

Re: Order Only

In a way, I think that is healthy, really. Your little sphere of control in the hospital wing must seem like an oasis of friendliness and safety to him, and of course he wants to forget that beast whenever he can. It must be a relief to him to have a place where he can put away his cares, at least for a little while.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-07 15:53:41](#)

(no subject)

No he hasn't told me at all, Mrs Weasley. I've not the slightest idea...



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-07 15:49:29](#)

(no subject)

I have not heard anything, Poppy. I shall keep my ear to the ground.


As for Granger - well, I shall let *her* tell you her news.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-07 17:57:20](#)**
(no subject)

Where does he...? Oh, that. Hm. No idea, Poppy. You did get everything you needed - well, everything we could get you, didn't you?




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-07 19:33:04](#)**
Order Only

Much of it has come, yes.

The greatest surprise was the arrival this week of a carton of Hercules' All-Heal. I intend to test it carefully, however: as I recollect, the label used to show Hercules killing a lion, but these labels show him in short trousers, wrestling a crocodile. Colour me doubtful.

Also, from its continued absence, one supposes that the HotWot will turn up in July. It will be a comfort to know that no one will lose any toes or fingers to frostbite this summer.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-07 19:43:15](#)**
Re: Order Only

The All-Heal definitely did not come from me! Sounds dodgy, so yeah, do test it before you use it for real. (Maybe Alecto still has some cuts to poultice?)

I did get the HotWot (sorry, still funny) so I've no idea where it scarpered off to.

Half a moment: Folkestone didn't buy most of that stuff from Laszlo - I'd lay odds that's what's got Malfoy's knickers twisted! Do you still have any of the crates? Are they from 'MacAlister' instead?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-07 20:04:42](#)**

Re: Order Only

You did get paid for the HotWot, then? It's really no matter when it comes now, so I'm not particularly fussed about that (though, believe me, I will be sure they know I've not got it yet).

I'll ask the elves to check what's on the crates. I'm sure they've got them somewhere about.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-08 02:35:05](#)**

Re: Order Only

I've had the elves search out those shipping crates and have made note of where everything's come from. I don't know why I didn't think to keep records of this from the start. I suppose I was just glad to have it all arrive; however, now that we know there may be problems, I certainly need to be able to report to the Board and to Malfoy which sources seem unreliable, so this was effort well-spent.

All right, then:

** From Clarriker (Malfoy's agent, it would seem), we've received your pomegranates and chocolate (and, my, such fine chocolate -- I don't know that I've told you how much I appreciate your getting such good quality, high cacao-content bars -- well done!).

** From MacAlister of Dover, we've received a generic (but entirely effective) toothache tonic and Pliny's Dry Dreams syrup (a tonne of that -- I think they might have tripled the order). According to my parchmentwork, it's also from MacAlister that we are expecting our shipment of Aphoresia's Blood Replenishing Solution (which should be on its way, finally, after being held up until we could file the licensure application and exchange 72 owls with some underwizard for medicinal certifications and excess parchment).

** From Jordan and Sons (also of Dover, it seems), we've received three bushels of dried fluxweed and a crate of

rather pallid Turkish salamanders, which have taken their time about perking up. I think they'll pull through, but watch: having said that, I'll check tomorrow morning to find them just a pile of ashes.

That leaves the HotWot and the Tincture of Time unaccounted for. The Tincture, apparently, has been held in a warehouse somewhere out of fear that it may contain some artificial colourant that would violate trade restrictions. Imagine it: the manufacturer might have used transfigured saffron rather than the real article, and the Protectorate is holding the high ground against artificial ingredients in imported goods. (Because transfigured ingredients are unheard of here, as you know!) I've no idea which importers are responsible for the Tincture and HotWot, but I'll let you know as soon as either crosses my threshold.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-08 03:10:13](#)

Re: Order Only

Sorry about the delay, then, if it's my Tincture they're holding up. I did get paid for that and for the, er, HW - Folkestone, that is to say, Clarriker, eventually anted up for them.

The salamanders are not the ones I ordered, sorry. MacAlister had already found a supply by the time I could get back to him and promise the ones I found. I did manage to unload mine, though, not to any of these three, but to, let me see. Yes, Plethodon's Palisades. Apparently it's a small park just outside Escomb. Didn't sound like he wanted them for medicinal purposes, but I had to do something with them. So if your lot do fail, you might see if he's willing to part with a few of his.

Oh, and the Pliny's was my fault, too. I told you I had to buy almost a lorry's worth of the stuff. I gave him a deal just to get it out of Agatha's shop.

2009-04-07 11:54:00

ORDER ONLY: Gryffindor

Last night I went to see Professor McGonagall and I asked her whether I could use the Sorting Hat and she told me that as long as I didn't tell anybody it was all right and the Sorting Hat promised not to tell anybody. So the Sorting Hat told me and it turns out that I am in **GRYFFINDOR!!**



 [alt_hermione](#)

Of course I can't do anything or wear Gryffindor things or anything at all, but it's ever so nice to know, and now I know to cheer for them in Quidditch. And think, Harry was supposed to be in Gryffindor as well, so we might've been housemates once. That's nice, isn't it? I wish I could tell him so, only I know I can't. And Terry is happy about that too even though we wouldn't've been housemates. I mean I don't think he's a Gryffindor at all. But that's all right because all the Houses are lovely! Only Gryffindor is the most lovely of all!

I think that perhaps Professor McGonagall was proud of me. She said "I'm honored to say that my House has you in it, Miss Granger," which was awfully nice of her wasn't it?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-07 16:00:57](#)
(no subject)

I am proud of you indeed, Miss Granger.


How ever did you create that garish 'Gryffindor'?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-07 16:01:55](#)
(no subject)

I have some colours of ink of my own, you see, Harry lets me keep a few things in my cupboard.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-07 16:17:33](#)**
(no subject)

Oh! Miss Granger, I am so pleased for you. So very pleased.

Of course, I'd thought you belonged in my House, which is Ravenclaw, but I do see that perhaps your academic affinities are rivaled by the spine you've displayed when push has come to shove. In fact, I imagine that the Hat's decision might have been sealed by the very fact of your asking to be Sorted. How ever did you think of it?

I know you've been busy this morning with packing for Mr Marvolo's trip -- and yours -- to Buckingham, but I'm hoping to see you during this afternoon's lesson time.


I shall miss your help whilst you are on holiday.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-07 16:55:52](#)**
(no subject)

Why, Hermione, what a wonderful idea to have you sorted! I'm almost ashamed that we didn't think of doing it before. And just like Minerva, I'm delighted to claim you for my house. Congratulations!



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-07 16:57:52](#)**
(no subject)


Indeed, congratulations, Hermione, my dear. I'm very pleased as well, indeed!



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-07 17:00:17](#)**
(no subject)

You would have been housemates with Ron, and all my other boys, too. I can well imagine you hectoring them to complete their homework so that they don't lose points for Gryffindor!



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-07 17:04:19](#)
(no subject)

Oh you're right! I wish I could ever talk to them, especially Ron as he must be nice since he's your son and it would be so lovely to have other friends my age, only I never seem to get to. And I don't want him to be in trouble. Perhaps something can be arranged though as Fred and George are so nice. I'll ask them next time they're in the Infirmary!!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-07 17:47:13](#)
(no subject)

Oh. I've just re-read your post and--Hermione, really. Minerva warned you not to tell anyone, but you've told Terry? You've been warned about keeping Order secrets!



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-07 17:48:40](#)
(no subject)

It's quite all right, Molly; I told her she might, as long as she claimed that she nicked the hat. Terry knows quite well how to keep a secret, and he won't know a thing about the Order.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-07 17:54:54](#)
(no subject)

Oh, as long as you think it right, Minerva. Well, I can understand why you would want to share this with your friend, Hermione. And yes, the boy clearly does know how to keep his own counsel, what with the secret classroom and so forth.

It's really quite a pity that we can't sort him as well, isn't it? But of course it would be much too dangerous for you to do such a thing, Minerva! I shudder to think what would happen if Amycus Carrow ever found out afterward--which he just might do, if his tortures are inventive enough. Perhaps it might be a little cruel as well. You truly don't mind knowing yourself, I hope, Hermione, when you can't be with your housemates

openly as a student yourself?

I wonder where the Sorting Hat would have put Terry Boot.
Hufflepuff, perhaps?

Or even Gryffindor. I imagine it must take quite a bit of courage
for him to face down Amycus Carrow every day.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-07 17:59:00](#)**
(no subject)

Never doubted it, kiddo. Welcome to the House, and well done.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-08 02:54:38](#)**
(no subject)

go go gryffindor!

2009-04-07 12:09:00

Hols are almost here!!!

Back in January, I was almost glad to be back at school, after weeks of Sanji pestering us.



But then in February, especially when the weather was so foul, I really missed home.


 **alt_padma**

And then of course we got to see our parents early because Parvati was chosen for the Hunt (which was amazing!), and I dunno, I felt like I didn't need to go home so much.

But now that it's nearly the holidays I can't wait.

It's a good job its Defence today or I dont think I'd be able to consintrate at all!



 **alt_terry** at **2009-04-07 13:35:07**
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I just realised: since boot's in Ravenclaw, she's one of my housemates, isn't she?

Don't think boot likes her any better for it.



 **alt_draco** at **2009-04-07 14:24:28**
(no subject)

Doing anything good?

Don't know about me. Harry said he'd see if I could come to Buckingham, but sometimes Mother doesn't like it when I spend all of hols with Harry. But you know, Harry doesn't have many people to be with over there.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-07 14:57:41](#)**
(no subject)

I dunno. Probably nothing much. Do you do anything for Easter?


Mum would get upset if she thought we'd invited ourselves, but I wouldn't mind seeing ~~Bucking~~ keeping Marvolo company. If he wanted.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-07 15:41:44](#)**
(no subject)

Oh god, I just read that my Aunt Bellatrix is pregnant. That's so... so. I don't know.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-07 15:49:25](#)**
(no subject)

I saw that, too!

So she isn't fat, after all.



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2009-04-07 15:50:10](#)**
(no subject)

No.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-07 15:51:31](#)**
(no subject)


Not that I ever thought so. Only you were upset other people thought so, Mrs Lestranger.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-07 16:03:25](#)
(no subject)

Never, small one. Just playing around.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-07 16:09:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh. Well, that's all right, then. Congratulations!

May I ask, is it really wonderful to have a baby? I mean, my cousin Denali says that she wishes she could be pregnant all the time.

I really want to have my own babies when Im grown up but I don't think I'd want to have them all the time. I mean, be having them. Be pregnant, I mean. All the time.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-08 05:42:07](#)
(no subject)


I am a working woman, I cannot be pregnant all the time. Nor would I want to be. But it is the duty of the pureblooded woman to marry and produce as much progeny as her lifestyle and health will allow.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-08 03:14:13](#)
(no subject)

Have a nice holiday Padma!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-08 03:16:51](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Seamus!

Do you have plans then?

2009-04-07 19:41:00

Confessions

**I solemnly swear that I am up to
no good**



 [alt_lee](#)

Well, looks like it's my turn for a post with all the dirt on me.*

I Lee J. Jordan hate the Ministry with a fiery, burning passion.

First of all, when they put up there bloody ward it destroyed my dads imports buisness and we probably could have managed to get by but his partner was a muggle-born and so the ministry used that as an excuse to seize all of the company money and stocks and propertys and things, leaving us almost completely bankrupt.** Then when they put all the muggle-borns in camps my cousin Greg hid his best friend who was a muggleborn from the ministry for years and years and they finally caught him when I was almost seven and I can remember when the ministry found out and took both him and his friend away to the camps.***

Also, I was the one who played that prank on Percy Weasley earlier this year and I still think he deserved it.

* Well, thats the way I figure it, if all of our first posts under the lock are stuff that would get us in trouble if it ever got broken then people would be a lot less tempted to break it.

** Luckily with the labour shortages it wasnt to hard to find jobs again.

*** They also took all of his stuff away too and we never got any of it even when we shoud've.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2009-04-08 00:52:35**


(no subject)

Which prank?

out of the ones that we didn't do there was... wait...
no... that was us... which prank again?

And what does the J stand for?



 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-08 01:01:42](#)
(no subject)

No way
I am not telling you my middle name.
Ever.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:06:02](#)
(no subject)

Why... Is it embarassing?
Something like... Jehoshephat?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:07:02](#)
(no subject)

Or Josephine



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:08:51](#)
(no subject)

Maybe Jimmy...
Oooh, cute ickle Jimmy Jordon



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:09:22](#)
(no subject)

Or Justinian



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:10:45](#)
(no subject)

Jerome



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:11:06](#)
(no subject)

Jocko



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:11:27](#)
(no subject)

Judas



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:11:41](#)
(no subject)

Julius



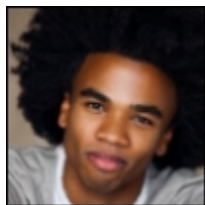
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:12:57](#)
(no subject)


Junior



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:13:31](#)
(no subject)

Jehovah



 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-08 01:14:24](#)
(no subject)

IM NOT GOING TO TELL YOU!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:15:00](#)
(no subject)

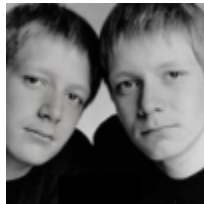
Really?

Then we'll just have to guess it.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:15:27](#)
(no subject)

Jody



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:16:12](#)
(no subject)

Jemima



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:16:54](#)
(no subject)

Jiji



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:17:08](#)
(no subject)


Jericho



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:17:17](#)
(no subject)

Jip




 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-08 01:19:07](#)
(no subject)

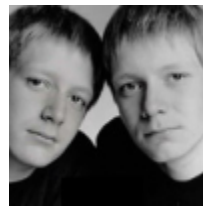
Maybe it's Rumpelstiltskin?

I don't think he's going to tell you.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-08 01:21:20](#)
(no subject)

I sort of like Julius.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-08 01:29:37](#)
(no subject)

Can't be Rumpelstiltskin, it's a J.

And Rumpelstiltskin? What kind of a name is that?

Cool name though...



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-08 01:32:49](#)
(no subject)

It's a muggle fairy tale. heard it in the camps, growing up. Tell you another time.

(Have to stop writing now, master's looking at me.)



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-08 00:58:27](#)
(no subject)

~~but had~~ I had wondered all along. Why you were so nice to ~~bee~~,
argh, to me, I mean.

(this is hard to remember, trying to write like a student.)

I'm sorry about your cousin. And his friend. I wonder if I ever met them.

(Hermione, you're able to read these posts now?)



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2009-04-11 14:53:39](#)**
(no subject)

Yes!!!!

[2009-04-08 13:11:00](#)

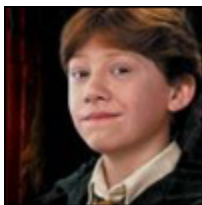
Has anyone seen my planner?


I ordinarily wouldn't use the journals for this, but since the train is leaving Hogsmeade station for hols in less than an hour, it's a bit more urgent. I can't find my planner anywhere. This is exceedingly distressing. I never misplace it--except for now, obviously. It has my schedule, Prefects information, and all my notes, and I need it back as soon as possible.



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_percy](#)

If anyone finds it, please let me know. Leatherbound with a Gryffindor lion embossed on the front cover, with my name inside. Thanks very much.




 [alt_ron](#) at **[2009-04-08 19:27:19](#)**
(no subject)

HAHAHAHAHA! Who needs a planner during hols? What're you gonna do, Perce, put yourself on a schedule to get through every one of Mum's projects so you won't slip up and miss doing something?

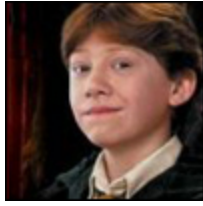
7am Beat carpets
8am Sweep steps
9am-noon Spread compost
1:30pm Wash up lunch things
2pm Hang out laundry
3pm Ask Mum what's next


Crikey! Whatever will you do without it?



 [alt_percy](#) at **[2009-04-08 19:48:45](#)**
(no subject)

Do I really have to point out the obvious? I have OWLs coming up, Ronald, and I wanted to get a great deal of studying done. Those notes are essential.



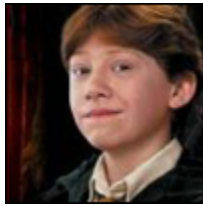
 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-08 20:12:35](#)
(no subject)


Did you get it back before we left?



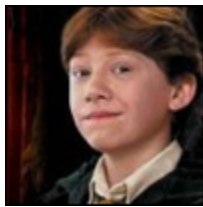
 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-08 20:25:17](#)
(no subject)


No.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-08 20:13:25](#)
(no subject)

Wait.

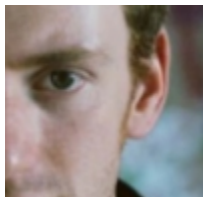


 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-08 20:14:18](#)
(no subject)

Wait. Wait. Wait.

You're gonna get out of helping Mum, aren't you?
'Sorry, Mum, I have OWLs to study for. I really wish
I could help you wash the windows, but I just haven't the time,
what with all this really important revising I've got to do.'

Hmph.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-08 20:29:31](#)
(no subject)

Don't be ridiculous, Ronald. Mum isn't a slave-driver, and no, I don't intend to scarp off on whatever chores she has for us. It's harder for her and Dad to keep up with the house, you know, since most of us are off at school. But I'm sure I'll be able to help out plenty around the Burrow and still get my revising done, too.

(If only I had my blasted notes . . .)



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2009-04-08 20:30:50](#)
(no subject)

Hmm, I may have seen it.

Would it have a full page of 'Percy Weasley, Minister of Magic' scribbled over and over in it?




 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-08 20:45:03](#)
(no subject)

...

I believe the description I gave of the article should be sufficient to identify it. If you have seen it, tell me where it is, if it is still at the school? Perhaps I can figure out some arrangements to secure it so that I can have it when I get back. At the very least, knowing where it is would relieve my mind.




 [alt_penelope](#) at [2009-04-08 20:51:01](#)
(no subject)

The most interesting part in your planner was your three-part plan.

1. Become Minister
2. ???
3. Profit

What's the second part of your brilliant plan, Perce? Can't hardly object to the last part of it.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-08 21:06:55](#)
(no subject)

I've come to the discovery that when you descend to a certain level of ridiculousness, the best thing is just to ignore it.

Have a good holiday, Clearwater.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2009-04-08 21:09:32](#)**
(no subject)

So are you saying that you don't want your planner back? I'll let everyone know.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2009-04-08 21:16:08](#)**
(no subject)

. . .

Obviously, I want it back.

I repeat: have a good holiday.

2009-04-08 15:39:00

Order Only: Eureka!

Frank, I've found someone daft enough to risk it. He wants to go at dark of the moon, though - that's the 25th, will you be able to arrange things by then? I have to leave him a deposit to make sure he won't ship out on another job, so let me know as soon as you can, if that date will work.



 **alt_sirius**

There are tonnes of stories told about the English Triangle - that's what they've dubbed it in the Muggle news on this side - and the ships that disappear along the currents there. It's one of the reasons I've not had success engaging a ship before now. A few sailors claim to have been close enough on their course to feel bitter cold, pins-and-needles and a deep sense of foreboding when they're out on deck.


They also describe feeling Confunded and losing time. When they come back to themselves, they're far off-course, in some cases by leagues. That's if they come back at all.

Now, how much is truth and how much are fish tales? Won't know until we try, I suppose.

So. We've got some preparing to do if we're going to get round the protections. And I'm going to have to push some Laszlo stock if I'm going to raise the fee our Captain is demanding. I had no choice, really - no one would do it for less.

All of which means I'll be heading back to bloody Calais as soon as I've confirmed things with Captain Collins. At least the weather's improving. (Oh, and did I mention I have a flat there now? In Henrich Laszlo's name, of course. Charming landladies who insist on feeding me when I'm there.)



 **alt_frank** at **2009-04-09 03:55:09**
(no subject)

good news.

we're going to make a dry run to check with the timing and whatnot. you let me know what all you want me to do on this end of things. Not sure what we're going to

face with the wards til we get there, really, which makes me damned uneasy.



 **alt_arthur** at [2009-04-09 19:09:55](#)

(no subject)

Frank, will you have enough support on your side when it comes time to make the run, or do you need another wand there in case of trouble? I wonder if having Bill there might be helpful, or would it just be too many people on the boat?



 **alt_sirius** at [2009-04-09 21:12:11](#)

(no subject)

Yeah, me too.

I'm preparing for a Repulsor Charm (cast generally, sounds like) and a Confundus Spell, perhaps a few others, but if you get a sense of what to expect, let me know.

The crew are mostly Muggles, I think. From the sound of it the Captain may be a half-blood. I think that's why he's willing to attempt the whole prospect. Didn't go into details, of course, but if I know what spells will help, there may be more than one of us to cast them.

2009-04-08 23:43:00

(no subject)

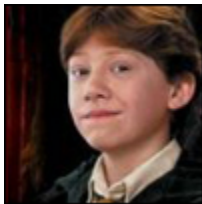
Everyone left this afternoon. After I said goodbye to Pansy I went to the library and read for a while and then I came back to Slytherin. I'm not quite the only person here -- there are ten or twelve others, mostly fifth and seventh years who are revising for exams. None of the other first years in Slytherin stayed, but Sarah Fawcett and Steven Capper from Ravenclaw are here, and so is Bobby Stebbins from Hufflepuff. Also, I heard someone say that Katrina from Gryffindor stayed but I haven't seen her.



 **alt_sally_anne**

The weather looks nice so I'm thinking that I'll work on my flying over the holiday and see if I can test out finally. ~~Does anyone know if we're allowed to go flying over~~

It's really quiet with everyone gone.



 **alt_ron at 2009-04-09 15:56:22**

(no subject)

It's pretty good to be back home. We got to sleep late today, so it was like a weekend on a Thursday. I just woke up because the twins came in and pulled the sheets and all right off my bed so I went bump on the floor. I need to learn a better door locking charm when I get back. Dyou know any?

So, yeah, its good to be home, only Mum read what I wrote to Percy yesterday and she's going to make me do all that stuff this afternoon. I have start by beating all the dust out of the downstairs carpets.

By tonight, I expect I'll be wishing I was back at school! It was actually loads of fun at Christmas to be in the castle with hardly anyone around. You remember I told you about that disused classroom wing? You should check that out. Poke about--you never know what you'll find in that place. Me and Seamus were talking the other day about how there must be attics if you could just find the right staircase to take you up there. And I bet there's some really sorcerous stuff hidden away. Old trophies and Transfig projects and equipment and stuff. Maybe flying carpets! And the crazy old portraits that have gone so mad they can't be kept out where

anybody'd meet them. Don't you think? I mean they probably stuff a lot of old things away in a castle like that. Maybe you could ask the ghosts?

Let me know if you find anything really wizard!

Er, I gotta go. Mum's shouting for us to come down and eat and it smells so good my stomachs growling.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-09 17:04:29](#)

(no subject)

I had a lie in today too and then the elves had left me breakfast in my common room, toast with jam and a pot of tea.

I've been practising my flying but it looks like rain this afternoon so maybe I'll explore a bit. I bet you're right about the attics.

What's the Gryffindor ghost like? The Bloody Baron isn't very talkative. I'd love to find a flying carpet, I bet they're loads easier to get around on than a broom.



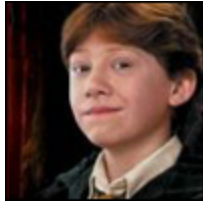
 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-09 18:38:13](#)


(no subject)

Sir Nicholas is always very friendly to us Gryffindors, and I think to students in other houses as well. A bit sensitive about the way he died, though--he wants to be in the Headless Hunt, but they're a bit stuck-up with him, since his head isn't completely off. Daft, really, but there's no telling the way a ghost thinks.

I hope you have a good holiday. I think it'll be nicer for you, staying at Hogwarts, than what you described how your Christmas holidays were like.

(That Transfiguration essay looks awful, by the way. I'm going to need the entire hols to try to figure out what he's getting at and write it up. I don't get what he's saying about crystalline sub-structures at all.)




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-09 21:14:33](#)**
(no subject)

Crystalline sub-wot?

I haven't even looked at it yet (and I wasn't really planning to, either, so I hope Mum doesn't see you saying its real hard -- thanks loads, Neville). I can't believe your missing school so much you'd be studying.

Aren't you doing anything fun, then?



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2009-04-09 22:10:13](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, I'm not studying yet exactly. I was just looking stuff over while I was on the train, to see what I need to get done before the hols are over. Transfiguration essays always take me three times as long as any other kind.

Don't know what I'll be doing this week that's fun--Gran's idea of fun is sort of different than mine. But I promised Evelyn I'd take her to Diagon Alley sometime this week.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2009-04-11 04:14:51](#)**
(no subject)

It's a lot more peaceful at school than it was over Christmas.

Asking Sir Nicholas was a good idea. You're right, he's quite friendly even if you're not in his house.

2009-04-09 06:25:00

Epping Forest camp

master took boot to the epping forest camp. we will spend the easter holidays here. this is one of the closest camps to new london, and it has a lot of the ~~pep pepul~~ people that used to live in london itself.



 [alt_terry](#)

master is here to do research. not sure what kind, exactly, but he is working with a very important man, mr rookwood.

boot is lucky to have such an important master.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2009-04-09 11:52:53**

(no subject)

I solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Dear friends (I wrote that down and then just looked at the parchment for awhile, so happy. I like writing that),

We arrived here yesterday afternoon, shortly after the train left Hogsmeade station. Master wouldn't tell me where we were going, but brought me here with side-along apparition. This place is huge! Over four hundred thousand people. And it is so terribly crowded. We're staying in quarters in one of the administrative buildings, which is lucky, because that means it won't be so cold where ~~boot-sleeps~~ I sleep at night. Master wouldnt let me bring so much as a blanket. I'd be really cold during the day, too, if it weren't for the warming charms your mum put on my clothes, Fred and George--I'm really glad for them. The food here has just about run out after the winter. The people don't seem to have much more than turnips and the new dandelion greens. I had that for dinner, but master let me have some of the leftovers from his tray. I've gotten used to being full all the time, living at Hogwarts.

Master stayed up late, drinking with Mr Rookwood, with me sitting at his feet. Their talk was strange, and I think they were careful about what they were saying because I was there. Which is weird, really--Master will usually say anything around me, because he figures I'd never dare talk about him to anyone else. Makes me think that whatever they're going to be doing here is really secret. But it sounds like Master will be doing some kind of research, something working with muggles and squibs and muggleborns. After mr rookwood left, I asked master whether I would be helping him, and he said no, mud can't go where he'd be working, unless they're an experimental subject. Whatever that means. And he said that place is somewhere called Building 7. So I asked whether I could help somewhere else, the


infirmary, maybe, since I've had some training with Madame Pomfrey. A place this big surely would have a busy infirmary. He gave me permission to ask.

I miss you all. I hope Hermione is having a grand time in Buckingham Palace! Fred and George, tell your mum again how much I like the clothes she sent me.

Your friend,

Terry Boot




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-09 13:43:44](#)
(no subject)

I'm pleased to know that you have reached your destination, Mr Boot. Take good care.

If you are reading this, Professor Carrow, do know that I shall miss the lad's assistance here during these holidays. You have trained him to be a valuable worker.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-09 13:46:02](#)
(no subject)

thank you, madame pomfrey. boot will miss you while he is gone.

2009-04-09 07:32:00

(no subject)

Arrived at the camp last night. It's cold and wet and full of-. I take it all back, I miss the children.



 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2009-04-10 14:55:11**

(no subject)

I'm sorry it's not turning out to be the sort of holiday you hoped for, Mr Lupin.

(Do you mind if I stop by for tea again sometime, when we all get back to school, I mean?)



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2009-04-11 08:24:20**

(no subject)

It's not so bad, Neville. I've met a few nice people here, actually. Please don't worry yourself on my account.

You're very welcome to stop by for tea when we're all back at school. I look forward to hearing about your holiday.

2009-04-09 08:59:00

The boys are home!

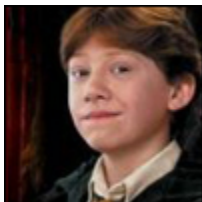


 **alt_molly**

It is so wonderful having almost all my boys home again! The train got in rather late, and Arthur and I sat up talking with Percy even later, after the others went to bed. I was astounded at how much Percy has shot up in height. The others are all looking well, too, although Fred and George are breaking out a bit in spots on their faces. Not unexpected at this age. I would think that they'd go to Madame Pomfrey for some Splendiferous Spot-Away, but I suppose they don't think enough about their appearance to bother. (Neither of them seem terribly sweet on any girl yet, or at least as far as Arthur and I can tell!) The twins have already played their first prank (salt in the sugar bowl, which I discovered this morning when I took my first sip of coffee--although I should have suspected it because ordinarily the sugar bowl isn't that full!). Charlie has gotten a short furlough granted for this weekend, and Bill will be coming home, too, so we'll all be gathered around the old table for mealtimes this weekend! It will be just like old times.

I'm letting them all sleep in this morning (I'd forgotten how late teenage boys will sleep, given the opportunity), and then we'll have a grand breakfast: ham, eggs, kippers, tomatoes (ham is so expensive, but this is truly a special occasion!). Well, it will be more like lunch, probably, at that point. I've spent the morning mending--how it is that Ron has managed to rip out every single hem in every set of trousers he owns I have no idea, but I'll be sending him back to school looking somewhat more respectable.

Luna came over for lessons as usual this morning, so Ginny is up, but they are spending more time giggling together than working on their Latin vocabulary lists. I think Luna's been looking forward to seeing Fred and George again. I suspect she's rather sweet on one of the twins herself, although which one, I can't say.



 **alt_ron** at **2009-04-09 16:00:19**

(no subject)

Erm. Did you say ham?

I'll be right there! Don't let the twins eat it all!!!!

2009-04-09 12:09:00

Clearwater

Got your owl with your note and my planner this morning. That was . . . that was uncommonly kind of you, especially after I was a bit sharp with you yesterday, too. I'm very glad to have it back, and much obliged to you. Thanks.



 [alt_percy](#)



 [alt_penelope](#) at **2009-04-10 04:44:05**
(no subject)

You're welcome, not-quite-Minister Weasley.

2009-04-09 17:52:00

Order only: I haven't much time but-

On the train, coming over, Draco Malfoy was getting his bags down and I was getting Harry's (and mine too of course) and he accidentally wolloped me with his, dropping it I mean, and he gave me a black eye. I don't think he meant to hit me with it. But then he told me that I had better say Harry had hit me and given it to me, the black eye I mean, and of course I did what he said but



 **alt_hermione**

Oh I must go, they make me wait at table and things, I'll be back later!!!



 **alt_molly** at **2009-04-10 00:10:38**
(no subject)

Oh, I'm sorry to hear it, Hermione. Were you able to find someone who could apply a chilling charm right away? It would help keep the swelling and discolouring from becoming worse.



 **alt_hermione** at **2009-04-10 12:34:51**
(no subject)

No I didn't. Too bad!! Harry tried to but he wasn't able to.



 **alt_sirius** at **2009-04-10 00:34:39**
(no subject)

But what?

Hermione, but what?

And why would he bother to shift the blame to Harry?




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2009-04-10 12:38:24](#)**
(no subject)

I think I know why!!

His Father looked and asked me how I got them and I told him Harry did and he looked thoughtful, and then he was a bit nicer to Harry I think. So, I think that perhaps Draco knew that they all wanted Harry to be mean to me, and so I snivelled a little bit, and then they didn't pay me any mind but they were a lot nicer to Harry. Draco just wanted Harry not to get into trouble for being too nice to me, because he is really nice normally. And then after dinner when we were alone he asked me why I did that, but I just didn't say anything, and I wanted to so badly, but I knew he would tell me not to if I told him. Anyway, I think that Draco was just looking out for Harry!



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-10 03:21:36](#)**
Order Only

Oh, dear.

Are you able to see properly?

Any doubling of your vision?

Any dark spots or sparkles or floating patches that interfere with what you can see out that eye?

Does your head ache?

Have you had any dizziness?

How much swelling is there?

Is your cheek and brow area merely tender to the touch or is there any sharp pain?

When you look in a mirror is there any redness in the white of your eye?

Any changes to the coloured portion or the pupil (the dark, central area)?

I don't wish to frighten you, Miss Granger, but eye injuries can be very dangerous, so you really must tell us clearly what symptoms you are experiencing in the eye and the surrounding area. Under no circumstances are you to downplay the severity of what's happened. All's fine if it is merely a black eye, as you say, but I recognize that in your situation you might be tempted to put a gloss over your account. Is there any more to it than you have said here?



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2009-04-10 12:40:33](#)**

Re: Order Only

Oh don't worry Madam Pomfrey, but thank you, for asking. I haven't had any trouble seeing at all and there isn't any redness or sharp pain or anything. At first I was sparkly and had a headache, but I think it was just because of how startled I was. I got hit with the flat side of a trunk not with the pointy corner, and in any case I didn't faint, so it's all right. And one of the house-elves looked at me and gave me some ice after dinner last night, even though I think it was too late to do any good, and they didn't seem to think that I was going to be hurt, except they told me that if anyone came in I had to hide the ice right away, so I don't think they were supposed to help me.

2009-04-09 20:01:00

All quiet here

I'm still at Hogwarts for the moment, wrapping up some loose ends. I'm partway through grading the last assignments my OWLs and NEWTs students did before break began (and will be sending a few off to students who wanted to study over break, to boot.)



 **alt_sinistra**


I'm alternating that with reviewing some information about a project I've been recommended to participate in. No details I can share yet, but the more I read it, the more I think it's a very interesting idea - and that I have a fair bit to offer, perhaps. I took a good chunk of time this morning to go through the notes available to me point by point, and to note down some questions (scale, timeframe, practical things, mostly) to send off by Owl. I'm most of the way done, but paused for a late dinner first.

Tomorrow afternoon, I'm off for the weekend. A pleasant enough walk to Hogsmeade (at least if the rain doesn't reappear...) and then apparating back to Mum and Dad's for the weekend. They want to see me, and I did promise my eldest niece I'd take her on a trip to Diagon Alley to buy a birthday present sometime around now.

I expect to be back at Hogwarts by Tuesday at the latest, as I still have quite a lot of preparation to work through to wrap things up before exams. There are still some changes in the OWL and NEWT standards I want to make sure I'm covering in enough detail, and I'm not sure my current star charts and preparation questions emphasise it enough.

Poppy - any chance of scheduling our Monday afternoon chat for later in the week? And since we've no students, if you'd be free after dark and up for a climb, I'd gladly show you things through the larger telescope.




