

**2010-04-01 00:24:00**

*Has Anyone Seen Sandoval?*

We were going to meet after her Transfiguration group to talk about the fancy dress party.




Only she hasn't come back to the Common Room.

 **alt\_padma**

Sandoval, you can't still be with Professor Carrow, can you?




 **alt\_poppy** at **2010-04-01 06:42:00**  
(no subject)

I'm afraid, my dear, that Miss Sandoval is here with me for the night.


Not to worry, however. She should be right as rain tomorrow. I've no doubt I'll be able to release her by lunch at the latest.



 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-01 13:43:54**  
(no subject)

What happened to her, Miss? Is she okay? Can she have visitors?



 **alt\_poppy** at **2010-04-01 15:09:15**  
(no subject)

Miss Sandoval is recovering, yes.

It would be best, however, if you waited to see her until she's been released. Things are a bit busy here today, I'm afraid.

**2010-04-01 09:04:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*



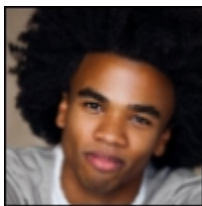
In honour of our birthday and the first anniversary of this lock, we'd like to take this opportunity to say that we hope you enjoyed your breakfast in the Great Hall this morning. As you can see, we planned something quite special.


 [alt\\_gredforge](#)

And, in other news:

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

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 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2010-04-01 14:44:57](#)  
(no subject)

Outstanding job, mates. How'd you do it if you were in the Gryffindor common room all night?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-01 14:46:09](#)  
(no subject)


Timing delay charm, done at dinner last night. The skywriting activated when sunlight hit the roof of the Great Hall this morning.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-01 14:46:46](#)  
(no subject)

Which one's your favourite?




 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2010-04-01 14:49:35](#)  
(no subject)

I liked this one:

Slytherin  
is full of snakes


Stuff them down  
old Myrtle's jakes



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-01 15:04:07](#)  
(no subject)

The one about the Carrows was funny, too. But I'm glad they weren't there in the Hall when it showed up. They'll probably still hear about it.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-01 15:11:09](#)  
(no subject)

Dead brilliant.

This, too.

**2010-04-01 09:06:00**

*Who enchanted the ceiling in the Great Hall?*




It probably wasn't a Slytherin.

Well, unless they're trying to throw everybody off by insulting themselves.

 [alt\\_hannah](#)




 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-01 14:14:37**  
(no subject)

Who's *ever* responsible for any mischief round here, Abbott?

Have a think...er, **WEASLEYS**.


They probably ambushed Sandoval last night when she caught them setting this whole thing up.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at **2010-04-01 14:39:20**  
(no subject)

Your accusation is libelous, and I think we deserve an apology. Every single one of my siblings and I were in the Gryffindor Common Room from the end of the dinner hour through until curfew, as multiple witnesses will be able to attest.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-01 14:49:56**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Weasley.

Sorry your brothers are such an embarrassment. Why can't you bring them into line? I mean, you at least have some sense of propriety. I'm sure if you'd been there you'd have done what you needed to do to stop them, because at least you behave like a proper wizard.

But Sandoval was out past curfew, on account of her Transfiguration meeting and then getting hexed, and anyway, I hardly think this is the kind of thing anyone could risk casting


when other people are about. In other words, the tampering probably happened after curfew, which is when your alibi ends, isn't it?

I mean, how do you know they didn't leave after everyone was asleep? Were you watching them all night?

Do you honestly think anyone else would have done it?


Anyway, it's not really harmful, is it, just rude. And that's your brothers all over.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-01 14:58:59](#)**  
(no subject)

As a matter of fact, I have made inquiries. One of the Gryffindor prefects, Horatio Hooper, sat in the common room the entire night: he just got over the flu last week, and so he stayed up through the night to catch up on writing his Potions and Charms essay assignments. He swears that none of us set foot outside the common room the entire night. Speak to him yourself if you like.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-01 15:31:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, that's reassuring.

Anyway, it is April Fool's.

And I did get a laugh out of that one rhyme... what was it? Something about 'wasting youth / grim truth'? It went by so fast.

Anyway, I don't care if they hexed the ceiling, so long as they weren't the ones who hurt Sandoval. Because then they'd really be in trouble - which I don't think the ceiling charm will be. At least, not unless it says something really daft.

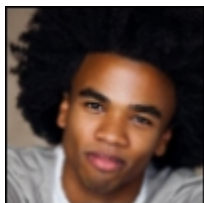


 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-01 21:11:39](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Think how she'd be falling all over herself to change this attitude if she knew it was Marvolo and Malfoy who did it.

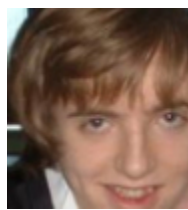
This is so not right.



 **alt\_lee** at [2010-04-01 21:49:33](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, she really is a suck-up, isn't she?



 **alt\_ernie** at [2010-04-01 14:52:19](#)

*(no subject)*

She's got a point though, hasn't she? I mean, whenever there's mischief going on, it's usually your brothers doing it. That's not libellous, it's true.



 **alt\_hannah** at [2010-04-01 15:07:33](#)

*(no subject)*

Well, Patil's right about one thing: it isn't really harmful, is it?

(It is funny.)




 **alt\_ernie** at [2010-04-01 15:10:37](#)

*(no subject)*

I don't think it's harmful either. It's just a prank, for April Fools Day I reckon.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2010-04-01 16:12:18](#)  
(no subject)


I thought it was pretty brill! It's not that often we get a good laugh at breakfast.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-01 15:08:09](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

We don't consider it libelous, either. We consider it a compliment.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-01 15:13:56](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*


You would.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-01 19:38:09](#)  
(no subject)

You have no idea how much it pains us to say, but we're afraid Percy is lying to you.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-01 19:38:51](#)  
(no subject)

What?!




 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-01 19:40:22](#)  
(no subject)

We're afraid it's true. Not all of his siblings were in the common room last night.


Our older brother Bill was in New London, and our older brother Charlie was at the Dragon Reserve.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:41:57](#)**  
(no subject)

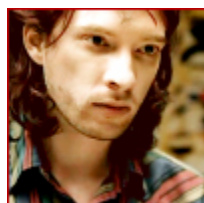
Bloody hell. My secret is out.




 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:45:40](#)**  
*Order Only*

Oh, my stars, I laughed aloud at this.


It was them who charmed the Great Hall ceiling, don't you think?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:46:32](#)**  
*Re: Order Only*

Of course it was. Have you ever known them not to celebrate their birthday properly?



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:43:58](#)**  
(no subject)


Very funny.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:44:20](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, we thought it was.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-02 01:29:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Boys, I've been thinking of you so much today. It seems hard that I can't send the usual birthday owl, but don't fear, your presents will be waiting for you when you get home! Your father and I send you all our love.






 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-02 01:30:29](#)  
(no subject)

Brill. Thanks, mum. Hullo to you and Dad both.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2010-04-02 01:35:46](#)  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Fred and George. Charlie and I have pooled our Galleons and gotten tickets to take you to the Holyhead Harpies versus the Appleby Arrows in July. Sorry it'll be late for your birthday, but it's difficult to bundle a Quidditch game into an owl post anyway.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-02 01:36:58](#)  
(no subject)

Outstanding. Thanks, bro!

**2010-04-01 13:45:00**


*Too bad*

I hope Sandoval and Laverty are okay.



 **alt\_harry**



 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-01 17:53:22**

*(no subject)*

Madam Pomfrey said they'd be down after lunch.

Why, do you know who did it? Or what happened?

Weasley says it wasn't his no-account brothers, and I don't know who else would want to mess with Sandoval. Do you?

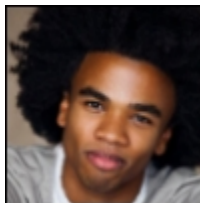


 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-01 18:48:11**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

This isn't a coincidence, is it? You still haven't told us what that potion was all about, Hermione.

What in Merlin's name did Marvolo and Malfoy do?  
Marvolo's got more nerve than I would have guessed, if he did something to mess with Sandoval.



 **alt\_lee** at **2010-04-01 18:48:40**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Don't forget that Marvolo was sorted into Gryffindor.



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-01 18:49:50**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Yeah, but Sandoval? That's not Gryffindor courage, that's more like...suicidal.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-02 01:38:42](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

If I'm right about what they were up to, it's worse than you think.

Who'd you LESS want to take on than Sandoval, Neville? Go on, give it a guess.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-02 02:00:32](#)


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Carrow, yeah?

So they

huh



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-02 02:05:29](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

So what do you think they were up to?

Hang on...wasn't the Advanced Transfiguration group meeting last night?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2010-04-01 19:52:28](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

It isn't a coincidence, but Nev, I just don't want to say. I mean I know you wouldn't tell, but I don't - I mean, if you can figure it out, all right, but I just can't tell you.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-01 21:02:46](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

All right, then. Don't worry about telling us if it wouldn't be a good idea.

(Can't help but be curious, though.)



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-02 01:36:31**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Well.

They hexed Sandoval and were wearing girls' clothing last night.

And this all had to do with a potion.

I went looking for a potion that would turn a boy into a girl though I couldn't figure out why Harry and Draco would WANT to be girls, even for a few hours.

I think I found one. I mean I think I figured it out, Hermione

They'd better have hexed Lana Sandoval enough to rattle her brains practically out hr ears or they're going to get caught.



 **[alt\\_lee](#) at 2010-04-02 02:09:20**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

They turned into girls?! They weren't just dressing like them?

No offence, Perks, but I mean...ewwww.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-02 02:11:33**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Wait, what? Like they were--they were trying to pretend like they were Sandoval and Laverty? To pass for them, to Professor Carrow? But why?!



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-02 02:39:50**


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Sorry to disappear like that. Pansy came in and I can't use the secret ink when she's in the room, she'd notice. ~~I think she's starting to~~ suspee

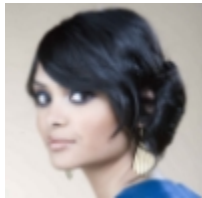
Anyway yeah, I think they used a potion to pass as Sandoval


and Laverty and slip into the Advanced group. I put the whole thing in my own journal, it makes me a little nervous talking in Harry's like this even though I know he can't see.



 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:08:46](#)**  
(no subject)

Didn't she get into it with Stretton the other day, at the party? I reckon he's far more likely to want to hurt the Head Girl than Fred and George Weasley.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:20:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, and Stretton's just the sort to bear a grudge, too, even though he's deserved everything he's got this year - and last, come to that.

Sandoval says she doesn't really remember much of last evening, either. She recalls leaving supper and heading for Professor Carrow's, and then... she woke up in hospital wing after the prefects found her and Laverty last night.

But why? I mean, Stretton's a prat, but he's not an utter buffoon. Why would he risk expulsion and the Cruciatus and all sorts of things just to knock her out?




 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:35:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I don't know if it even was him really. It could have been someone else. I just think it's more likely him than the Weasleys.

But if it was Stretton, maybe he just thought he was being really clever and wouldn't ever get caught? Or maybe he was trying to hex her before Professor Carrow's lesson to make her say something stupid in front of the Professor so she'd get in trouble with him? Or his hex might just have gone wrong?

I don't know. He just seems the most likely person who'd want to hex the Head Girl like that. Who else is there that could have a motive?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:42:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, Bole had his stash raided, same as Stretton.  
And Psyche Bobolis Duncan Urquhart was a bit  
shirty with her on account of she caught him  
sneaking food into the library with him a couple

weeks ago.

And there's the Cruciatus club, I suppose, but I don't think  
they'd be able to do it, unless they all tried together.



 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:49:18](#)**  
(no subject)

You're right, there are other suspects.

I still reckon Stretton's most likely, because of  
his Character and his Previous Record, but it's  
like in Future Interrogators - you have to have Evidence and  
Proof, not just guesswork.

Maybe we should go and look for evidence? Where were Miss  
Sandoval and Laverty found? There might be clues there.




 **[alt\\_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-04-01 20:04:26](#)**  
(no subject)

That's a good idea, MacMillan.

What do you think, Patil?

We could go round and look for clues, like Auror Davies, you  
know, in the comics?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-01 21:14:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Ooh, that sounds fun.

Want to meet up in a few minutes?


Marvolo, Malfoy, care to come?



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-01 22:13:18](#)**  
(no subject)


Um, no thanks Patil.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-01 23:59:51](#)**  
(no subject)

No, but good luck.

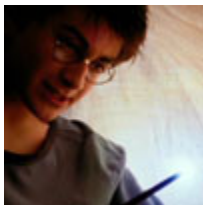



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-02 00:50:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Suit yourself, then.

We'll let you know what we find.


If we find anything, that is.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-01 19:51:28](#)**  
(no subject)

No, I don't know who else would want to mess with Sandoval.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-01 21:08:46](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Ugh.



**2010-04-01 20:30:00**

XX.

I'm fine. Not that whoever did this cares.

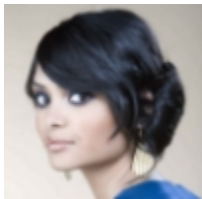
I would appreciate it, however, if you'd return my earrings. They aren't worth much, but they have sentimental value. If they come back by tomorrow morning I'll leave the matter there. If they don't, trust me, I will find out which of you is the coward who hexed me and took them. I may not remember much, but I do remember--




 [alt\\_lana](#)

Never mind. The thing you should remember is this:

You will regret it.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-02 03:50:50**  
(no subject)

Well, MacMillan and Smith and Dunstan and I went looking round where you said you were before you blacked out, but we didn't find anything.

Well, not anything useful. There was a big cobweb under the stairs, but nothing else.

And I was thinking - you blacked out. And before, when Weasley was having those episodes, she was blacking out. It couldn't be the same thing causing it, could it?



 [alt\\_lana](#) at **2010-04-02 04:01:26**  
(no subject)


I'm all but certain we were hexed. Madam Pomfrey agreed. Said it was very likely, at any rate. And I'm almost sure--

Well, I'll tell you sometime, privately.

I've no idea what ailed the Weasley girl. A weak constitution, perhaps. She's probably not had the healthiest childhood, all those mouths to feed. Poor thing.






 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:52:43](#)**  
(no subject)

I guess we ought to think about the fancy dress party Thursday next, after all.




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:56:23](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm sorry about the party. It was very sweet of you to cancel it. Postpone it, anyway.


Yes, let's do have it Thursday a week. It'll still be brilliant, and there'll be more time to prepare!



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-02 18:12:25](#)**  
(no subject)

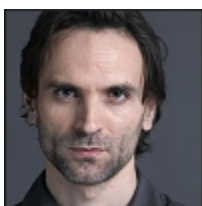
What do the earrings look like? I can't think that the person who attacked you would be stupid enough to wear them, but still, it might help us who are keeping a look out for you.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-03 05:10:58](#)**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Malfoy. I wouldn't think the person who hexed me would wear them, either, as it was a boy.


They're silver and peridot--it's my birthstone. As I said yesterday, they're not terribly valuable, but they mean a great deal to me.



 **[alt\\_rodolphus](#)** at **[2010-04-02 18:14:27](#)**  
(no subject)

If you do find your earrings and don't mind parting with them again, at least temporarily, I might be able to determine who else has handled them besides yourself.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-03 04:24:42](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you. I would feel very much better if you were to check them over. Supposing I do find them. So far no one has come forward to return them.

**2010-04-01 20:46:00**

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



Alright here's what I think.

I went looking today for potions that would let a boy be a girl for a while and I didn't find one that would just switch you over. But I DID find a reference to one that lets you turn into a whole different person. I think the instructions for it were all in the Restricted section but it's easy to get in there if you're Harry, I mean who'd tell him no? Or Draco, even.

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

I don't think they just hexed Sandoval and Laverty, I think they TURNED INTO Sandoval and Laverty, that's why they wound up acting like a couple of girls who'd put on a bra for the first time ever, they basically were.

And the ONLY reason they'd have done it last night was to slip into Carrow's group and find out what they're up to.

Did they?

I mean, what ARE they up to? Hermione did they tell you? I told Harry what I overheard but it's not as if I overheard very much. I think it's Carrow who petrified people and killed Dennis but I don't expect he'd have told his Transfiguration group about it. But maybe Harry thought he would have, and that's why?



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 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2010-04-02 02:44:42**  
(no subject)

Luckily it does look like they hexed her hard enough she doesn't remember NOT being at Professor Carrow's group.

I mean if I'm right.

If she did, they'd know someone impersonated her and Harry and Draco were not exactly discreet last night in their journals. Hermione did they have a plan if they get caught? Is Draco going to say he brewed it himself so you don't get in trouble?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:14:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Wait. Whoa. WHOA.

They what?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:20:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Well we know it HAS to be a potion and it sounded last night like they were wearing unfamiliar clothing. But they were in the corridors at the school, it's not as if they could have been running around in muggle clothes or something, and they really did sound like

and we know Lana Sandoval got hexed and you don't hex someone with a potion. I mean if they thought she was the one petrifying people they might have tried to get her to take veritaserum, but then why Laverty?

Anyway like I said I went looking for potions that turn boys into girls (or girls into boys, for that matter) and I found something about a potion that turns you into a whole different person and everything fell into place, I mean it makes SENSE.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:24:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Wait.