 **alt_poppy** at **2009-04-10 03:09:05**
(no subject)

Both ideas sound wonderful. I shall also be free to have supper in hall this week and feel rather excited at that as I so rarely am able to eat in company. (Even the small contingent during break will feel like a

crowd to me!)

I'm especially keen to troop up your tower and take a proper guided tour of the stars with you. That sounds wonderful. And any afternoon you're free would do for tea. We can pin that down when you've returned from your visit home. I'd very much like to hear stories of your family.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2009-04-11 13:19:10**
(no subject)

Excellent! I'm sorry I didn't catch you before I left for the weekend, but it turned out to be rather a rush to get everything finished. Isn't that always the way?

I'm now waiting for the rest of the family to get moving this morning, and catching up on a few things. I'll come find you when I get back, and we can figure out the best day. (We'll have a better idea of the clearest night, too - no sense in having you try and look through the clouds, after all!)

2009-04-10 12:39:00

Presto Records



 **alt_lucius**

My first meeting on the board of Presto Records was held this morning. I invited Draco to accompany me - not to sit in on the meeting itself, but I thought he might like to see the studio - but it seems he is still enjoying his new-found freedom (not to mention the end of all those detentions) and would rather lie in and then later take his broom out. Then again, perhaps it's not so surprising as the weather is fine to-day and he has not ridden since going back to school in January.

In any event, the meeting concentrated largely on the release schedule for the summer. I can see why Nolan wanted someone on the board with ties to the WWN; much of the conversation centred on arrangements and contract relationships with the Network to obtain play and thus drive sales. Still, the production and promotion of recordings (and the musicians who create them) is outside my realm of experience; I can appreciate that there shall be a curve before I am quite as useful to them as Nolan hopes. Nonetheless, it is interesting.

Crispin requested an early departure to-day. I don't believe he observes; I rather got the impression it has to do with something else entirely. Since his Valentine's holiday, he has been, ah, *eying the clock* a little more than I am accustomed to see. I suspect it is due to the young lady with whom he struck up acquaintance that week-end. I have not pried overmuch but I gather that she is of a suitable family with reasonable prospects. He has mentioned that she works at the Ministry, though not which department. I've no idea whether the affair is serious, nor is it my business, so long as he maintains the high standard I have come to expect. (Though if it comes to that, I hope he will find occasion to at least introduce me to whomever has captured his interest!) It is of course to be anticipated - indeed, it is both auspicious and proper - that a young man his age should seek company. It is, however, inconvenient at times, particularly when I suspect his attention is elsewhere in consequence.

Glad to see that Amycus and Augustus are finding their research to be of mutual benefit. Must visit the Epping camp next week to see how they are getting on.

Ari says that Pandora shall be moved to St Gerard's to-morrow and the Healers there are going to bring things along, if nothing starts on its own. (Apparently with all four children home, and now several weeks overdue, Pandora is exceedingly uncomfortable.) This intelligence made something else on my agenda a little easier to accomplish:

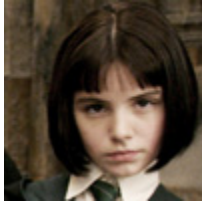
Pansy, my conference with Caldecott was less than satisfactory, I am sorry to say. He believes it prudent to appear to comply with your mother's expressed wishes, for the time being. However, that is not to say that no outing can occur; only that you may not accompany me *solus*. To that end, I have asked Crispin to arrange a Floo connexion for you next Tuesday to come to St James'; Mr Baddock and his older children will go with us, which will give Mrs Baddock time alone with the new baby. He has a number of items to acquire for Kenwood in any event; and he apparently promised Malcolm a familiar as well (as a sop, I think, on obtaining yet another baby sister!), so it is not a particular imposition to him.


Our Lord continues to shun His council members, preferring to be alone with His son and His work. I have been meeting with the Minister rather more of late to help determine those matters which must come to His direct attention and those which can be resolved without disturbing Him; the Wizengamot session will go forward, I believe, since there are a number of cases (including Llewellyn-Davis' official sentencing) that must be concluded before the 10-year celebration.

{That, by the bye, is coming along well according to Miss Robins. She thanked me earlier this week for my recommendation to Dolores that Miss Robins be permitted to take on most of the planning; apparently she has been corresponding with Warrington about using Muggle-born Labour in the preparations and thought to have his team document the work as part of the placement efforts. Marvellous! Old Nott believes it could be the 'boost' the programme needs. Warned Miss Robins that if she keeps on as she has been, she'll find herself promoted and away from the place where she seems to be doing the most good. (To which she replied that she is confident she can work miracles no matter what her posting. Who am I to doubt it?)}

But I bring up the council because I met several other members for drinks earlier this week. Travers, Avery, Barty, Regulus and the Razer. Toasted Bellatrix and Rodolphus's impending arrival, of


course; but much conversation revolved around His current project and His reasons for keeping His own counsel on the proceedings. Reminded our less confident brethren that it is for Our Lord to decide what we ought to know of His private affairs, and that as He has always done in the past, He shall make our role in His plans known when it suits Him to do so. Until that time, it is our solemn duty to ensure the smooth operation of the Protectorate, to His greater glory.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2009-04-11 02:07:09](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not sure I understand all of that, Lucius, but I'll be ready on Tuesday. Do you really think Mum will let me go? And how many children does Mr Baddock have? (I won't have to babysit like Sally-Anne did, will I?)




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2009-04-11 02:16:21](#)**
(no subject)

As far as I know your mother has no objection to Ari.

They have four now but Mrs Baddock will have delivered their fifth by Monday. Ptolemy you ought to know from Hogwarts; his half-siblings are Malcolm, Lucy, and Antonia.

No, you need not concern yourself; their governess will be along as well.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2009-04-11 04:07:15](#)**
(no subject)

Can Sally-Anne come with us too?

I want her to help me pick it out. Also, since we share a dorm and our beds are right next to each other, it would be good if the kneazle likes her, too, as well as me.

I'd have asked earlier except I was waiting to hear from mum, and she was acting so mad it was hard to make real plans.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-11 14:51:58](#)
(no subject)

May she come; and as for that, am I right that your friend is taking her holiday at Hogwarts?

If so, then I am afraid it will be difficult to include her. I cannot spare the trek to fetch her nor the resources to arrange her transport otherwise.


Moreover we shall already be a large party.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-12 01:51:37](#)
(no subject)


Really, Lucius, I see no reason why I could not ensure that Miss Perks arrived safely in Diagon Alley to meet with your party. I had some errands to run there myself. I shall deliver her safely to you, if you tell me where we should meet.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-12 02:09:23](#)
(no subject)

That is ... exceedingly kind of you to offer, Minerva, but I fear we shall be going to Knightsbridge. I shouldn't want to trouble you.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-12 02:11:49](#)
(no subject)

If Professor McGonagall's coming to Diagon Alley, she can get Sally-Anne anywhere in New London pretty much in a second, can't she?

Please, say Sally-Anne can come?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-12 02:20:55](#)
(no subject)

Do not presume upon the Headmistress' time, even a moment of it, Pansy. I am sure she has more important things to do than act as a courier.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-12 02:24:24](#)
(no subject)

I'm not presuming, she offered.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-12 02:25:30](#)
(no subject)


And I'm not being impertinent, I just really want Sally-Anne to come. Please, Uncle Lucius?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-12 14:56:13](#)
(no subject)

No trouble, Lucius. As you surely know, Miss Perks hasn't anywhere to go this holiday, and it's all our duty to be kind to those in need.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2009-04-13 00:04:52](#)
(no subject)

Ah. Well, in that case, I suppose the ... objections ... are removed. Thank you.

If you could deposit Miss Perks at the Knightsbridge Owl Postal station at eleven o'clock on Tuesday, that would be most convenient.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2009-04-13 00:05:23](#)**
(no subject)


THANK YOU, UNCLE LUCIUS!



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2009-04-13 03:20:04](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you very much Headmistress and Mr Malfoy. I am really looking forward to Tuesday.




 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2009-04-14 01:29:50](#)**
(no subject)

It will certainly be a relief to have that Wizengamot session done with.

I've been meeting with department heads to hear their plans for the 10-year celebration -- all the files were seized, naturally, though I found another cache today. It took me twenty minutes to ascertain whether they related to the 10-year celebration or something else entirely. If you recall the clerk Llewellyn-Davis had last fall for a time, the man's handwriting is so terrible it's nearly impossible to read it.

Would you have time for a brief meeting in mid-week? I'd like to be certain I didn't overlook anything re the preparations my departments should be taking care of; the Protectorate Affairs office itself is in a bit of a shambles still, and you know as well as I that it's risky to rely on people to report on what work they ought to have accomplished by now.




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2009-04-14 03:41:24](#)**
(no subject)

Certainly. I have plans to-morrow and I do have to get down to Epping to meet with Augustus, but I am sure Crispin can manage half an hour's or an hour's time.

Though if it is the 10-year celebrations you are focusing on, then you should ask Dolores if her Miss Robins might sit in. I believe she has the most up-to-date list of the proceedings, including the order of precedence for seating, the names of the participating dignitaries and the various offerings throughout the day.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2009-04-15 02:49:38](#)**
(no subject)

I believe we're on for Wednesday or Thursday (I'll have to check with my clerk), and thank you for your suggestion, I talked to Dolores today. Miss Robins will be making me copies of the relevant paperwork and she'll sit in with us.

2009-04-10 23:17:00

(no subject)

Longbottom suggested that I ask Sir Nicholas for suggestions on places to explore, and I saw him while I was on my way from breakfast today so I tried it. I asked him if he could show me something at Hogwarts I wouldn't have already seen. Anything really, so long as it was interesting.



 **alt_sally_anne**

He showed me this room -- it was the attic in one of the towers. It was storage for broken things, but they were broken things I didn't recognize at all. Sir Nicholas said that the room had been used to store equipment used in the alchemy classes, centuries ago, before they quit teaching alchemy and started teaching potions instead. Some of it was stuff like cauldrons but there were other things that looked a lot more complicated.

There was a portrait on the wall of an alchemy professor from the 1400s, but he was asleep, and Sir Nicholas said he didn't recommend waking him up.

So I tiptoed around looking at things while Sir Nicholas told me stories about how the old alchemy classes were sort of like potions classes but with philosophy mixed in. There was a drawer full of old papers giving instructions for potions, some of which looked sort of familiar but some of which didn't at all. And another drawer had a broken mirror in it, and another had a paper dart that flies by itself without anyone tossing it, I think that was new. Or at least newer than the other stuff.

After I was done there I wandered around a bit and found the trophy room. That was interesting too, I saw some names I recognized.



 **alt_neville** at **2009-04-11 21:31:37**

(no subject)

See? I told you Sir Nicholas was really nice.

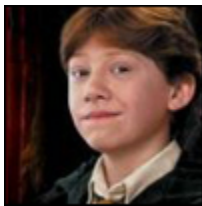
That sounds like a cool way to spend a morning. I'll bet those potions recipes would have been dead interesting.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-11 22:10:14](#)
(no subject)

I borrowed some of the old alchemy recipes (I'll put them back later, not that I think anyone cares where they've gone) and compared them to the modern versions. I took them to the library and looked in the advanced book the older students use, and most of them were in there.

Some were the same except with different spellings. But there was one where if you made it the old way, about a quarter of the time it would blow up even if you did everything right. Oh and there were some that were just a lot more complicated, they had dozens of extra ingredients or you had to simmer them upside down or distill them for weeks or whatever.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-11 22:38:20](#)
(no subject)

Aw, that sounds wizard. Did you find any gold along with the alchemy stuff? That's what they mostly did with it, right? It was like making one thing into another--like transfiguration, but not with spells. And I think alchemists were sort of like apothecaries, right, only they made stuff that could make you live a long time. I guess those go together: if your gonna live a long time, youd need a lot of money to live off, wouldn't you? We used to have a really cool book about an alchemist's apprentice that Mum read to me a lot. You know, before I could read. It had really wicked pictures of glass beakers boiling over flames and a lot of really complicated equipment. Maybe you can show me that tower sometime! It would be wicked to see real alchemy stuff.

Your right about the Trophy room. I poked around in there over Christmas hols. There are some really amazing huge trophies, aren't there? Some of them were dead old! Did you see the ones for dueling club? They've got really scary figures on them that bow and then slash with their wands like they're hexing someone! And, ooh, did you see my brother, Charlie's Quidditch trophies? He was a really great player and Gryffindor won all the time when he was playing.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-12 01:35:01](#)
(no subject)

No gold. I think this room was just for stuff they couldn't think of any use for and I think anyone other than maybe Professor Binns would be able to think of a use for gold!

I did see Charlie's Quidditch trophies, I noticed them because I recognised his last name. I also saw Mr Malfoy's trophies. And Headmistress McGonagall's! And some other interesting ones.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-12 04:05:14](#)
(no subject)

Really?! There are trophies for Professor McGonagall? For which, dueling club or Quidditch?

Weird to think of her playing Quidditch. I have a hard time picturing it, but somehow I bet she was probably a dead wicked dueler, if she did that sort of thing.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-12 04:23:33](#)
(no subject)


I think I saw trophies with her name on them for both dueling club AND quidditch plus an academic prize for getting all O's on her NEWTs in every subject they offered in those days, or something like that. But I'm not sure, it's possible one of the ones I thought was her was actually a relative, some of the time they just put the last name on.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-12 19:44:11](#)
(no subject)

I dont think Id want to duel her OR try to steal a quaffle from her would you mate?

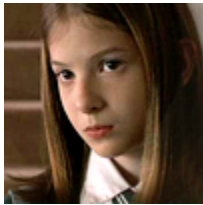


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-13 00:07:55](#)
(no subject)

Did you see? Lucius said YES!!!

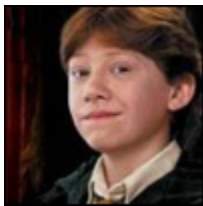
Professor McGonagall's going to bring you, and then you can stay over with me and come back, I guess. They didn't say for sure but Mum won't care.


This is going to be wizard.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-13 03:20:59](#)
(no subject)

I SAW!!! I'm so excited, I can't wait!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-14 22:43:37](#)
(no subject)

So did you get it? Your kneazle, I mean. Did you get to pick it out yourself?

How come you didn't go to Diagon Alley, though? Where's that Knight's Whatsit you went to instead? Sounds like a place they should sell chess sets.

2009-04-11 10:44:00

(no subject)

I solemnly swear I am up to no good!



I woke up this morning and I had a little flask of VINEGAR under my pillow! I was so excited because I told the house-elves that I needed it and they said that they might not be able to get it anything like it for me, because there are charms on everything, especially lemons and things because they're so expenssive. But I said that if they could do it for me I would be ever so nice to them and give them a lot to clean up, which of course only meant that I'd make them clean up after Harry instead of doing it myself, which I don't mind in the slightest. Which is rather twofaced of me I suppose but there you are, we all have to do things like that sometimes, don't we?

 [alt_hermione](#)

So now like Lee did I think I have to probably confess things, only I'm not sure that's fair because we all already know that if the Lord Protector found out about this I would be utterly dished. I mean I would probably die. Right now Harry is out flying because it's a lovely morning here and that's why I'm able to write in it at all, I have to spend so much time running around after him. But let's see. I *loath* the Lord Protector. Here I have to stand behind Harry's chair with him at supper and he looks at me and his face is all weird and pinched, and it makes me angry to see it, and he doesn't look properly old like he ought to, and he looks so pale, and he stares at me sometimes I think. Harry says he's staring at him but that's just as bad, what call has he to stare at anyone? And then I think that he is the person who made my parents live in the camps and I hate him, I hate him, I hate him, and if I could ever kill him I would, only I haven't a wand. And then I also wonder if Mum and Dad would ever speak to me again if I killed anyone. They don't like killing and they always told me that the best thing to do was to keep your head down, and do your best, and so I did, but I can't help but be angry, and if I could I would!!


Also I hate Amycus Carrow and I once spat on his plate at supper and he didn't notice. And I wish I could kill him too, and I keep thinking maybe I could, because he gets so drunk and ralphs on Terry and maybe if he was that drunk he wouldn't notice someone coming up at him. Only then what would happen to me and how would I get there anyway?

Or Terry and I could escape, but Hogwarts isnt so bad anyhow. There

are much worse places. And all that would happen is that someone would come after us.

But I am Hermione Granger and here I am and I say, the Ministry is a bunch of wankers!!!



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-11 21:25:39](#)
(no subject)

It scares me so much to think of you being around the Lord Protector. Please, please don't do anything to make him notice you! I saw that Mr Malfoy is probably coming here sometime in the coming week, to see Master's research, and that's bad enough. I just go cold all over whenever he looks at me, and I try to look as stupid as possible. He's a terrible man.

Merlin, you spit in Master's food???

At first I was horrified at the idea, and then I just about laughed myself sick. Not that I would ever dare do it.

Hope you don't do that on the days he's giving me his leftovers.

I know it's wrong to think of killing. But sometimes--


No. I can't think about it. And don't you think about it, either. If anything should ever happen to you ... Anyway, there's no way we could get away with such a thing. And you're right, Hogwarts isn't so bad. In fact, now that I'm back in one of the camps, I'm longing to be back there again. At least there we have books, when we can steal chances to read them, but here, for most people, there's nothing but work, hard work from sunup to sundown, with little food.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-11 21:28:11](#)
(no subject)

And I'm glad, Hermione, I am so glad that I can finally talk to you through the journals without him reading.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-12 01:42:54](#)
(no subject)

ME TOO!!



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-12 01:42:36](#)
(no subject)


I won't, I promise! I've been ever so good.

I only spat in them before I knew how awful he was, really, right at first when I came. Only then I realised that it wasn't doing anyone any good, you know. I wish I had done worse now that I know how awful he really is.

Anyhow you know we can't do it, I know we can't do it so there isn't any point in thinking too much about it, but you're right, the camps are terrible, and I didn't have the worst of it, and - well in any case.

You'll be fine; you keep your head down so! I'm the one always in trouble.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-12 03:59:45](#)
(no subject)

About being in trouble . . . well, I get in trouble, too, I suppose, but yeah, I do keep my head down more. Maybe the difference is that I started with master so young. I was only five, you know, when I was given to him for breaking. Most of the time, I was living right there with him, in his space, pretty small quarters, usually, so there was no way to hide things from him. And he's, well . . . you know what he's like. If I'd dared to be, what d'ye call it, defiant, I would have lasted very long, I don't think.

I wish I could remember my parents. I don't. Not at all. I was only three when I showed my magic and got taken away from them. I don't even know if I had any brothers or sisters or anything.

I suppose master must know what happened to them. My family history must have been in my file when I was bound to him. But he's never told me anything. Guess he likes it that I can't really remember anything but him. If he told me anything, I wouldn't have any way of knowing it wasn't a lie anyway. So I've

|| never asked.

2009-04-11 21:52:00


ORDER ONLY: Birth of a child

The Book reports Charlotte Grosse, of Theydon Bois, born I suppose within the past day or so, as I had seen nothing of it earlier. Could she be a good candidate for rescue? I fear I know little about the Epping Forest camp - less than I ought.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)



 [alt_alice](#) at **2009-04-12 15:31:30**
(no subject)

Oh! I've been wondering when the next one would come along. Babies and Spring tend to go together, don't they.

I can't go, of course. It's better with two people, but we'll manage. Frank's already begun getting together his things.

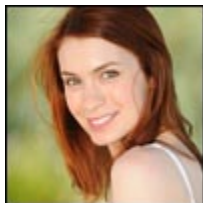
I don't know much about that camp either. Arthur, do you have any ideas about how we can get in?




 [alt_frank](#) at **2009-04-12 15:34:35**
(no subject)

I'm downstairs, Al. looks like we've got enough polyjuice for sixteen hours or so. think I'll go as Victor this time.

do you know where my nice robes went to? might need to dress up this time.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2009-04-12 15:38:16**
(no subject)

They're in the trunk in the laundry. We need to clean them first. And we might need to take them out a tad if you're going as Victor.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-12 23:04:04](#)**
(no subject)

found them. our old Auror robes are in that trunk, too. Don't know if we'll ever have a chance to wear those again.

I had no idea you kept those.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-12 23:05:41](#)**
(no subject)

Of course I did!

As I recall, you looked rather fit in that uniform.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-12 23:10:57](#)**
(no subject)

well you didn't look half bad yourself, you know.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-12 23:20:22](#)**
(no subject)

Hmm . . . Let me give it some thought, Minerva. It's a rather large camp, and it might take me a few days to run down the parchmentwork on the parents.

Alice, are you sure you have room in the nursery for another one so very young? Would it be better to wait until the child is weaned?


(And Minerva . . . of course, we hate to give up any of these Muggleborn to the enemy . . . but we aren't rescuing too many, are we, so that Lucius and his ilk have any inkling of the existence of the false book? What's our ratio now-- two out of every three rescued, or so, or is it still less? Is that too many, so that they'll become suspicious, or are they simply concluding that the Ministry's policies is resulting in less instances of 'stolen magic?')



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-12 23:29:30](#)
(no subject)

Epping . . . I saw that name in passing that week. Wait a minute, Lucius Malfoy mentioned it. He said he might visit, because that's where Amycus was doing research? Along with someone else, can't remember who?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-13 02:10:23](#)
(no subject)

You're right, Molly, come to think of it. 'Augustus,' Malfoy said--guess that means Augustus Rookwood. No idea what that's about.

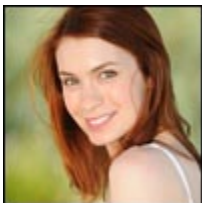
That means Carrow's Terry Boot is there this week, too. Well, it's a very large place, so we'd be unlikely to run into any of them.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-13 12:44:10](#)
(no subject)

sometimes it's easier if it's earlier. tends to raise less suspicion overall.

we can hold off if you think it best, though.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-13 12:48:18](#)
(no subject)

We can always take in one more.

We're getting into Spring now, which means we don't have to worry as much about food, and as soon as those extra wands get here, we'll be tonnes more effective.

I'm just excited about the news!

[2009-04-12 14:36:00](#)

Happy Easter!

Happy Easter, Lavender, Linus, and Belinda!

Oh, and Malfoy, Marvolo, and Finnigan, too!

I hope you get lots of chocs and treats and things.



 **[alt_padma](#)**

All the Patils and Rogosh's and our whole family are together today for Navratri. Only mum bought us new slippers and I'm sure my feet will hurt tomorrow after all that dancing!


But tomorrow's Rama Navami and we can just enjoy it, because we'll be at my aunt and uncle's and so they'll be doing all the cooking.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-12 19:42:43](#)**
(no subject)

Cheers Padma. Only I didnt undrestand half the words you just used. Whose Rama Navami?
I got loads of chocolate. I dont much like Easter but its been very nice here. At least so far.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-12 20:04:15](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not surprised you've never heard of Rama, schools dont teach much about our traditions here. But then I didnt know anything about Cu Cullin (or however you spell it in Irish) until you showed me that wizard book about him, either.

Anyway, it's his birthday. Rama's, I mean. He was a wizard who was king years and years ago, way before England, anyway, and he went on adventures and saved his wife when an evil warlock kidnapped her, and he was really clever and a brave warrior, and then the gods made him one. A god, I mean.

What's wrong with Easter? I thought everyone liked getting chocs.



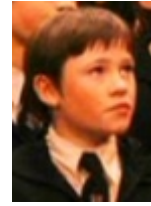
 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-12 20:22:14](#)
(no subject)

I dont like Easter because in Ireland its a day when muggles especially like to make trouble. We have a lot more trouble with muggles there than here. So I get worried.

Ramas birthday sounds like fun though!

2009-04-12 14:43:00

(no subject)



 **alt_seamus**

I dont like Easter. Or at least it makes me very nervus because back in Ireland its a day the muggles often try to make trouble. There are a lot more muggles running around there than here and also muggles there had been killing each other for ages and ages so they had loads of practise. And after the Lord Protector put wizards in charge the muggles decided to get together and try killing wizards instead.

I mean of course wizards were involved in some of the fighting in Ireland years ago too. If Padraig Pearse had ever properly learnt to use his magic or if Countess Markiewicz hadnt had to pretend she wasnt a witch because of the Statute of Secrecy things probably would have gone differently in 1916. But they were fighting against the English muggle government and who would have wanted to be ruled by them? And when the Lord Protector came along all the real wizards supported Him of course because it meant we wouldnt be ruled by stupid muggles any longer.

Anyway I know some of my mates dont think muggles could really be all that dangerous. I mean we have magic and wands and they dont. But they ARE dangerous because they hate wizards. And their especially dangerous when theres a lot of them. Thats why Easter makes me ~~nervus~~ nervous because its a day when they especially like to do bad things.

Mr Rosier tried to take my mind off things today with lots of chocolate and he wanted to take me to Brighton but I spent most of the day listening to the wireless. Nothings happened yet so Im feeling a bit better. If anything really bad happened theyd surely say.



 **alt_draco** at **2009-04-12 22:27:25**

(no subject)

Muggles can be really dangerous, and I think the Irish ones especially because they used to set off those things they call bombs.



 **alt_seamus** at [2009-04-13 02:46:07](#)
(no subject)

Yeah exactly.



 **alt_neville** at [2009-04-13 16:39:12](#)
(no subject)

I hope that everything stayed peaceful in Ireland and your family's okay. There was nothing in the *Prophet*, but I suppose they don't print everything.


We went to Easter services and Evelyn had a tea party for some of her friends.



 **alt_seamus** at [2009-04-15 02:45:37](#)
(no subject)

Yeah everything stayed fine so that was good!




 **alt_ron** at [2009-04-14 22:32:39](#)
(no subject)

Huh. Sorry you couldn't enjoy Easter very much. Is it really dangerous back there in Ireland? Didn't realise it was very different from anywhere else.

We've had a wizard time this weekend. My brothers--Bill and Charlie--were both home, and they caught one of Mum's chickens and charmed it to look like a rabbit except that it could still lay eggs and it layed loads and loads of them, all different colours!! And it clucked whenever it layed one!!! It was hilarious, a rabbit that clucks!! Even funnier when it started turning back into a chicken!!!! It got loose in the house and Mum was chasing after it while it kinda half-hopped and half-flapped and half-ran and squawked and clucked and wiggled its beak and still had long whiskers and we just all fell out laughing. You'd have been on the floor it was that funny!



 **alt_seamus** at [2009-04-15 02:46:48](#)
(no subject)

That rabbit chicken sounds wizard! I wish I couldve seen it. Could you eat the eggs afterward and did they taste like regular eggs?

2009-04-13 09:06:00

(no subject)

Congratulations, new parents!

Ari and Pandora had their new baby yesterday. She's darling!



 **alt_narcissa**

Lucius and I went to St Gerard's to see her almost as soon as Ari Owled for us to visit. Pandora's doing fine, though exhausted; little Natalie has a strong set of lungs and beautiful blue eyes. I'm not sure the colour will stay - after all, Ari's eyes are brown - but for now they're gorgeous.

I gather Lucius and Ari have quite the day planned tomorrow. I'll be in Condover for a tea given by the Daughters of the Protectorate.



 **alt_selwyn at 2009-04-14 00:39:34**

(no subject)

How lovely for Ari and his wife. Chloe's counting the weeks till our own little one arrives, of course but he's not due to arrive until July. Those last months are always the longest, she says.



 **alt_narcissa at 2009-04-14 16:17:12**

(no subject)

You have two now, is it, Dominic? Or three?

Draco was born in June - and a warm June at that. I can't imagine carrying into summer. Do tell Chloe to look into a Reposing Draught; I think she'll find resting much more comfortable. Or shall I see her this afternoon?

I think Ari's quite looking forward to fitting out the new house. The Baddock house has always been charming, but it's much too small for seven of them banging about.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2009-04-15 02:37:59](#)
(no subject)

We have two; this will be our third. I expect you saw Chloe this afternoon, but I'll suggest the draught to her nonetheless. She's rather a bit stoic about these things, especially if relief requires a trip to the healers.

I should think Ari's looking forward to the new house, especially with seven children now. Chloe and I are hoping to have at least that many ourselves, but it shall take a few years yet of effort!

[2009-04-13 10:34:00](#)

The Infirmary Rats

boot went to find the people who run the infirmaries here. since boot trained under madam pomfrey, the healers were really glad to have boot help, especially since they are starting to see something bad with the small children. it is something nasty called 'dipteria.' it makes it hard for them to breathe, and they choke and some of them die. the healers are worried about it. they are afraid it could spread a lot. it's been mostly in the muggle population, which makes sense, boot thinks, because most of the people in the camp here are muggle. but it also shows that muggles are filthy animals who spread disease.




 [alt_terry](#)

there's a potion that cures it, but they dont have enough potion to give it to everyone.

boot was assigned to work with a group of other children who help here in the infirmaries. they call themselves 'the Infirmary Rats,' which is sort of a joke (because the healers say they are always underfoot, just like the real rats). boot has a partner to train him in, a boy named Dean Thomas. boot likes Dean and the rest of the Rats, because they joke around and laugh a lot, but they also work very hard. so does boot. we clean the bedpans for the very sickest patients, and fetch supplies and potions for the healers, and change the cots. whatever the healers want us to do.

boot hasnt had much to do for master, since master is shut up in building seven. boot was called there early this morning to fetch some glass slides master gave him to take to another building. they were going to look at them under a microscop. thats something that allows them to look at small things as if they are very big. (boot made sure to wash his hands very carefully before handling the glass slides so they would not be ~~contam~~ ~~contem~~ get the dipteria on them at all. madam pomfrey taught boot all about clean procedures.)



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-13 16:18:26](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Dear Friends,

I had three patients die this morning. That was hard. One was only two years old, and he choked to death, right in my arms.

But we had seven others who, the matron says, 'have turned the corner.' So they

will be all right.

I just also wanted to tell you that you don't have to worry about me, at least. I'm all right: they gave me the potion that will keep me from getting the diptheria, which they give to all the infirmiry workers.

That building seven is creepy. Something really bad is going on in there. When they opened the door to give me the slides from Master, I felt it in my magic like a kick in the teeth and I wanted get away from there as fast as possible. I'm not sure what was on the slides, but I think it was a smear of blood.

Whatever is going on in there, it's making master really happy. I don't think that's good.

Your friend,
Terry Boot



 **[alt_molly](#) at 2009-04-13 19:39:03**

Order Only

My goodness. Arthur, did you see this? Have you gotten reports of diptheria from that camp? Charlotte Grosse might not live long enough to worry whether or not we should rescue her, if we don't get her out of

there!



 **[alt_arthur](#) at 2009-04-13 19:45:14**

Re: Order Only

This is the first I've heard of it. We ordinarily get the weekly epidemiology reports on Wednesday; I've ordered an interim report by owl from St. Mungo's.

On the other hand, if there IS diptheria there, it may present an opportunity; it's certainly easier to generate believable parchmentwork to make a baby disappear. And reports of an epidemic gives us an excuse to get in to the camp, perhaps in the guise of St. Mungo's personnel.

I suggest we move up our timetable. Frank, what does your week look like? Could you be ready to move on this Wednesday, or perhaps Thursday? Let me know, and I'll have Bill get the forgers working on the false identity parchmentwork.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-13 19:48:15](#)

Re: Order Only

Don't forget that Lucius Malfoy said he'd be visiting that camp this week.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-13 19:53:15](#)

Re: Order Only

Bugger, I'd forgotten. We don't want to run into him.

Hmm. Maybe there's some way to find out about his planned schedule this week. Perhaps if I have someone check with his secretary, saying we're trying to schedule a department meeting, we could winkle out the details of when he's expected to be in Epping this week. . .



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-14 12:19:19](#)

Re: Order Only

diphtheria is nasty business. I remember that outbreak a few years ago in that camp down south - it's a bloody mess.

sooner the better with this little one. and if we could take all the others as well we would.

I can be ready by Wednesday. hell, if the papers are done I could be ready this evening.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-14 12:23:18](#)

Re: Order Only

Oh dear. That does move up our timetable significantly. I was hoping to wait until after Sirius had his little visit... but this definitely takes priority now.

Yes, we'll be ready by Wednesday.

Stephen is already cobbling together a potion that may help if she has been infected. He only has half the active ingredients he

would need, but he says it'll take care of the most serious symptoms.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-14 21:53:04](#)

Re: Order Only

Well. It's interesting how quickly news travels as a result of these journals. I contacted my colleagues at St Mungo's to ask how the school can best prepare for the return of two persons who have been visiting a camp where Diphtheria has taken hold, and they were already all a-buzz about the possibility of an epidemic. They're sending me a share of the anti-infective potion as quickly as they can make it. I'm not certain, but there's a chance the first batch may arrive here tomorrow.

Arthur, if you could find a pretext for sending someone here, I'll pass this first lot along for those who plan to enter the camp. I'll remind you, however, that our other Professor Carrow is in residence and that there are others who ought not be trusted with a view of unexpected visitors to the school. You will want to be discreet, in other words.

I confess that I'm tempted to meet Carrow at the steps when he returns and order him into quarantine. Minerva?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-14 23:46:44](#)

Re: Order Only

Certainly it's a good idea for us to get our hands on the anti-infective (we DON'T want Frank carrying any contagion back to Moddey Dhoo). Can you be available for a Floo call early tomorrow, say 7:00 a.m.? The boys certainly won't be up by then, but Molly and I will. We can hand it off then.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-15 01:37:00](#)

Re: Order Only

Oh, it would be such a relief to get the proper potion. Thank you, Poppy. Stephen sends along

his thanks as well -- he was quite anxious about having to use his incomplete version.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-15 03:44:04](#)**

Re: Order Only

Tell your Stephen to send his just in case. I'm not entirely certain I'll have received it in time to do us any good.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-15 03:37:04](#)**

Re: Order Only

Oh, Arthur. I'm. Well. I suppose you know better than I whether the floo is safe these days, but are you certain?

No, never mind. All right. I always assume that whatever I say by fire may be monitored, but you or Molly might conceivably have a question about some injury or ailment that one of your boys has developed since coming home. That would cover our conversation--and I could hand you some vials of something to treat the ailment. Perhaps boil cure for the twins? Twice as many vials needed that way! A couple of days' worth of applications to set them right.

Mind you, I can't promise it will have arrived--it hasn't yet, but I'm hopeful.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-13 19:45:21](#)**

Re: Order Only

I must agree. Perhaps the time-frame could be stepped up...?