Hang on.

They stole her clothes, you mean? That's what they were going shouty crackers about in the journals? That they couldn't get out of Sandoval's clothes? And Laverty's, but

her clothes?

so, like,

whoa

they had to take off

and put on

while




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-02 03:28:43](#)  
(no subject)

Well they could've just nicked a Ravenclaw uniform from the elves, unless every girl in Ravenclaw does her own laundry. Which can't possibly be the case because I expect Padma Patil would sooner DIE than scrub robes..

But did you see where Sandoval said she wanted her earrings back? They must have knocked her out and then taken her jewelry. Which PROVES I'm right because can you imagine Harry and Draco stealing some girl's jewelry just for ...well it's not like they need the money and they certainly wouldn't want it to wear!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-02 03:30:54](#)  
(no subject)

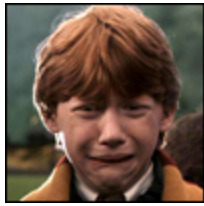
But they did wear it.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-02 03:33:53](#)  
(no subject)

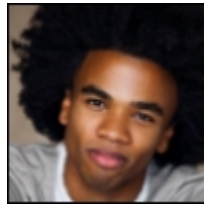
Right but to disguise themselves as her. Or one of them did..


Not because Draco looked into the mirror one morning and said, 'you know what would really look dashing on me? Lana Sandoval's earrings.'



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-02 03:40:26](#)  
(no subject)

Ew. That's just wrong.



 **alt\_lee** at [2010-04-02 15:12:22](#)  
(no subject)

Whoa. If they took Sandoval's earrings--well, I guess Sandoval has pierced ears, right? So whichever one of them turned into her would then have pierced ears, too. But if he didn't time it right and turned back, then he would have had the earring stuck in his earlobe. Except there wouldn't be any hole there anymore, I suppose. So it would have been like it was grown in there. And he wouldn't have been able to get it out. Can you imagine what that would have been like if he came down to potions today with earrings locked in his earlobes?



 **alt\_gredforge** at [2010-04-02 15:13:05](#)  
(no subject)

Wicked.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2010-04-03 01:30:04](#)  
(no subject)

Oh surely he'd have been able to get them out..

But I reckon he'd have pierced ears after.

He probably got them out before he changed back though or they'd have mentioned something hurting when they were trying to get Hermione to come help them.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:29:37](#)**  
(no subject)

And what'd they do? Leave them with no clothes on?


Isn't that against the law? I mean

if they were wearing her y'know, *things*, then

whoa

I hope Mum never hears about this



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:32:07](#)**  
(no subject)

They couldn't possibly have left her naked..

We'd have HEARD.

I mean that is the sort of gossip that gets around FAST.

I wonder which elf does the laundry for Ravenclaw house, if it's the one that cleans Ravenclaw or a different one? I bet they know if two uniforms went missing from the clean laundry and then turned up later dirty.y.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-02 11:43:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh stop being so utterly DAFT, when you use that potion your clothes change too. It's only the jewelry that doesn't. Only when they changed back, I guess some parts of the girls' clothes stuck around - I must've messed the brewing up a bit.

Honestly.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-02 11:46:28](#)**  
(no subject)

Honestly, I thought I'd mess it up far worse!!  
What if something really horrid had happened? I  
don't think I could've fixed it. And then they'd  
have to go to the Hospital wing and it'd all come

out!!



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-03 01:31:20](#)**  
(no subject)

It changes your CLOTHES?

How does the potion know what you're wearing  
just from a hair?

What if the person you changed into changes her clothes after  
you take the potion, do your clothes change too?




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-03 18:48:40](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know! I hadn't ever heard of Polyjuice  
before they came up with it and asked me to  
help.

I suppose I'll never find out, either, as I can't imagine ever  
brewing it again.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:21:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't take this the wrong way or anything, but who'd  
want to turn into a girl? Even for a little while?

I mean, what if they'd done it wrong and not turned

back?

!!!!

Or, er. What if it hadn't lasted long enough and Carrow'd caught  
them?



Hermione, could you just please tell us if that's what they did?

whoa




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:24:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Well I CERTAINLY wouldn't want to turn into a boy.  
Ew.

If it's the potion I read about it wears off. I mean I'm sure it can go wrong, anything can go wrong. If Carrow had caught them, I suppose they reckoned they couldn't get in TOO terrible trouble because of who they are. I

And even though I wouldn't want to be a boy I might consider it if I could get a bunch of information about who was petrifying people.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:26:48](#)**  
(no subject)

But if you turned into an actual boy, I mean one you knew and all, and you

you'd have to

you'd see

you'd

uh



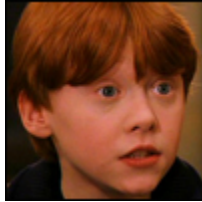
 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:29:59](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh RON

Yes I suppose I would see pretty much  
EVERYTHING.

I'd be sure to file it away for future blackmail purposes too. I mean, you never know what'll come in useful.

Lucky for you I don't have any polyjuice potion unless Hermione saved some.



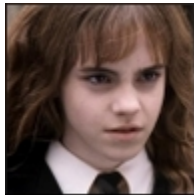
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:44:23](#)**  
(no subject)

That's a silly name for a potion. And she better not have.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:51:25](#)**  
(no subject)

If she did I don't expect she'll give me any anyway. And if she did I wouldn't use it to turn into a friend, you git. What a waste!



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-02 11:44:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Even if I wanted to, it's all used up anyway.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2010-04-02 15:19:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Pity. We would have loved to have taken some off your hands.

Don't suppose we could persuade you to brew some more?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-03 01:32:12](#)**  
(no subject)


Who do you want to change into?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2010-04-03 04:52:36](#)  
(no subject)

The possibilities are endless.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-02 03:47:29](#)  
(no subject)

You didn't, did you? Hermione?

Wait. So did you turn into someone, too, then?

And do you know who you'll turn into? How does that work, then?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-02 03:54:13](#)  
(no subject)

Well the book I found that mentioned the potion said you can pick who you're turning into but it didn't say how..




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2010-04-02 11:44:28](#)  
(no subject)

No, I didn't turn into anyone.


You use people's hairs.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-02 15:14:41](#)  
(no subject)


Polyjuice potion? So that's what it was. Of course!



 **[alt\\_lee](#)** at **[2010-04-02 15:15:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Why? You mean you've heard about it before?



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-02 15:17:59](#)**  
(no subject)

I've see well, yeah, I have heard of it. Criminy, Hermione, that's supposed to be really a pain to brew. It really works good, though. It does make you look exactly like the person you're imitating. And it sounds like they got away with it. So far, anyway.

I wonder what they learned while they were at the meeting?  
Did they tell you?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-02 03:25:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Although I wouldn't go infiltrating Carrow's office because that's just MAD. And if he caught me he'd probably kill me!

**2010-04-02 11:52:00**

*Order Only: On the Road*

I've been invited to the Finch-Fletchley's for Easter, so I'm heading back north. I should be there in time for tea tomorrow. Or supper, at the latest.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

I'll head over to Calais afterward, you know, to check on the other shipments for Moony, Clarriker and the others. But I hope I'll have a good deal of news from Justin, and not only stuff about his lessons, but how they're treating him as a British-born halfblood. I know last term he was subject to a little light hazing, so it'll be good to gauge whether it's improved or got worse.

Not to worry you all, but the climate in France has become a mite dodgier since Malfoy's diplomatic visit. While he was here there were protests, but that blighter is not a master politician for nothing. I dunno what he told French purebloods, but his impact has lingered even longer than his fancy cologne.

To start, there've been more wizards crying out for social justice - by which they mean chucking out the Muggle president and key cabinet members and replacing them with our kind. Then there was an incident reported in *L'Étoile* last month about a wizard who was harassed by some Muggle teenagers: he Incendiated their car before Apparating away from the scene. As far as I can tell, he was acquitted from the charge of violating the Statute of Wizarding Secrecy because it was 'self-defence.' The article mentioned that this was the fourth time in the last year that an act of blatant magic has been deemed defensible, breaking the record of successful defences against the Statute in France (set by Pierre de Limoges in 1705).


What's more concerning is that the *Muggle* papers picked up the story and actually got it right. They didn't blame a rival gang or passing Muslim terrorists, or say that the victim had been carrying grenades or improvised a Molotov Cocktail - they actually called him a 'Sorcèreux' in the article - and that's led to the French church calling for the Vatican to take a new stand on witches. So far, the official position still denies our existence, but it's got the potential to get ugly.