 **[alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-13 20:06:23](#)**

Re: Order Only

Yes, I think that would be best. I'm taking steps to start the arrangements on getting the parchmentwork we need.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-14 12:16:33](#)

Re: Order Only

I can be ready just as soon as the paperwork's done. just let me know who I'll be pretending to be.

maybe someone medical-like? seems like they need it, and if it'll be in and out, I won't have to pretend much. Victor looks like he's got a bit of authority, and I'll be going as him this time.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-15 01:16:57](#)

Re: Order Only

Think we'll have all our crups in a row by Thursday morning. I'm arranging to give you the parchnetwork for a staff epidemiologist at St. Mungo's, but more in the line of a statistician than a formally trained healer. But I really hope we won't have to resort to the cover story at all. We'll want to get in quickly, do the deed, and throw enough memory charms so that no one even remembers that you were ever there. (If things are really hotting up in their infirmary, I don't want anyone getting the bright idea of impressing you into hospital fieldwork. Moreover, if we say you're from St. Mungo's, I don't want any other St. Mungo's personnel who may be popping in for the crisis wondering why they've never seen you before.)



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-15 01:17:22](#)

Re: Order Only

Oh, and per my comments back and forth with Poppy, we'll make sure you and I are both dosed with anti-infective potion for the diphtheria, so there's no chance of us endangering either young Charlotte, or the children in our respective households.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-15 01:34:18](#)

Re: Order Only

sounds like a plan. just let me know where and when, and I'll be there to pick everything up before we go in.

might not be smart to be seen entering the camp together in case there are questions about me after, but we can meet up once inside. we need to track down the baby right quick. she might still be in the infirmary, and it'll make the most sense for me to be there anyway, so we can start looking there.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-13 20:03:24](#)

(no subject)

My dear boy, diptheria can be very serious! I hope you are keeping your hands clean, and perhaps the healers can give you protective charms to keep from getting sick?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-13 20:05:17](#)

(no subject)

yes, mrs weasley. the healers have given boot the protection he needs, and madam pomfrey taught boot all about washing his hands, and boot doesnt forget. you are kind to think of boot.

boot will be all right, and he is glad to help the healers because they need it right now.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-16 02:14:06](#)

(no subject)

It sounds like they're real glad to have you there, Terry. Stay safe, and hope you don't get sick.

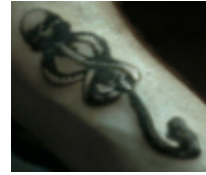


 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-16 23:29:26](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Mr Longbottom.

[2009-04-14 18:26:00](#)

(no subject)



 [alt_amycus](#)

I've been working furiously since my arrival, with few pauses for food or rest. The work I do is far too important for such petty concerns: let the base think only of their bellies. Of rutting and swill and wash. Dare to think on a larger scale, touched by the gods of mystery. May then see far beyond the veil of the unknown. Tantalizing glimpses of greater things, eh? (Great and terrible, perhaps? But undoubtedly necessary.)

My ingestion of silver at the last feast, eyes open? Shh, shut them, shut them, keep all those secrets. Those hints, those secret rumours of silver I've pursued over the years have teased. Tormented. What mockery, their elusiveness, their viciously cunning inscrutability (that's admiration, that is), but now, now! Now I have found a rich, pure vein (many, many veins). Wealth beyond my wildest imaginings—in knowledge, you understand. Gross concerns of lucre are a matter of sheer indifference. Plenty of raw material allows the fullest extent of my artistic expression.

How satisfying to have an inexhaustible supply of ink!

Oh, Justine, how proud of me you must and will be.

(tidbit, I want you to get the blood out of the trousers I left draped over the chair at the foot of my bed. And bring me something, maybe a butcher's apron, that'll keep me from getting splashed again. See that you step lively about it, too.)

Notes:


200 CC (so far)

Zx2

needles

results: promising, very promising



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-14 23:56:44](#)
(no subject)

yes sir


boot will see what he can find sir



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-15 00:20:33](#)
ORDER ONLY

He grows progressively more mad - and yet he is also fairly coherent, this time, it seems. What a creature! I shall apply to Lucius again to try and unseat him. There is truly no reason why he should be given a professorship. The sister is bad enough.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-15 13:11:36](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

If only you could get rid of him. Well, we wish you luck in trying.

But Arthur, what's all this about this mysterious Building Seven? It sounds entirely sinister.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-15 13:14:02](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

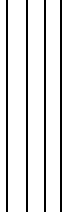
No idea whatsoever, Molly, but you're right: I certainly don't like the sound of it. Since he's working with Rookwood, it could be anything.

I may be able to find out a little more while I'm there tomorrow.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-15 13:17:41](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

Well, be careful, and I hope you don't get into hot water by sniffing about! Getting the baby out of there is the important thing.



 **[alt_arthur](#) at 2009-04-15 13:18:30**

Re: ORDER ONLY

Of course, Molly dear. Frank and I won't run any unnecessary risks.

2009-04-14 18:43:00

(no subject)



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

So today Pansy finally got to go get her kneazle and I got to go with her! Headmistress McGonagall told me to be down in the entrance hall ready to go at 10:30, and we went by floo. (There's a room in the dungeon with a fireplace you can use to actually go places. It's locked though and the lock didn't even really want to open up for the Headmistress so I don't imagine very many people get to use it.) We got to Knightsbridge a little early and the Headmistress took me to the owl post office and told Mr Malfoy she'd come back for me at three.

The animal shop was AMAZING. They had more magical animals than I'd ever seen in one place in my life ever. The shopkeeper let Lucy and Antonia (those are Ptolemy's two little sisters, Ptolemy and his brother and sisters came along with their father Mr Baddock) hold puffskeins while Malcolm and Pansy looked around. They had crups as well, and owls, and a fire-crab -- that one was dead expensive, much more than the crups or kneazles. And they had all sorts of cats and dogs, and they had toads and snakes in all different colours and there was a tank of water with tiny bright blue octopi in it, and of course they had rats and ferrets and mice. The mice might have just been there as food for the snakes though.

When the shopkeeper heard that Pansy wanted a kneazle he told her that you can't just buy one the way you can buy a puffskein, the kneazle has to choose you as well. He says they're excellent pets IF they like you but if they don't, they'll run away and adopt some other witch or wizard. 'If you choose a kneazle who didn't choose you, young lady, that kneazle might run away and take up with some student in Gryffindor House!' (Because he knew we were from Slytherin.)

Anyway he showed us to a back room where he keeps the kneazles to see if there was one that might get on with Pansy. They all came and looked her over, and she introduced herself, and told them she'd always wanted a kneazle, and she promised she'd be kind and treat them well, and that she was a student in Slytherin House at Hogwarts (there were a few kneazles who walked away when they heard her house! I guess they'd be the ones that would run away to live in Gryffindor!) And since I really didn't want any of them to choose me

since I wouldn't be able to take them home, I told them that I wasn't there for a kneazle, I was just Pansy's friend. There were a few kneazles that came and sniffed Pansy all over and some of them sniffed me as well and then one climbed up into Pansy's lap and rubbed its cheek against hers and purred. And the shopkeeper said that one had chosen her, and she could buy that one if she liked and take it home.

While we were waiting for Malcolm to finish choosing I looked around at the other animals. They let me hold a rat and one of the snakes and an owl and a puffskein and I got to pet a crup.

Mr Malfoy and Mr Baddock took Ptolemy and went to have a drink, and left the rest of us in the shop with the little ones governess. Pansy got Lucy and Antonia to whinge for cauldron cakes, so when Malcolm was done choosing we all went to this little tea shop. I think the governess was glad to buy them cauldron cakes instead of puffskeins. And Pansy bought me a butterbeer to celebrate my birthday, which isn't actually until Friday but I won't see her on Friday.

It was a wizard outing, I'm so so so glad I got to go. Thank you again Mr Malfoy and Headmistress McGonagall.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-15 01:27:27](#)
(no subject)

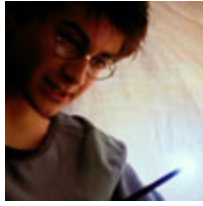
I was actually just writing a journal entry about visiting Diagon Alley today, and then I saw yours! My sister Evelyn and me, we probably just missed you at the Magical Menagerie shop. We were in there today, too.

So Parkinson got a Kneazle? Wow. Those things are dead clever. Good on her. It'll be a cool pet, I'll bet.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-15 01:41:57](#)
(no subject)

We weren't in Diagon Alley, we went to Knightsbridge, that's probably why you didn't see us. And yes Pansy got a kneazle! They really are clever, I think they understood every word we were saying to them.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-15 02:09:02](#)
(no subject)

I wonder if itll wee and retch on everything like Millies cat? What if they dont get along? I bet you'll be able to smell it from the boys' dormitory.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-15 02:19:48](#)
(no subject)

We warned the kneazles about Millie's cat because we didn't want any problems. And it won't wee on everything! Even Millie's cat isn't that bad. He does puke an awful lot though.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-15 03:04:42](#)
(no subject)

Maybe Millie's cat is allergic to the food she's giving it? That was the problem that one of my great-aunt's cats, once. Once she switched it to a different brand of catfood, it was fine.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-15 04:12:56](#)
(no subject)

Yeah Millie says that's the problem but Fergus keeps finding things to eat that don't agree with him anyway. I think other students might feed him. Or leave food he shouldn't eat where he

can get into it.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-15 03:03:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I missed that you said Knightsbridge when I read your journal entry at first.

I've got a cousin who has a kneazle. I would have liked one myself, but one of my great uncles got me a toad for Hogwarts instead. Trevor's okay--although he escapes too often, which drove Seamus crazy before he gave me the terrarium--but


definitely not as smart as a kneazle. Probably more fun to hold, too.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-15 02:06:31](#)
(no subject)

You are quite welcome, Miss Perks.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-15 05:17:19](#)
(no subject)

Whoa! Octopi (that's a bunch of octopus, right?) how wicked is that!!

2009-04-14 20:25:00

Hols

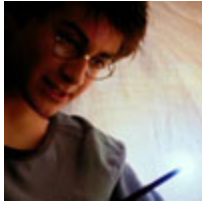
It's rather odd to be home again. Nice, though. Evelyn's shot up a couple inches, and she's almost as tall as me! Gran says that the size of my feet means I've still got more to grow myself, though.



 [alt_neville](#)

We went to services this past Sunday, like always, and then my great aunts and uncles came over for Sunday dinner afterwards. (It was my Gran's birthday.) Evelyn made a cake, but it went sort of flat. She was so cross because she'd used just about every last sickle of her pocket money to get the sugar and baking powder, cause it was a special occasion. She said the baking powder must have been bad, and that she was going to give the grocer a piece of her mind. (She'd do it, too! Evelyn can be as much of a dragon as Gran, sometimes. That grocer won't even know what hit him.) But the cake still tasted good. I'd forgotten what dinners with the greats can be like (that's what Evelyn and me call them, my Gran's brothers and sisters and their husbands and wives: the greats). Uncle Algie's getting sort of deaf--well, a LOT more deaf. Everything's got to be repeated to him, sort of bawled in his ear. Makes the talk very uphill sort of work.

Evelyn and I worked on spring housecleaning the last couple days. Gran's a stickler about some things, like turning mattresses, and beating carpets. She's not as spry as she used to be, of course, so that's the sort of thing I do. We didn't complain, though (even though I just about sneezed my head off from whacking all those carpets) because Gran promised we could go to Diagon Alley today as a reward for working so hard. I needed some more stuff for my potions kit so we stopped at Slugs & Jiggers, and she wanted to visit Gambol & Japes. I bet she'll really hit it off with Fred and George Weasley if she gets sorted into Gryffindor next year, because she loves that store too, just like they do. And we were in the Magical Menagerie, buying stuff for her cat Fitzwilliam. We must have just missed Sally-Anne Perks and Pansy Parkinson.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-15 02:08:02](#)
(no subject)

Ugh its dead boring here, and it sounds like same for most everyone except you and Sally-Anne and maybe Draco. Or else everyone is having fun. And not writing in their journals.

Anyway Im jelous you got to go to Diagon Alley. Father won't let me. He says I need to spend time with him or some thing like that. Which is nice I suppose but not like Diagon Alley.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-15 14:18:03](#)
(no subject)

You're kidding, right? I mean, blimey, you're spending the hols at Buckingham Palace, aren't you?

(But I suppose it must be a lot of boring grown up meetings and stuff.)

Anyway, I'm sorry you're not having much fun. But maybe he'll let you out to look around New London some, before you go back to school.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-15 02:22:14](#)
(no subject)

Well it's a jolly good thing you're planning to grow a bit more Longbottom. You'd make an awfully short grown up.

Did she really make you beat the carpets by hand? You know there's a charm for cleaning things, I've gotten pretty good at it thanks to Millie's cat Fergus.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-15 02:44:24](#)
(no subject)

I think Mr Rosier is taking me to Diagon Alley tomorrow. Unless were going to the Malfoys tomorrow? Were in Brighton right now. We came here Monday morning and the weathers been lovely.

Your sisters coming to Hogwarts next year isnt she? Do you think shes going to be in Gryffindor or is she more another house type?

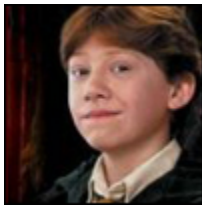



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-15 03:06:36](#)

(no subject)

I hope Evelyn will be in Gryffindor! I think she will. She says she thinks it might be Hufflepuff, though. But I really can't see her in there. And Gran thinks she's a Gryff for sure.

We'll find out next year!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-15 05:29:25](#)

(no subject)

Yeah. Carpets. Cor, youd think they'd just do a cleaning spell wouldn't you? But no, carpets need a good whop now and then--that's what Mum says. Keeps the fibres supple or sommat. (Does your Gran say that, too?) So she sets the spell that holds the thing there and this year I had to cast the one that makes the beaters' bats wallop it all up and down both sides and stand there choking to death and making sure they move just right and don't fly off through the kitchen window. Funny how tempting that is, innit?

But, um. It was a total accident when Ginny came out and the big carpet from the lounge crumpled down on top of her.

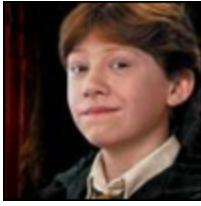
Heh.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-15 12:40:31](#)

(no subject)

I'll bet your Mum and my Gran would get along like a cauldron on fire. Everyone get out of their way!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-15 12:53:42](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. But, yknow, I think I'd rather not be there when they get together!

2009-04-15 20:20:00

Epping Forest Camp

Clearly, I chose the right day to be on-hand at Epping Forest.



I began the day at the Ministry for a briefing from the MLE, then Apparated to the Epping district office to begin my tour. Applebee, the administrator, had scarce arrived to conduct me round when we heard a commotion near the herb gardens.

 [alt_lucius](#)

We found the scene a shambles and it took Applebee and three overseers a quarter-hour to sort out the altercation. A Muggle male, age 30, had attacked one of his guards. The Muggle was quickly subdued, but not before a few others took his part. They were also brought to heel swiftly. I was able to observe first-hand their methods of ascertaining the cause of the minor mutiny. Moreover, the interrogations that resulted from the incident revealed that there has been a growing unrest among a portion of the Muggle population of the camp. Fortunately the Enforcers now have a clear picture of the extent of the danger and may now take definitive steps to suppress the violent urges inherent in their charges and channel them back to productive pursuits.

The interlude naturally took much longer than anticipated, given the fracas, but by mid-afternoon I was able to proceed with the originally planned tour. We circuited the grounds over about an hour (skipping several unimportant areas) and then Applebee's assistant conducted me to Building Seven to meet with Augustus.

Suffice to say that the research upon which he has embarked is illuminating. Amycus seems to have found his element, as well; I am gratified to hear that they work effectively as a pair.

Since the inspection and our ensuing conversation regarding their theories ran quite overlong, I accepted Augustus' invitation to dine. Applebee had the staff prepare a fine, if rudimentary, meal, and Augustus supplied a particularly good wine from his personal stores.

Our discussions ranged, but at one point we did touch on Carrow's poet. I had glimpsed him from afar, though thankfully Amycus has kept the prying eyes away from the sanctum and has wisely chosen to occupy his body in order to prevent his mind growing presumptuous

once more. Though to that, when I complimented him on the apparent reform of his servant, Amycus expressed rare prescience and a concern that the effect, however transformative, may be only temporary. I noted our surroundings and suggested a potential solution, should he prove repeatedly intractable.

In more pleasant matters, Ari has begun transferring the family to Kenwood and will bring Pandora there directly she is discharged from St Gerard's. Pansy is quite taken with her kneazle; the outing was pleasant but I was most relieved when Ari suggested we take Ptolemy to the Caledonian for a libation. (And interesting to note that they employ Mudbloods among their domestic staff!)

Well, it is late and I've another early start to-morrow. Selwyn, I have down ten o'clock; that makes sense as it would follow directly on my briefing with the Minister.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2009-04-16 03:45:25](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, ten o'clock.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-16 14:43:54](#)**
Order Only

Clearly, Arthur and Frank chose the right day to go rescuing little Charlotte from Epping Forest: NOT yesterday.

We'll all be waiting for word on how everything goes.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-16 16:10:32](#)**
Re: Order Only

goddamnit. all we need is for that poncey bastard to be lurking around.

if we're lucky, he'll leave before we get there this afternoon.

on the other hand, if he blows our cover, I'll have a good excuse to beat the smirk right off of his face before we blast our way out. always wanted to have a rematch.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-16 16:40:53](#)

Re: Order Only

Well, he posted this last night. And I'd be surprised if he'd voluntarily choose to stay in whatever rough accommodations might be offered to him by the camp administrator.

They'll do for the likes of Amycus Carrow, but I suspect the elegant Mr Malfoy vastly prefers his lavender-scented sheets at Malfoy Manor.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-16 16:42:19](#)

Re: Order Only

point taken, Molly. hope to Merlin you're right.

it's bad enough we've got that creepy git carrow to think on.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-16 17:06:44](#)

Re: Order Only

Sounds as though Carrow's a bit too caught up with whatever his ghastly experiments are to pay much attention to what's going on around him.

If you do run into Malfoy, and you can get away with it without jeopardising the mission, feel free to hex him bald.

With my compliments.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-16 17:25:09](#)

Re: Order Only

Oooh, don't tempt him. He's wound up tight enough as it is!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-16 17:02:44](#)

Re: Order Only

Steady on, Frank; sounds like he's left last night.

Wish I could lend you a hand, though. With the rescuing or the blasting Malfoy off his high

broomstick.

2009-04-16 12:00:00

Order Only: Frank

Frank, I've got the parchmentwork and I'm ready to go. Meet me at our usual rendezvous outside Ottery St. Catchpole, by the footbridge over the river.



 [alt_arthur](#)

Remember to transfigure your robes St Mungo's green.



 [alt_frank](#) at **2009-04-16 17:06:08**
(no subject)

on my way, going to look like Victor.

Merlin that potion tastes like shite.

2009-04-16 19:12:00

Order Only

Has anyone heard from Frank or Arthur?


Arthur's not home yet, and I'm going mad from waiting without any word. I was wondering whether anyone had received a patronus from either of them.



 **alt_molly**

At least the hand for Arthur on our clock doesn't say 'Mortal Peril.' Just 'working.' Which is true, I suppose, but singularly unhelpful.



 **alt_sirius** at **2009-04-17 00:15:08**
(no subject)

I just wrote in my journal to ask the same!



 **alt_arthur** at **2009-04-17 00:16:43**
(no subject)

Don't fret, Molly, I'm just fine. The thing is, Frank and I have separated to comb through the camp a bit faster to try to find young Charlotte. This place is huge, you know.

I'm sure he's fine, too--I certainly haven't heard any kind of uproar suggesting otherwise--and I expect him to check in sooner or later. Just be patient. This may take awhile.



 **alt_molly** at **2009-04-17 00:20:17**
(no subject)

Thank you for letting me know that much, at least!

2009-04-16 20:12:00

Order Only: Progress?

Frank, Arthur - anything to report?

Alice? Molly? Have either of you heard from them?

It's getting late.... How'd it go?

Can't stand this waiting about.



 [alt_sirius](#)



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-17 00:19:06](#)

(no subject)

Waiting for Frank to make contact again, but no need for alarm, I think. Will continue to check in periodically.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-17 00:23:46](#)

(no subject)

That's not an answer, Arthur!

Are you still in the camp? Gone? Did you find Charlotte?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-17 00:30:46](#)

(no subject)

Yes, I'm still in the camp; we both are. We separated to do the search in order to cut down the time needed to look for her, but this place is truly huge, Sirius. It may take awhile.

2009-04-16 22:22:00

ORDER ONLY

found them.

really got the run-around, and it took a damn long time because I had to be discreet. even checked every room in the hospital. finally found where they lived, but the neighbor told me they'd decided to go stay with her cousin. took me forever to find which bloody cousin.




 [alt_frank](#)

talked to the parents, Dawn and Robert. they're both tired from having a new baby, worried as hell about the diphtheria going around, and don't quite know what to make of me. Al or Arthur usually does the talking. they'd be much better at it. tried to do my best, but Robert nearly clocked me one when he figured out I wanted to take Charlotte with me, and Dawn wanted me to get all three of them out of the camps somehow.


Arthur? I could use a hand.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-17 02:31:13](#)
(no subject)


I'll be right there, if you tell me where to go to meet you.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-17 02:33:44](#)
(no subject)

four streets south of the communal bathhouse,
building seven, flat 3a.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-17 02:36:48](#)
(no subject)


Right-o. Be there as soon as I can.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:37:34](#)**
(no subject)

cheers



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:45:55](#)**
(no subject)

Not the same building seven Carrow's in, I hope?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:51:44](#)**
(no subject)


no, the residential block. thank Merlin.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:39:56](#)**
(no subject)

It always breaks my heart whenever the parents ask us to take them with the children, and we just can't.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:41:51](#)**
(no subject)

I'm so glad you've found them, love.

Just stay patient. They mustn't think they're being forced into something.

Remember, this is one of the most important things they'll ever have to decide on. I know you are pressed for time, but just let them take a moment to breathe and think.


You're doing wonderfully so far.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:46:19](#)**
(no subject)

I always did say that Frank could charm the birds out of the trees.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:52:51](#)**
(no subject)


He certainly charmed me!



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 02:47:24](#)**
(no subject)

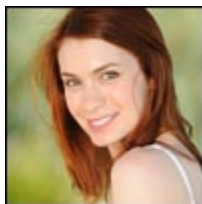
alright. I stepped out for a mo to let them read some of the letters and talk.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-17 03:03:11](#)**
(no subject)

Frank has just about done the thing, everyone. A little more hard arguing needed to convince them that we can't take them along, too, but I think it won't be more than a few minutes now. Once they've agreed, we'll head back to the infirmary so there'll be a record there of the baby being admitted for diphtheria. Then we'll find a healer to confund to get the death certificate.

If all goes well, Frank will be back on his way to Moddey Dhoo with Charlotte in about an hour.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-17 03:07:01](#)**
(no subject)

Good work, you two.

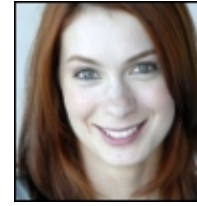
We'll be ready and waiting.

2009-04-17 09:48:00

ORDER ONLY

Hello, hello!

We've got a brand new baby here, and she is perfectly healthy in every way. Thank you for the diphtheria potion, Poppy, Frank told me you got it to Arthur just in time. We were all quite relieved -- Stephen especially so. He kept one of the spare doses to add to our stores, and mentioned that with a spot of the real thing that it would be far easier to duplicate for next time. I gave Charlotte a bath, and had Frank take one as well, and I washed and Scourgified Frank's clothing as thoroughly as possible. We burned Charlotte's clothes, but I didn't have the heart to throw out her little blanket and knitted cap -- they are keepsakes after all. I washed them several times, and did a little spell work to steam them up so they'd be sterilized.



 [alt_alice](#)

Charlotte was fussy and crying last night, so I held her until she settled down, but every time she would start crying again, my Kevin would kick like mad in sympathy! It was quite an interesting experience. She's taken to the formula quite well, though, and once she had a full tummy she dropped right off to sleep.

Between our recent addition and our upcoming foray into smuggling, the entire castle has been buzzing with excitement. It's all we can do to keep the children in their beds at night, and John can talk of nothing but how much he is looking forward to his meeting the famous Sirius Black. If we're able to pull it off, it will be quite a good thing indeed -- those potions ingredients would be endlessly useful, and Stephen and Laura and John are all anxiously awaiting their wands. How many did you manage to wrangle, Sirius? I've told Colin and Alec to not expect any miracles in that arena, so they aren't expecting anything, but it would be simply wonderful if the children that were of age could start their proper education.


Well, that's all for now!



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-17 14:21:38](#)
(no subject)

so we've settled on Kevin, then?
good.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-17 14:23:35](#)
(no subject)

Yes. I think so too.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-17 14:49:56](#)
(no subject)

'Kevin Longbottom' sounds grand, Alice.

Do you need anything for little Charlotte? Of course you have Stephen there to whip up a potion if she has cradlecap or anything like that, and I suppose you have plenty of baby clothes about. I'm sending an owl today with one of my knit octopuses for a cuddle toy for her, but do let me know if you need anything else.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-17 21:13:34](#)
(no subject)

well, I figured it sounded like it fit with "Neville" and "Evelyn," so we'd have a matched set!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-17 15:08:03](#)
(no subject)

Good work, as always, Frank. I know you always say I do a better job talking to the parents, but Robert and Dawn did seem particularly hopeful when we parted from them last night. I think they took your words to heart.

And that was a particularly nice job keeping your head when we got

to the hospital, too. That could have gotten a bit ticklish--I didn't expect so many healers to converge on us. This diphtheria outbreak must be making St. Mungo's quite nervous.


Also, I should have asked you before we met yesterday if you had birthday packets for any of the children to pass on. I believe I'm a little bit behind in doing the birthday visits. Which children have birthdays in April and May? The parents are always so grateful whenever they get your and Alice's reports, and the children's letters.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-17 15:09:16](#)
(no subject)

Why, what happened at the hospital then, Arthur?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-17 16:03:27](#)
(no subject)

Well, when Robert and Dawn went to check in with the register, saying they were worried Charlotte might have diphtheria, suddenly there about three healers there, all clamoring to take the baby. It took some quick charmwork from Frank to get 'em to scatter, but he did it quite nicely. One trotted off to fetch a potion and then forgot what she was fetching. Another one--what was it, Frank? I believe she had an irresistable urge to go count the bedpans. We cast the confundus on the third, and she was the one who signed the death certificate.

(We saw Terry Boot, too, did I tell you that, Molly?)



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-17 16:03:58](#)
(no subject)

No, really, you saw Terry? However did you recognise him?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-17 16:04:32](#)**
(no subject)

He was working there, over to the side with another boy, and he heard someone say my name. Asked if I was related to Fred and George, introduced us to his friend. Ever so polite, he was. He asked me particularly to pass along his hello to you, dear.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:31:16](#)**
(no subject)

he was a skinny bit of nothing, that's for damn sure. I helped him carry in a cot or somesuch when I went to hospital earlier, looking for the baby.

that boy he was with, you catch his name? Looked awful familiar for some reason.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:32:37](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, he was a wiry little thing, wasn't he? I'm sure if Molly ever saw him, she'd get that 'he needs feeding up' glint in her eye.

The other boy was, let's see...Dean Thomas, Terry said. They seemed quite taken with each other. Another Muggleborn. Why, have you met him before?




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:54:00](#)**
(no subject)

not likely. haven't been to that camp in recent memory, and he would have been just a baby when all this nonsense started.

just thought I'd seen that face somewhere before is all.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-17 22:03:59](#)**
(no subject)


Perhaps he resembles a relative, someone else you're remembering?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 22:08:46](#)**
(no subject)

I'll think on it. it'll come to me eventually.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-17 22:27:17](#)**
(no subject)

Goodness! We've been so busy working on the boat that I'd nearly forgotten. Thank you for reminding me. I'll get those letters and reports to you next week.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-17 14:53:19](#)**
(no subject)


First, thank Morgana everyone's all right. I'm pants with kids, but I'm more anxious than ever for next week, myself. A bit of action will do me good - all this sitting on the sidelines simply murders me.

But second, I hope you tell Mr Turner not to expect much! I'm hardly Gilderoy Lockhart, after all (ever take a peek at that ponce's journal? It's amusing in small doses. Very small).

I've got a dozen wands for now; that's all Agatha could spare. If things go well next week we'll see about getting more, but even over here, government audits inventories periodically, according to her.

... Have you heard anything from Remus, Alice?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:19:59](#)**
(no subject)

That's really quite excellent news about the wands, Sirius. We were dreaming of the possibility of getting four. A dozen is riches unimaginable. Thank you for all your hard work.

And no, I've heard all you have. All the news I can get from him are from when he writes in these silly things. And he hasn't lately.


I hate that he has to go there. Especially after what happened with Ian. They nearly killed him fighting over the boy. Merlin knows how they are towards him these days.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:53:37](#)**
(no subject)

How has Ian been doing, Alice? Have you seen any effects to speak of from the bites he received? I know it wasn't during the full moon, but still...



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:59:50](#)**
(no subject)

He gets a little moody around the full moon, and seems to have more of an appetite for red meat. Unfortunately, we don't have a lot to spare, which doesn't help his temper. It's only for a few days of the month, though.

Other than that, and a few nasty scars, he's a normal, healthy boy. I thank Merlin for that nearly every day.

We're careful, of course -- everyone knows to watch for blood contamination, so if he gets a scraped knee or bloody nose, we have rubber gloves handy. Judith had the idea for that one.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-17 22:29:33](#)**
(no subject)

And as for Remus, well, I hardly know what to say. I can honestly say at least that I don't wish him ill because of his condition. Merlin knows that he has to bear more with that than any soul should ever have to bear.

We've just never known him as well as you and Sirius, of course, Alice. I suppose. . . well, I hope that there will someday be something that proves to us all that his heart still is with the Order, as you think it is. That he didn't betray his friends. But until then, we simply can't take the risk.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-18 04:21:04](#)**
(no subject)

I know, it's a terrible risk. And I understand how important it is to be absolutely sure.

It's still hard. He's so alone, and all I can do is read about it from a distance. If it were up to me, we'd have given him a chance to prove himself years ago.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:51:05](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not likely to bust the lad's bubble. he's memorised nearly all your Grim Truths.

you might not like it, but sometimes people need a bit of a hero. and, in this case, you seem to fit the bill.

that's just aces about the wands, though, mate.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-17 21:57:09](#)**
(no subject)

A dozen wands! That certainly is a prize haul. I certainly hope you and Frank will be able to pull off this operation.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-17 23:41:03](#)
(no subject)

Yet still fewer than we'd hoped, before the runarounds on the Continent - however we shall alot them, I don't know.




 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-17 23:51:04](#)
(no subject)

The Moddey Dhoo children, I suppose, are still the first priority: they are far *safest*, to begin with. I would dearly love to grant Granger a wand, but of course it will be quite a different matter to smuggle them in from Moddey Dhoo - I'm made nervous by the transit, after all that we've gone through thus far, and especially the idea that I would have to receive them here (but what is the alternative? Routing them through Granger? I know you would be trusty, Granger; but on the whole there is no reason why you would come into contact with any Order member, and it would be suspicious, and if you were caught you would surely be killed.)

Then, too, could Granger hide one sufficiently? - But who needs one more? As useful as duplicate wands are, I cannot imagine that we would waste these on such things. Better to run the risk and grant greater freedom to the Muggle-borns among us.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-18 04:35:16](#)
(no subject)

Stephen, Laura, and John are at the very top of my own personal list. Colin and Alec are of age, or will be soon enough, and I'd like for them to have access to wands if at all possible.

Divyesh and Ian are the next oldest children here, but they wouldn't be of age for over a year. I might want to hold on to one or two in trust for them, just in case we have a long dry spell.

Perhaps some of the Sherwood group would be amenable to some of the remaining haul?

Hermione is such a quick study that I have no doubt as to her

ability to pick up wandwork quickly. Now that she's always around Harry, though, I'd think it a bit too risky. You're right in there being difficulty hiding a wand, and if she were caught, there would be all sorts of questions as to where she got it, and they wouldn't be happy with a simple answer.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2009-04-18 21:10:49](#)**
(no subject)

I honestly don't know, if we offered the Sherwood group wands, whether they would accept them. And if any of them were captured, it might be difficult from them to keep the secret of where they obtained them.

On the other hand, if they had wands they'd probably have a lot better chance of not getting captured. And making the offer would certainly demonstrate our good faith to them.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-19 10:27:56](#)**
(no subject)

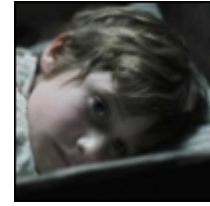
agreed on the second point, mate.

and as to your first, this lot seems to be fairly tight-lipped. out of all the non-order folk we've interacted with, these are the ones I'd trust the most to keep a secret. no matter what.

hell, they'd probably keep quiet just to be contrary.

2009-04-17 11:47:00

Fred and George, I met your Dad!



I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Dear friends,

 [alt_terry](#)

I've been working for almost thirty hours straight, but there are fewer cases today, so one of the infirmary matrons finally told me I should get some sleep. Thought I'd grab a few moments to make an entry here before I do.

Of course, I don't know the people who usually work here at the camp from the others who have shown up (mostly from St Mungo's, I think) because they're trying to isolate this illness. Dean says that he's never seen it so crowded here--both patients and healers--in the past three years. But it seems to be working, I guess, because there were ten less cases today. So they hope it's tapering off.

Anyway, one of the people I saw yesterday was your Dad, Fred and George. I heard someone say his name, 'Weasley,' and when I saw he had ginger-coloured hair, I wondered, you know. So when he was alone, waiting for someone to get back or something, I plucked up my nerve and asked him if he was related to you. He knew who I was, which sort of shocked me. Said he was delighted to meet me, as if I was anyone of his boys' friends, and not just a ~~mu~~, well, you know. Guess I should have known he wouldn't act like a stuck up toff meeting someone like me, since he was your Dad and all, but it was still a nice surprise. He talked with me and Dean quite awhile. I told him to say hello to the two of you, and to your mum. Another man joined us while we were talking, one of the St Mungo's people, I guess, who I'd noticed earlier in the day because he'd been really nice to me, too. Most of the staff here order me around brisk and sharp, sort of like master, if they notice me at all. But this man, he startled me by stepping in to help me move a heavy cot I was trying to shift. He ruffled my hair a bit when we were done, like I was his own lad or something.

It's funny how you can notice such a little thing. Being treated decent, but like it isn't any big deal. But to someone like me, it really is.

Anyway, I liked your Dad a lot, Fred and George. Hope I'll get the chance to meet him again.

My eyes keep closing, so guess I'll stop.


Your friend,
Terry Boot



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-17 22:52:47](#)
(no subject)

Oh how lovely! I'm so glad that you got to meet Mr Weasley, Terry!!



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-18 23:41:30](#)
(no subject)

That's right, I'd forgotten. You've met him, too, haven't you? It really was a stroke of luck we ended up at Hogwarts again together, and it's all thanks to him.

Can't wait to see you tomorrow and hear all about what it was like at Buckingham Palace. Though I don't envy you having to be around the Lord Protector.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-18 23:34:54](#)
(no subject)

We like our dad to, he's a decent bloke.

We're glad that the illness seems to be stopping, we got a bit worried there, and that you're finally getting some sleep.

Sorry we haven't written much, mum has kept us very busy with chores this week.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-18 23:45:26](#)
(no subject)

I'm fine, honest. Like I said, they gave me the potion so I didn't have to worry about getting sick myself. And it's been an interesting week, even if was awful sad sometimes. But I really got to see what it's like to be a healer, and you know what? I did like it. It felt like I was doing something really useful. It's something I might have wanted to do myself someday, if I wasn't a ~~mud~~ I mean a muggleborn. If they'd ever be willing to train someone like me, that is.

Looking forward to seeing you and Lee again.

2009-04-18 00:13:00

Order Only: rendez-vous point

Frank, well done again!

Listen, I spoke with Captain Collins again and he says the 'signs' are more favourable for Friday night. Seems to think I'm to be impressed with a divination by a little witch off the wharf, but I happen to know the long-range shipping forecast is that Friday will be cloudier than Saturday.



 [alt_sirius](#)

Anyway, he used to sail the Channel all the time before the wards went up. He told me to tell you to plot your course for the South Bishop lighthouse: latitude 51° 51' 9.6" N longitude 5° 24' 43.3" W

Collins says it's an ideal landmark for you, as it sits alone on a outcrop of rock in 4¾ miles south west of St David's Head. I doubt it's lit at night, though, so be careful getting your bearing off it.

From there he says to proceed due south and we should meet up where the wards run. If you plan to head out right at sunset or just after, we should be able to rendez-vous an hour or two after midnight, depending on your best speed. That leaves us a short window to transfer the goods and then you'll have a few hours to make for shore.

As for your point about your young Turner, you're right, I don't like it one bit. I'm no hero; that's you and Arthur and Kingsley and all. So far I've done nothing but scribble a few odd phrases in this fight!

Well, we'll change that in a sevendnight, won't we? I have to admit I sort of look forward to some tangible contribution to our efforts.

Anyway. Yes, twelve wands. Agatha's been laying them aside now and then. That's one good consequence of all these delays getting them to you in the first place!

Poppy, the fluxweed is okay, but it's not looking as healthy as it did a couple weeks ago. Any suggestions for perking it up a bit for you?




 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2009-04-18 02:12:17](#)
(no subject)

If there's one thing I've learned from the Players, it's that we all have our parts to play, my friend. Some of us may seem to play the heroes, and some only the supporting characters, but the play isn't worth much without all of us working together.

(And you wouldn't call me a hero if you ever saw me cursing over the firewood whenever it's my turn to light the fire and make breakfast in the morning. It's a standing joke with the others--Benjy always says my fire-starting charm isn't worth shite. Not to mention my cooking.)



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-18 04:29:29](#)
(no subject)

between his moaning about the rabbit spell and his whinging over your cooking, I'd say our Benjy is getting soft.

tell him to grow a pair, or he can't be Kevin's godfather any more.


when are you lot stopping by? can't wait to see that old bastard again.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2009-04-18 14:19:31](#)
(no subject)

Arthur's turning into quite the canny manager: he has our appearances booked out for awhile. But we have an opening in the schedule the second week in May. That work for you?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-19 10:29:16](#)
(no subject)

that'd do. looking forward to it.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-18 04:32:30](#)
(no subject)

thanks, mate. I've been to that lighthouse before, years ago, but it was during the day and on land. should be able to find it easily enough, though.

we'll be ready for Friday. least as ready as we can be.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-18 20:21:26](#)
(no subject)

I'm terrible with plants, Sirius, but I've asked Pomona, and she says that if the leaves are turning a bit wan, it may be that a simple bit of sunshine would revive them. I can imagine that they might have been kept away in a dim place for a bit too long.

She says that another possibility is that the leaves are looking wilted (sort of droopy and collapsed in on themselves). In that case, they've probably dried out, and it won't be just a simple matter of giving them a bit of water (if you tried that, it will probably not have had much effect) because if the soil's dried up, it will pull away from the sides of the pot so that water will run down around it and drain straight out the bottom rather than soaking in.

If this sounds like what's wrong with them, then you need to rehydrate the soil, which can be done by getting a big basin full of water, submerging the pot completely (she says not to worry if some of the lower leaves get wet--and she says to weight down the pots if they tend to float up--you want them right under the water completely).

Leave them submerged until you stop seeing bubbles come up from the pots.

Then, when you've removed the pots from the water, you'll need to cast a bubble charm around them to keep the moist air in for a bit--a day would be helpful, but for as long as the charm holds, in any case.

Oh, she did say that over-watering was another possibility, in which case the soil will have gone boggy and the leaves may have turned yellow and spongy. If that's the case, she says to try a dehydrating charm on the soil and then cross your fingers. She suggested

throwing some salt over your shoulder, too. Apparently, there's not much hope of reviving plants that have drowned.

I shall cross my fingers that something succeeds. And do be careful, Sirius!

Not sure why I bother to say it.

[2009-04-18 10:19:00](#)

Kneazles

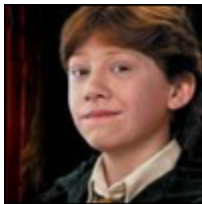
I didn't get any pets over the hols, and none of my brothers did either, but I didn't want one so that's okay.




 **[alt_ernie](#)**

Back up to school tomorrow. Boo! School's okay, but being at home is better.

Dad's been up at one of the camps with some of the other healers. Their helping out up there because everyone's sick or something, but I don't know what it is. I asked Dad when he got home but he said he was too tired and we'd talk about it later. I don't like it when he goes to the camps. It sounds a bit dangerous to me. But Mum says you've got to help people who are less fortunate. And you have to do what the Lord Protector says, too, and sometimes that means making sure the muggles don't all get sick and die. I don't really understand, but that's how it works, so there you go.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-18 21:41:56](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I didn't get a familiar this hols, either, though the twins were talking about tying up a couple of garden gnomes and bringing them back in their trunks. Or slipping them in Percy's and putting a release spell on that would set them free before we get there. If they do it, you'll probably be able to hear Percy all the way to Hufflepuff when he starts to unpack!!

I'm kind of ready to be back at school. I mean it's nice to be home, and Mum's cooking is so much better than the elves make, but it's sort of nice not to have so many chores to do. I wish Mum and Dad would get an elf then we wouldn't have to do so much work whenever we're all home. I mean, seriously, cleaning out the canning room and the rest of the cellars was the worst. There were tons of rats and you've never seen such big spider webs--ugh!--and, of course, Percy skived off and said he had to revise for Transfiguration, and of course, no one could argue with that because Mum and Dad are totally as scared of Professor Carrow as all of us. I mean, they gave the twins a huge lecture about not getting wrongside of Carrow, which was a laugh because you know, whatever you tell the twins not to do, they'll absolutely do, so who knows what they'll get up to now

Mum and Dad have warned them off!

So, anyway, I'll see you on the train, yeah?

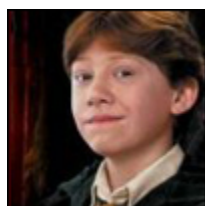


 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-19 04:36:51](#)**

(no subject)

Well you know if they cant get elves they could get a mudblood or two. Mr Rosier and Mr Malfoy were talking about this at lunch yesterday. Theyve had all sorts of trouble getting pureblood families to take them as servants even when they dont have elves. And I know with your family its not that they hate mudbloods so much they cant bear to have them about. I mean I really think your brothers would have kept Carrows mudblood like a pet if they could have!

A mudblood could do all the heavy work for your mum. And I expect theyd rather come work for your mum than stay in the camps. Or ~~work for Carrow.~~



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 11:27:50](#)**

(no subject)

Yeah. Uh. I don't think my Mum would go for it.

She says she doesn't need servants with all us kids to help get things done. She's just funny that way.



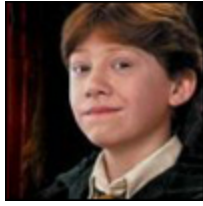
 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2009-04-19 07:25:04](#)**


(no subject)

Haha! I'll have to come and find you on the train to see if there really are gnomes in your brother's trunk!

I didn't have to do as much chores as you while I was at home, I was mostly just helping to look after my brothers and doing revision because we've got exams at the end of the year. I did loads of transfiguration too but not because I'm scared of Professor Carrow because I'm definitely not. I just needed to do more transfiguration than anything else, that's all.

See you on the train.



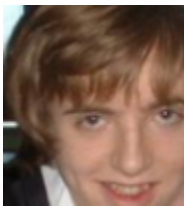
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 11:32:07](#)**
(no subject)

Huh. There's loads of time before exams, though, when we get back to school. But, yeah, its probably Transfiguration I need most help in, but, oh! Ask me to tell you about the bunny my brothers transfigured on Easter! It was totally hilarious!!! I mean, if we did stuff like that in lessons, it would be the best subject in school! Aside from, well, yknow



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-19 04:37:40](#)**
(no subject)

Id stay home at Mr Rosiers longer too. It seems like the holiday just started!



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2009-04-19 07:28:56](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah it was a short holiday, maybe because of the unicorn hunt and stuff so we left a bit late, but it was good to go home.

[2009-04-18 16:55:00](#)

Hols

So, yeah, hols were fun. My older brothers, Charlie and Bill, were here last weekend and that was wizard! They had loads of stories about dragons and cursed stuff and dueling, and Charlie brought me a dragon-hide wrist protector which is dead cool, and was really useful when we all went flying, cause I always have to have the wonky broom, so I'm always getting dumped off whenever I bank a turn, or sometimes it just coughs and drops like a stone and then starts up again (if I'm lucky). So I got pretty good at falling on my right arm, and then I found out that its as good as a beater bat for whopping Fred or George when they get cheeky. And we had amazing dinners--Mum had stuff bubbling on the stove all the time they were here, and pies and everything we all like. Oh, and Bill taught me a totally sorcerous charm for locking my door so the twins can't get in. Hope I remember it when we get home for summer.



 [alt_ron](#)

But then when they went back, Charlie and Bill, it was back to work for the rest of us. I had to clean out all the cupboards upstairs--and I mean clean--I had to take everything out, charm away all the dust, then scourgify every shelf and the walls and the floors and even the ceiling, and I would have had to fold everything and put it back, but I was so hopeless with the folding spell that Mum made Ginny do it. (Good I never learned that, huh?)

And we trimmed the hedges and then we had to go to the Lovegoods and trim theirs, but Luna's Dad is really mad and hed made a bunch of his hedges into animal shapes that snapped their jaws at us or swung vicious tails to try to knock us off our brooms (and my broom didn't need any help with that!!) and we tried to petrify them, but that made the branches impossible to cut, so it was a huge load of work and when we got home Mum said we needed to finish getting the gnomes out the garden, cause a lot of them had moved back since we worked on it last week.

And all the days this week were pretty much like that. Today I had to clean out the canning room and the other cellars and I'm telling you, you don't even want to know what lives in our cellars!!! There was this one rat, Sally Anne, that was as big as my foot and that's not counting his tail and he was black as midnight. I wonder if Pansy's kneazle is any bigger!! And there were tons of totally evil spiders down there. You wouldn't believe how big their webs were, I mean

some of them were floor to ceiling and then if you looked up in the rafters, you could see great wads of white web wrapped in sort of packages that were as big as rats, and I'm telling you, I couldn't get out of there fast enough!!

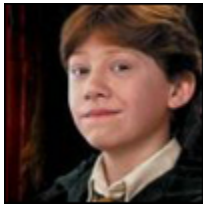
So I'm kind of glad we're going back to school tomorrow. It'll be good to get back to Neville's snoring and Seamus' foul socks and wondering if Trevors going to turn up on my pillow or in my shoes.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2009-04-18 23:44:45](#)**

(no subject)

I saw white rats at the pet emporium on Tuesday. And brown and black and pretty much any colour rats come in. Kneazles are bigger than cats so I'm sure that rat wasn't THAT big. Still it must have been wizard to see. Unless you don't like rats.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 02:46:17](#)**

(no subject)

No, the rats were all right. It was the spiders, which thankfully we didn't see any of, but I could hear them. Or maybe that was the rats, too. I dunno, but I hope I don't have to go down there again forever.



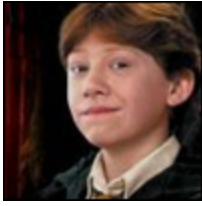
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2009-04-19 00:34:11](#)**


(no subject)

Well, I'll take particular care to snore as loudly as possible when we all get back to school, so you'll feel entirely at home again.

Bet if your Mum and my Gran went into together on writing a book about household charms, it'd make thousands of Galleons.

(And I don't think Trevor's turned up on your pillow once since Seamus got that terrarium for him.)




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 03:52:12](#)**
(no subject)

I bet your right about them writing a book. We'd all be rich!

Or maybe not. Who wants to do housework?
Certainly not me!

Yeah, your right about Trevor, but someday he's going to find a way out of there--I mean he was pretty much an escape artist before, so I figure he's just waiting till we don't expect it and then he's going to make a break for it.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-19 01:38:13](#)**
(no subject)

I know you hate spiders, Ron, and so I'm sorry about that with the cellar job--I would have had Percy do it if I'd known they were there (Well, I hate them, too).

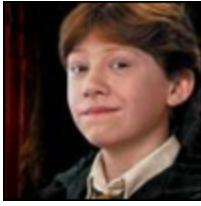
But your Dad and I do appreciate all the hard work you boys put in this week, even if you do grouse about it! And Ginny was just over the moon about having her brothers at home. She's going to miss you something fierce when you all get back on the train tomorrow.

(Mind you fold all your clothes carefully when you pack your trunk tonight! You don't want your trousers to be all over creases.)



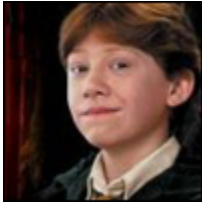
 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2009-04-19 01:54:47](#)**
(no subject)


Indeed, Ronald, I wouldn't have minded switching jobs with you. I don't really mind spiders particularly. On the other hand, I think I'll need Mum to charm my clothes to take the stink out of them from mucking out the chicken coop.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 02:50:51](#)**
(no subject)

I couldn't tell a difference. With how your clothes smell, I mean.



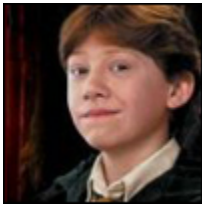
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 02:50:00](#)**
(no subject)


Mum, um, dyou think you could come help me with my trunk? I'm pretty sure I can't get all this folding done and everything sorted. It's just pretty much all gone pearshaped up here, and. Yeah, if your not busy or anything?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-19 04:31:48](#)**
(no subject)

My socks arent that bad! No worse than yours! Anyway I wish the holiday were longer but Mr Rosier doesnt make me scrub out his cupboards or paint the walls.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-19 11:22:24](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. You have it pretty good with Mr Rosier, I think. My Mum's a bit mad: she says it's how we know we're all family that we all work hard to keep the house clean and everything working properly. Mind you, with our house, there's always a lot of work to do just to keep the place from falling down! It's a bit shaky, it's so old.

[2009-04-18 18:14:00](#)

and have we mentioned the paint?

Well, we have been busy this past week.

Mum made all of us clean out absolutely everything this week, probably to keep us out of mischief. We had to clean out our room, degnome the garden, and paint. And paint. and paint. Have we mentioned the paint? Mum even charmed the paint so we couldn't do anything to it. Took all the fun right out of it. We must have painted *every single room*.



 [alt_gredforge](#)

She gave us the night off from our slave labour, to pack and finish revising, which is not much better, so we decided to take a look-see around the journals in case anything interesting was going on.

There wasn't, so we had to post and bring cheer to all of your dreary lives by complaining about ours.

We think someone hexed us, because we actually *want* to go back to school. Mum, are you behind this?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-19 01:33:52](#)
(no subject)

Honestly, now, the week wasn't quite that awful! You can't say that you didn't enjoy all the Quidditch you played with your brothers, and you certainly ate your share of the pies.

As for me putting the safe-guard charms on the paint, well, don't you think your old Mum knows you pretty well?

In all seriousness, though, boys, thanks for all your help. The Burrow looks spic and span, and it was such a pleasure for Dad and Ginny and me to see you all again.

(Don't forget to set your alarm charms tonight; I don't want us to be late for the train! You've already packed, I hope.)




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 02:52:20](#)
(no subject)

yes mum, we are packed and we have all of our schoolwork done.

It was nice to see you too, painting aside.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 01:42:08](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

It sounds like you worked as hard as me this week! Still, it sounds like from your brother Ron's journal entry that you had some fun together at least. And it must be grand to be able to get together with your whole family.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-19 01:58:27](#)
(no subject)

At least you were inside, where it was warm most of today. And I do think I've got a crick in my back from spading up the entire garden.

(I'm glad she gave Ginny the job of dealing with those bee hives. She doesn't seem to mind those bees crawling all over her at all, can you imagine?)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 01:59:18](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, because you're the one that screams like a girl whenever a bee gets near you.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2009-04-19 02:01:08](#)
(no subject)

Not all girls scream when bees get near them! I don't, anyway!


I like bees. They're interesting.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-19 02:12:07](#)
(no subject)

You'll get sorted into Gryffindor for sure, Ginny.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-19 02:02:34](#)
(no subject)

I Do. Not. Like. Bees. I feel about them the way Ron feels about spiders.

Although I do admit I like eating their honey. And if Mum manages to make a go of it with those hives, she might have quite a tidy little business with them.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2009-04-19 02:22:19](#)
(no subject)

Well, maybe you'd feel different about them after you've worked with them awhile. When Mum puts the charm over the hive, they're quite safe and they sort of tickle when they walk about on your arms.

The hat with the net does look daft, though.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-19 02:23:23](#)
(no subject)

Walk about on my arms? I hope not!

No, indeed, Ginny, I'll leave all the bees to you.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-19 02:06:39](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Well, since you have had so much practice painting walls, d'you want to come over and do my room?



 [alt_tery](#) at [2009-04-19 02:11:14](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

My cupboard could use a coat of paint, too. You could even paint fireworks on the walls!

(And I wish someone would paint over all those awful pictures of me sleeping that master has all over the walls in his office.)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 02:42:13](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

No we will not paint anything of anybody's, not even if you paid us.

we are **DONE PAINTING**

sorry for the inconvenience.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-19 04:30:36](#)

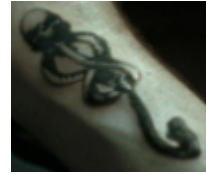
(no subject)

Your mum really did keep you busy. Probably because she thought that would keep you out of trouble.

2009-04-18 21:52:00

(no subject)

Mysteries that were closed have been opened for those with the courage to dare and the eyes to see.



 [alt_amycus](#)

That which has been unpacked must be packed again.

Tidbit, see to it. I'll be leaving for Hogwarts just after luncheon.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2009-04-19 02:53:26**

(no subject)

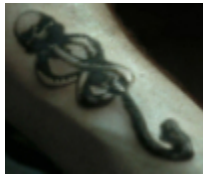
yes sir



 [alt_terry](#) at **2009-04-19 02:54:52**

(no subject)

uh . . . sir, when you say you'll be leaving for Hogwarts, you mean **both** us, don't you? even if your boot doesnt have anything to pack



 [alt_amycus](#) at **2009-04-19 02:55:29**

(no subject)

I don't know.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2009-04-19 02:56:16**

(no subject)


sir, sorry, sir? you . . . you dont know? boot doesnt understand, sir.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2009-04-19 02:57:11](#)
(no subject)

I mean I haven't decided yet.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2009-04-19 02:58:11](#)
(no subject)

sir? you . . . you mean boot might not go back? but why??




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2009-04-19 03:00:07](#)
(no subject)

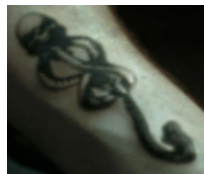
What's this? Is the tidbit sitting up and questioning his Master then?

Is this what a week of being away from my personal supervision has done to you?



 [alt_tery](#) at [2009-04-19 03:01:49](#)
(no subject)

sir, no sir! boot just meant -- oh, boot just doesnt want to be away from your side!




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2009-04-19 03:04:56](#)
(no subject)

Want? Whatever gives you the uppity idea that a mudblood's personal wishes has anything to do with what his Master decides to do with

him, hmm?

Perhaps Master is growing a little weary of you. Ever thought of that?




 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 03:09:00](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Bloody hell. Not go back to Hogwarts? He'd really leave me here??



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 03:14:19](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


don't worry Professor, even if he left you here, we'd make our dad come and get you, and at the very least you would be away from him.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 03:22:19](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Could he? Could he really?




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 03:26:49](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yes he can.

And if he can't then we'll find some other way.


We won't leave you in there Professor, don't worry.



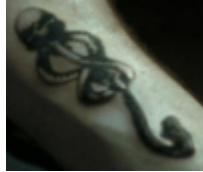
 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-19 03:29:40](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You're stuck with us mate, we'll make sure your alright.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 03:11:51](#)
(no subject)

Sir, please! its just . . . who could look after you better than boot? boot knows all the ways to please you best, doesnt he? hasnt your mudblood always served you well?



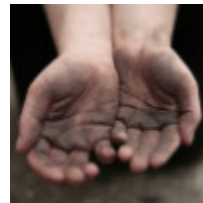
 [alt_amycus](#) at [2009-04-19 03:21:12](#)
(no subject)

Oh, no need to worry about that. You'd serve me well by serving the cause of science, see.

All sorts of notes I've got about you, tidbit. Going back years. Malfoy brought it to mind, and Rookwood was very interested in those notes. Very interested indeed.

I think he'd greatly appreciate the chance to take over some of that note-taking himself. An opportunity like this doesn't come along too often for him.

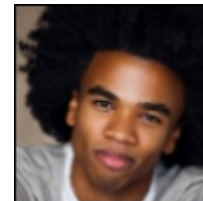
I'd think you'd be proud to have such a great man taking in interest in mud like you.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 03:24:13](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Building Seven! He's talking about Building Seven!
Giving me over to that--shite!



 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-19 03:37:58](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hey Gred, do you know what the legalities are, like if he leaves Terry at the camp then is he giving him up for good, or does Terry still belong to him?



 [alt_terry at 2009-04-19 03:41:58](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I don't--I don't know. There's a magical contract of ownership, it's between Master and the Ministry. It says I'm his property. I don't know if he leaves me here if it's in force because he's leaving me where he wants me to be, or if he'd sign it over to Rookwood. Either way your Dad wouldn't be able to do anything!

The only hope would be getting him to change his mind.



 [alt_gredforge at 2009-04-19 03:47:59](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Dad would be able to pull some strings or something, but don't worry to much, we'll figure something out. We're experts at finding ways around rules after all.

Hang in there Professor, hopefully we'll see you tomorrow.




 [alt_terry at 2009-04-19 03:52:29](#)

(no subject)

sir, just--just please come back to your room, sir. boot has the fire going, and a late supper ready. Coddled eggs, just the way you like them. And the Firewhiskey is already poured out for you.

~~boot would do anyth~~



 [alt_terry at 2009-04-19 04:26:14](#)

(no subject)

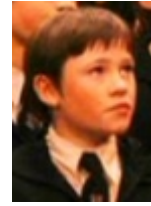
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I'll convince him somehow. Somehow I will.

[2009-04-18 23:23:00](#)

(no subject)

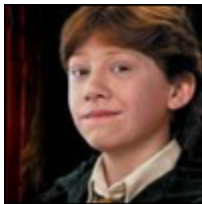
Mr Malfoy and Draco came over yesterday for a visit. Draco brought his broom and we went flying. It was just the two of us so we couldn't really play Quidditch but we let the snitch out on Mr Rosiers Quidditch pitch and pretended we were both seekers. I'm pants at seeking though and Draco got it every time. But it was still fun.




 **[alt_seamus](#)**

I think Draco would have rather gone to visit Harry because he hasn't seen him for the whole holiday. But I don't think he was bored anyway. We all had lunch together. I mean Mr Rosier and Mr Malfoy and also Draco and me.

Back to Hogwarts tomorrow. I guess I'm ready but I kind of wish I could stay here a bit longer, maybe just a few more days even would be nice. It seems like the holiday just started.



 **[alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-19 11:45:17](#)**

(no subject)

I don't know how you spend time with that pointy git Malfoy.

Maybe over the summer, you can come see us: we've got plenty of players for Quidditch. I mean, usually not enough for two proper teams, but especially when Bill and Charlie are home and Lee Jordan or somebody's around, we've got good numbers, cause everybody's always inviting people over.



 **[alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-20 03:51:00](#)**

(no subject)

Quidditch with you and your brothers would be wizard. I think Mr Rosier will let me come for a visit over the summer but I'll have to ask.



 **alt_draco** at [2009-04-19 22:03:40](#)

(no subject)

I don't know why you (or anyone) would listen to Weasel the wanker. Too bad you got stuck in Gryffindor.

Great Uncle Stephen seems to like your company an awful lot. I guess Nanella was right and he was lonely before.

I'm pretty good at seeking but not like Harry, he's really the best.



 **alt_seamus** at [2009-04-20 03:56:53](#)

(no subject)

No one seeks like Harry but your a lot better than me. When Im older I might go out for the team but Id try for chaser or maybe beater, anything but seeker. And its a good thing Im in Gryffindor because with you and Harry in my year Id never make the team if I were in Slytherin.

2009-04-19 13:51:00

Coming home



I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Dear friends,

It's all right. I was up with master late, but I did what I had to do.

I'm coming back to Hogwarts, I hope I'll see you tonight.

Terry

 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-19 18:56:32](#)

(no subject)

Well thank goodness!!! Only - what did you have to do?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 19:14:11](#)

(no subject)

I -- well, never mind what it was.

Look, I'm sorry, I just don't want to tell you, cause you'd hate me, Hermione. But I convinced him to take me back.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-19 19:14:25](#)

(no subject)

Terry if it's THAT then you don't - I mean, you don't have to stand for it, I'll go tell Madam Pomfrey right now and she won't let that happen. She won't, even though we're Mudbloods I'm sure that she won't, I don't think that Professor McGonagall would either.

Terry it isn't - is it? You could tell me you know, it wouldn't be as though you were the only person in the world, you know. And I would never hate you!!!




 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 19:16:08](#)
(no subject)

What do you--oh. oh, no. no, it's not that, hermione.

that's stuff he gets from somebody else, not me.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 19:18:16](#)
(no subject)

I mean, I know that some masters--yuck.


but was I did was still pretty bad, though.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-19 19:20:48](#)
(no subject)


Oh thank goodness, I was so worried Terry, you mustn't frighten me like that. Only - you really won't tell me then?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 19:30:13](#)
(no subject)


I just figured out what he wants from me, and I gave him that. That's all you need to know, really.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-19 19:31:06](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-19 19:36:05](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'll be all right, long as you're still okay with--well. Never mind. But anyway, thanks.

But listen, Hermione. When I get back, I want to go see Madame Pomfrey. I'm going to tell her I want to start taking lessons again.

I'll give him what he wants, yeah, but I'm going to get what I want, too.


I want to be a real wizard. More than anything.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2009-04-19 20:28:10](#)**
(no subject)

Don't forget, you're a real wizard already.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2009-04-19 20:32:27](#)**
(no subject)

I know. (And I never would have known it, if it weren't for you two. I'll always be grateful to you for that!)

The thing is, I want to be a properly trained one. That's what I meant. I'll need lessons and books. And a wand, too, someday, if I'm really lucky and can figure out how to hide it.

I guess you have to give your old text books to your brother Ron, right?



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2009-04-19 20:34:48](#)**
(no subject)

Well, yeah we did, and Ginny will use them too...

But we can always give you our old essays after the teachers turn them back, not like they'll be used for anything else.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2009-04-19 20:37:15](#)**
(no subject)

That'd be really wizard, thanks!

But won't you need them yourself, when you're studying for OWLs and stuff?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 20:37:50](#)
(no subject)

Study?

What's that?

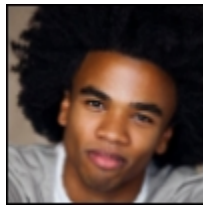



 [alt_tery](#) at [2009-04-19 20:41:53](#)
(no subject)

. . . Right.

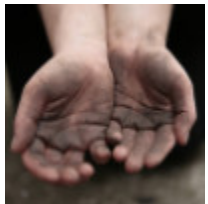
Well, I'll save them all for you, in case you ever want them back. Hermione and me, we've got a secret place where we do revising, so master will never find them.


Thanks ever so much!



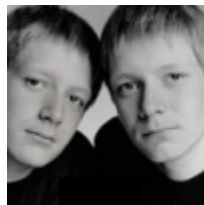
 [alt_lee](#) at [2009-04-19 20:39:17](#)
(no subject)

I'll give you mine too, I'm in some different classes than Forge.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2009-04-19 20:41:19](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Lee!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-19 20:44:26](#)
(no subject)

And whatever you had to do, it's okay by us, if it got you back here.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2009-04-19 20:27:34](#)**
(no subject)

Good thing you're coming home, we'll see you tonight.

[2009-04-19 16:08:00](#)

X

My happy condition has not made life any less hectic. I am relieved, though, that everything is progressing so smoothly this time. The first few months were quite hard on me, and there were times when I wondered if we would be disappointed yet again. But I've just seen the midwife this week; she told me that everything is pitch perfect, and after a moment or two, I was quite convinced that she was telling the truth. Truth told, I feel quite healthy and energetic - as much as I ever did, in fact.



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)**

So much so that when running the Aurors through their new training programme last Wednesday, I helped Barty with several demonstrations. He might've gone easy on me, of course, but I don't think the boy is that sentimental. As of now the group will be tested on their new skills in early May, and anyone who can't keep up with be turned out for parchment work. Because honestly, if I with my load can manage, then surely any respectable man ought to be able to keep up.

I was hoping that Hydra would get to have a play date with dear Harry this week, but it seems that there was no time. Hydra misses Harry quite desperately, I think. She often does chatter on about how she can't wait to join Harry and her cousin Draco at Hogwarts next year.

Oh, blast it - I haven't had a minute free for Owls this week, so I'll just mention here that we should reach a decision by early this week, Professor Sinistra.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2009-04-20 11:21:13](#)**
(no subject)

My thanks for the update! I know you have a lot to consider (and isn't it always challenging to find a time the involved people can talk? It usually is here.)

I've been madly preparing for the rest of term this past week, but think everything is now settled so that I'd have extra time to devote to this project if - as I hope - it's needed. (And if not, well, I'll have a little more time for star-gazing, I suppose.)



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2009-04-21 15:26:07](#)**
(no subject)

It looks as if it has been decided.

Congratulations - the parchment work should arrive to you by tomorrow morning.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2009-04-21 21:55:46](#)**
(no subject)

Goodness - even faster than I expected. Thank you for the advance notice - I'll make sure to follow up directly.

(I assume there's something in there about public announcements and all that - I don't want to step on any toes, of course.)




 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2009-04-21 14:34:22](#)**
(no subject)

Do be careful, Bella, dear. Even in an exercise something could go awry.

Draco felt the same about not spending time with Harry this holiday. Lucius seems to think it's more than the Lord Protector just missing the boy.

Have you time to drop in this week so we may talk?



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2009-04-21 15:26:50](#)**
(no subject)

Of course I have time for you, Cissy. What day shall I drop in?




 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2009-04-21 15:31:16](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I know the Wizengamot session is tomorrow, and Friday I've an appointment at *Witch Weekly*.

I'm just leaving St Mungo's now, or if you prefer Thursday? I've nothing pressing that day.



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2009-04-21 15:41:27](#)**
(no subject)

Thursday suits me well.

2009-04-19 22:57:00

(no subject)

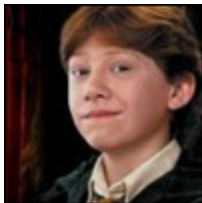
Everyone's back at school! Pansy's kneazle is sitting in her lap right now and making it hard for her to finish her Transfiguration homework because he keeps butting her hand trying to get her to pet him some more. Fergus does that to Millie sometimes but I'd have thought a kneazle would have more sense. She tried telling him she really needs to finish this and she'll pet him when she's through but I don't think he believes her.



 **alt_sally_anne**

I'm twelve now, my birthday was Friday. Pansy sent me my own pair of omnioculars! And a cake she baked herself. She said in her note she hoped it would at least be edible and she shouldn't have worried because it tasted fine. Neville sent me a present too, an inkwell with a stopper that looks like a hedgehog. And Ron brought a present for me back from holiday, it's a basket with jams and teas I think his mum made, there's a pear jam that tastes ~~just like the one~~ my really nice and I think the others are apple and blackcurrant. I hope next year my birthday falls during the term instead of the Easter holiday though. It would be more fun if I actually got to see my friends that day.

The best thing about the holiday: I think I've finally practised flying enough that I'll be able to pass the test.



 **alt_ron at 2009-04-20 13:58:24**

(no subject)

When dyou take the test? I think your going to get it this time for sure, but if you want to fly after dinner sometime this week we could try to get out there fast enough to get a broom. Seems like everyone's talking about flying now the weather's better and its light after dinner. I was behind a whole pack of third years going to breakfast and they were all talking about how to get out there fast to get a broom before they're all taken.

I think the kneazle liked me, don't you? After the hissing and spitting thing, I mean. He seemed to be warming up to me by the end, yeah? Er. What does he like to eat? Maybe I should bring him something next time.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-20 16:46:00](#)
(no subject)

I'll take it on Thursday, you know when the rest of you lot used to have Flying class and don't anymore since you've tested out. Maybe we could go flying tonight or tomorrow? More practice wouldn't hurt.

And the kneazle liked you fine. Well mostly fine. We did tell the kneazles that Pansy was in Slytherin house and I think the kneazle noticed you were a Gryffindor but he'd quit hissing by the end.

Pansy gives him kneazle food she gets from Mr Lupin but his favourite thing so far was a half a crumpet with sardines on it.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-20 14:00:13](#)
(no subject)

Glad you got my owl with the inkwell, and happy birthday again.

Good luck on the flying test! I still don't think I'll be able to pass it, although I did practise during the hols. Well, only when Gran wasn't looking, that is. She hates the idea of me flying, and she thinks decent folk should only use portkeys and Floo. And apparation, when you're old enough. Except I'm afraid I'll be just as pants at apparation as flying, which means I'll still be trying to get my apparation licence into my twenties.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-20 18:33:58](#)
(no subject)

Thank you for the inkwell and the birthday wishes Neville.