I've been talking to Aleksander Rinkov about helping with Laszlo - not that I think Marguerite and Fatima can't handle things, but I'd feel better knowing there's at least one other bloke on staff, as it were. I'm also wondering, now that I think about it, whatever happened to that

Highslip chap, the one who approached me that day I saw Malfoy. I've been meaning to see if he'd be willing to tell us anything we don't already know, particularly about the emigration process, especially if we're planning to smuggle people out of the camps and outside the wards come June.

Well, anyway. I'm on the road today. And I ought to be with the Finch-Fletchleys for a few days after that, maybe the rest of Justin's holiday, if I don't wear out my welcome.



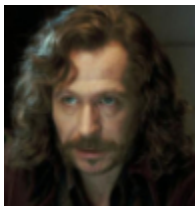
 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-03 22:24:56](#)**  
(no subject)


Are you really in Venice, then?

I've only been there once and have always said that I wished I could go back under better circumstances. I didn't have leisure to really see the place, nor much heart for it at the time.

I trust you'll have a lovely holiday with your Finch-Fletchleys.

Remind me about them: the mother's a witch, is she? Or was it the father? It seems I'd remember a turgid-toff name like that if he'd been here as a student, but I don't recall it at all. Mind you, not every pupil makes an impression, and some enjoy such good health that I never have occasion to know them. Perhaps that's it.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-04 01:10:11](#)**  
(no subject)

That's right - I forgot I never filled you all in on what happened.

Justin was experiencing a bit more trouble than usual, so Laura started digging into her family history. Turns out her grandmother was a Squib, which by French standards classified him as a halfblood. They had no idea until his magic manifested, of course.

Venice, yeah - it's been the only place I can find Ondine Tears and there was a request from Marguerite. Of course, they're tricky, as you know, since the ondines must shed them willingly, and - well, there aren't too many ways to get them to turn on the plumbing.

**2010-04-02 13:25:00**

*(no subject)*

Livin large, there, Wags. Livin large.



 **alt\_wagstaff**

**2010-04-03 21:41:00**

*Checking In.*

Hey Mum and Dad,

I have finally decided to break my silence. Not that have been doing it on purpose, of course. I have just been really busy with my studies, and I hope I haven't been worrying you much with my lack of writing. This has just been a difficult time for me. I find that when ever my episodes occur, its hard for me to get back in the habit of revising for a few days. Especially this last time. No worries though I haven't fallen behind.



 **alt\_ginny**


I also just try to lay low a little, sometimes it seems that people are looking at me like I am about to go mad or they are always trying to make sure I'm not doing, saying, or writing anything that could be seen as daft. So i just have been staying to myself for the most part. Luna is a good friend though, we talk whenever we have a bit of spare time. And since the last incident, Dean has become a good buddy too. He is a great listener, which is all I need sometimes, and the best part is that he only gives advice when asked.

I really miss home right now. The Easter Hols are just not the same being stuck here. I am really looking forward to the summer, but I am glad for those that I count as my friends here. They definitely make being home sick a little more tolerable.

All my love,  
Ginny



---

 **alt\_molly at 2010-04-05 15:54:14**  
(no subject)

Dear Ginny:

I wrote a long, long letter to you that I intend to send when the owls can start delivering again. We miss you, too, and we felt quite bereft without so many family faces around our Easter dinner table. Your father was especially pleased to hear that you've been making friends with Dean Thomas.

The flowers are starting to come up in the south cottage garden, including those delphinium and phlox that we planted last year. I



know that you'll love seeing them when you come home again this summer. All our love to you, as well as your brothers and Luna, too.

**2010-04-04 13:53:00**

*Happy Easter*

Well, I guess they tried to give us decent Easter baskets, but it was all a bit naff, wasn't it?




 **alt\_zacharias**

I wish the owls'd be allowed again.  
Transfigured chocolates just aren't the same.

But at least it's still holidays for another week. And the sun's shining, so a few of us are going to go flying.

Anyway, Happy Easter, Mum and Dad.



 **alt\_seamus** at **2010-04-05 02:55:20**  
(no subject)

The baskets were naff. Real parcels would've been a lot better.

I suppose it might have been nice for the people who never get parcels though.



 **alt\_zacharias** at **2010-04-05 03:05:29**  
(no subject)

I guess you're right.


I don't remember noticing whether the halfblood students got baskets made up by the elves or not last year. You?

I mean, I expect you got one from Mr Rosier, and Perks got her jams and things from that Stretton bloke's parents, but others. You know, like Jones and Brocklehurst and Hopkins and all. I was more concerned with opening up my own sweets.

Anyway, it was a nice day for flying, at least.

Incidentally, Applebee has a wireless. If you ever need to borrow one.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-05 03:13:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Well Easter fell during spring hols last year didn't it? Just like it WOULD have this year if they hadn't made us stay.

Perks stayed here over hols last year, I remember her whinging about it. Hardly anyone else did and I don't know if they got baskets from the elves. Katrina Bundy had one today though, same as everyone else's.

Good to know about Applebee, thanks.



 **[alt\\_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-04-05 03:23:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, yeah, good point about holidays.

On the other hand, lots of people got baskets, too, just before we went home. I did, anyway, and Malfoy, and Zabini, Brown, and MacMillan. So.

How soon d'you think they'll work out that cure?




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-05 03:26:09](#)**  
(no subject)

I reckon they'll have it not long after spring hols are over.

I HOPE it'll be before summer at least.



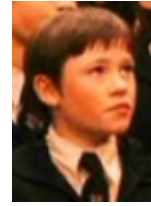
 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:39:41](#)**  
(no subject)

It was nice of them to try, especially as they aren't our parents and didn't *have* to give us anything.

**2010-04-04 21:41:00**

*Easter*

Last year on Easter I spent the day listening to the wireless with Mr Rosier.



This year I tried to find a wireless to listen to. Professor Lockhart told me it was a beautiful day and I should be outside enjoying myself and he wouldn't listen when he said I couldn't enjoy myself if I didn't know what was going on outside the school. Professor Sprout let me listen for a bit but then she also decided I ought to be outside so I did get my broom and go flying.

 **alt\_seamus**

It was a nice day but I couldn't really enjoy it. ~~No one~~ underst


I sat under a tree and looked at journal entries for a while, especially in London.

Anyway I guess if anything awful had happened I'd have heard.

This is all because if the Irish muggles were going to try anything it might well be on Easter. It makes me worried. I wish Professor Lockhart had let me listen to the wireless today, it would have made me feel better even if it didn't change anything.




---

 **alt\_lucius** at **2010-04-05 03:36:58**  
(no subject)

Your foster-father, as you may know, has been occupied in Spilsby all this week-end, else, knowing your anxiety over the Easter holiday, he should have already kept you updated via his journal.

Rest assured, however, there has been no news of any untoward occurrences to-day.



 **alt\_seamus** at **2010-04-05 03:38:51**  
(no subject)

Thank you Mr Malfoy. That's very good to hear.

**2010-04-04 21:57:00**

*(no subject)*

If I know one thing, I know this.

The dead cannot pass for living.



 **alt\_regulus**



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-05 18:20:14**

*(no subject)*

Indeed. Horrible supper conversationalists, for one thing. No sense of style, either.

And that doesn't begin to discuss their incapacity to maintain rhythm while dancing.

Are you back among us, then?

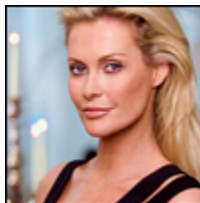


 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-06 01:26:08**

*(no subject)*

Very true on all counts.

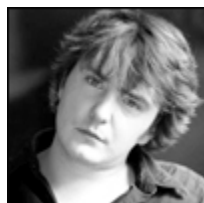
I have hopes that this project is winding down. I might make it through if I thought I could share cognac and cards with you this weekend. What are my chances?



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-06 02:17:23**

*(no subject)*

Oh, well, if it will fortify you for the final push, then I suppose I ought to give you the encouragement you require.



 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-06 02:28:26**

*(no subject)*

You're too good to me, cousin.

Shall I arrive by lunch on Saturday?




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:38:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Do. Shall I air the Stilton or are you still delicate? (Though I warn you that if I do bring it out and you are late, I shall have to be cross with you.)

We may have to leave you to your own devices for a few hours on Sunday; I trust you know how to amuse yourself on the grounds.

Unless you'd rather come with us? It's a rather dreary engagement, but a necessary one for all that.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:43:36](#)**  
(no subject)

I think the Stilton will be the right sort of bracing medicine I need, and I promise to do my very best to arrive on time.

What's the Sunday commitment? At this pass, what strikes you as dreary might be the height of entertainment for me.


That does sound pathetic, doesn't it? But after a double fortnight with only an elf for companionship, I suppose my standards have lowered some.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:51:46](#)**  
(no subject)

It's a naming ceremony, actually. The Fudges' first grandson.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-06 03:07:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, those are always entertaining: parents tense about what their parents will say or insist on, and the children trending from impatience to screaming fury.

We'll make faces at the new sprog and see how long it takes him to start shouting.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-06 04:12:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Do you know, I think I'm quite glad, in some ways, you were not about to sabotage Draco's naming ceremony with an attitude like that.

Though I suppose you'd tell me you'd never have dared to induce him to crying. And back then, you didn't have the hook, which I suppose sets you one above everyone else in the pursuit.


Well, suit yourself, then. If nothing else, Barty will be there and the two of you can amuse yourselves chatting up the Ministry stenographers' pool.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-06 14:57:22](#)**  
(no subject)


Hello.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-06 21:18:52](#)**  
(no subject)

It's funny isn't it, how fairy tale stories can be so simple, but you can think about them on so many different levels. I think there's a reason we keep telling them over and over, because we can see bits of ourselves in them. The bits we like, and the bits we don't like.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-07 01:38:55](#)**  
(no subject)

And it's also comforting, because the good people almost always come out all right, even if they make mistakes along the way, and the bad people get what they have coming to them, and everything usually turns out the way it ought to in the end.

Which isn't really like real life at all.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 03:47:47](#)**  
(no subject)

That rather depends on whom you consider to be a bad person, doesn't it, Little Bit?

It's true that bad things can happen to people who don't deserve it, but of course when those wrongs are perpetrated by others, that is where justice does its work.

It's telling, for example, that the theft rate is a fraction of what it was prior to Our Lord's ascendancy. It is, by and large, a muggle impulse, as are many other crimes.



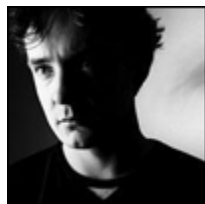
 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-07 14:44:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, I suppose that's true.

In stories, it's always clear right off who is good and who is bad, and it's not quite as clear cut in the real world. Because I think everyone has a little of both in them, or at least most people do, it's not all one or the other.

I try to be good, Lucius. Really I do.

I'm sorry I didn't answer you the other day.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-07 15:05:59](#)**  
(no subject)

The theft rate.

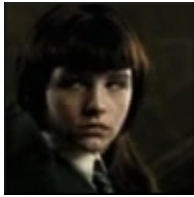





 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 17:14:47](#)**  
(no subject)

I could have cited murder, but I haven't reviewed the latest statistics. I rather suspect that they're a touch high at the moment. Don't you?

Or perhaps I'm feeling charitable and wished only to avoid such an unpleasant topic. I'll leave it to you to decide.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-07 22:07:53](#)**  
(no subject)


can we pretend I didn't screw everything up and have things just go back the way they were?

I'm sorry.

~~I don't want it to seem like I'm expecting something you can't give me or seeing something that isn't there, or asking you for things, because I'm not. I just like you for being you and that's enough. That came out wrong. Why is everything I do wrong?~~

I'd so much rather talk about fairy stories and suits of armour than not talk at all.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:33:22](#)**  
*Order Only*

Kid, you didn't screw anything up.

You've got a bastard for a god-father, that's all.

More to the point, I think your bastard god-father's using you to get at my brother. Emrys knows why he feels he has to bother.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-08 00:12:13](#)**  
(no subject)

You said your stomach is giving you trouble. I'm sorry to hear it.

Have you been to see the Matron yet? Perhaps she can give you a dyspeptic draught. It helps me.

So what's your favourite story? Is it one from when you were small or something you've read more recently? I'm not trying to get you to say it's that pirate book I sent. I don't mean that kind of book, anyway. I mean the kind you want to read again and again.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-08 01:35:59](#)**  
(no subject)

I just got back. She did give me something to settle it, although I'm still not hungry.

I'd have to say my favourite story from when I was little was The Swan Princess. Hitty even taught me to crochet so I could practice making the nettle shirts, but it always turned out wonky or I'd get bored and stop. But I remember thinking how incredibly brave the princess was, to work to save her brothers like that, even when she was about to die.

And I thought an entire family of Anamagi were really nift. Even if they had been cursed. I used to make mum read it to me every night.

And dad gave me his copy of The Two Kneazles for my birthday a few months before he died. I didn't really get it when I was younger, but I must have read it a dozen times by now and each time it gets better.

**2010-04-05 19:11:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To  
No Good*



Neville, are you cross with me?


You've been acting strange with me all week. I thought maybe you were feeling ill but I watched you at dinner and you're acting perfectly normal with Dean Thomas and the other Gryffindor boys.

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

Are you avoiding me on purpose?

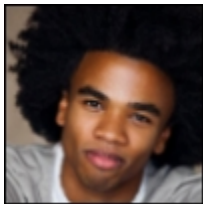
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 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-06 01:00:29](#)  
(no subject)

Acting strange how?


I thought I was acting just like always.



 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2010-04-06 01:05:30](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah what's eating you? I saw you turn and walk back the other direction in the halls when you saw her this afternoon like you were avoiding her.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-06 01:06:58](#)  
(no subject)

Well, yeah, all right. I guess so.

I talked to Seamus.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-06 01:08:51](#)  
(no subject)

...

About what?



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-06 01:09:12](#)  
(no subject)

About last Tuesday night.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-06 01:11:03](#)  
(no subject)


The Dark Arts taster?

I did better than I expected but I didn't even kill the rat. It's a good thing I don't have to

wait


hang on



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-06 01:13:34](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, Seamus said you were real impressive. Guess Miss Professor Carrow wasn't expecting that.



 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2010-04-06 01:19:43](#)  
(no subject)

Wait. She was having the students do Avada Kedavra?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-06 01:24:31](#)  
(no subject)

She did sort of a lecture first, all about her favourite curses, especially the cardinal three, you know, imperius and cruciatus and avada kedavra.

She had rats from her brother and she had each of us come up and try a curse. Whichever one we wanted. Most people

couldn't get it to work at all. Sometimes she'd let them try again with another curse, sometimes she'd just send them out.

I cast avada kedavra. It was just an animal and killing it would have meant the Carrows couldn't do anything horrible to it. I got a green flash of light and the rat fell over but it wasn't dead, just knocked out.

She did act impressed. Everyone did actually.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:12:54](#)**  
(no subject)


Neville you know my father HUNTS with avada kedavra, right?

I mean, that's how my family gets food. Meat, anyway.

I've seen him cast it a thousand times.

Are you angry because I tried it? It was just a RAT and it didn't even WORK, or at least it didn't kill it. Seamus was dead impressed I knocked it out though.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:16:19](#)**  
(no subject)

He does? I guess

I think

What do you think

Do you want to take that class? With her?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:20:23](#)**  
(no subject)

How else would we ever have gotten meat? We didn't have money to buy animals to keep. Did you think he shot them with a bow and arrow like an old time muggle?

It's a very humane way to kill an animal. There's no pain, one second they're alive and the next minute they're not. I'd never tell Hydra but rabbit is one of my favourite things to eat, and we'd use the fur for things like mittens and hats.

I don't know if I want to take the class. Some of the students tried to cast cruciatus on the rat. The thought made me feel really sick, I was really glad none of them succeeded.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:24:21](#)**  
(no subject)

I guess I never thought of it that way. Using it for hunting, and like it would be more humane. I was thinking of-

Forget it.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:29:07](#)**  
(no subject)

I think Mrs Weasley kills her chickens with an axe, when they're going to eat one.


Human beings sometimes get murdered with axes, too.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:30:16](#)**  
(no subject)

What were you thinking of, Neville?



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-06 01:42:20](#)**  
(no subject)

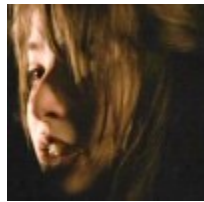
All right. I was thinking about my mum and dad. They were aurors, so I know they've faced really dark wizards. My Gran said that when I was small, that those curses were called the Unforgivable curses, and only dark wizards used

them. Used to be, if you ever tried one, you could get sent to Azkaban for life.

Well, now MY dad's getting hunted. And my mum, too. Maybe they'd get arrested if they got caught. But maybe not. See, they're named blood traitors now. Maybe they'd just get dropped in their tracks with Avada Kedavra.

So when Seamus told me about what happened Tuesday night, I started thinking about how they're teaching people how to do those curses. I mean, that's what Miss Professor Carrow will be doing, right? Teaching kids how to do those curses.

So when they grow up and leave school, they can go out and kill people people like my mum and dad.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-06 01:45:26](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Neville.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-06 02:03:30](#)  
(no subject)

I know they used to be the Unforgivables. Sirius Black told Pansy when they were talking about cruciatus last year.