You can't possibly be worse at apparition than flying. What does your Gran do when she wants to go somewhere that's not on the floo network? Does she make portkeys for everything or does she apparate?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-20 19:54:05](#)
(no subject)

She'll apparate if she has to, but really, Gran doesn't go very many places that she can't reach by floo.

I've never seen her on a broom, and she wouldn't let me on one before I got to Hogwarts.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-22 03:39:20](#)
(no subject)

It's too bad she didn't let you fly, it's really just a matter of practice. Well basic flying skills are just practice anyway, I don't know what you have to do to fly like Harry and Draco. I think everyone still taking the class didn't get to fly when we were younger and it's taking us ages to catch up.


Say, your birthday's in the summer, right?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-22 11:51:30](#)
(no subject)

Yes, it's near the end of July. I'm one of the youngest in the school year, I guess.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-21 01:10:08](#)
(no subject)

Happy birthday Sally Anne!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-22 03:39:31](#)
(no subject)

Thank you Harry!

2009-04-20 18:17:00

Magical Commerce

Considering that I hardly saw him, it is odd that the house seems quiet with Draco back at Hogwarts. Suppose it is partially Narcissa's minor doldrums rubbing off - does a mother ever grow sanguine about sending off her child? All three times this year she has been in a bit of funk after putting him on the train.



 [alt_lucius](#)

Nonetheless, it was back into the fray after the short break last week. Magical Commerce this morning; glad to see that the importation associated with the medicinal substances for St Mungo's and Hogwarts have provided a small increase in the general markets, as well. Revati has certainly had her hands full with her daughter's new-found fame, from the sound of it. And of course MacMillan continues to puff about doom and yet does nothing.

Relatedly, Clarriker has realised his error in allowing rivals to seize on better product and pricing. Reminded him of the practices that left him in need of new partnership in the first place. He assured me it would not happen again.

Received a follow-up report to the incident at Epping Forest. Several written copies of Black's seditious writing were found hidden in the upstart Muggle's bunk; astounded that previous surprise inspections had not uncovered the pages before. According to the report they were copied out from the journal of a guard foolish enough to 'lose' it for a time, then copied over again on hoarded bits of parchment and passed among the kine. The guard has been dismissed. As for the Muggles in possession of the pages, well, the diphtheria outbreak has been contained, thanks to the efforts of the Healers, and therefore the reprisals may begin without fear of infecting the Enforcers.

Speaking of camps, Bella, I understand Hibbert has been asked to answer charges of accepting bribes in exchange for ignoring the tunnel. I trust that his case will come up before the Wizengamot presently and we shall discover more about the Derby escapes. Not at this Wednesday's session, however.

Although Our Lord has been pursuing His project with a singular

mind, unfortunately, I was obliged to go to Buckingham on Sunday after seeing Draco to the Hogwarts Express. He was not pleased to be interrupted, but when I explained the reason for my visit He allowed the necessity of it. I believe the extended time alone with Harry has done Him much service, for He spoke extensively of His son and loyalty. I agreed, naturally, that a son's unconditional devotion is particularly gratifying, though fragile enough that it must be tended with care. I confess I am not sure why the conversation seemed to have more significance for Him than for me, but then I am accustomed to Our Lord keeping His own counsel from time to time. He told me that when the time came to show me the product of his labours, I should understand their importance; I have no doubt this is so.

However, for the time being, He was content to provide Broome (and thus myself) with specifics regarding His participation in the Wizengamot session to sentence Llewellyn-Davis and attend to a few other matters of the highest priority. Moreover He has also approved the order of ceremonies for the ten-year celebration, which will make both Dolores and the *Prophet* exceedingly happy.

Our preparations for the diplomatic mission continue. Crispin has been in contact with Selwyn's clerk to schedule a series of meetings between them to ensure that the itinerary is set well in advance (and allows for adequate time to visit the family). We plan to depart less than a week after the end of the term, although given that Draco and Harry were not able to spend time together this holiday, we may be able to postpone a few more days.

I do believe Draco and Finnigan enjoyed their visit, though. Stephen certainly has made quick work with his foster-son - something Crouch might remember in his next campaign for the placement programme.

2009-04-20 19:10:00

Owls, owls, owls

As far as I'm concerned, any day that an owl brings a letter from a friend is a good day. Much better than when they bring the news, as it always seems to be bad. Loads better than the owls that arrive each month demanding the rent, I'd rather skip that one. But I'll take an owl from a friend any day.



 [alt_nymphadora](#)

Just today, I got one from a relatively new correspondent. His words do more than just report any goings-on, they really make me *think*. More than think, they make me want to do more than just get up, work hard all evening long, then stumble into bed, my mind all numbed.

There is much more to living than just labouring away the days. I just need to find what that is.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2009-04-21 14:30:18**
(no subject)

It's good to see you taking more of an interest in things.

You must come to tea or luncheon and tell me all about this mystery man.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2009-04-21 23:21:39**
(no subject)

Work has been rather draining lately, and it's nice to have something else to keep my thoughts occupied.

If you wish, I can tell you a bit about him, but I wouldn't want to dispel the mystery; it's far more interesting this way.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-21 17:48:24](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I hardly think it necessary to send you an owl, as we work in the same building, but I do hope you'll continue to accept a cuppa and a friendly chat once in awhile? I've been absolutely buried in reports this week, keeping me in the office till the wee hours, and it's always a genuine pleasure to see you whenever you come in to mop.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2009-04-21 23:07:35](#)**
(no subject)

That sounds great. I'll make sure to stop by your desk tomorrow night during my break, it'll be a nice change of pace.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-22 02:44:15](#)**
(no subject)

I do believe I may even manage to rustle up a tin of ginger biscuits for the occasion!

2009-04-21 13:05:00

Monday (Ugh)

Monday's just have too many lessons. Especially when we're just back from holiday.

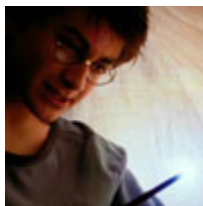



And naturally, today when we've only Defence and I wanted to go outdoors its raining.

 **alt_padma**

Linus and Belinda want to play Exploding Snap, but since we cant go out anyway, I might as well look over my Potions essay again. Now that I've been partnered with Smith (please don't change us round again, Professor!) its ever so much easier to get them made, but talking about them sort of puts me to sleep. (Not Professor Slughorn's lectures, of course! I mean me trying to talk about them.)


Oh, and did anyone copy down the assignment for Charms? I had just gathered up my books so my hands were full when Professor Acton told us. And I thought I wrote it down, but I suppose I got distracted by ... someone. (Lavender, I'll tell you later!)



 **alt_harry** at **2009-04-22 00:00:43**
(no subject)

I didnt put down what the assignment was. Dont we all have the same assignments? So you could ask Pavarti then. Must be nice having a sister, she has to help you out even though you're in different Houses, doesn't she? And you get to go home to hols together always.



 **alt_padma** at **2009-04-22 00:38:14**
(no subject)

Well, I already asked her but their about two lessons behind us because the assinment she mentioned our house did before the holiday.

But yes its good to always have someone else around. Though Im sort of glad we're not both in Ravenclaw.

2009-04-21 13:48:00

Order Only: James Prescott



 [alt_arthur](#)

It's with genuine grief that I must report the word on the fate of James Prescott. He was convicted last week of the charge of helping run a resistance network, with the intention of "overthrowing the Protectorate." He has been declared a Blood Traitor, and his wand has been confiscated and snapped. All his assets have been seized by the Ministry, and he's been sentenced to Azkaban for life. His poor wife has been left absolutely devastated and of course, penniless, forced to move in with relatives.

It has been a difficult job to piece together the puzzle of what exactly happened, but I can say at least, with pain mixed with pride, that James Prescott didn't betray himself or anyone else. Bill managed to learn, Merlin knows how, that Llewellyn-Davis caught Prescott snooping in some files at Protectorate Affairs for which he certainly didn't have clearance—perhaps he tripped some protective wards by opening them. I'm not sure what Prescott was looking for, presumably information for this other resistance network.

Well, it seems Llewellyn-Davis had political plans, and he decided he needed a little insurance. He's been assembling a whole dossier of files on people, all brimming with blackmail material. Don't know what his eventual goal was--Minister of Magic, perhaps? Who knows? Word about those files is getting around the office, making several people break out in heavy perspiration. Given that he'd caught Prescott red-handed, Llewellyn-Davis then seems to have tried to blackmail him into gathering information for him. But Prescott is made of tougher stuff than that--I imagine he told Llewellyn-Davis to go soak his head. A few days after that, Llewellyn-Davis was himself arrested, and first chance he got, as best as Bill's sources can tell, he threw Prescott to the wolves.

It might have come to nothing, since all Llewellyn-Davis could really pin on him was that Prescott had looked in the wrong file, and Prescott himself didn't break character in the least under questioning. Cool as ice mice, according to Norma Brownmiller, who was shown one of the transcripts when they were questioning her. But one of the other operatives in Prescott's network was also caught up in the sweeps following Llewellyn-Davis' arrest, and he was the one who offered up the evidence that finally damned Prescott.

Brownmiller has been interrogated repeatedly, but I think is out of danger for now. She is clearly heartbroken about James when speaking in private with me, although she is doing a good job of keeping up appearances. This other mysterious network seems to have been entirely rolled up, about ten people in all, as far as Bill and I have managed to learn. None had any ties to anyone with the Order.

I've been quite shaken by this news. Dreadful business. James Prescott was a tough, smart man who had his moral compass pointing unerringly in the right direction. What higher praise can I have for any man? For him to waste his life and mind away in Azkaban just infuriates me.

What a criminal shame.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-21 19:05:53](#)**

(no subject)

Arthur, you say he has dossiers on people? Has anyone else in the Ministry been taken in as a result of this chap's files?

Watch yourself - and Bill, too.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-21 20:38:16](#)**

(no subject)

Bill and I are quite sure Llewellyn-Davis doesn't have anything that can throw slime on either of us. Neither of us are in his department or ever interacted with him or his underlings, in our day-to-day work.

We are, however, being very careful to watch our step.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2009-04-21 20:24:34](#)**

(no subject)


Very sorry to hear it, Arthur, and I agree with Sirius: you and Bill be careful.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-21 20:26:56](#)
(no subject)


Kingsley, I remember a month ago that you said you might check, the next time you met with the Sherwood group, whether any of them might have ties with this mysterious network of Prescott's. You didn't mention it, one way or another, in your last report. Did you learn of any ties? If so, then I imagine this will be very bad news for them.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2009-04-21 20:33:56](#)
(no subject)

I did ask, Arthur--forgot to mention it--but if there were any ties between the group that arranged the Derby breakout and Prescott's group, Davidson didn't know of any connection. I don't think we'll be able to find any remnants of that network (if there are any left) from anyone with the Sherwood band.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-21 20:33:43](#)
(no subject)

Arthur, I'm so very, very sorry.

It's utterly chilling to think how fragile everyone's safety is in this place and time. Especially for those of you working within the Ministry where every breath you take is under surveillance. I don't know how you stand it. Not that we're free from danger and distrust here, of course. One can never really let down one's guard, ever.

Do take care.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-21 22:00:46](#)
(no subject)

Oh, no, no. Arthur, I'm so sorry. What dreadful news.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-21 22:04:35](#)
(no subject)

I think I remember meeting James and his wife-- Penny, wasn't it? At one of the Department's holiday parties.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-21 22:07:38](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that's right. Lovely woman, and James always talked of her quite fondly. They have two boys, both old enough to have left Hogwarts.

I find I can't face any more of the reports on my desk today, Molly. I'll be on my way home in just a few.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-22 15:44:37](#)
(no subject)

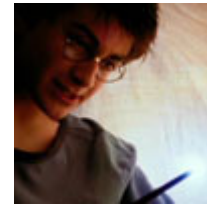
sorry to hear, mate. damn shame all round.

we'll keep a candle lit for him here.

2009-04-21 19:50:00

Back at school.

Well I'm back at Hogwarts. For some reason Father wanted to spend a lot of time with me this holiday. That was nice I think. Father is scary even to me, but I know he loves me. I think he must just be frightening because he has to keep every body in line.



 [alt_harry](#)

I liked seeing Father so much but I am very grateful to be back with my friends.

I forgot Sally Anne's birthday and I felt rather bad so sorry, Sally Anne. That is the kind of thing that Father would say is important for me to remember. So that I dont make people feel upset or left out. Especially since I get most people presents. Someone usually reminds me though. I will have to ask Granger to remind me next year.

Granger is a pretty good sport it turns out. So I dont mind having to spend more time disciplinning her. Anyway she learns quickly. I have'n't had to tell her to not do something twice, its just that she does different things wrong. I think she will be a good servant eventually. Father said that I ought to write about it. That way my friends would know about how it is to have a servant. I suppose Draco should do it too. He's better at writing than me anyways. Nobody ever marks up his paper and says 'mind your apostrophes' or 'mind your spelling.' At least I can spell apostrophes. Its on my papers enough.

Im excited about learning Forgetfulness potions only I was wondering whether we will have to brew them on our exam. And if we splash ourselves if we can retake it. It seems like if you got Forgetfulness potion on you after learning how to brew it, you still learned to brew it. So you should get the same marks for that as if you hadn't splashed yourself. Shouldn't you?

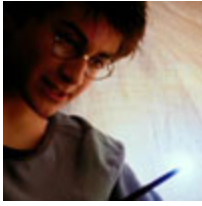


 [alt_padma](#) at **2009-04-22 00:45:50**

(no subject)

I still dont like having to spell things only one way.

But I agree with you about the Forgetfulness potions. But its probably better not to splash at all. Then youd still have to relearn it.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-22 01:05:34](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I suppose. Or would you? I mean when will we ever use Forgetfulness potion? I dont usually want people to forget.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-22 01:17:40](#)
(no subject)

Well, I still think I want to be a Potioneer, so Id have to know even if there are spells that are easier.

Plus there are times when I guess you cant use a wand but you can give someone a potion.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-22 02:38:17](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I hope he's treating you all right, Hermione? It sounds like he is.

Does he ever let you look over his essays before he turns them in? I bet his marks would go up if he would. But it might not be a good idea to make the offer.

You're a better speller than he is, anyway.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-22 02:42:01](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I still want to hear all about Buckingham Palace. I bet it was a sight different than the hospital at Epping Forest (though I was glad I met Dean and all the rest of the Infirmary Rats.)



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-22 11:51:42](#)
(no subject)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I'll write about it today - once Harry's gone to class!



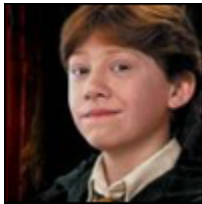
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-22 03:32:28](#)
(no subject)


Don't worry about it Harry. Having your servant remind you about birthdays is a good idea though! You could have her track all of them, all the ones you don't know by heart anyway.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-22 11:50:51](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I was thinking about that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-22 14:51:21](#)
(no subject)

I hadn't thought about that--about splashing Forgetfulness potion, I mean. What would happen if it's Professor Slughorn you splash, not yourself? Dyou think he'd forget to test us on it? Or would he forget how to teach Potions? How much does it make you forget, anyway?

Anywiz, it'd give you an excuse for forgetting birthdays and other stuff like spelling!

[2009-04-22 11:20:00](#)

Notice

Attention All Students:

Contrary to rumour, there is no danger of diphtheria or any other contagion in our midst. Precautions have been taken, and we are all fully protected against any outbreak here.



 [alernity](#)
 [alt_poppy](#)

There is, therefore, no valid, health-related reason to avoid Professor Carrow's lessons.

Carry on!



 [alt_poppy](#) at **[2009-04-22 16:32:14](#)**
Order Only

It was well that we had advance notice that two of our number would be returning to us from a disease-troubled location. St Mungo's was able to supply us with sufficient quantities of an anti-infective potion, and, thanks to our capable elves, we've all been well dosed with the preventative. Thank goodness for Healing magic!

I did take the precaution of intercepting Professor Carrow and Mr Boot upon their return and insisted upon stringent decontamination procedures for their persons and for all items they had with them. Minerva has, I believe, spoken with Carrow about the need to similarly treat any materials he might receive from the Epping Forest camp.



 [alt_arthur](#) at **[2009-04-22 17:48:00](#)**
Re: Order Only

Many thanks again, Poppy, for your promptness in providing the potion for me and Frank. With all the anxiety inherent in these missions, it was a great relief that at least we didn't have to worry about an illness as serious as this on top of everything.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-22 18:37:25](#)

Re: Order Only

I'm only glad St Mungo's was able to produce the potion so quickly. It really is not easy to make in quantity, and it's frightfully expensive. I suppose that explains why they are allowing the disease to run amok in the camps. In any case, it is a very, very effective anti-infective when it can be had, and I'm happy to say that Hogwarts was made priority one.

Apparently there is still value placed on our young people as the future of this woeful country.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-22 17:53:23](#)

Re: Order Only

Poor Terry! Smelly disinfectant soap was involved, I imagine. He wouldn't complain, I suppose, but he's at the age when all my boys hated enforced washing the most.

As for Amycus Carrow, what a pity you couldn't simply drown him in the bathtub.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-22 18:41:56](#)

Re: Order Only

I believe that Carrow took it as an extreme violation of his rights and dignity when I demanded that he strip to the bone and submit to cleansing.

It wasn't pleasant at all, but it was very satisfying, if you take my point.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-22 18:44:04](#)

Re: Order Only

As for Mr Boot, he seems quite changed by his time away. He grovelled, of course, whilst he was in Carrow's sight, as he must do, but--he was an entirely different boy when he arrived here for

work on Monday morning, and it was the same again today.

I'm not at all certain what to make of him.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-22 19:06:18](#)

Re: Order Only

That is exceedingly interesting. Different in what way, Poppy? Perhaps it because he was free to work out of Carrow's sight for awhile? I gather that he was working with other children in the infirmary/hospital whereas Carrow kept away from him, engrossed in some sort of ghastly experiments. I imagine they must have appreciated the training you have given him. Maybe he enjoyed working as an infirmary aide? Is that it?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-22 19:27:32](#)

Re: Order Only

Well, he did say that he felt he'd been well prepared for the work he did there, though it seems they had him doing the most menial tasks. Bed-pan cleansing (without magic, Molly, imagine!) for a hospital full to the gills with desperately ill patients could take all day and all night. I only ask him to do a bit of that on occasion simply to display to the students that he is charged with tasks appropriate to his station here. Whenever I can get away with it, I have him weighing and measuring and bottling or bagging on stoppering--things with practical value. Of course, he's been adamant in refusing to do anything that might be construed as studying or practicing the Healing Arts.

Until this week, and that's what I mean when I say he's altered: Monday morning spot on the dot of his time, he appeared and asked (I should almost say 'demanded', but he wasn't impolite) to be taught everything I am able to teach him about everything. 'I want to learn everything!' was how he ended.

Well! You see?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-22 20:46:32](#)

Re: Order Only

My, that doesn't sound much like how the boy has been behaving for the past couple months. And he actually referred to himself as 'I'?

According to the twins, he virtually never does that. (I had a bit of a heart-to-heart with them about the boy, while they were home on holiday.)

Well, assuming he means it about truly wanting to learn, perhaps you'll find out more as you interact with him. I only hope he doesn't run afoul of Carrow for showing more spunk.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-23 02:00:06](#)

Re: Order Only

He's being ever so careful, Mrs Weasley, I'm sure!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-23 02:21:57](#)

Re: Order Only

Yes, the 'I'--

I was rather taken aback, I'm afraid. I don't know quite what to think, and I'm afraid I showed my shock in that first moment. I regret that.

Truly.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-23 00:55:18](#)

Re: Order Only

Interesting, Poppy. Wonder what strengthened his resolve?

You and Minerva will have to come up with a way to tutor him, then.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-23 01:58:24](#)
Re: Order Only

I am... Nervous, shall we say, about introducing another child into our Order - particularly a child placed in such an unstable position as Boot. Marvolo may be strategically placed but he does not seem to me malevolent on even the most minor level; Miss Granger is in comparatively little peril... And yet, of course, it would be a crime to let any promising young mind go to waste. We shall have to consider the question of more formal tutoring carefully - although of course you must continue teaching him as you can, Poppy.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-23 02:37:14](#)
Re: Order Only

I will, of course, do what I can. I tried some weeks ago to engage him in brewing, but that was just after his punishment and he refused to do anything but fetch, carry, or scrub, and was scarcely willing to speak a word to me.

Now he's a fount of questions and eagerness. He could scarcely be further from what he was.

I will, of course, teach him what I can about brewing and herbals and other preparatives, as I have been doing with Miss Granger. And, if you think it not unwise, I could work with them both on the vocabulary and intonation of those charms one studies in the first year. They could at the very least memorise the names and effects of the spells. If you think it goes too far to teach them the physical aspects of casting charms and hexes, we will stick to theory. I understand, of course, that there is no question of their being allowed to hold a wand, but they could, perhaps, be allowed to wield an appropriately lengthed and weighted rod... a stirring spoon transfigured, perhaps. Or would that go too far, do you suppose?

I shall wait for your instructions, Minerva, before going forward.



 **alt_molly** at [2009-04-23 02:57:45](#)

Re: Order Only

It was interesting, speaking with the twins about him. They were so very indignant on his behalf, about the life he leads, of course, but more than that, I simply got the impression, from some hints they dropped, that Mr Boot is much, much cleverer than perhaps we have entirely realised. Which perversely makes sense in a way--he'd have to be to survive under Amycus Carrow's thumb for so long.

Just little things make me wonder--like how subtly he turned the tables and mocked his own punishment when he was forced to copy out that vile purebred propaganda tract, simply by changing one word at the end. And the way he fenced with Lucius Malfoy, too!

If he is unusually bright, would that make things even more frustrating for him, to be taught a little bit, but only so much? On the other hand, if he is clever, he would certainly understand the danger and take care to hide any sign that he's being tutored. And you're right, it would be such a pity to let his mind go to waste, if he's truly gifted.




 **alt_arthur** at [2009-04-23 03:04:41](#)

Re: Order Only

I would certainly advise against telling him anything about the Order. His association with Carrow makes that much too dangerous, in my opinion. But I agree with Molly that the boy seems quite bright, and it would certainly be a great shame to force him to continue on in ignorance, when he is eager to learn.

Let him only think that Poppy is being unusually indulgent, if you want him to get lessons with her informally. Her independent position amongst the staff makes that certainly believable.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-23 02:41:47](#)
Re: Order Only

I can only think that his experience in that camp had a profound effect. Perhaps it was the exposure to so much death, so much appalling waste of life. Or it might have been the time spent with other young people his age who have been allowed... not more freedom, but more childhood, more irreverence, more self-expression? I'm not sure which of those is nearest the mark, but I've re-read his descriptions of his time there, and I do think those children had a certain mental and expressive liveliness that he has squelched in himself heretofore. Understandably so. But perhaps he's decided that he has only the one life and that it's not worth wasting.

I don't know.


What do you make of it?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-23 14:37:01](#)
(no subject)

What's diphtheria?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-23 15:05:15](#)
(no subject)


It is, Mr Malfoy, a very serious illness that you are in no danger of contracting. All of us at Hogwarts have been protected from it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-23 15:07:09](#)
(no subject)

I've never heard of it. Is it something only muggles carry?



 **alt_poppy** at **2009-04-23 15:23:22**
(no subject)

No, indeed, Mr Malfoy.

Diphtheria is quite a dire respiratory illness, to which small children are especially vulnerable.

Any human being is capable of carrying or contracting the illness, which is desperately contagious and spreads very quickly in places where a great many people live in close proximity--as we do in this school.

For that reason, the Ministry has wisely and generously provided us with the preventative potions to protect us all from this particular danger. As you know, the health of our students is of utmost concern to the Ministry and to the staff here at Hogwarts.

[2009-04-22 11:24:00](#)

Back at Hogwarts

boot is very glad to be back at Hogwarts.

boot learned a lot working in the infirmary hospital at the camp. even mudbloods can be useful. boot liked the Infirmary Rats he met that week. some of them became quite good friends.



 [alt_terry](#)

but it is nice to be back, and all caught up on sleep.



 [alt_frank](#) at **[2009-04-22 16:51:54](#)**

ORDER ONLY

arthur mate, just remembered why that boy at the hospital looked so familiar. last murder case I worked was a wizard, can't quite remember his name. Louis Thompson, or something right similar. "blood traitor" and "muggle lover" written all over his face. Thompson's parents knew he was seeing a muggle woman, figured it was those DE bastards, and that's why they killed him. no way to prove it, of course, so the case went cold. this was right before Al and me went underground for good.

the boy looks just like him.

I'd swear to Merlin, spitting image.

been thinking on it for a few days now, and that has to be it.



 [alt_arthur](#) at **[2009-04-22 16:58:56](#)**

Re: ORDER ONLY

Terry's friend, you're talking about? His name was Dean Thomas.

He said his mother's name was Velma, I remember that. Does that sound familiar?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-22 17:02:17](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

the last name could have been Thomas.

and Velma does sound familiar. damned familiar, the lot of it.

couldn't be sure, of course, but everything was written up in a case file. that'll have all the names in it for certain.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-22 17:03:24](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Good heavens, if you're right--do you realise what this means, Frank? The boy's a half-blood, not a muggleborn at all! He should be at Hogwarts.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-22 17:06:59](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

bloody hell.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-22 17:07:16](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

My goodness, if we could get even one child out of those awful camps for a legal reason, much less give him the right to attend Hogwarts....

Only how could we prove it? You don't have any excuse to go back combing through old Auror files, Arthur.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-22 17:12:25](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Well, we know that there's an official record somewhere. They never throw out old case files, ever. I've seen that filing room.

We can certainly figure out some reason or another, I'd imagine.

The important thing is that once we do, we'd actually be able to prove it, and I think that we could.

Does the Book record the parent's names, too, I wonder?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-22 17:16:53](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

The Hogwarts book? Of course, we weren't using the false book back then, so Dean's name is obviously there. As for his parents' names I don't know. Minerva? Does the book give the parents' names?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-23 02:06:03](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

No, I am afraid it does not, Molly - although I shall have to go find the damnable user's manual to be sure of that - it's a thousand pages long and written in Attic Greek of the most bizarre and convoluted sort, of all perverse languages. It may be possible to coax parentage out of it.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2009-04-22 17:14:19](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

maybe Bill could come up with a reason?

there aren't any good folk left in the Auror's office, otherwise I'd say to plant a seed in one of their ears and let them connect the dots.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-22 17:20:33](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Oh, Frank, no. Not Bill! Don't even suggest such a thing!



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-22 17:23:42](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Of course. I'm sure we can find a way that wouldn't put anyone under suspicion.

After all, if Dean's father really was a wizard, surely there are some people that knew him? We could see if his parents are still living. We could find out if he has any school mates still around.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-22 17:25:07](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

I can certainly have Bill check on that.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-22 17:24:03](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

I can't imagine what it could be, though. And both Bill and I are going to be completely wary about sticking our noses into files outside our department, after what happened to Prescott.

I'll consult with Bill, though. He may be able to think of something, or we'll maybe come up with another way to prove it.

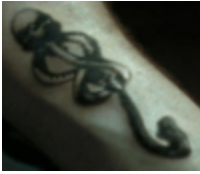
But I shall look into the matter, you can count on it. The diphtheria epidemic certainly gives me an excuse to go back and talk to the people at Epping Forest, including Dean.



 [alt_frark](#) at [2009-04-22 17:25:28](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY


well, that's a start.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2009-04-22 18:01:38](#)
(no subject)


Turning over a new leaf, are we? Quite a cheerful tidbit, all of a sudden.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-22 18:03:50](#)
(no subject)

the mudblood is...is content to be wherever his master is, sir




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2009-04-22 18:06:26](#)
(no subject)

Hmm.

It's has been too long since you've cleaned out the inventory shelving. Slovenly.


I want you to take everything down and clean all the items and then wipe down the shelves. Get it done by tomorrow night, bedtime.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2009-04-22 18:07:09](#)
(no subject)

yes sir



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2009-04-23 11:55:19](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

We're glad you're back too.

2009-04-22 22:13:00

ORDER ONLY: Hols



 **alt_hermione**

Well there isn't that much to report from the hols because I mostly spent them trying to make the Lord Protector not notice me. Which worked, mainly, although he did so stare at supper when I had to stand behind Harry's chair and serve him. But I made friends with the house-elves! They're much less friendly than the ones at Hogwarts and more meek, they said that it wasn't so much the Lord Protector as his friends who mistreats them, only I think their definition of mistreats is different than mine. But none of them would ever disobey him directly of course, but I did find out that they'd do it indirectly, like doing anything they don't have specific orders against, but I didn't have time to coax them into telling me their standing orders.

And then He wanted Harry with him all the time, it was rather creepy, and Harry told me that he didn't usually do that, and also that he felt like he wasn't even there sometimes, he had to sit in on so many boring things. Only I think he forgot how I had to be there with him!

About the only good thing is that they got me new robes that look like livery, and they're green and black and ever so lovely, but I'm only to wear them at Buckingham as they're too fine for every day, so they said. Which is silly, but then Harry had to dress up when he saw his Father too, which is just strange. Because I mean he's his father; surely he's seen him out of dress robes before!

My candle is going out so more later -



 **alt_poppy** at **2009-04-23 19:48:05**

(no subject)

I think it would be well, my dear, if you would share with the others some of what you've told me this week about the things you and Mr Marvolo witnessed whilst he waited attendance on the Lord Protector. While you and Mr Marvolo may, indeed, have been bored for much of the time, I suspect the members of the Order will find your report extremely interesting.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-23 20:17:40](#)
(no subject)

Well I can't remember all of it. The problem is that when you get ever so bored, and you don't have any way to write anything down, you can't do anything about it, you just start wandering and eventually you can't trust your own mind about it and it's rather awful. Let's see though what I can remember. One of the meetings was with the agricultural committee or something like that. They were arguing about importing food and creating a better dole. They said something about panes ett sirkenses, which I wasn't sure about, but I remember I thought I had to look it up. And they fought about it a lot and they argued about whether or not they should open up trade more so that we wouldn't have to do all the rations and maybe the dole and so on, but the Lord Protector said that it was dangerous, and that we needed to gather our strength, and that the mudbloods would come in or that perhaps the Americas would try to destroy our world if we let the wards down enough to let them in at all, and that they'd have to let the wards down to bring in that much food.

And then there was another meeting where they were talking about mudbloods and how families don't want us, apparently, and I think that might be why they decided to give me livery, and the Lord Protector was talking about how he wanted to have more mudbloods around Buckingham maybe, and that some of them were old enough. So that makes me think that perhaps they're going to have more mudbloods there. Harry said that his father was too paranoid though and that he didn't want any more people around him especially not rebellious mudbloods. Only I don't know. He might like having them around because at least he knows that they want to kill him, I suppose that's very Slytherin logic, isn't it? And Harry's not really a Slytherin so he wouldn't think of it. But of course I'm not a Slytherin either, so, how would I know?

I'll think hard and try to remember the rest... is any of that helpful at all?!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-23 20:30:12](#)
(no subject)


Yes, I imagine that it will be of great interest to some of our number, but I think you should also say a bit more, if you're willing, about how it felt to you when the Lord Protector stared at you, as you say here. I think we need to give some thought as to how we might best prepare you for returning to Buckingham; I find this very concerning.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-24 12:07:57](#)
(no subject)

Well I don't KNOW why he was looking at me, he was just looking at me! I think maybe it had to do with the livery, like I said, maybe he wants more Mudblood servants? It wasn't any creepier than when say Professor Carrow stares at you, not really awful even like that, it was more like I was a piece of the furniture and I was just going to get stared at when he was losing track of what was going on in the discussion, only he never lost track of what was going on. And he tried to get me to make eye contact with him maybe, or I don't know, because I never did - I just looked down whenever he started staring, but I think he liked making me uncomfortable, he did it with other people too, not just me. When we were in meetings if he was meeting with someone who wasn't very important and was very subservant then he would sometimes ignore him, but the rest of the time he would just stare and stare, and they got terrified.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-24 13:26:03](#)
(no subject)

You were quite right to keep your eyes averted, but that would hardly be enough to protect you should the Lord Protector wish to read your thoughts. Perhaps, as you say, he has no more interest in you than he would in a piece of furniture, but I hardly think we can rely on that.

Minerva, you have more experience of this than I, but I do think we must take seriously that Miss Granger's changed

circumstances have put her and us in extreme peril by placing her so directly under his scrutiny.

I'm not sure what's to be done, but something must be!



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2009-04-25 23:19:44](#)**
(no subject)

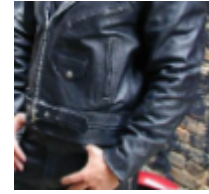
I shall be speaking with Miss Granger, but her description does not cause me to believe that the Lord Protector was seeking to Legilimise her. I am certainly concerned, but I have it on excellent word - his own - that he believes it to be polluting to enter the mind of a Mudblood.

Nevertheless - well, I am concerned. Miss Granger - if you were to be found in great danger, would you be willing to undergo Obliviation? It might be the only way to ensure your, and our, safety in the face of Legilimency.

2009-04-24 13:26:00

Order Only: All in readiness

Well, we've been slowly loading the ship for the past two days, a little at a time, mostly under transfigurative and disillusory spells to keep the coastal authorities from catching on. I think we're about as ready as we're going to get.



 [alt_sirius](#)

I've four flats of fluxweed (say that five times fast!) - they look a bit less wan than they had been, but I'm still concerned about how they fared. I hope between the salt air and Stephen's ministrations they can be fully revived.

I've also got a case of boomslang skin, two large jars of dried bicorn horn, some syrup of hellebore, the rest of the pomegranate seeds (dried, sorry), a handful of bezoars (don't ask where I got them!), a crate of assorted dry goods (some for you lot and some to fence through Mundungus for a little ready cash!), more chocolate and a few bottles for Minerva to use - and one for you Frank, to celebrate your birthday.

We're leaving shortly. I've got a little something planned that I hope will divert the Ministry - Minerva, you could help by picking up on the decoy I've planted. You'll understand when you see it. See if you can get Malfoy or some other dozy Death Eater to fall for the trap.

Right, well, Captain Collins needs help to confound the harbour master so he doesn't remember exactly when we ship out.

Frank, I'll keep watching the journal as well as the horizon. See you soon, mate.

The rest of you lot ... wish us luck.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2009-04-24 19:29:48**

Order Only: DO TAKE CARE!

I wish you luck and more than luck, Sirius. I wish you fair winds, low seas, penetrable wards, and an inattentive Ministry. Most of all I wish to hear that the trip has been brought to a safe and successful conclusion as soon as is possible.