Here's the thing about avada kedavra. I don't know if this will be comforting to you or not. It's really not a hard spell. My father learned on his own, he'd heard of it because it was forbidden (though actually I think it was legal to use it on animals back in the old days) and he taught himself because he was hungry. And I think it only took him a few tries and mostly he just had to learn to aim a bit better because squirrels are small.

But even if you've killed a million squirrels, if you're bothered

by the idea of killing a human, you can point your wand at your worst enemy and say the words and nothing will happen. Because unless you really WANT to murder someone you won't. Just like unless you really WANT to torture someone you can't cast cruciatus and unless you really WANT to control someone you can't cast imperius.


The problem isn't the Dark Arts class, it's everything. They went to a lot of trouble last year to try to teach Pansy that muggles are lower than dirt and that people who ask the wrong questions deserve to be tortured. They tried to make Pansy into the sort of person who WOULD cast a spell like this without a second thought. And it didn't work on Pansy but it's working on plenty of other people. Look at Seamus. A year ago I don't think he'd have cut off a rat's tail and been proud of himself for it. It's not the Dark Arts class that made him like that, it hasn't even started yet.



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-06 02:14:16**  
(no subject)

No, it's not the Dark Arts class that's changing Finnigan. It's everything. It's Mr Rosier fostering him and introducing him to a bunch of really important people who are important 'cause they're Death Eaters, isn't it? And it's his deciding he wants to be mates with Malfoy and Patil because his guardian says their families are the important ones to know.




 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-06 02:27:19**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I guess that's true. It's just a lot of little things, isn't it? Tiny choices that a person makes every day--whether to talk to this person and snub that one, or whether to pay attention to this and ignore that. My Gran always said that a person can be halfway along on the road to hell without even realising he's taken the first few steps, if he doesn't pay attention.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:35:44](#)**  
(no subject)


Yeah, exactly.

And it wouldn't be so bad about Sea Finnigan if it weren't for Dean, you know? It's so hard to know what he's thinking, really, and he acts like he wants each of us to think he's solid with us when we're all

when Seam

he's going to have to decide whose side he's on if things keep going the way they're going with Finnigan, y'know.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:45:11](#)**  
(no subject)

I think Dean's clever to keep his mouth shut as much as he does, really. Considering the way he got sort of thrown into the second year without much in the way of any help

from anyone.

Although you're right, it makes it hard to know exactly what he's thinking.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:42:57](#)**  
(no subject)

I think Seamus Finnigan is a good three-quarters of the way and is starting to notice the scenery but is thinking it's not so bad and he likes the company.

The good thing is that it does work the other way round. Look at Pansy. I don't think she woke up one morning and said to herself, 'today I will try becoming a blood traitor! that should get Lucius's attention!' She just started making small choices and now she's

well nothing like Lucius thinks she ought to be, that's for certain.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:19:57](#)**  
(no subject)

I just didn't know what you were thinking when you cast that curse on Tuesday. When Seamus told me, I could hardly believe it, and I guess I was afraid to ask. But I feel a lot better now that I know you see the danger. I know what you're talking about, the way people change. Ron and I are starting to watch what we say around Seamus more. See, if you couldn't see that, I'd have to wonder whether it meant we couldn't even be friends anymore.

So that's why I was asking your reasons why you'd want to take the class. If you're hoping to learn a lot of cool spells, without ever thinking whether you should learn them, well, that's a whole lot different than you deciding you're going to take the class because you're gonna sort of...well, spy on it, to see what Miss Professor Carrow's doing. Because I think she's using this class to sort of twist people. And maybe you can find out how she does that.

Does that make sense?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:26:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Well originally part of why I asked for the recommendation was that I was afraid they were going to make Pansy take it. And I REALLY wanted to know what they were telling her.

Except now I think I'm going to get invited to take it and I don't think Pansy will. And I don't know. I really hate Miss Professor Carrow. But it seems almost like how if there's a wasp in the room it's nice to know exactly where it is.



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-06 02:24:14](#)  
(no subject)

But about the Unforgivables. I've heard that casting them changes you. I mean, really. Every time you cast one, you get Darker.

But it is different casting the killing curse on animals than on people. Especially if it's because you're going to eat the animal. I mean, it's different just hunting animals to eat them than hunting them for the fun of killing them. And that's the thing, isn't it? You only use the Curse on people if you want them dead to murder them.

And, yeah, Mum uses an axe on the chickens, but that's cause you just have to chase them round the yard and catch them, you don't have to go stalk them through the fields or in the woods or anything. And, anywiz, sometimes she uses a summoning spell if she gets out of breath chasing them or can't get one of us to run after them. So it's not that she doesn't use magic when she's trying to slaughter a chicken. She just won't use the killing curse 'cause

well, 'cause she believes it's bad to use it at all.


But, see, we've never been about to starve if we couldn't catch something to eat, yeah? So it's not

well, it's

different.

D'you see that, Nev?



 **alt\_neville** at [2010-04-06 02:35:15](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, I think I do. Merlin knows, I've never had to scramble for my next meal. But I can see your father did what he had to do to keep you from going hungry.

If you do decide to take the class, you'd better do some thinking ahead of time. Like will you do the curses if they're

only against animals? What if she tells you to cast something against somebody like Hermione or Terry? (Although I reckon the Headmistress wouldn't let her do that.) What if you're expected to cast them against other students, but you only pretend to do them (I reckon if you keep failing to do the curses for two long, though, she might chuck you out of the class).



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-06 02:35:36](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, my father is not always a very nice person.

But I don't think that's because he hunts with avada kedavra. I think it's that things sometimes make him angry and away from home he has to be good and behave himself always, or we'd all be taken away to the camps.

Ron, I think your mum looks at avada kedavra the way Neville does. I don't think it would ever even occur to her to use it on an animal, no matter how hungry she got.

**2010-04-05 22:13:00**

*Letter to Peter and Carrie (via Mum)*

Dear Peter and Carrie,

I know you're really trying to be good and not drive Mum mad, but I can tell from her journal that it's got to be really trying for all of you, especially with Dad still stuck at headquarters with the team. So this is my Easter present to you; I hope you'll like it and not find it too feeble. Tell Mum if you have any ideas and things that you want to have happen in the later parts. She'll tell me and I'll try to put them in.



 [alt\\_susan](#)

The Brave Brother and Sister

Long, long ago there lived a King and Queen who had four children named Sybella, Ethelbert, Catarina, and Percival. Their kingdom was small, but happy and peaceful, and all of the princes and princesses were blessed with good spirits and great talent for magic. Like princes and princesses do, they grew older until finally it was time for Sybella to leave home. She sailed away across the sea to become the Chief Cook and Librarian for a witch of great power and wisdom who lived in a faraway country. Then it was Ethelbert's turn--he heard of a princess in the north country who was trapped in her tower by a band of marauding Giants, and he set off to rescue her. Catarina and Percival were the only ones left at home, and although they got to spend a lot of time with their mother the queen and their father the king, and everyone at court said what handsome and clever children they were growing up to be, they missed their brother and sister and were often bored.

Until one day a very wicked witch came to their kingdom. As soon as she crossed through the woods, she could see what a pleasant, happy little kingdom she had come to. "Ugh, what a horribly cheerful place this is!" she exclaimed. "Well, we'll see how cheerful they are when I've finished with them!"


She found a very remote hut in the woods and Petrified the poor woodsman who owned it when he wasn't looking. Then she started a roaring fire in the fireplace and began to plot.

That's all I've got so far! I'll try to write more soon, and you can read it in Mum's journal. And anybody who has younger sibs and ideas

about the sort of things they like to read can feel free to leave me notes here.


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 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-06 03:20:53](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, well, the witch should have a familiar like a cat or a crow or summat that can go spy on the king and queen for her. And there ought to be a poor young tinker who comes along to the woodsman's house and finds the witch there and figures out she's up to no good, but he can't tell anyone to warn them because they wouldn't listen to a poor tinker, especially a young one like him, but then maybe he could meet the prince and princess and they'd talk to him and find out just in time that the three of them could save everyone from the witch.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2010-04-06 03:27:51](#)  
(no subject)


That's wizard, Weasley! I was getting a bit stuck on what to put in the next part.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-06 14:52:53](#)  
(no subject)

And maybe the familiar turns out to be a person that was cursed or something. So the familiar sometimes lies to the witch, or tells the tinker the witch's weakness.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2010-04-07 12:37:41](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks Parkinson! I like that idea a lot too!

I hope I can fit everything in! Somehow I have a feeling that this story is going to get a lot more complicate that I realised it would.

But that's a good thing, as a complicated story will hopefully keep Peter and Carrie from getting bored, and they'll stay out of Mum's hair longer. Which is the whole reason for this.



 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-06 04:24:15**  
(no subject)

Perhaps I shouldn't barge in here since we don't know one another, but I'm quite fond of stories like the one you are trying to tell, and I think you're doing a nice job setting your story in motion.