I hate these times when all one can do is wait and watch these pages.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-24 20:20:02](#)

Re: Order Only: DO TAKE CARE!

Cheers, Poppy.

It'll be several hours before anything exciting even begins to happen. We've barely lost sight of shore at this point.

But I agree with you: I hate waiting.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-25 00:48:06](#)

(no subject)

You don't mention those wands you promised in one of your previous posts, but I hope that is simply an oversight, and not due to the fact that you've left them behind! While all the other supplies you mention would be extremely welcome, I would say that those are the very most important thing to transfer, so put them right at the top of your pile.

Molly, Bill and I wish you safe journey and success to your mission. We'll be waiting anxiously to hear.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 02:54:39](#)


(no subject)

Didn't mention them because they're not in the cargo hold. I didn't want to trust they'd stay hidden, so I brought them on board myself this evening.

We're just passing the Isles of Scilly and we're going to attempt to hook north into the channel. From all Collins has said, the wards run on direct lines from Penzance to Knockanamorough, more or less, so we hope we can penetrate at least part of the way.

Frank shouldn't be too far off.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-25 02:23:52](#)
(no subject)

It's been hours. I'd have thought we'd have had an update on their progress at the very least.

Gracious, I'm as anxious as a mouse caught in a cattery.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 02:57:19](#)
(no subject)


Hold fast, Poppy. We're just getting into position to wait.

It's deuced uncomfortable this close to the wards, though. The crew are just as anxious.

It's like all the force of nature is telling us we ought not to be here.

But it's a calm enough sea, so your goodwill has bought us that much, old girl. Thanks for that. Keep talking to whomever has been listening.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-25 03:06:44](#)
(no subject)

I hadn't thought about your sailing so close to Scilly. I hope your Captain Collins is as good as he's said. I've heard some truly awful things about the rocks that lie out around those isles.

I went for a walk out by the lake this evening. I hope you had the same vermillion sunset there we had here: it was heart-stoppingly brilliant. I trust it is a fair omen for you.

Do let us know if there's anything to report. I wish Frank would jot a word or two.

But don't listen to me: you're not out there to fill my journal pages with reassuring words. Get the job done and be done with it quickly.

2009-04-24 14:31:00

Grim Truth: 92/24/04



 [altermity](#)
 [alt_sirius](#)

Greetings, British Wizarding World.

A while back when I wrote to you all, an astute person asked whether I think it's doing any good. I gave him a rather complicated answer. Of course, he really answered his own question just by asking it, but nevertheless it seemed like a sensible question. Are these little letters of mine doing any good?

The evidence so far is, admittedly, mixed. I understand that there's been a general increase in the morale of the poor souls incarcerated in the labour camps - and by increase, I mean a growing unwillingness to accept the oppression to which they've become subject - but on the other hand, the Ministry and the so-called Council have similarly stepped up their efforts to demonise Muggles and Muggleborns. My sources tell me that a group of freedom-fighters was recently uncovered and routed. I'm sorry to report that I had nothing to do with them; they were working entirely on their own. I'd like to think that if they had been part of a larger movement, they might have been more successful, less vulnerable. But I suppose on the bright side, it must make the Department of Magical Law Enforcement very pleased to know that there are still insurrectionist cells lurking about for them to discover. Gives them more to have to investigate, in between terrorising helpless, innocent people. And I've seen how diligently my esteemed cousin is looking for activities to occupy her staff.

Despite the wild broom ride that seems to characterise any struggle for basic human rights, I have to believe that the real success is germinating below the surface. It's in your hearts and your minds, even if it's not on your lips just yet. In the end, we will prevail. No society as corrupt and malformed as the horror currently gripping England can endure forever. But there's one thing that can allow the regime to continue in perpetuity, and that's if you never stand. If you say nothing. If you do nothing to change the world around you, then they can maintain their imposed superiority. Believe me, plenty of the German friends who have sheltered me can attest to what happens when everyone assumes someone else will be the heroes.

Groups like the one recently discovered give me hope. That they were caught is tragic - and a sober reminder of how dangerous it can be to

do the right thing. But that they *existed at all* is a sign that anyone who wishes for change is not alone. Your neighbours, friends, co-workers and relatives may share your opinions. If you look hard enough for the indications, you can find similar-minded allies.

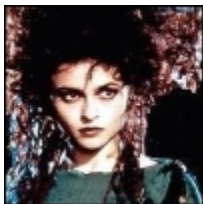
Thus far I have not written about the ills that Muggles have unleashed upon us during their centuries of control. Our irrational and deluded enemies like to hold up Muggle failures and problems as justifications for turning the tables on them and assuming wizard dominance. People like to mention pollution, over-crowding and disease as some of the offences inflicted upon wizards by Muggles. They talk about wars, as if wizards have never waged war. It's true that Muggles have been responsible for some terrible acts over the years. I can't and shan't deny that, or I could hardly call my articles truthful. Yes, Muggles have brought some atrocities into the world. But are they any worse than the brutality now exacted upon Muggleborns and Muggles on a daily basis? Are their flaws any different from a wizard's flaws? Whether or not you truly think that the world would be a better place with wizards in control, the fact remains that Muggles are still humans, and Muggleborn wizards are still *wizards*. They still are entitled to learn and practise magic.


One has only to look at the measures required to keep them 'in their place' to realise that the struggle to control them is futile. It is a mortal mistake even to attempt to oppress them. One has only to reflect on the methods employed to keep their bodies physically strong, while their spirits and minds are weakened, to recognise the Grim Truth.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-24 21:36:03](#)
(no subject)

Listen to him - sitting pretty across the Channel, taunting us! *Surely* there is something that may be done, Bellatrix? Surely!



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-24 22:45:23](#)
(no subject)

Pretty? You jest.

Black may voice dissent until his quill snaps, but one wonders how he knows anything about life in the Lord's England, having been away from it for so very long. Progress

does not happen overnight, but if my cousin could see the gallery district in New London, or the clear view atop Primrose Hill, I'm certain he'd be terribly impressed with the rise of British Wizardkind.

Or perhaps not. He doesn't even capitalise the word Wizard, as you see. And yet you'll notice how he capitalises the words muggle and mudblood. He was friends with too many of their kind as a child, you see, and now he's one of those piteous, mewling self-loathers. No doubt he loathes himself for other reasons, too. Tragic.

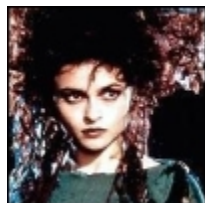



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-24 22:48:42](#)
(no subject)

"Pretty," perhaps, was not the term.

- In seriousness, though, Bellatrix, he may know nothing about England but he nevertheless wields a poisonous pen. He seems to be in Germany: surely you can encourage your friends there to flush him out?

As for capitalisation, I believe your reading to be quite correct. And there are many reasons why he ought to hate himself; as you may imagine, I am privy to them!




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2009-04-24 22:53:55](#)
(no subject)

If he truly is in Germany, I doubt he would broadcast it. I call red herring.

And if he is there, he would certainly leave after seeing this exchange.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 03:12:16](#)
Order Only

Damn.

Well, it was worth a try, anyway.

At least tell me she hasn't had a thought to look around the wards.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 05:03:27](#)
(no subject)

It must be terrible to live with so many lies that one can't recognise the 'code' given in the very name of my column.

Though you're absolutely right about one thing: I have to thank Professor McGonagall for alerting me to my error.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 04:59:34](#)
(no subject)

I've already said I'm not proud of things I did as a younger man. But I'm not the one raising whole generations of Death Eaters when she's old enough to know better.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 13:31:48](#)
Order only

Sorry about that, but it would have looked odd to get shirty with everyone else and not you.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-25 01:10:15](#)
(no subject)

Whether or not he knows anything about life in England today, he certainly is an infernal nuisance.

Good luck hunting to your agents, if I may say, ma'am. The sooner this fellow is run to earth, the sooner our journals will be free of these screeds. Very irritating they are, and I don't appreciate his mischief in trying to stir up unrest in the camps. Makes my job much more difficult.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-25 01:18:42](#)
Order Only

Laying it on a bit thick, perhaps, Arthur?




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-25 01:22:59](#)
Re: Order Only

I don't want to overplay the role, true. She is astute. Worst luck. But I think it wise to at least go on record as speaking against the Grim Truth.


Although I'm sure you know it goes against the grain, Sirius.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 03:13:21](#)
Re: Order Only

Cheers, Arthur. I'm just surprised you waited this long.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-25 04:03:15](#)
Re: Order Only

Oh, dear. It looks like Frank and Alice's boy has gotten into trouble over in his own journal over this entry. Curse Walden Macnair anyhow.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 04:30:41](#)
Re: Order Only

Yeah, I saw that. I'm awfully sorry he didn't think people would be watching for him to say something after the last couple of these.


But on the other hand, he's Frank's lad, all right, and as long as it's just points, well, no harm. I do hope he learns where to draw the line, though.

Perhaps the twins could help him there?

Speaking of, Frank should be here by now. I'm getting


concerned. Though I can't tell if it's real or if it's the effect of these bloody wards.



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2009-04-25 01:26:52](#)**
(no subject)


Yes, I am sure that your job is difficult enough for you as it is.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-25 04:33:49](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure you can entirely understand preferring spending time with the family rather than unnecessary hours at the office, ma'am.

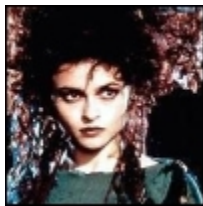



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:18:50](#)**
(no subject)

He doesn't even capitalise the word Wizard, as you see. And yet you'll notice how he capitalises the words muggle and mudblood.

Call it Affirmative Action.

Self-loathing? Huh. That's a new one. Reading up on Muggle psychology, are we? Try looking up 'sociopath' and see whether that holds up a mirror for you.




 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:25:04](#)**
(no subject)

I'm far more interested in your psychology, cousin.

If there is a pattern to your writings, if there is a code hidden within them, you have to know that I will find it. It is only a matter of time.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-25 04:32:37](#)
Order Only

Mmmm . . . perhaps you could give her a meaningless code for her to find, Sirius? I suppose that the people in her department tear these posts apart anyway, looking for hidden meanings. Why not give them some red meat to tantalise and distract them? Keep her busy on a wild goose chase?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 04:52:29](#)
Re: Order Only

Well, if you recall, that was part of my original plan - sprinkle in a little false information in now and then along with the rest. A wizard version of Tokyo Rose, if you will.

I'm still all for distracting them, even sending them thrice round the moon if we can, but ... I'm not sure anymore how much falsehood we ought to use here. If, as you and Frank say, these Grim Truth posts of mine are so meaningful to people, then perhaps we should leave them pure. So to speak.

I don't know. I can't decide about that now, at any rate. Bloody Baron's Bones, these wards are exceedingly uncomfortable. It's like being on a train with a Dementor while someone makes one drink a Peregrination Potion. It's got me feeling horribly antsy.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-24 23:11:05](#)
(no subject)

Don't know who your sources are, if there are any, but I was up about the Fife camp over Easter and tweren't a hint of morale there. All as usual.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-25 02:24:29](#)
(no subject)


Why did you go to a mudblood camp Professor Macnair? If you dont mind me asking. Did you go with Professor Carrow?



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-25 02:35:04](#)
(no subject)

Carrow was at Epping Forest, I was at Woodside, in Fife. I was in the area to collect creatures for the OWL and NEWT level exams, and wanted the camp officials to know that beforehand.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 03:52:03](#)
(no subject)

Well, for Scotland, yes, that *would* be usual. You're quite a dour, fatalistic people, aren't you?

Still it can't possibly be 'usual' if no one is counting grievances. That would be a contradiction in terms.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-25 05:41:49](#)
(no subject)

If you are calling me dour and fatalistic, so be it, but don't drag the rest of my people into it, tapadh leat. Cha tig muir mhor tron chaolas chumhann.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 19:51:09](#)
(no subject)

Cha bhi suaimhneas aig eucoir, no seasamh aig droch-bheairt.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-26 01:08:28](#)
(no subject)

Figures.

[2009-04-24 20:46:00](#)

Hmm

Nobody's ever called me 'astute' before.

I wasn't even sure what it meant, so I had to look it up.



 **[alt_neville](#)**

It's real strange to have someone everyone says is dangerous saying sort of ~~compla complem~~ friendly things about you.




 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2009-04-25 01:48:20](#)**
(no subject)

Well, at least you had the sense not to have written this on his post.

It probably would have been more astute not to have said anything at all, however. Don't give him any attention.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2009-04-25 01:50:51](#)**
(no subject)

Oh.

Should I cross out this post, then?




 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2009-04-25 01:52:09](#)**
(no subject)

No need.

He's really not important enough to worry about much, Neville. But best to simply avoid commenting upon his words, whether in his journal or yours.



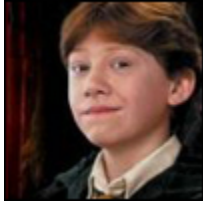
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2009-04-25 01:53:25](#)**
(no subject)


Well, whether I comment or not, everyone's talking about it. It's sort of silly to pretend it isn't there.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 02:20:58](#)
(no subject)

The everyone in your head, you mean? Because I only ever hear people talking about how mad he is, if they say anything at all. Most people have other things to converse on.



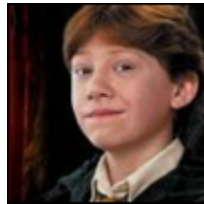
 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-25 02:32:36](#)
(no subject)


Get stuffed, Malfoy. No one wants to hear what you have to say, so bugger off.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 02:41:09](#)
(no subject)

You think more people want to listen to you, mutant?



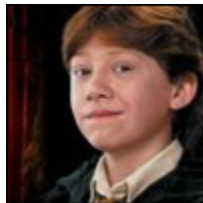
 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-25 02:47:03](#)
(no subject)


That doesn't even make sense. I'm not the one barged into Neville's journal, talking rubbish.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 02:50:15](#)
(no subject)

A person can't barge into a journal, moron. It's not a place.



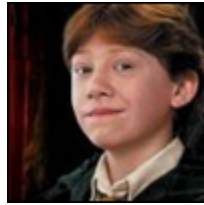
 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-25 02:55:53](#)
(no subject)


You are such an arse, Malfoy. Why don't you go bother Marvolo--or is he tired of listening to you, too?



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:00:16](#)**
(no subject)

Why don't you stop acting like Longbottom's knight in shining tin. It only makes him look weak and you look desperate.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:14:09](#)**
(no subject)

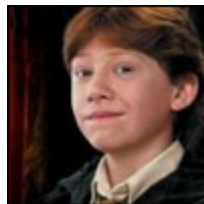
So I was right, huh? Marvolo told you to bugger off.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:17:14](#)**
(no subject)

If you think he'd say that to me then you really don't know him at all.

He's right here in the common room. We're taking turns playing snap with Teddy and Blaise.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:22:59](#)**
(no subject)

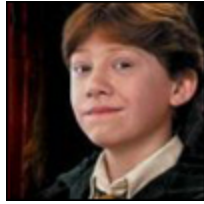
Have fun with that, then.


But you'd be smart to pay a bit more attention to the game or you'll be getting your nose blown off. And that would be a bloody shame.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:24:27](#)**
(no subject)

Oi Ron speaking of exploding snap. Are you up for a game?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-25 03:27:44](#)
(no subject)

I'm there!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 03:26:18](#)
(no subject)

Wouldn't it just.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-25 02:56:31](#)
(no subject)

Insults are certainly not necessary, Mr Malfoy.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 03:01:35](#)
(no subject)

Oh? And what was "get stuffed," a greeting card?



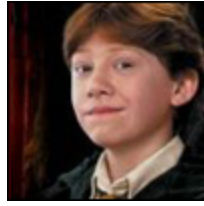
 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-25 03:25:40](#)
(no subject)


I've commented to Ronald as well.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-25 02:58:06](#)
(no subject)

I understand the sentiment, Ronald, but try for a little more restraint. Not to mention politeness.



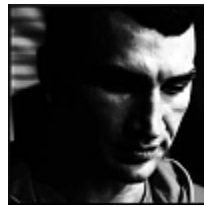
 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-25 03:09:26](#)
(no subject)

Oh, because he was so polite to Neville.
Honestly, Percy, whose side are you on?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-25 03:44:09](#)
(no subject)

Prefects have a responsibility to be neutral,
Ronald. Of course I'm inclined to support my
housemate, but both you and Malfoy need to
simmer down. And Longbottom's loose talk
has already cost Gryffindor ten points.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-25 03:45:27](#)
(no subject)

As a mediator you're not half bad, Mr Weasley.
Five points. To, not from.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-25 03:48:52](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, sir.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-25 02:26:12](#)
(no subject)

Well the Headmistress replied right to the madmans
post. And so did your father and also Professor Macnair
so it is kind of silly to pretend no ones reading them,
Nevilles right.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-25 02:22:15](#)
(no subject)

That was you he was talking about mate? I dont know if Id have reminded people of that if it were me.

I dont think it matters whether people talk to him or not. He knows people are reading and thats all he cares about.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 02:31:00](#)
(no subject)

You read it? I didn't. It's too long, and plus if you see one you know they're all going to be the same bunch of rot.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-25 02:36:55](#)
(no subject)


I read the first bit and then skipped to the end to see who was talking to him.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 02:42:41](#)
(no subject)

Oh that. I looked to see who was talking to him too.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 03:05:33](#)
(no subject)

Im not reading it and neither is Parvati. Too bad you didnt warn Longbottom earlier not to do anything so thick.

Of course, it doesn't seem like he can tie his shoes without doing something daft, so maybe you oughtnt bother.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-25 03:23:37](#)
(no subject)

Oi Nevilles my housemate Patil.

Mr Rosier says theres nothing wrong with learning about your enemies. Just so long as you remember who they are and who you are. And I should talk to someone I trust if I ever think Black has a good point.

Of course hes dead boring so. Mostly I read the first bit and then skip to see if anyones in trouble down at the bottom.



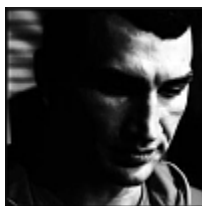
 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-25 03:34:53](#)
(no subject)

He's not boring. How can you say that? He's talking about important stuff, whether he right about it or not.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-25 03:36:15](#)
(no subject)

But thanks for sticking up for me, anyway.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-25 03:39:21](#)
(no subject)

Mr Longbottom, I spoke to you before about the impression you make when it comes to your thoughts on the traitor Sirius Black. Looks like it didn't sink in.

Ten points.




 **alt_padma** at [2009-04-25 03:41:29](#)
(no subject)

I know. I'm really sorry.

Your not like your housemates, though. It must get lonely. I think maybe you were Sorted wrong.

What Mr Rosier says is interesting. I have to think about that some.



 **alt_seamus** at [2009-04-25 03:54:03](#)
(no subject)

Well where else would the hat have put me? I wouldnt want to be in Hufflepuff! Anyway I like Ron and Neville. Nevilles a good listener. Which is a good thing in a friend really. Even if it means sometimes he listens to blood traitors too. And Ron sticks up for people he cares about.



 **alt_padma** at [2009-04-25 04:02:24](#)
(no subject)

No, not Hufflepuff. But you could've been in Ravenclaw. Or Slytherin, even--though I guess its a bit crowded there with Malfoy and Marvolo and Nott and Zabini and Goyle and Crabbe. (Actually I think Goyle and Crabbe were Sorted wrong, too, maybe. Because their very loyal to Marvolo, but I guess thats why their in Slytherin with him and Malfoy.)

Its good to have someone who listens to you and all that, but havent you noticed that there always wrong? That would drive me mad.




 **alt_seamus** at [2009-04-25 04:10:51](#)
(no subject)

Im not clever enough for Ravenclaw! Slytherin wouldnt be so bad I suppose. But I think Gryffindor is fine. And their only wrong when their talking

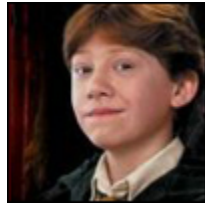
about politics. Thats hardly ever. We mostly talk about classes and quidditch.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-25 04:24:57](#)**
(no subject)

Well, maybe you should tell them to shut it about politicks then, and stick to Quidditch.

I mean, theyre both purebloods they should know better. Parkinson's learned by now and she hardly ever says anything daft anymore. If he's such a good mate, you ought to look out for him, to, and not let him get himself into such a fix.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-25 12:47:38](#)**
(no subject)

Who's talking politics, Patil? That stuff's dead boring. It's not politics to tell that bastard Malfoy to shut his dirty gob and go away.


And it's not politics to tell you you talk too much and stick your ugly nose in things that aren't your business.



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2009-04-25 07:25:50](#)**
(no subject)

Oi! there's nothing wrong with being a Hufflepuff!!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-25 13:28:47](#)**
(no subject)

Sure there isn't...if your a Hufflepuff.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-25 16:22:16](#)
(no subject)

Course not mate. Nothing wrong with being a Gryffindor either tho!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 03:02:17](#)
(no subject)

Well, I don't think you're astute at all, Longbottom. I still say you're thick as anything. Imagine taking someone like that and calling them friendly? I don't know what's more daft, unless of course it's even imagining he was talking about you in the first place.


Anyway, you'd be even more mad than he is if you think anything he has to say to or about you is a good thing. Mum always says consider the source. That's what you better do, Thickbottom.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-25 03:31:24](#)
(no subject)


Well, astute or not, there's no danger I'll ever consider you as friendly, Patil. So I guess if I consider the source on what you're saying to me, I'd be smarter to just ignore it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 03:36:29](#)
(no subject)

Nice to see that you don't always hide behind Weasel, Wrongbottom.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-25 03:39:36](#)
(no subject)

I don't need to hide from anyone, Malfoy. Not in my own journal.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-25 03:45:39](#)**
(no subject)

Ooh, please be my guest. Maybe next time Professor Macnair will take 20 points from Gryffindor.

2009-04-25 01:04:00

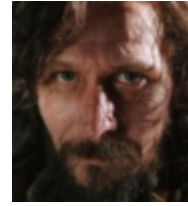
Order Only: Signal

I can see the signal lights from Frank's side.

Hold fast, everyone. I'm signing off for now so that we can concentrate on the task at hand.

I promise we'll both write once we're clear away.

Fingers crossed!



 [alt_sirius](#)

2009-04-25 06:52:00

ORDER ONLY: BUGGER

Frank, I think we -



They couldn't follow but they may be tracking us

 [alt_sirius](#)

Check in soon as you get someplace safe.

Gotta go - Collins wants to dump cargo.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2009-04-25 13:58:41**

(no subject)

Oh, Merlin, I'm wincing at the thought of you being forced to jettison expensive and badly needed supplies. Do you mean Collins managed to get you back to shore as quickly as possible, or were you forced to dump what you didn't manage to transfer overboard?



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2009-04-25 14:08:42**

(no subject)

Over the side it went, unfortunately. I couldn't argue against it. He was afraid that the Ministry's contacts will be alerted to look for anyone coming into a French port with any potentially incriminating stock, and he can't doctor the manifests since we only left yesterday.

I've Apparated to a random beach and I'm taking Poppy's suggestion - it was a stretch to jump this far, and on top of the night I've had I'm afraid I was quite ill before I could even manage to transform. I'll be staying as Padfoot for a bit here to make sure Collins gets back all right. Then I still have to give him his final payment.

Sorry. Could you make out that last bit? I came over a bit dizzy. Gonna sleep now.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-25 15:16:55](#)
(no subject)

Sleep will do you good. So glad it was (mostly) a success.

2009-04-25 07:21:00

ORDER ONLY

what a giant cock-up.

sorry about last night, Sirius mate. one thing after another.



 [alt_frank](#)

we managed to get most of the goods, but as soon as we touched the wards we must've set off some sort of alarm. they were all over us in minutes. that bloody idiot turner tried to force his way through the barrier once the patrol showed. think he wanted to catch a ride home with you, sirius. he was yelling some nonsense about "take me with you."

my fault. shouldn't have let him come along. he was too damn young and too damn starstruck to be any use anyroad.


well, once he forced his arm through, he touched the sides somehow and it shook him and tossed him into the water like a rag doll. broke his arm, knocked him clean out, and he nearly drowned. sirius managed to aim a charm through the hole in the wards that pulled him out of the water, and we got him back on the boat. mind, we were crawling with the patrol at this point, all on brooms, and none of them too happy.

stephen was quick thinking, thank merlin. pulled a few wands out of the supplies and found one that worked almost right away. turns out he's almost as good at hexing as I am. only one of them managed to get onto the boat, but we kicked his arse overboard, knocked a few more off their brooms. (that was ace aiming, sirius, mate -- hitting that one bloke through the opening was brill.) we made a wall of fog to distract them, ran the boat ashore, and warded the hell out of everything so we'd have a safe place to stay for the night. had my emergency supplies in my wallet, so we even had a tent to sleep in and some first-aid supplies for turner. stephen's splinted his arm, and he'll live. which is good, because I'm going to kill him later.

it's nearly light enough for us to make our way home -- we'll side-along everyone and everything that needs taking, and disguise the boat somehow and come back for her later. hard to believe she kept running the entire time, what with all the spells they were flinging at her.

been a bit of a rough night, but no one too badly hurt that didn't royally deserve it, and we've got our wands, most of the fluxweed plants, and a few extra bits and bobs. fairly sure we can't try that route again, but I'd say we did what we set out to do.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-25 11:41:09](#)**
(no subject)

I'm so glad to hear that you are all safe.

~~I was waiting up all night~~
I thought

Come home soon. Please.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-25 11:43:12](#)**
(no subject)

we're getting everything together now.

it'll be good to get home again.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-25 13:56:08](#)**
(no subject)

And my goodness, happy birthday, Frank! A dozen new wands for the community will make the celebration there at Moddey Dhoo all the sweeter, I hope!



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-25 13:56:39](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, indeed. Happy birthday, Frank. And well done!



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-27 13:26:51](#)**
(no subject)

thanks, you two.

I'd say a dozen wands is a pretty good birthday present, all things considered.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2009-04-25 11:44:07](#)**
(no subject)


Oh, is that what he was saying? I couldn't make it out across the distance.

Anyway, yeah, dead useful spell, "Levicorpus." Made the rounds when we were at school. For a while I think it was James's favourite.

I'll write up my report for you all in a bit. Collins is anxious to get his payment and make for port.

At least we shifted the most essential items.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-25 13:02:03](#)**
(no subject)

Thank the stars!


Are you both back safely where you belong? Sirius, when you've found a safe place to pause, I trust you will tell us. I hate to think how difficult you may find it now.

I wish there'd be some official noise about this. I don't like their silence.

Frank, are you certain they won't have been able to trace your return. I realise that Moddey Dhou is unplottable, but it sits in the middle of a place they can see and search. I worry about this with our owls to you, but tonight's business seems even more likely to have alerted them to your existence and your general location. If they can ever narrow it down, it would be a simple matter of setting up siege around you to cut you off entirely save for Apparition, and

there's not much besides oneself that one can Apparate in or out of a place. Were you even able to take along the Fluxweed?




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 13:22:44](#)
(no subject)

Yes, we got the fluxweed over and the wands, of course, as Frank said. Also the bezoars, boomslang and bicorn. We were going in order of importance.

Safe for now, but I have to keep moving just at the moment. More in a bit.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-25 13:54:57](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Sirius. I'm very glad to know you are safe!

But now you should clearly go rest! I'm able to read a bit better than you, I think, which is perfectly understandable at the moment. I did see that you got those things through the wards. My question is whether Frank and Stephen will have been able to get more than the wands from the boat to the Sanctuary, since they are having to Apparate there and sidealong the injured lad. There's a limit to what one can Apparate along, and I did wonder if the Fluxweed and certain of the other things would need to be left behind because of their bulk or their delicate nature. Three or four bezoars tuck in a pocket, but a flat of Fluxweed plants?

Go and sleep if you've found a safe place, Sirius. We'll all be able to hold our curiosity about the details until you've had a chance to rest.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-04-25 14:14:35](#)
(no subject)

Sorry, it's the post-Apparation disorientation. I took myself a bit too far and was too tired on top of it all. Not feeling at all the thing.

You're right, sleep will help.

||| More when I'm cohegent. Er. Coherent.



 **alt_arthur** at [2009-04-25 13:36:44](#)
(no subject)

Well, I echo Poppy and Alice: we are quite relieved that you are all right. And very glad to hear that the most important cargo was shifted. Sounds like a wand in McGivern's hand is another fighter for our side.

Excellent!

I don't think I'd hear anything that might be to the point as to official response if I went in today, as it's a Saturday, but Bill does work a Saturday shift, and he might hear more in Communications. I've sent him a patronus, and we'll pass along anything he learns.



 **alt_molly** at [2009-04-25 13:51:52](#)
(no subject)

Frank and Alice:

First of all, thank goodness everyone is more or less all right. I wanted to speak particularly about young Mr Turner. Of course, I've not met him, but from what Alice has said about him, and from what I know about young boys just entering manhood . . . I think that however you handle him at this point may turn out to be a critical turning point with him. Of course you have every reason to be absolutely furious with him, Frank! But he was prickly already before, wasn't he? He's probably smart enough to realise that it was his doing that the mission almost got scuttled. The thing is, if you add harsh recriminations to what he is already telling himself deep down inside, his pride may cause him to rebel entirely-- young men can be like that! And you'll lose any chance of ever winning him over.

I wonder why he wanted Sirius to take him along. Was it because he thought he might somehow do more good? Maybe that is the string you can use to reach him? Treat him like an adult--although he hardly deserves it, it's probably what he wants and needs if he's to throw his lot in with you. Ask him as calmly as you can what it was that he intended. If I'm right, if he wanted to go along with Sirius because he imagined that was how he could do the most good, then appeal to that. Perhaps you might ask him what he thinks an appropriate

punishment for his behaviour might be, or how he can personally make up for the supplies he lost.

If you make it clear you want to treat him like an adult, perhaps he will surprise you.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2009-04-25 14:02:55](#)**
(no subject)

Getting wands through the barrier is a remarkable achievement, Frank and Sirius, let alone the other stuff. Nobody's ever managed that before, as far as I know.


I certainly hope your security at Moddey Dhoo has not been compromised, but if it is, and you have to evacuate in a hurry, send me a patronus. The Players and I will come running to provide backup and help.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-25 14:04:17](#)**
(no subject)

Do we have a backup site, in case of emergency? Merlin, all those children. Frank, do you?




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2009-04-25 14:31:14](#)**
(no subject)

It's your birthday, Frank? I hadn't realised!

Well. Many happy returns!

And, thank you, for the risk you took and for your courage in such danger. We are all most grateful.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-27 13:27:57](#)**
(no subject)

thanks, poppy.

we're all looking forward to your visit this summer.

2009-04-25 08:43:00

back to reality

I've had a busy week of catching up. It's quite amazing how a few days off creates so much extra work about the place. I'm certainly glad to be back here, though. The camp actually wasn't as bad as it could've been, all things considered. I met a few very interesting people, some of whom I hope to maintain correspondance with. It's not the same as old Hogwarts though. I feel sometimes like I've lived here my whole life - certainly the happy parts of it were spent here. Anywhere else just doesn't feel right.



 **alt_lupin**

Ah, well. That's more than enough introspection for today. I think I shall go and pen an owl to Emily, one of those interesting people.

Hermione, if Mr Marvolo can spare you for an hour over the weekend, I'd like to speak to you.



 **alt_macnair** at **2009-04-25 14:51:39**

(no subject)

For those correspondents, will you write, or howl from a distance?

Is there such thing as werewolf humour?



 **alt_lupin** at **2009-04-26 09:32:37**

(no subject)

I had planned to ink my hands up and put some pawprints to the parchment at the next moon.

Werewolf humour? You tell me.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2009-04-26 14:54:51](#)
(no subject)


There might be a wee bit of humour when it comes to you. Not sure I can say the same for the others.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-25 17:10:30](#)
(no subject)

Mr Marvolo - may I?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-25 17:49:56](#)
(no subject)

I guess so. When I'm practising Quidditch.

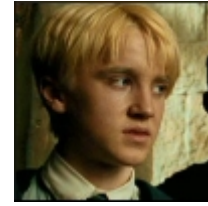


 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-25 17:51:33](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, sir!

2009-04-25 09:30:00

Disturbances



 **alt_draco**

Last night's exploding snap game in the common room got cut short just as I was about to beat Blaise for the second time in a row. A load of the seventh years wanted to have a NEWT study party, they were going to stay up all night with the wireless blaring, drinking butterbeer and practising charms and whatnot. So they kicked everyone out, and since it was Ned who was giving the orders there was really no choice but to listen. And then without asking me first, Ned tried to get Dennis to go to the kitchens for more food. And even though Dennis waited for my say-so it's not as if I could say no, since Ned's Head Boy and can use Crucio when he wants to. I suppose he thinks that just because we're cousins, he can use my servant whenever he wants. But too bad for him, because I'm keeping Dennis hidden away from now on. Only I wish I didn't have to, because I like the idea of him being there whenever I need him. I'd take him to class so he could be there to sharpen my quills when they get dull, but I don't think he should listen in on lessons. Hearing about magic might make his magic manifest. Plus I like sharpening my own quills.

Did anyone see that Harry's servant was wearing livery? She's not wearing it now but she did on the train back to Hogwarts. I'd like to get some livery like that for Dennis. He'd wear it much better than Harry's mudblood, who looked more like she was wearing a costume than someone who really understood the part.

Harry, did you ever find that thing you lost? I guess there's not really any way to ask around about it, but still, I wish you hadn't lost it.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2009-04-25 16:34:47**
(no subject)

Is that what was happening downstairs? Milli was really cross when she came up last night.

It's not fair Ned acting like he has a right to your mudblood, even if he is Head Boy. Hiding Dennis might help some but if Ned wants him and can find you, I reckon he'll just tell you to get him.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 16:46:14](#)
(no subject)

I'll just tell him I don't know where Dennis is.

Blast, though, that'd make me look like a weak Master. I don't know, I'll just have to figure something out.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-25 16:51:33](#)
(no subject)

What if you told Dennis in advance to do things differently if you gave him an order in a certain way? Like if Ned wanted to send him to Hogsmeade for sweets Dennis could bring back blood lollies and cockroach clusters.



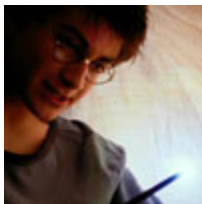
 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 16:55:21](#)
(no subject)

Ned probably likes blood lollies, that Ned. But I'll think of something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-25 17:08:55](#)
(no subject)


You think so really? Ugh. Well I'm sure there are things he doesn't like, it shouldn't be hard to figure out what.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-25 17:46:39](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I got it back. Do you need it?



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-25 17:49:03](#)**
(no subject)

No. I just like knowing that it's there.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-25 17:50:53](#)**
(no subject)

Well it is. If you need it.

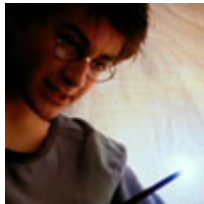
I'm glad Ned doesn't think he can borrow Granger.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-25 17:56:21](#)**
(no subject)

That's because you and Ned aren't related, and also Ned gets on with my father and he's probably scared of yours.

I don't know if Granger's the type of servant that would be much use to Ned, anyway.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-25 17:59:41](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah she has to be supervised.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-25 18:00:39](#)**
(no subject)


Basically.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 18:09:52](#)
(no subject)

He cant cruciate you for not letting him use your mudblood, can he?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 18:11:53](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, maybe not. He might try to Crucio Dennis, though. That's probably allowed, though it shouldn't be because Dennis is my property.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 18:15:12](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that wouldnt be so good.


Wanna come outside with us? We could play a game.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 18:17:12](#)
(no subject)


Maybe. Who all is going out?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 18:20:47](#)
(no subject)

Lavender's coming if that's what your getting at.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 18:23:51](#)
(no subject)

I'm not getting at anything! I just wondered if it was just going to be girls, because if so I'll bring along Harry or Teddy or somebody.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 18:56:03](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Linus will be there, too, and maybe Smith. Marvolo and Nott can come.

Finnigan too I suppose.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-25 18:56:25](#)
(no subject)

I mean if he sees this.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 18:57:06](#)
(no subject)

Alright then.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-27 02:49:22](#)
(no subject)


Aw I just saw this. Did I miss anything good?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-27 11:18:20](#)
(no subject)

Oh, not much really. We just went out near the greenhouses.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2009-04-25 20:29:01](#)
(no subject)

I'm rather glad that I don't share a house with the Head Girl, even though it would be ~~presta prestag~~ a good thing for Gryffindor's House Points.

But I think I'd sort of feel *watched* all the time.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-26 16:13:29](#)

(no subject)

Even if Ned were in a different house, he's still my cousin, and you'd think that would be worth something but Ned's a bit of a prat, really.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2009-04-26 09:26:21](#)

(no subject)

If young Ned is overstepping his bounds with regards to Dennis, I shall have a word with him to remind him that your property is yours, as Hermione is Harry's, and is not to be appropriated by any other student, whether that student is the Head Boy, Head Girl, Prefect or anyone else.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-26 16:14:54](#)

(no subject)

Thank you, sir, though if you could please not say that I went to you about Ned, I would appreciate it. I want to be able to solve my own problems.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2009-04-26 16:47:56](#)

(no subject)

You needn't worry, Draco, I won't be naming names. I know your schoolfellows can be rough sometimes when someone is thought to be tattling - I'm afraid it was quite the same in my day, and I don't suppose it will ever change. Part of our job as teachers is to equip you precisely so you are able to look after yourselves. But sometimes solving your own problems means knowing when to ask for help, from a teacher, a friend, or your parents. My door, as I hope you know, is always open.

2009-04-25 10:45:00

(no subject)



 **alt_lavender**

In some ways it's nice to be back at school, because it's easier to see friends and Mummy isn't na. Of course I saw Parvati and Padma and the rest of our crowd over hols, but parents always seem to want a person to spend time with them and go to lots of Family Parties and that sort of thing. Especially during Christmas and spring hols.

But here I see them every day, and it would be positively brilliant if only it weren't for Lessons. Transfiguration and Charms aren't so bad, and Defense is really fascinating, but History of Magic and Potions are so dull. History of Magic is all long lists of battles and names, and Potions is all long lists of ingredients and the order you have to put them in and stir them.

And of course I can't be partnered with Daphne or Parvati or someone who'd be a bit of *fun*; I've got Perks, who takes everything so Seriously all the time. She's always trying to boss me about, and if I even say so much as a *word* to Anyone, she gives me a long, squinty glare. Yesterday I finally told her to her stop nagging at me, it's not as if she's a prefect or my auntie or anyone who has an actual Right to tell me what to do.

I suppose some people have to be that swotty because they haven't any other way of getting on in life. Perks ought to have been paired with Katrina--she's just as much of a swot and she wouldn't so much as say boo to a mouse. She's so timid I sometimes wonder why she was put in Gryffindor--I think she positively *likes* being bossed about.

But enough of Perks and potions; I want to to do something interesting. It's Such a pity we aren't old enough to go to Hogsmeade.




 **alt_draco** at [2009-04-25 15:54:44](#)
(no subject)

Don't you want to be a good wife, Brown? Potions isn't that different from cooking, really. Or are you going to have elves to do that for you?

If you need something from Hogsmeade you can always ask me to ask Dennis to go there on an errand, I guess.



 **alt_lavender** at [2009-04-25 16:02:12](#)
(no subject)

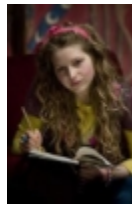
Mummy says it's important to know things like that so I can supervise elves or servants or whomever Properly, but that doesn't make them interesting.


I don't know if I actually *want* anything from Hogsmeade, I just want to Go somewhere. Chocolates are always nice, though.



 **alt_draco** at [2009-04-25 16:41:55](#)
(no subject)

That's funny that you want to go somewhere seeing as we've just got back. Anyway, I've already got a tonne of chocs. Talk to me at lunch if you want some.




 **alt_lavender** at [2009-04-25 20:17:25](#)
(no subject)

Can I come by at dinner? I was going to come get some at lunch, but Parvati started telling me something terrible funny and I Forgot!

Thanks awfully Malfoy!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-25 18:22:59](#)
(no subject)

Why do you care what kind of wife Brown will be, Draco?

Do you want to get married?




 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-25 18:25:34](#)
(no subject)

I don't care what kind of wife she is, but I imagine that she does, which is what I was pointing out.

Go play on a fast-moving staircase, why don't you.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2009-04-25 20:30:15](#)
(no subject)


Of course I care!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-25 16:36:08](#)
(no subject)

I wasn't nagging. I was telling you that if you put things in in the wrong order, like you were starting to, it would ruin the potion.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2009-04-25 20:18:03](#)
(no subject)

Well you needn't have been such a bossyboots about it!




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-25 18:14:08](#)**
(no subject)

We could go outside. And there's a game we could play.

But as far as Potions, I hate agreeing with Perks but you really should be careful. I mean, if you get something wrong it could explode and ruin your hair.



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2009-04-25 20:23:14](#)**
(no subject)

Ooh, what sort of game? I *am* glad the weather's beginning to get a bit more pleasant, but that just makes it harder to be cooped in a musty old dungeon chopping things!

I suppose you're right, but Perks simply goes on and on about the least little thing. It gets Tiresome.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-25 21:01:24](#)**
(no subject)

The game we played last term. I've thought of a few improvements.

[2009-04-25 15:54:00](#)

Order only: Supplement to Frank's report

Had a few hours' sleep and I've managed to make it back into civilisation. I'll find a proper hotel for the night and meet up with Collins in the next couple of days.



 [alt_sirius](#)

Anyway, Frank's already given you a fairly full report, except for what happened on my end.

The Aurors couldn't get through, of course, any more than I could get across to help (and wasn't about to try, not after Turner got blasted back like that). That shot of mine was about the last one I was able to get through. I think we didn't know it at the time but the breach we'd opened must have been closing itself the whole while we were passing supplies across. Which also explains why Turner hit the barrier when we'd been able to cross at first.

As far as Turner, I don't know if you noticed, Frank, but I tried to speak to him once as we were transferring the goods. Bloke was so tongue-tied that I thought everything you'd said about his passion must have been an exaggeration. Looking back at it, I think perhaps Turner wanted to go through the ward not because he thought he'd be more useful with me, but because he was afraid he'd be recaptured. It's a possibility anyway - makes a lot of sense, considering the harsh treatment he could expect to receive at the hands of the Ministry.

With that in mind, I rather agree with Molly. When you talk to him, make allowance for the kid's panic. There may be other reasons like you've said, but seems to me that's a reasonable factor as well. (I say kid; really he's not that much younger than I am! Fact is I think I vaguely remember him being Sorted in my ... fourth year? Fifth? One or the other.)

Sorry, back to the report. I'm pretty sure the ward closed itself up shortly after I shot that Auror, because while I couldn't cast spells on them, they couldn't curse me anymore, either. We saw you run for it, but Collins was already coming about and heading southeast full rudder. Took me quite a while to convince him they couldn't follow, that they weren't following us. Then came the dispute over ditching the remaining cargo.

I couldn't persuade him that there are too many ports for the French

(wizard) government to watch them all, even if they could be prevailed upon by the British Ministry. He had a point, though - that they had more than enough time to read his ship's identification (despite the clouds and the dark) and could issue instruction to all the harbour masters as they saw fit. He'll have a much better chance of docking if there's nothing on board that could finger them as smugglers.

Of course, you might have guessed that the other condition he insisted on was that I Apparate off the ship as soon as possible. The easiest thing for me was to go someplace familiar, meaning near to home. That was much too far, but I've grown familiar enough with Calais and the northern shores that I thought I could manage. Even that was too much of a stretch.

On the other hand it puts me a good deal closer to my meeting with Collins, although I plan to approach as Padfoot first, in case there's any trouble. In the end, he decided to stick to the story we gave when he logged his departure with the coast guard: just a tourist cruise for a day down to the Portuguese coast and back.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-25 21:15:12](#)


(no subject)

Oh, it hadn't occurred to me that might be why Turner asked you to take him along. That makes a great deal of sense. All the more reason for Frank and Alice to be careful of how they handle him now, if he comes to feel ashamed of himself, as if he acted in a cowardly fashion at a critical moment.

Hmm. Alice, I strongly suspect you might be the best one to attempt this conversation, or perhaps even Arabella or Victor. If Sirius is right, then the very sight of Frank or Stephen (who in contrast sound as if they acquitted themselves rather well) might be a rather painful reproach to him.

Stay safe, Sirius. We are truly proud of you, and grateful for what you've accomplished. A dozen wands, safely delivered! Kingsley's right, it's a remarkable achievement.



 **alt_poppy** at **2009-04-25 21:45:55**
(no subject)

Well, since it's my part to fuss, I'll simply second your instinct to approach carefully when you return to pay your Captain Collins. Two things occur:

First, as you say, the enforcers on our side may have been able to identify him, in which case, I'd say it's likely he'll find himself pursued by hit wizards soon enough. There's a chance they'll watch him for a while first, hoping to catch you (or if they corner him, and he has any chance to, I'd guess he'd at least be tempted to play them for time by offering you up). Second, along those lines, unless your Captain is a deeply altruist, honorable man, he may see a chance to turn a profit by seeking out someone who would pay a price for you (especially if he's uncertain whether you've scarpered with his money).

I hope I'm wrong. In any case, Molly's right, we are all terrifically impressed with the success you had and grateful that you are safe so far. May it remain so!

[2009-04-26 20:54:00](#)

Luna



 [alt_molly](#)

Raising boys isn't . . . well, it isn't exactly easy. But it is straightforward. Expect grousing when it comes to chore time. Expect noise, dirt, underhanded pranks, bashing siblings in the ribs, and off-colour jokes. Expect a bottomless appetite, especially between the ages of 11 and 17. I remember the time I had a half of a leftover beef roast which I had calculated might be enough for a dinner for nine, barely, if I stretched things a little with potatoes and side vegetables.

Bill and Charlie carved it up, made into sandwiches and ate the entire thing. As an afternoon snack.

Girls are more of a mystery, perhaps. (And I was a girl myself; you think I would find it easier!) Ginny is just on the outskirts of the difficult years, or so I've been told by neighbours who have suffered through raising two or three female offspring. Nothing too daunting yet, really: a certain moodiness, once in a while, especially in the mornings. Occasional flashes of temper (well, all the Weasleys have that, I'll admit.) A thirst for any and all magazine articles about certain boy bands featured on the Wizarding Wireless network. I know I'll have entered the next stage when she takes to monopolising the bathroom in the mornings.

But Luna, now . . . Luna is an entire other world. I am continually surprised by what she's thinking. I don't know how much of it is due to being raised by someone as eccentric as Xenophilius (poor motherless girl!), or perhaps it is those strange books she loves to read. Or how much of it is just . . . her. She's a dreamer, that Luna. I'll catch her staring out the window, her sums forgotten on the parchment in front of her. When I ask her what in Merlin's name she was thinking about, I'll get the strangest answers! She was wondering why hinkypunks' eyes are never green. Or why vampires are so allergic to kneazles. Or how chickens get inside of chicken eggs--why don't they reproduce using seeds, like plants? Ginny laughs when she says things like that, thinking it a great joke, and Luna, fortunately, doesn't resent that. I worry a great deal about how she will do when she gets to Hogwarts, however. Even if she wears school robes like everyone else's, no one would ever mistake Luna for someone who fits in well in a crowd. Much, I think, will depend upon which House she is sorted into. I hope she manages to make at least one or two friends

besides Ginny. She'll either be the class pariah, odd girl out . . . or perhaps she'll go on to make a name for herself somehow, someone who will be famous for years afterwards. I just have no idea which way it will go.


One thing I can say: she's certainly never boring!



 **alt_percy** at [2009-04-27 02:17:45](#)
(no subject)

I remember that night. We ended up having scrambled eggs for dinner instead and I was so disappointed. I had quite been looking forward to that roast.



 **alt_arthur** at [2009-04-27 02:22:23](#)
(no subject)

And yet those scrambled eggs turned out to be delicious. Your mother could make a feast fit for a -- well, the Lord Protector himself, using only a dozen eggs, a loaf of day-old bread, and whatever herbs she can pick from the garden.

Luna's lucky to have you, Molly dear. Very lucky indeed.


And so are we.



 **alt_gredforge** at [2009-04-27 03:26:46](#)
(no subject)

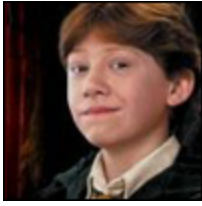
Don't forget our deep and abiding love for small, slimy, squirming animals in unexpected places.




 **alt_molly** at [2009-04-27 13:36:16](#)
(no subject)

How could I forget? I remember that one time I put my foot into my slipper and felt that snake curl around my toes . . .

One thing I'll say for you, boys, you're never boring either!

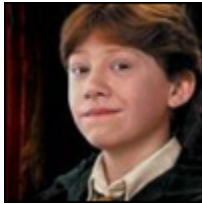



 **alt_ron** at [2009-04-27 13:39:05](#)
(no subject)

Heh.

And surprisingly transfigured food! I wonder if you could charm all the pumpkin juice here at school to be blue the way you made the milk green that time. Dyou remember Dad's face when he poured it? Priceless!

My favourite was when you made Percy's porridge stand up in his bowl and call him names!



 **alt_ron** at [2009-04-27 13:53:48](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, girls are pretty gruesome. All that moaning about their hair--what's with that? And worrying about what colour they wear? And the ones that giggle, that's the worst!

2009-04-26 21:38:00

Ministry Ridiculousness

As one might imagine, I have been kept overlong at the Ministry all week-end. Dolores has become absolutely convinced that Black and his agents plan a disruption soon and insisted that every department develop contingencies. No contrary word on behalf of any of the Council did anything to dissuade her. Nevermind the fact that Black's manifestos, while vexing, have thus far been entirely and decidedly *ineffective*.



 [alt_lucius](#)

After the third Floo consultation within two hours' time, I found it easier to go there in person. Luckily my presence on the scene circumvented several potentially wasteful strategies, not to mention reinforced the need for calm and controlled planning. It is astonishing how otherwise cogent persons may be reduced to jumping at shadows when not properly advised.

The *Prophet's* article this morning, of course, is the other matter that occupied too much of the week-end:

The Protectorate spells guarding its citizens against invasion received an unscheduled test early Saturday morning. According to a source in the Department of Magical Law Enforcement, the warning system alerted Aurors to an attempted breach at approximately 1:40 a.m. on the morning of 25 April. It took only minutes for Hit-Wizards to pinpoint the penetration in the St George's Channel. They sent a squad immediately to investigate and repel any potential invasion.

A Hit-Wizard who was on the scene, speaking under condition of anonymity, described the encounter. He told our reporters that the team found two small craft anchored side-by-side with the protective wards between them. He and his colleagues moved swiftly to capture the suspects, who allegedly opened fire in response to the call to prepare to be boarded. The Hit-Wizard says he heard one of the fugitives call out 'Take me with you!' to his accomplice across the wards. The fugitive then apparently attempted to pass through the barrier and was thrown into the Channel.

Mr Michael Bainbridge and Mr Parvus Clark of the MLE sustained minor injuries in the skirmish. No fatalities were reported.

It goes on to describe the vessel spotted within the Protectorate side


and offering a fairly generous reward for fruitful information on the whereabouts of it or its crew.

Naturally this occurrence was both an instructive test of the system and an opportunity for improvement. The response time was slower than acceptable and the investigating team clearly needed more support to adequately respond - though I expect Bella's training programme will improve that, as well.

I was wise to bring other projects with me, although I was not able to attend to them as I would have liked. Nor have I done more than page through the other entries on my journal-reading list for several days. Unfortunately, with the festivities coming up at week's end, I doubt very much that I shall be fully caught up for some time to come.

May see if Crispin can clear the morning's calendar.



 **alt_arthur** at [2009-04-27 04:21:32](#)
Order Only

Bill spent the weekend gleaning what he could, and this is what he thinks they have:

They have a good description of the boat. Frank and Alice, if you want to use it again, you'll have to transfigure it to change the size, change the sail colour, add another mast or something. Or better yet, dry dock it out of sight until the hunt cools down a bit. I'm sorry, but you'd better not use it for any little fishing expeditions for awhile.

Secondly, they know it was being used in a smuggling operation, although that information is not being made public for now.

Third, they suspect there were muggleborn on board (my own department dropped that tidbit into my lap.)

Bill hasn't heard the slightest hint that they have any idea about the whereabouts of Moddey Dhoo, though, thanks to the Fidelius charm, of course. But security is certainly being beefed up, partly, no doubt, to the upcoming Tenth Anniversary celebrations. There seems to be a bit of an ongoing struggle about this, between Umbridge's office and the council re: how upfront they're choosing to be about putting on a security show. Umbridge wants a parade of power, but the council would prefer to keep all their arrangements very hush-hush. I almost

hope Umbridge wins this one. We could use all the intel they're willing to give away for free that we can get. I'm afraid we won't be so lucky, however: Malfoy's cronies are better at hexing to settle the argument when tempers rise.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-27 18:42:03](#)**

Re: Order Only

thanks, mate. good to hear.

we've hidden the boat for the time being, and as we're good on supplies, no-one's going to have to leave the island for at least two weeks. should settle down a good deal by then, I'd warrant.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2009-04-28 03:07:21](#)**

Re: Order Only

I think you might be pinned down a good deal longer than two weeks, Frank. This is quite a serious breach of the wards from the Ministry's point of view, and they're not going to forget about it in a hurry.

We'll give you a hand with supplies if necessary, to help you keep your heads down as long as possible.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2009-04-27 04:59:09](#)**

(no subject)

It was a thoroughly frustrating weekend, wasn't it? My promotion was recent but I hardly think of myself as naive, as was suggested. It is quite reassuring to have you and others in my corner regarding contingency plans, though Dolores seemed quite convinced that MLE was supporting her on this matter -- who's she been talking to over there, do you know? Bellatrix herself or one of her assistants?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2009-04-27 13:50:35](#)**

(no subject)

Hopkirk, I would expect - though knowing Dolores, I shouldn't be surprised if she were listening to whomever sings the sweetest song.

Thank you again for offering your former office so I had a place to meet privately with those who needed a word. I can hardly credit how many times I was forced to use it!



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2009-04-27 23:57:23](#)**

(no subject)

A boat on either side of the wards? Whatever did they imagine they would do - throw themselves at them?

But that is immaterial. Lucius, I believe there is some year's-end business that I shall be attempting to arrange with the Board of Governors; I would like to meet with you, were it possible, to hash it out before the meeting proper. Is there a day sometime next week that might be appropriate?

2009-04-27 09:28:00

ORDER ONLY

What a weekend.



 [alt_alice](#)

The boys all came back safely on Sunday, and we got the fluxweed plants situated in the new greenhouse. Stephen seems to think that a great majority of them will survive the journey, thanks in part to your careful preparations, Sirius. He's also quite thrilled at the additional potions ingredients we managed to get through.

Frank's never been one for large birthday celebrations, so instead of a party in his honour, we had a little wand-choosing ceremony around John's bed on Sunday evening with some cake and punch. Everyone else crowded around to see, and Laura, John, Alec, and little Colin went through the wands until they managed to find one that felt right for them. Colin's set off such a large burst of sparks that it nearly set the bedclothes on fire! Stephen's grown rather attached to the wand he used to help fight off the patrol, so he's keeping that one. We weren't sure whether it would have been better for John to wait until he was out of bed, but I felt that he'd get agitated and nervous if we put it off, so he chose his wand right along with everyone else. He's still on strict bedrest for the next few days, though. I've more to say about John, of course, but I'll save that for last.

The children were told that they were only allowed to use their wands for school -- with so few adults around, we simply couldn't have it any other way. Laura's already started teaching both of them theoretical charms, and Colin and Alec are both very happy to start in on actual wand work. Alec still is learning his basic writing, spelling, and maths at a lower level, and it can be frustrating for him at times to be grouped with children that are much younger. However, now he and Colin can move through this part of their education together, which is lovely. Laura has been working very hard to come up with a teaching schedule for the two of them that we can adopt for the other children once they are of age. I'll keep everyone updated as to how it goes. Stephen has been working so very hard to set up combined Potions/Herbology lessons with what few supplies we have (thank Merlin we've managed to free up two cauldrons), and Frank and I will trade off teaching Defence. Arabella has already been teaching all of the children Magical History, so she'll continue that, and Laura will be in charge of basic Charms, Transfiguration, and Astronomy. Judith will continue to fill in any other basic gaps in their education as she sees

fit. Frank and I both still have all of our old textbooks from school, but they are horribly outdated, so Judith is working around them as best as she can. It's very exciting, and I hope that between all of us, we're able to give the children some of the tools they will need in the future. None of us are trained educators, and it's such a pity they couldn't learn from the best at Hogwarts, but they are so anxious and eager to start learning and I'm so happy that we can give them that chance.

Now to the frustrating part. I've had a good long talk with John, and during the course of our conversation, many things came to light, some of which I don't know how to handle. He said he's felt that both he and his brother had been treated poorly since they've been here -- we've "made him" do menial labor, and his brother has been made to look foolish because of his educational deficiencies. I don't know what to do on that count -- we all work hard, and we do our parts. Now that he has a wand, I've told him there are certainly other ways he can contribute, but he seems to be quite stuck on the fact that since he's been here, we've assigned him to help with the laundry, which he hasn't found pleasant. I'm also not sure what to do about Alec. I've talked to Judith about having him learn apart from the younger group, but she's told me that it would be incredibly difficult for her to do.

Well, any road, he told me that both of them are absolutely miserable here, and that he feels trapped and useless. He wanted to escape from the camps in order to help change things for the better, and that "washing soiled nappies" is not what he had planned. He also said that he was trying to get through the barrier to get away -- to join up with you, Sirius, so that he could feel as if he was actually doing some "real good." Sirius, can you write him a letter? He's got it built up in his head that there's so much more to the resistance movement than the skeleton crew that we are, and that he's been kept away from it. I've tried to explain how the Order works, and what we can feasibly do, but I think it would be taken much more at face value if it came from you.

The last thing that he said was the hardest, though. I was talking with him about what we were trying to accomplish at Moddey Dhoo -- what we did to rescue Charlotte just a few short days ago -- and he got so very angry. He said that we were part of the problem, and that Muggles world over would judge us for what we did and didn't do. That we waltzed into a Muggle camp and saved the one baby that happened to have magical abilities while leaving her family and all the other children there to suffer. He said that we focus so much time and energy on rescuing Muggleborn witches and wizards, and that the only non-magical folk at Moddey were there because they were lucky


enough to know or be related to one of us. He told me that we were just as guilty of discrimination as the people we're fighting against -- although we accept muggleborn witches and wizards as equal to those that are pureblooded, and work hard to remedy the wrongs that have been done to our magical brothers and sisters, that we continue to treat the grand majority of people that can't do magic as lesser beings not worthy of our attention.

I know people can say things in a moment of anger that they later regret, and that his complaints about doing laundry and his brother's treatment are a part of that, but I can't help but think that he had some points to what he said. For every Muggleborn child we save, we leave behind hundreds or even thousands because they aren't in that big book of Minerva's. It kept me up all last night. I know of all the work we've been doing at the Muggle camps, but I look at all the happy and healthy Muggleborn children here, and I think of all the incredible time and effort it's taken to rescue and raise each and every one of them, and I fear that he may be right.

I don't know what will happen once he gets better. I'm not sure if he'll stay. I hope that he does, and Frank and I have started talking about some ways in which we can work to help John feel as if he is more of a direct contributor to what he deems to be important.

That's all for now. It's been a weekend of some rather large ups and downs, and I hope the rest of the week evens out a little. I've got a full day ahead of me, as the laundry has been piling up, and will not get clean by itself.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2009-04-27 17:32:12](#)
(no subject)


I asked Dorcas what she thought about your post, since she did Auror training. She seemed unimpressed. 'YHS,' she called it when she'd read it: 'Young Hothead Syndrome.' She suggested that if Turner doesn't like washing nappies, you could set him to work digging pit latrines. Very, very deep latrines. That'd maybe steady him, she says.

It sounds like he's itching for action. Well, I'm sure many of us can

relate to that. It's hard for a young man to be told he can't run off like the Players and conduct reconnaissance. I bet he wishes he'd gone with Davidson and his group, harrying the enemy and 'doing something' for the cause. Trouble is, we'd be making a grave mistake to take him if he won't follow orders, and that goes for Davidson, too. And Davidson probably couldn't take the lad's brother, anyway, with his disabilities; the boy couldn't keep up when they're on the move. No, he's better where he is for now.

Sirius, my friend, perhaps if you write to him, you can find a way of appealing to his sense of duty. Dorcas seems to think that he's fixed on you as some sort of commander, and I say, sometimes, you use what you've been given.



 **alt_alice** at [2009-04-27 18:15:31](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Kingsley.

You're right, of course. He can't go anywhere else right now, and that's the truth. I think he understands it too, which is one of the reasons why he's so frustrated.



 **alt_molly** at [2009-04-27 20:10:05](#)
(no subject)

Dorcas is being a bit harsh with John Turner. True, I can't help but feel a bit indignant on your behalf at his accusations. You aren't treating him badly by expecting him to do the sort of work you all do. And you and Frank have given up so much to do your work there at the Sanctuary--including the raising of your own children. And John really isn't thinking clearly if he complains on the one hand that Alec is being made to look foolish because of his lack of education and on the other that the two of them want to leave. Where else, for goodness sake, can Alec have any hope of learning what he needs to know? And after you went through all this to get them both wands, too!

Still, like you, I have to admit there is at least a grain of truth in some of the points he raises. I know that Arthur struggles a great deal with some of the same issues because of his work in the camps. I don't know how he can bear it sometimes, I really don't. I

try to comfort him by reminding him of the difference he manages to make. The committees he has sat upon, the budgetary strings that he has pulled, the carefully-gauged remark he has let fall in the right ear at just the right moment . . . oh yes, he has saved hundreds of lives that way, perhaps thousands. All without the slightest hint of the sort of glamorous wand-point dueling Mr Turner seems to crave. But I know that Arthur still can't forget the ones he couldn't help, frets about all the broken families, the men and women worked beyond their strength, the wasted potential of all the children who die before their first birthday. Yet he keeps getting up each day and doing what he can.

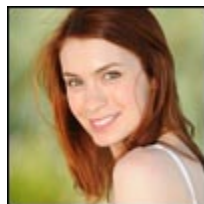
As Poppy points out, you mustn't let your guilt about what you cannot do lead you to jeopardise your mission. I'm relieved to read your follow up comment, saying that John has cooled down somewhat. And I certainly agree that Poppy's suggestion to look at long term goals is a good one, and might go a long way toward helping his frustration.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-27 22:24:25](#)**
(no subject)

I wanted to add--I should have said it in the first place--how thrilled we are to hear that you have actual wands in people's hands now, particularly the children. What an important milestone both for them, and for our sanctuary program. How I wish I could have been there to witness it, but perhaps you can show me through a Pensieve someday.

And I'll have Bill bring a couple more cauldrons, the next time he visits.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-28 02:39:13](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Molly. It's funny how knowing your burdens are shared ones make them easier to bear. We'll work through this together.

The cauldrons would be lovely.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-27 21:13:41](#)
(no subject)

Alastor may be another option--but no, come to think of it, perhaps not. He's so security conscious that I can't quite see him being willing to take someone under his wing who hasn't yet proved himself to be somewhat steadier under stress than John has up until now.

Still, I wonder whether it might do some good for Mad-Eye to pay a visit to Moddey Dhoo, maybe talk to Turner? His scars, at least, would probably earn the young man's respect, if not temper his enthusiasm a bit for dueling, and Mad-Eye will certainly give him the unvarnished truth about what life in the Order is like.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-28 02:43:16](#)
(no subject)

It might, Arthur, and if you can convince him to come down, I'd appreciate a visit. It's been ages since we've seen him.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-27 17:55:08](#)
(no subject)

I'm ashamed to say that my persistent, instinctual response to all of your reports about this lad is that you ought to Obliviate him for your own safety.

That doesn't square with my beliefs, either, Alice. And it would surely need to be a complete Obliviation, robbing him of much of himself: his knowledge of what he's lived through, his survival skills, his knowledge of his brother--all of it would likely be lost to him. This is no simple, next-moment erasure of a single memory, after all. To erase his knowledge of the Order, the Sanctuary, and his many weeks with you would require a very thorough scouring of his mind. And I'm sure we agree that such a thing is unacceptable as long as there's any alternative that keeps the rest of you safe from his anger and his youthful rashness.

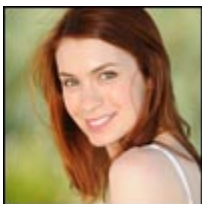
I know you saw no way except to give him a wand along with the rest of them, but you surely see how much more perilous your situation now is. Whatever guilt you feel about the things you have not been


able to accomplish, Alice, please, please do not imperil the very extraordinary things you have achieved for the children in your care. They depend on you to make hard decisions in this matter in order to keep them safe--and it seems quite clear that those decisions may be very hard ones, indeed.

That said, we should perhaps all put our heads together to think of ways to brew salve from salt. It may be an idealistic fancy, but I wonder if you mightn't select some of your number to serve as a sort of committee to review what you've accomplished there and what else you could aim to achieve in one five, ten, fifteen years' time. If this young man could be given a real opportunity to consider your resources, your mission, and your goals, he might come to a clearer sense of his own purpose (in the Sanctuary or beyond it) and might come to accept the purposes to which the Sanctuary has been dedicated (even if he feels his own mission is to take up a different part of the struggle outside your bounds).

His anger that you at the Sanctuary have not addressed all facets of the damage inflicted by the Protectorate is understandable, but I hope it's possible to bring him to see that there are definite limits to how many you can feed, how many you can house, how many you can liberate and transport. Even if you changed your criteria to save other children or adults, the facts remain desperately hard ones: your small resources (human, geographic, economic, magical) cannot overturn the Protectorate or save more than a relatively tiny number of people. But, Alice, that does not mean your work ought not be done. It is the work you can do. Others have other work in other places. His work may properly lie elsewhere, too, but for the moment his choice is between contributing to your effort or being cast out with no recollection of what he has seen there or learned of us.

And that brings me back to my worries. Alice, does this young man know how to Apparate?



 **alt_alice** at **2009-04-27 18:38:15**
(no subject)

Oh, Poppy, these things have weighed fairly heavily on our shoulders as well. Frank and I stayed up nearly half the night talking about "what if's." We're prepared to do what is necessary, if it should come to that. And he'd have to completely leave the grounds to Apparate, so he can't just disappear from his room.

I do believe that just the process of getting all his emotions off his chest has helped him a good deal already -- when I went in to see how he was doing this morning, he was quite contrite about his behaviour thus far. He apologised for the trouble he caused during the mission and his harsh words towards me yesterday, which gave me a good deal of hope that we wouldn't have to resort to extremes.

The truth of the matter is that Alec must stay here. It isn't safe for him anywhere else. He's too young, and has a bad leg, and even if our John has the dream of going off and saving the world, Alec can't go with him. I believe that John knows this, and would never endanger his brother, so that's a start.

I do like your ideas. I'll talk to Arabella about letting him put his mind to work -- she's the one that handles our day-to-day operations, budget, and keeps track of resources, and he could be given the responsibility of helping her with those things (or even taking over some of them altogether). That would also give him a more realistic picture of what we do here, and what we have to work with.

I also very much like the notion of sitting down and defining what our future plans are, both for our little Moddey Dhoo, and for the Order as a whole. At our weekly meeting, I'll see if anyone here would be open to drafting some sort of proposal that we can talk about and share with everyone else in the Order, and make sure that John is especially encouraged to participate.




 **alt_sirius** at [2009-04-27 20:19:59](#)
(no subject)

Well, I can try, Alice, though I have to say I agree with Dorcas and Kingsley. I'm afraid it'll take a while to get together a draft that says anything more productive than 'Bugger off' but I'll have a go.

Speaking as someone who, er, well who still can be guilty of 'angry young man' syndrome, though, I can understand how Turner might think that he's being ill-used. That's no excuse for scarpering the mission, or for shooting his wand at you. It's just an observation. He might not realise that what he's doing for you lot is helping, just in a smaller and less direct manner than he hoped.

Have to think more about his impulse to make it all happen NOW, as well. I've been dying for a little mellowing; perhaps I'll come back to this when I've done that.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-28 02:46:57](#)
(no subject)

That would be appreciated, Sirius. Truly.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-28 00:15:47](#)
(no subject)

Alice, I shall say this once, and I shall never say it again, for it isn't worth dwelling on:

We must save magical children because they are *worth it to our fight*. Muggle children are children as well, certainly, and ought not to be mistreated; but can they learn to use wands? Can they someday properly fight for our cause? No, of course they cannot. We only need look around us to see that. Perhaps someday they may be incited to riot - but they will have to be safeguarded by the *magical* children we have saved.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-28 00:52:30](#)
(no subject)

All very true, and that has been in the back of my mind, too, Minerva. And yet . . . let's say, through our efforts to raise children to do magic (without having their minds twisted), hard work and colossal luck we can someday throw off this horrible yoke and free ourselves from the Lord Protector, Malfoy, Bellatrix and all the rest of their ilk. What then?