I don't have younger siblings, but I am one, so perhaps I can offer a thought or two.


Have you decided why the witch wants to spoil this family's happiness? I really liked the fact that even something so mild as cheerfulness irritates her, but I wondered what might have happened to her to make her so hateful. Obviously, she's very powerful, the way she overpowers the poor woodsman and takes over his house. I especially liked the picture your words created of the roaring fire she built: it represents how powerful her magic is, doesn't it? And how dangerous she is. I wondered if she might be the sort of witch who burns her victims in her fire (or intends to do but doesn't succeed, since the best stories sometimes prevent their evil characters from carrying out the worst of their schemes).

I wondered, too, if the woodsman might be allowed to play a role at the end of the story. Perhaps the hero or heroine will release him from the witch's curse just in time for him to help call her to account at the end.

But more than all these things that I wondered about your characters, I wondered about the young brother and sister: are they fast friends or do they need to learn to appreciate one another? Are they naturally brave people, or will something happen in your story to make them realise they are cleverer and braver than they ever thought they could be? Does the sister have a character flaw she needs to work on or does the brother make a mistake or an error of judgement that he'll need to make up for? (Of course it could be the other way round: perhaps it's the sister who leaps to judgement and the brother who has some fault he needs to outgrow.)

I hope you will continue working on this story. It has lots of promise!



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-06 04:35:21](#)**  
(no subject)


Er, wow. Thanks!

I certainly wasn't expecting any grownups to comment on this; it's just a little thing I'm making up to keep my sibs from climbing the walls. It's nice to have some thoughts from a younger sibling--even a grown-up--because that's one thing I don't know myself. How it feels to be a younger sibling, I mean.

A lot of the things you're asking about are things I haven't even thought much about yet. I mean, bad witches are sometimes wicked because they just *are*, you know? That's the way the story has to be. But now that you've mentioned those things, I'm going to start thinking about them. Especially the woodsman. And the brother and sister.


It feels a bit strange, talking to someone I don't really know. But I'm glad that there are grownups who still like fairy tales.



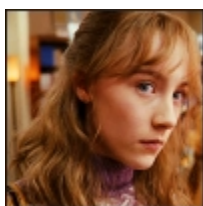
 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-06 14:56:28](#)**  
(no subject)


I like the names you came up with. And I like how you've ended it on a cliffhanger. I hope your brother and sister like it.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-07 12:39:06](#)**  
(no subject)

I just love fancy names! Sometimes when I look through old books I write down the ones I particularly like, in case I ever want to use them in a story.



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-06 16:35:07](#)**  
(no subject)


Why did the witch hate cheerfulness?  
What did she use to Petrify the woodsman?  
Why was the kingdom happy, what made them that way?



I can't wait to read more.

From,  
Hydra




 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-07 12:42:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, she used Petrificus Totalis of course! What else would you use to Petrify a person?

I suppose the kingdom was happy because it was peaceful and people had what they needed and at least some of what they wanted and they got along with each other most of the time.

The witch hated cheerfulness because that's just the sort of witch she was. I guess if she had other reasons I'll find out later when I write more.




 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-07 15:35:58](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know what else to use, but she might know some dark spells that would work.

Maybe the witch didn't like cheerfulness because she wasn't able to feel cheerful herself, because she had a curse put on her when she was little.


From,  
Hydra



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-08 19:43:02](#)**  
(no subject)

That's an interesting idea. You seem like a pretty clever sort, Lestrangle.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-07 21:49:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, she could have used whatever petrified Stebbins and Ollivander, Bones.

But then you'd have to know what did that to put it into the story.


Are you coming to the fancy dress tomorrow? Only I was about to remind everyone.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-08 00:49:59](#)**  
(no subject)


Say, am I invited? Or is it just for girls?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-08 00:57:26](#)**  
(no subject)

No, boys are invited! Only it's fancy dress, so do you have a mask?




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-08 00:59:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Its THAT sort of fancy dress? I thought I was just supposed to wear dress robes!


I don't have a mask but I reckon I can come up with something.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-08 01:01:10](#)**  
(no subject)

And is everyone invited or not? I mean I don't want to bring anyone Lana Sandoval doesn't get on with but I was thinking Dean might like to come.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-08 01:03:52](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Dean's alright.

(Yeah, there are a few people who probably  
wouldn't want to come anyway. But it's not like  
they're not invited.)



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2010-04-08 19:41:34](#)  
(no subject)

I can't believe I completely forgot about that, even  
for a little while. Especially since Bobby's up there  
in the infirmary.

I've been so busy ~~bein~~ doing my best not to be homesick and all.

**2010-04-06 17:48:00**

*Order Only: Completely Gobsmacked*

Yeah, okay, well, *that* was weird.

Laura came in to speak with me a short while ago. She started by thanking me for everything with Justin, for suggesting she look into the history, you know, to come up with a credible claim to wizard blood. She was going on about how much of a difference it's made to his situation at school.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

And then ... she started talking about how it would be even better for him if he had a wizard for a step-father.

'Forgive me if this is prying, but what about the boy's actual father?' I asked politely. 'I mean, Justin's mentioned him. He's not ... in the picture any longer, then?'

'He will not pose a problem,' she said tightly. I left it, as it was clear she didn't wish to discuss him.

Instead, I said it sounded like a possibility, if she wanted to meet some French wizards.

'Oh no,' she said, 'I couldn't marry a Frenchman. I was thinking more along the lines of a British wizard. Someone who escaped and knows--'

'Someone sympathetic, I see,' I said. 'Well, there are quite a number of English wizards outside Reims and other ... pockets, here and there.'

'It's also important that he get on well with Justin, of course,' she said.

'Of course,' I agreed. 'I mean, if your goal is to marry to help protect him.' I didn't add that I didn't think it was a very *good* reason to marry; that didn't seem to be any of my business.

She looked at me expectantly, so I continued, 'If you want assistance figuring out which wizards are liable to be a good choice, I know the bloodlines fairly well. I can--'

'No,' she said, so soft I could barely hear her. 'I don't need to review eligibility. I've already chosen.' Then suddenly, I thought I took her meaning.

'Er, Laura, are you--I mean, to say, you're not suggesting .... Do you want me to ask you to ...?'

She sighed. 'You're a pureblood. You and Justin quite like each other. And I believe that Nigel Cullenden is a respected, recognised figure in the European wizarding community.'

'Well, let's leave that aside, for a moment,' I said, 'as Nigel Cullenden is just a cover. You realise that there's a price on my head?'

'In England,' she said with a shrug.

'Yeah, but with agents all over who'd love to get their hands on me. And one of Justin's teachers is marrying none other than Lucius Malfoy's sister!' I replied. 'If you're really after Justin's protection, Laura ... I'm the last wizard you ought to marry.'

She studied her hands.

'Don't get me wrong,' I continued, worried now that I'd hurt her feelings. 'You're ... a very attractive woman, but ... I'm not the marrying kind.' (I figured I was putting it mildly!) 'And I think you owe it to yourself to consider your own feelings, not just Justin's well-being.'

'I thought I was considering them,' she answered, smiling sadly.

I felt like an utter prat then. 'I'm sorry. It's just ... there are so many reasons I'm the *worst* possible choice for that sort of thing. You'd be asking for disappointment. And I can't be the steady influence you're looking for - I simply can't risk it. Nor can you,' I added.

'No, you're right,' she said after a moment. 'It's a foolish notion. Please, let's forget I proposed it. Excuse me.' And she left.

I mean to say.

Circe, I tried to let her down easy.


Sorry, this is rather a first for me. I've been nothing but professional (and platonic) with her (despite the servants' ideas). And regardless of her treating the whole prospect like something out of a Dickens novel, I could tell she .... Well. I swear, I never suspected she felt anything like interest in me as more than a tutor for Justin. She's warmed up

considerably since I first joined the household, but I'd never have said her manner with me was what you'd call ... inviting.

I just hope it doesn't turn awkward. She's as likely to go back to that cold air Andi always used to have when she was cross.

---




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-07 22:38:55](#)**  
(no subject)

And how are things today, Sirius? Are you still in Dijon? Have things settled down or does she seem upset? Do you have a plan for leaving quickly if she tries to take revenge by giving information against you?

I'm sure I've no idea whether she's the sort to do such a thing, only women sometimes take jilting rather badly, and sometimes situations blow out of all proportion just when they seem wholly benign.

I know that I'm always the one saying this, but do be careful.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 22:54:15](#)**  
(no subject)

She's been very adult about the whole thing, luckily.

Justin asked me a few questions, but he seemed more in the way of wanting to know what the servants knew that he didn't.