Why, we'll be a pitiful few in charge of a country where we are vastly outnumbered by non-magical folk, even more than the present Ministry is now. And it is their country, too, no matter how the present government denies it. And the old secrecy statutes can never be put back into place, that much is clear. If we win our freedom, it will have to be not only for them, but with them. If we have any prayer of prevailing, we must find leaders to cultivate amongst the muggles and work in concert with them, as equal

partners in forging our new future together.

Otherwise, we'll never emerge from this nightmare, muggle or magical folk alike.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-04-28 01:11:25](#)
(no subject)

I recognize the facts of the situation quite well - but we must be absolutely *icy* about what we can and cannot do. My sainted mother would say that there's no use over-reaching oneself, and we certainly haven't the reach to save more than a few children a year, so we must choose the ones with the most power. That's simple strategy. When the battle is won, then we may concern ourselves with equality.

2009-04-27 23:48:00

Duties and Distractions

Things have been very quiet here in the hospital wing since the term began, though just today I've seen an uptick in queasy stomachs and hand cramps and headaches. This can mean only one thing: OWLs and NEWTs are looming on the horizon. It's not only the fifth- and seventh-years who suffer, of course. Their stress spills over onto the younger ones.



 [alt_poppy](#)


I had a lovely holiday, at least. It took most of it to put this place fully to rights, but it's such a pleasure to have everything tidy and in its proper place again.

I even had the leisure to spend a nice bit of time looking at the stars through the telescope Professor Sinistra has so kindly lent me. What a revelation to see clearly what's out beyond our horizons! Of course, I began with the usual constellations and with Saturn, which has been easily visible this month at various times of the night from my little, southern-facing balcony. Aurora tells me that I should look again at it this week for a particularly good view of its moons -- or their shadows, at any rate. And we agreed I would come up to take a look through her larger telescopes one early evening because this week Mercury will be making a rare appearance in the eastern sky.

It's really been fascinating to relearn so many things I've wholly forgotten (if I ever was taught them as a youngster). I think Aurora was amused at how carried away I got last week with the Lyrid meteor showers. I confess I stayed out for hours watching them shoot towards the southern horizon. I'm afraid it's becoming a bit of an obsession, this star-gazing: I must be spending an hour every night after dark falls—which is later and later here as we race towards summer—and nearly an hour each morning before the sky grows too bright and things in the ward grow too busy.

Ah, and just on cue, I hear the buzzer calling me to the antechamber. Headache or stomach troubles this time? We shall see!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-27 23:35:46](#)
Order Only

Boils, it was this time. All over the face! And an utter refusal to tell me how this misfortune had befallen her, which is most suspicious if you ask me.

But that's not what I wished to say.

Reading Alice's description today of the education they are able to offer the children at Moddey Dhoo has made me feel my limitations quite acutely. Things are far different here for my charges. Miss Granger, Mr Boot and I are memorising charms and practicing their enunciation, and we're learning to recognise plants and to remember their properties. Next week, I'll need to be brewing again, so we will have a chance to put a bit of that theory in motion. And I've been trying to engage them with stories of my star-gazing, but, alas! it is light so early and so late that they've had no opportunity to view them with me.

(Mr Boot, however, took me aside this morning to suggest that I ask Professor Carrow if he--Boot--could help me with this month's inventory. His idea is that if we could finish the inventory quickly enough, there might be time enough for me to show him the morning stars. You may take this as a measure of my young pupil's changed attitude towards education! He has proved to be a veritable sponge, soaking up every bit of information as quickly as I can put it before him! I shall have a think about his proposal. I suppose I could claim that with all the new stores, it would be best to take stock overnight so as not to interfere with daytime operations here on the ward.)

These young folk are so eager for everything I can teach that it makes me very sorry there's so much I cannot. If I could send them both to you Alice, I would. In a heart beat. But their situations are impossible, I'm afraid. I had so hoped that Miss Granger would stay with us for the summer, but it's off to Buckingham for her... and I dread to think where Carrow will take the boy for the summer.



 **alt_molly** at [2009-04-28 02:30:02](#)

Re: Order Only

Doing the inventory at night--that's quite a good thought. Hope you'll be able to implement it.

It has been ages since I've been done any stargazing myself. I think we might even have a very small telescope in the house somewhere, although it's probably piled under mounds of debris in the attic. But I do have such fond memories of Astronomy class, primarily because Arthur was assigned as my partner there, fourth year. It was while sharing a telescope that we first really started to fancy one another. I remember . . . well, it's almost silly to think of it now. We were trying to get a good look at the Pleiades, and he actually got a little cross with me because I couldn't get the focus adjusted quite right--not realising that the reason that I couldn't was because my hands started shaking whenever he came to stand so close to me!

He used to draw the most absurd cartoons in the margins of his star charts, just to make me laugh.



 **alt_poppy** at [2009-04-28 02:53:21](#)

Re: Order Only

I don't think I've ever heard you speak of how you met Arthur, Molly. It does all come back, though, doesn't it sometimes?

I met my Rafe in school, as well.

He was a year ahead of me and was a Gryffindor, but we met in dueling club, and later we were both Prefects--and, as it happened, there were a number of quite challenging disturbances in the school during our time here that required a firm hand from the Prefects. There are somethings that just bind people together, if you know what I mean.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-28 15:05:17](#)

Re: Order Only

Yes, it is odd how the littlest thing can land you right back in the strongest memory, even years later.

(I do wish I could have met your Rafe. I've heard one or two stories over the years from Minerva. He sounds like he was quite a character.)



 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-04-28 02:55:43](#)

Re: Order Only

Oh, Poppy, and I would take them in a heartbeat.

I can't be there for them like you can be. I'm glad they have you watching out for them, and every little thing you are able to impart to them is something they didn't have before.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2009-04-29 03:31:30](#)

Re: Order Only

Oh but I've had the best, the cleverest idea of how I can keep learning as we go! - Harry has ever so many books, and I'm certain I'll be the one to pack and unpack them, and the Buckingham elves are far too sweet to tell on me. So if we were to transfigure some of my books into Harry's, just some stupid school stories or something that he'd never know wasn't his, because people give him so many stupid things, I could hide them that way, and then when we got to Buckingham I could smuggle them off to read one by one, I'm sure I could!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-04-29 11:40:18](#)

Re: Order Only

That's an excellent idea, save for the transfiguration, I'm afraid. I shouldn't like to gamble against the likelihood that Lord Protector has erected wards to protect him against anyone's bringing transfigured items into his residence. It would be an

enormous hole in his security if he doesn't guard against that.

I would suggest that we busy ourselves this month, finding you the materials and putting new covers on your books the proper way. I believe Madam Pince must have taught you how this is done. It would allow you to divide some of the textbooks into smaller volumes that would resemble unremarkable little books of the type you suggest.

I shall also see about gathering a set of second year textbooks.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2009-04-28 11:11:44](#)**

(no subject)

As I keep saying, it's always a pleasure to share the stars. (And besides, I can scarcely stop other people from loving them.) You are, as I said last week, welcome to come up at any time I'm not working with students. (And that is only because we've limited space.)

I confess, I will sit out and watch meteor showers for hours myself. The Lyrids, the Leonids, the Perseids, they never grow old.

[2009-04-28 20:40:00](#)

Prophet

Mum sent a clipping from the Prophet - there's whole loads of things planned for Friday. I wish we could go!



 **[alt_padma](#)**

Everyone here is talking about exams. Ours aren't for weeks, but the older kids are supposed to sit theirs sooner - I guess pretty soon. Goshal, Peakes, Bobolis and Chang have been making all the younger kids run back and forth to the library for them so they don't have to stop revising with the others in their years. Orion Sandoval even told us all that he'd pay three sickles to anyone who'll let him hex them for practice. But then Professor Vector found out and told him she'd take five points for everyone he hexed, so at least we don't have to worry about that.

Some of the fifth years even paid the third years to bring things back from Hogsmeade so they wouldn't have to break off revising. I don't think I'd want to skip a Hogsmeade day even if it meant I'd get O's on every OWL, but I guess if you're worried about passing it would be worth it.

I'll just be happy if I can turn in the Transfiguration homework tomorrow, so many of the older kids have been interrupting!



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-29 15:24:45](#)**
(no subject)

Your fifth years are swots! Exams aren't for weeks. No one in Gryffindor is that fussed yet. Well other than Percy anyway.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2009-04-29 16:44:06](#)**
(no subject)

I suspect you'll be singing a different tune when your own fifth year rolls around.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-29 17:29:32](#)
(no subject)

You dont see Oliver Wood studying morning til night!
And hes a fifth year too.

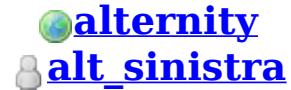
2009-04-29 06:21:00

An important announcement: the Young Protectors' League



Dear students -

I am delighted to announce an exciting new opportunity. The Ministry and other members of our Lord Protector's government have decided that - as important as Hogwarts is - that some areas of learning are getting less attention than we might like.



To that end, Auror Lestrage and others have put together a programme called the Young Protectors' League. This new, optional programme is being developed to help students explore different possible paths in our Lord Protector's service, to try out different skills than those found in the classroom, and to interact with each other outside of the boundary of term time. The committee in charge have chosen me to lead it, and to oversee the day to day interactions here at Hogwarts, as well as some summer opportunities. (They will continue to provide some overall direction and suggestions for activities.)

Obviously, this is a new programme, and we will all be learning together how to make it work. For right now, there are several things you should know.

1) We expect to offer a camping trip for all interested first-years during the summer.

This trip will focus on learning about the returning magical ecology since our Lord Protector took office, and will give participants a chance to practise skills, learn some rarely taught charms, and socialise with others in the programme.

There is no cost, and arrangements will be made for transportation as needed. Those of you who stay with guardians over the summer are particularly encouraged to participate, and a letter to that effect has already been sent to them. Please consult with your parents or guardians for permission and sign up on my door as soon as possible to ensure your place.

2) In order to make our plans work, we will need some help from our older students.

If you are currently in fourth through seventh years, and you are interested in being considered, please make an appointment to see me. You can expect to discuss your background, your previous experiences guiding younger students, and your experience with camping - or any charms or other skills that might apply. Prefects are especially encouraged to apply.

Those chosen will receive a small stipend, and will of course have an excellent chance to develop connections and skills that should stand them in good stead in the careers of their choice.


3) Beginning next school year, there will be regular meetings of the YPL at Hogwarts.

These meetings will be open to all years (again, I hope for a core of senior students to help make arrangements and keep order). We hope for guest speakers from the Ministry, including Aurors, and representatives from St Mungo's, as well as some other enjoyable experiences.

We expect that regular participants will earn some additional freedoms through a display of attention and merit (such as an extra Hogsmeade weekend, a late curfew on some nights, or special treats).

If you have any questions about any of this information, please make an appointment to come see me on my office door. I look forward to talking to all of those interested, and planning a fantastic adventure this summer.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2009-04-29 12:38:38](#)**
(no subject)

Professor, do we have to go on the camping trip to be in the programme? Can we join up next term or, or enrol now but then not go camping?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2009-04-29 23:01:49](#)**
(no subject)

You can participate next year even if you do not join us in camping. However, as it mentions, those who participate most frequently in the programme will have more special opportunities than those who

participate more rarely.

I should mention: while we will be doing our own cooking and chores, our tents will be proper wizarding tents - including bathrooms and some kitchen facilities. You needn't worry about being too uncomfortable.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-30 00:23:19](#)

(no subject)

Oh. Well, thats alright then.

I forgot to ask in class how often the meetings will be next year. I mean, I'm signing up, obviously, but I know my parents will want to know that being in the club wont make my marks slip.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2009-04-30 00:37:04](#)

(no subject)

We are still figuring out the best range - obviously, we don't want to interfere with your classwork either!

We're currently thinking about every 3-4 weeks for an afternoon or evening on the weekend, so you'd have plenty of time to work as well. And plenty of notice, especially for anything that lasted more than an hour or two. (Some events might be a presentation and treat, others might be an activity that took all afternoon, you see.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-29 15:00:36](#)

(no subject)

Professor Sinistra, do you know yet when the camping trip will be held?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2009-04-29 23:02:23](#)
(no subject)

We are currently finalising the dates, but we believe it will be the last week in July or the first week in August.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-29 20:10:12](#)
(no subject)

This sounds like an excellent opportunity. I have already set my name down for an appointment time to discuss my participation with you, and I look forward to learning more about the programme.


(Reply to this)



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2009-04-29 23:03:03](#)
(no subject)


Thank you, Mr. Weasley. I am delighted to see our prefects showing such initiative with this project!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-29 20:12:27](#)
Order Only


Arthur, have you heard of this programme?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-04-29 20:13:07](#)
Re: Order Only

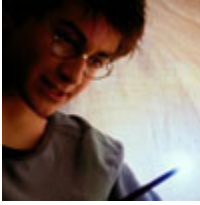
It's the first I've heard of it, Molly.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2009-04-29 20:13:53](#)
Re: Order Only

Well, it sounds like a good thing, but the fact that Bellatrix Lestrange is behind it instantly raises my hackles. Minerva? Can you tell us more about it?

What do you know about what exactly they're trying to accomplish?



 **alt_harry** at [2009-04-30 01:37:56](#)
(no subject)

I suppose I'll be going. I quite like camping. Also Father will tell me to Im sure.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2009-04-30 02:00:18](#)
(no subject)

Excellent, Mister Marvolo. We'll look forward to having you join us.

I'm looking forward to the camping too.

2009-04-29 09:06:00

(no subject)

Pansy did you see what Professor Sinistra wrote about the new opportunity? There's going to be a camping trip this summer! Partly to study animals even, it sounds like! And to learn charms they don't usually teach! This is going to be so wizard!!!!!!!



 **alt_sally_anne**

I think Professor Sprout was a little cross with me (and Teddy too) because we were late to Herbology class but I really thought I could get to Professor Sinistra's office to put my name down and still get to Herbology in time or I wouldn't have went. It was Percy Weasley's fault anyway because when he saw us running in the corridor he made us go back to the staircase and WALK down the corridor. What a prat! But I'm sure he won't be able to spoil the camping trip, he's a Gryffindor prefect and the Gryffindors still seem to get in plenty of trouble even with him around, just look at Fred and George. (Percy was there to make an appointment to talk to Professor Sinistra about how he wants to be one of the older students who comes along.)

Anyway Pansy I'm pretty sure there are plenty of spaces but sign up soon alright?



 **alt_pansy** at **2009-04-29 14:22:41**

(no subject)

I saw, but I don't think we need to sign up right away, do we? I thought that was for the older kids like Weasley.

Do you think we can take our pets? I don't want to leave Pywacket all alone, even though he seems to do fine without anyone around.

Anyway I'm sure mum won't care if I go or not, so might as well go.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2009-04-29 14:34:49**

(no subject)

Well Professor Sinistra said to consult with our guardians first or our parents and then sign up but there's no way the Strettons will stop me from going

to a programme put together by Auror Lestrangle. So I just went ahead and put my name down.

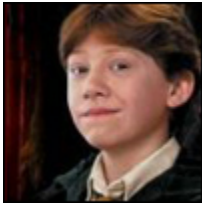
The big kids don't sign up exactly, they're supposed to make appointments with Professor Sinistra to tell her why they want to go. I think? I was so excited I may have skipped that bit, I mean I'm a first year so that bit was the part that mattered to me.


I would think you could bring Pyewacket. I imagine that they wouldn't want Longbottom to bring his toad since he might get lost and never found again, but surely the kids with owls will get to bring them.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2009-04-29 14:35:43](#)**
(no subject)

Oh and Teddy said the same thing, he knew his father wouldn't mind seeing as it was being organised by Mrs Lestrangle.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-29 16:15:21](#)**
(no subject)

You want to come, don't you?

It'll be great, Pansy!! We'll have a totally sorcerous time. Like school but with no lessons. I mean this place would be totally wizard if we didn't have to do so much homework and sit through boring lessons and take exams and stuff.


You've got to come!!



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-29 17:31:08](#)**
(no subject)

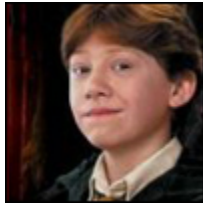
Yeah school with no lessons or homework would be wizard. Well it would be better with better brooms. I hope they do let us bring broomsticks.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2009-04-30 16:25:29](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I signed up today. I'm not sure mum would even notice if I go.

And I don't mind learning. Some things are really interesting. But they're probably more fun to learn if you're camping too.

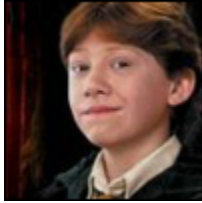



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-30 16:43:53](#)
(no subject)

Exactly! Everything's better when you're camping!!

That's wizard you're going.

I wish they'd tell us when its going to be. And is it just for a week?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-29 14:44:21](#)
(no subject)

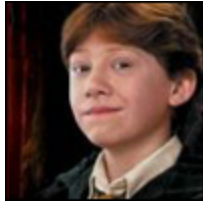
Aw, I don't know why Percy has to stick his thumb in everything I want to do. Camping! And cool spells! and extra rewards and stuff! How wizard does that sound?


But, um. Dyou think its expensive to go? Is that why we have to get permission first?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-29 14:51:01](#)
(no subject)

Professor Sinistra said right in the note that there's no cost AND they'll arrange transportation.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-29 14:56:26](#)
(no subject)

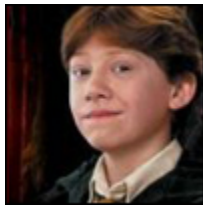
Really? Wicked!!


It was a really long message. I guess I missed that part.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-29 14:53:19](#)
(no subject)

I'm pretty sure we have to get permission just because you have to get permission to do anything. The trip is during summer hols. If your family was thinking of traveling or your granny was having her hundredth birthday that week or something they might not let you go.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-29 14:58:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

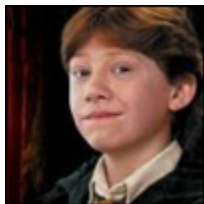
Yeah, I guess that makes sense.


So when is the trip part?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-29 15:00:07](#)
(no subject)

You know that's a good question. I don't know.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-29 15:04:19](#)
(no subject)

I've got Astronomy this afternoon. I guess I can ask Sinistra then. And sign up!! I don't think Mum's going to mind.

Not if Percy's allowed to go along as a Prefect or whatever, anyway. She can't say I can't go then.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2009-04-29 15:07:23](#)
(no subject)

No I expect your mum will reckon Percy can keep an eye on you!



 [alt_percy](#) at [2009-04-29 15:39:38](#)
(no subject)


That's probably correct.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-29 17:31:56](#)
(no subject)

Well Fred and George wont be there. Thatll make his job easier!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-29 15:13:02](#)
(no subject)

This does sound wizard. Im going to owl Mr Rosier at lunchtime for permission but I expect hell let me go. It sounds like the sort of thing hed approve of. And itll be wizard to see my Gryffindor mates over the summer. If your parents let you come anyway. Dyou think any of the girls are going to come? Lav doesnt seem the camping type at ALL. Parvati either.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-29 15:32:02](#)
(no subject)

Thats why I asked. About the camping, I mean. I'm not sure about that part.

Oh, but do you think there will be servants or house-elves or anything? Because that might make it okay.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2009-04-30 04:08:26](#)
(no subject)

Camping might be all right, especially if we can bring our own tents. Father has a really nice one, with a fountain inside and everything.



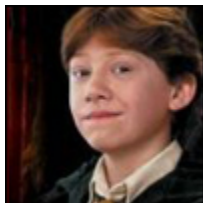
 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-29 15:38:59](#)
(no subject)


It does sound like fun, and yeah, it'd be great to see you over the summer. I've never been camping, ever! (It's not exactly the sort of thing my Gran's likely to do.) I hope she says I can go.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2009-04-29 15:47:28](#)
(no subject)

I just tried to imagine your gran going camping Neville and it made me laugh so hard Binns almost noticed. Itll be wizard if you can go.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2009-04-29 16:12:09](#)
(no subject)

Your gran'll have to let you go, mate. If my Mum says it's okay, I bet she'll think it's fine. Tell her, er, that fresh air is really good for your health!! Yeah, that's it. And that it'll help you do well in school next year cause of the spells there going to teach us.

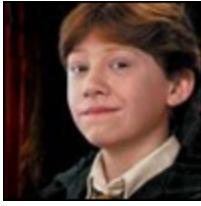
You want to go, right?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2009-04-29 16:42:16](#)
(no subject)

Sure I'd like to go.

And yeah, I just can't imagine Gran camping either. Too many bugs for her, I reckon.



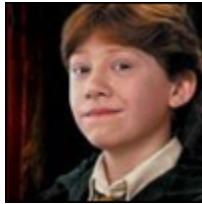
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-29 16:09:51](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah, it'll be brilliant! Tents and campfires and trekking and dyou think we can take brooms? Thatd be totally wizard, zooming up mountains and stuff!!



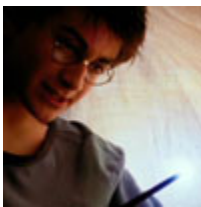
 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2009-04-29 17:32:49](#)**
(no subject)

I hope they let us bring brooms. That would make it even better!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2009-04-29 19:14:49](#)**
(no subject)

It would, wouldn't it?! And for those of us going to be Aurors one day, we need to practice flying fast over distances, don't you think? If I were figuring out how to run a programme like this, I'd put flying at the top of the list of things to do! I mean, sure we can go out for Quidditch here, but for those of us who tested out of flying lessons the first week, we hardly ever get to fly in our first year, do we? And I think it said this League thinger is suppose to give us chances to learn and practice stuff there's not time for in the school year. And that means flying for sure, don't you think?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-30 01:40:59](#)**
(no subject)

Well Im glad you're going. I dont know if Draco will go at all. So at least Id have one mate along. Besides Sally Anne I mean. Sorry Sally Anne, you're a girl so you don't quite count.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2009-04-30 04:09:16](#)**
(no subject)

Of course I'm going. It sounds brilliant.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-04-30 11:28:47](#)**
(no subject)

Oh good, I was afraid you did'n't like camping.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2009-04-29 20:09:34](#)**
(no subject)

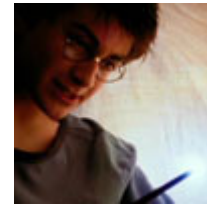
Whether I'm a prat or not, please note that my intention wasn't to make you purposely late for Herbology class, but merely to prevent a possible accident in the corridor. School rules are for everyone's safety.

I do agree with you that the programme sounds excellent.

2009-04-29 21:35:00

SLYTHERIN VERSIS HUFFLEPUFF!!!

Were going to cream them Saturday! Only I have to go up against Tiffany Troy, shes not the Seeker of course but she's the worst for blatching and blagging, or that's what Flint says anyway. Youd think a Hufflepuff wouldn't blatch. Only she always says she just isnt a very good flyer. But then she always blatches at the right time.



 [alt_harry](#)

Anyhow in practise Crockford pretended that he was Troy. And tried to blag me. I got away from him quick. I dont think I'll have problems with Troy. But Diggory is wizard. He's nearly as small as me still even though he's older. So hes going to be quick as me.

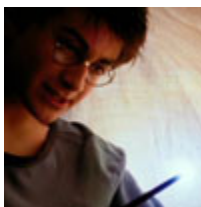
I signed up for the camping trip and the Young Protectors League. A bit strange I think swearing loyalty to Father. But I know I'll end up going so I might as well sign up. I hope we get the kind of tents with Agas not the kind with little gas cookers so we can have proper food. Professor Sinistra said wed be doing our own cooking. I've never cooked before. I suppose it must be like potions mustnt it?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2009-04-30 02:46:38**

(no subject)

Is it blatching or blagging where grab your broom while you're flying? I can never remember.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2009-04-30 11:26:31**

(no subject)

Thats blagging.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2009-04-30 04:15:40**

(no subject)

I made the tea once. Does that count for cooking?

I can't wait for Saturday's match. Don't worry, you'll be fantastic.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-30 11:27:35](#)
(no subject)

Sure it counts. Thanks Draco.

Dyou think we'll be allowed to bring brooms on the trip?

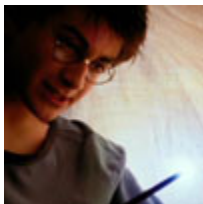


 [alt_padma](#) at [2009-04-30 11:12:09](#)
(no subject)

We help with the cooking at home all the time so thats not a very big deal, only I didn't want to sleep on the ground with bugs and things. But Professor Sinistra said they'r proper tents so that should be alright.

I dunno how you can even see the Snitch to follow it, or let go long enuf to catch it either. When I'm flying I'm to worried about hanging on!


Finnigan said they might let people bring brooms, you don't think theyll make us play, do you?



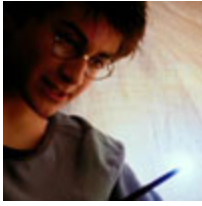
 [alt_harry](#) at [2009-04-30 11:27:49](#)
(no subject)

I hope they do!!!!



 [alt_susan](#) at [2009-05-05 11:20:20](#)
(no subject)

Good match, Marvolo, congratulations.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2009-05-05 12:59:50](#)**
(no subject)

thanks bones!!!

2009-04-30 11:56:00

(no subject)

Endin the month well flush.

Nice work, mate!



 **alt_wagstaff**

2009-04-30 15:28:00

Order Only: Anniversary preparations



 [alt_arthur](#)

Very briefly:

Mundungus Fletcher reports that things are hotting up a bit for the more unsavoury merchants on Knockturn Alley. Surprise inspections, a few threats and scuffles even, etcetera. (Dung regaled me at great length with one tale about a notoriously tough biddy whose licence was determined to be deficient; in the resulting melee her cart of dodgey potion ingredients was overturned. She was dragged off ranting and raging at the MLE agents about 'sticking your buggering wands where the sun don't shine.') I rather think this is a little more than nervousness over the Anniversary celebrations beginning tomorrow; I think they are trying to trace and clamp down upon any new possible avenues for smuggling. Well, more than the usual black market activity, at any rate. This may be further fall out from your recent escapade, Sirius.

There is no doubt, however, that security is being heightened in general. It is clear that the Ministry wants no trouble tomorrow. There will be little movement in and out of the camps, as all work permits for the next three days are suspended. Extra rations of food have been announced (along with a small tot of grog), apparently in the hopes that the animals will forego making any trouble as long as their bellies are (mostly) filled for once. Everyone in the department has been informed to expect overtime hours tomorrow--all weekend, in fact.

Kingsley and Frank, have either of you heard from Alastor? I haven't, not in awhile. He was in Ireland I believe last month, and Bill said one of the forgers met with him about the second week of April. But I haven't received a report from him recently; I was wondering if either of you had.

Alice, it's about time for me to do the birthday visit with Divyesh Shah's family. I'll need the letters and reports when you have an opportunity to forward them to me. Thanks.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2009-04-30 21:03:47](#)**
(no subject)


haven't heard hide nor hair of him in ages. I think babies make him nervous -- he hasn't poked his head round Moddey in a while.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2009-04-30 21:10:07](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, my. Just the idea of a baby in Mad-Eye's lap . . . what a mental picture that is! Trying to pull his magical eye out, no doubt.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2009-04-30 21:05:46](#)**
(no subject)

Arthur -- I'm owling Divyesh's report this evening, and including Louis Barton's and Felicia Saint's as well, as they are coming up next month.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2009-05-01 02:15:21](#)**
(no subject)

I've not heard from him, Arthur, since he sent me a patronus about two weeks ago. He was still trying to get his wand trained on those three mysterious visitors you saw at Midwinter at the dragon reserve, I think. If they were Unspeakables, I have to think he won't have much luck, but you know Mad-Eye. He's stubborn.

2009-04-30 18:25:00

Order Only: Checking in

It's been one hell of a week, and it's not even over yet.



I decided to take precautions and warn Collins that Bella's goons might come looking for him. I put a short, cryptic note into a bottle and trotted up as Padfoot and left it for him, along with a partial payment in the hope it would keep him turning on us.

 [alt_sirius](#)

Leaving the wharf, I spotted one of the crew - we'd talked about the Stones on the sail - so I followed him. He turned a corner and met a wizard. I kept right on my doggie way, of course, but I heard enough of their conversation to realise the danger. Too bad; he'd seemed a decent sort. I figured I'd best leave Bordeaux as quickly as possible.


So I've been making my way back to the homestead. Time to make sure Nigel Cullenden is alive and well and visible. Not to mention that paying for the smuggling operation, even without the full final payment, has left me a touch skint until I can drum up some jobs for him. Luckily Gregoire is used to me being gone on long stretches, but that didn't stop the post from piling up on the mat. Before anyone asks, no sign of Sirius Black being connected to Nigel in any way, and all my usual protections were still intact when I got there.

Alice, I'm still mulling that letter. I think I'll be able to put some thoughts to parchment tonight, once I catch up on Nigel's life while I've been gone.

Reading through *L'Étoile*, though, I came across a curious story about a late-manifesting wizard. British family. The press here are passing it off as an accident in proximity to Muggles, and sent out their reversal squad, but the story doesn't add up completely. Could be one of the missing Muggleborn wizards who managed to escape before the wards went up - one of the families Arthur hasn't been able to locate. If they've been living in hiding, or perhaps they never knew they had a wizard in the family, they could be at risk.

Anyway, off to check it out. May go as Padfoot for a bit; petrol's bloody expensive just now.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-05-01 03:24:09](#)
(no subject)

It's a relief to hear from you, Sirius. I'm very glad you took such wise precautions at the last in Bordeaux.

Your news of that British family is intriguing. I'll be most interested to hear what you discover about them.

Be well and go safely.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-05-01 03:33:50](#)
(no subject)

Well, much was due to your good advice, Poppy. Thank Yvianne that on any given occasion we've got at least a few of our number tending the home Floo and thinking - with calmer heads than most - of all the possible ways things can go wrong.

Of course, it was also partly thanks to the singular lucidity that comes after the use of some ... recreational medicine.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-05-01 13:56:00](#)
(no subject)

Recreational medicine.

Yes, well. That's another reason you oughtn't operate one of those petrol-burning sardine tins that Muggles use for transportation. It would be worse than ironic if--after keeping yourself safe from all the ghouls the Ministry's sent after you--you were to go smash yourself up in one of those things.

You know, until I read your entry here, I'd never considered that you use Muggle means of transport. I know, I know, you have that monstrous motor-bi-cycle or whatever it's called, but I suppose I'd always assumed it was magically powered.

One learns something new every day in this world!



 **alt_sirius** at [2009-05-01 15:48:24](#)
(no subject)


Hey, first of all, I don't have a car, I have a motorbike. I don't much like the enclosed feeling, either. Though I have ridden in a convertible and that's very enjoyable. (Well, the blonde driving may have had something to do with that!)

And second, I know better than to operate heavy equipment when I've been indulging. It's no more dangerous than Apparating under the influence, and you know I avoid that. Of course, I tend to avoid Apparating at all, when I can, so perhaps that doesn't really count.

And third, the spells on the bike make it *fly*, like a broom or a carpet. But it still needs petrol to run properly. I haven't quite figured out how to bypass the stuff altogether. Neither can Lestina, and he's worked on magical modifications the most of anyone. Best he can do so far is a mixture of corn oil, vervain and windlass leaf, but even that tends to gum up after a while. Perhaps when we've won I'll have more leisure to work on the problem, but right now I think there are more pressing matters than inventing a magical renewable resource.

(It would be cool, though. Lestina's brilliant; just published a new article on the experimental use of Bolivian Blue Beetles to create gimbel stabilisation in flight simulators in ... well, okay, in March's edition of *MechaMagic Today*.)



 **alt_poppy** at [2009-05-01 19:50:42](#)
(no subject)

I haven't the faintest notion what any of that means, you know. But I am quite relieved to know that you are not rushing about Europe in cars. That's what they call them? I'd thought it was auto-somethingorother.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-05-01 21:39:07](#)
(no subject)

All right, you're having me on, then, aren't you? Doesn't the Ministry still have a few cars? And you must have seen them even if Muggle Studies hadn't quite caught up with them in your day.

They'd have been at King's Cross at least now and then.

Unless you're trying to tell me you're Albus's age and that I don't believe a moment!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2009-05-01 22:20:09](#)
(no subject)

If you think I'm being squired about in Ministry vehicles, you have quite a romantic notion of my position, Sirius.


Yes, of course, I am aware that the Lord Protector has been pictured several times in one of those extraordinarily large, shiny black things the Muggle Queen used to travel about in. (Though I rather thought it was called by a man's name, Rupert or Rolph or Royce or something. Royce, wasn't it? Dear, but it was a long time ago that I paid any mind to the Muggle royals--though I confess there was rather a fad for it at one point. The *Prophet* ran a column about all they got up to and maintained the polite fiction that the royal family were a magical branch that had all gone to squibs through inbreeding. Obviously that notion has dropped from discussion!)

My lasting memory of the nasty things is being regularly at risk of being run down by them in the lanes near my home in Sherbourne: there was scarcely enough room for a single one of them between the walls and hedgerows, and yet they would hurtle along in both directions, threatening to smash anything in their path.

Cars, is it, then? If you say so.

And no, I am not as old as Albus, though I've got two years on Minerva.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2009-05-01 14:09:47](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Sirius. And I'm glad to hear you're safe.

Things are still a little hairy around here, too. We haven't ventured outside of the castle grounds, but we've seen several patrols combing the surrounding areas through our telescope, trying to find a sign of the boat I'd warrant. We've been careful, so it's not likely they'll find anything, but we shall see.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2009-05-01 15:02:58](#)
(no subject)

Regarding the news from *L'Étoile*: you intrigue me. I think there are about twenty, twenty-five names or so in the Book I haven't managed to locate. Some may be dead, some among the sleepers, but if there is one alive in France, I'd like to know about it. If you check into it, let us know what you find out--but be careful.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2009-05-01 15:28:54](#)
(no subject)

I wonder if he would be allowed into Beauxbatons? I have very little news from the Continent besides yours, and I must confess I have not heard of such an instance before. I have imagined the missing children to be dead, generally speaking. It would take considerable ingenuity for the child's parents to have achieved France, as well as considerable money; they could not have seen it coming above a week in advance. I suppose they might have been on holiday. A tangle, and one I look forward to watching you unravel!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2009-05-01 15:55:02](#)
(no subject)

The article didn't say how old the boy is, so it's not clear that he's enrolled in a school for magic or not. I got the impression that the family are rather well off, however.

I'll know more when I get there. I know that just outside Dijon

there's an enclave of sorts of British ex-patriots who fled before things got really untenable for Muggles and all. The paper seemed to indicate that's around where the incident occurred.