Merlin, I hadn't even thought of her revealing that she knows where to find me. It'd be a suicidal thing for her to do, really, but you're right, I guess. Women can do fairly self-destructive things in the name of vengeance.

Sorry - it may sound terribly naive, but I've honestly never been in this sort of situation. I've never even broken things off with a girl - well, other than to leave town or simply not owl.

That said, I am planning to head for Calais. I've told Justin I reckon I ought to exit gracefully; he figures his mum's just gone a little funny on account of learning that his father's remarried in Australia.


Wish I'd known that before, incidentally. Might have helped.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:04:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh dear. I do feel sorry for you both. It does seem like you handled it as gracefully as you could under the circumstances, though.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:14:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Really?

I was pretty sure you'd take the mickey.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:39:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Darling, there are very few ways to leave that sort of situation without either hurting the other person very much, or ending up engaged out of obligation. I think you did well enough, given how unexpected it all was. You were truthful, you were kind, and you made your reasons against about you, not about her. Which will be a comfort to her, I think.

I can't imagine how lonely she must feel. I'd imagine lonely enough to convince herself that would be a good idea.



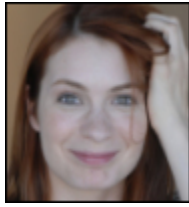
 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:46:38](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh.

Well, yeah, I guess you're right. Felt a right pillock, though.

I thought ... I mean, I know we're all busy, but I figured you'd be, I dunno, cross at me. Or something.

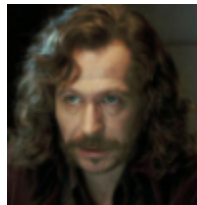
I kept thinking that, anyway. All night - 'Allie's going to roast me alive for being such a git.'




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-08 00:16:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Hah!

Well, I'll certainly let you know if you ever are, but from what you've said, you were every inch the gentlemen.

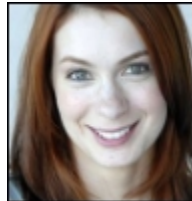



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-08 00:19:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Heh.

Send a note to my mother, will you? 'Dear Walburga, you'll be happy to know that your eldest son, despite your best efforts, still treats ladies with respect, even if they've no magical ability whatsoever.'


Might finish her right off, that.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-08 02:03:56](#)**  
(no subject)

And just imagine what she would say if you'd said yes!




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-08 02:05:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Almost worth it!






 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:40:11](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm willing to take the mickey if she won't.

The lady's bruised feelings aside--and I'm sorry for it--I must say, it's not like you to be quite so, well, clueless when a woman has serious intentions, is it?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:52:47](#)**  
(no subject)

You'd be surprised.

Not to be indelicate, but I'm not all that complicated in my liaisons. No expectations, no strings. Often no last names!

And honestly, Bill, there was never any hint of serious intentions on her part, not that I saw. She made it sound like she'd picked out a set of robes.

To be honest, I'm glad I was able to take my leave and get to Calais today. It's much more straightforward.

**2010-04-07 17:27:00**

*(no subject)*

I saw what you wrote the other day, mum, and I just wanted to let you know that I'm fine.



I've just been feeling a bit under the weather lately is all. My stomach hurts something awful. I'll see Madame Pomphrey tonight. It's probably too many sweets.

 **alt\_pansy**

I didn't mean to worry you. I know it's been a while since I've written. It was nice to see you writing in your journal, even if it was because you hadn't heard from me in a while. I'm glad to hear you're doing well. It sounds like spring in London is lovely. Our Easter baskets at school weren't nearly as nice as the ones you make for me, but it was very nice that we got baskets at all, they were very thoughtful. I did miss you quite a lot over hols. You're right, I ought to have written earlier, and I'm sorry. I've been keeping terribly busy.


Summer in Scotland would be interesting, you're right. As long as I do get to visit my friends sometime, and Pyewacket can come along too. I wouldn't want to be a bother to ~~Mr Campbell~~ Prospero, but if it was his idea, I suppose he knows what he'd be getting. It would be nice if Sally-Anne could come visit a little, especially if we're to be there most of the summer, but if it would be too much to ask, I understand.

I've been keeping up in all my classes, and Potions has been going better than it was at the beginning of the term. I've decided to take Runes, Arithmancy, and Care of Magical Creatures for my electives.

I'll write more I promise.



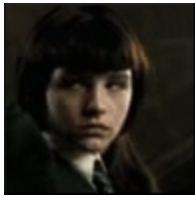
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 **alt\_hydra** at **2010-04-07 22:14:13**  
*(no subject)*

Where did you get sweets?  
I haven't been able to find any lately.

From,

Hydra




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-07 22:19:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Did you get an Easter basket?

I've still got some chocolates and sugar eggs left if you didn't. I don't think I could have any sweets at the moment.

Then again, if it's what set my stomach off, you might not want mine.




 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-08 04:01:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Just the one with the transfigured chocs and things. They don't taste as nice, though. Dennis was always good for sweets, wasn't he?


From,  
Hydra



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-08 11:23:12](#)**  
(no subject)

He was. It's funny, but I do miss him.

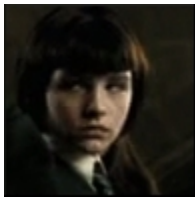



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:12:14](#)**  
(no subject)

I doubt anyone could be expected to spend an entire summer in Scotland, nor with Prospero Campbell.

We have no plans to travel at present. Your Miss Perks' situation will naturally depend on her foster family's indulgence, but I am sure that it will be possible to arrange at least a few days in London if you wish. Your mother has been much more amenable recently (Campbell's influence, I think, which we must both acknowledge has been overall positive).

I've no specific information, but I feel certain there will be Young Protectors' activities that might occupy your time as well.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:34:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I think mum is certainly expecting it. For her, I mean.  
Not me.

I'd like that. Spending some time in London with you  
and Aunt Narcissa and Draco would be nice. If it wouldn't be too  
much trouble.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-07 23:41:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Trouble or not, I'd like it as well.

**2010-04-07 18:17:00**

XXI.

Honestly, I'm getting tired of answering the same question over and over. Yes, whoever took them returned my earrings earlier in the week: they sent them to me at Ravenclaw Corner by one of the elves. I suppose they thought they were being very clever.




 **alt\_lana**

And, yes, I did give them to the Headmistress and she gave them through her fire to Mr Lestrage, so we'll see if he can tell anything about the spell that was used on Laverty and me based on what he can detect in the earrings. And, no. I did not give him any of my other belongings to test. I wish you'd all stop talking about my clothes and what might have been done to them. Honestly, it's horrible. I shouldn't think you'd like it if it had happened to you. Or maybe you would, Stretton.

Oh, and Bobolis: when you said last evening that you'd misplaced the parchment with all your results on, you'd best not have meant that you've lost it. I swear, if this whole thing goes pear shaped because you're too distracted to keep track of your notes, you'll be on your own explaining that to Professor Carrow. Johns and I are meeting tomorrow afternoon to put together our part of this week's report, and if you know what's good for you, you'll be there with that parchment and all of your data in order.




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 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-07 22:57:00**  
(no subject)

Well, look on the bright side: It's probably really unlikely that anyone will attack you two weeks running.

So we'll be able to have our fancy dress tomorrow night.



 **alt\_lana** at **2010-04-07 23:02:05**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Patil.

You're right. We're overdue for a party!

**2010-04-08 12:45:00**

### *Meetings with the Minister*

Weekly meeting with Fudge a mixed bag this week.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

The worst report was that St Mungo's has documented 100 cases of purebloods contracting the paralysis and a number more than double that in halfbloods. We had thought the precautions in place adequately contained the disease's spread, but the most recent cases resulted from a family disregarding the travel advisory at the week-end bank holiday. Surprised this was the only case, frankly; it seemed that everyone was most anxious to conclude business early on Thursday and Friday last in order to take advantage of the days off. Recommended that Selwyn's people devise another pamphlet to reinforce the proper travel procedures and the consequences of reckless transportation. (The Knight Bus, for example, remains out of service for the time being.)

The good news is that there have been no new cases reported in the camps in over a week. The remedy devised by Rookwood and his assistants from St Mungo's appears to be taking hold. All muggles who have been given the restorative are seeing benefit within twenty-four hours and most are able to return to light duty within five days. The camps are reinstating them to full work within two weeks, and most report no lingering joint pain or stiffness by that time. Consequently, the Minister anticipates that labour forces will be back to normal levels by the end of April - though this is concerning as the planting season will be well underway by that time. Discussed measures to allow for the shorter planting season and account for any reduction in crops that might result.


Rookwood's cure for the halfblood and pureblood version is ready for testing. He has seen decent results in rats and ran a phase II trial outside of Willesden a few days ago. He and the Healer team are looking for volunteer families to test the cure; approached me for permission to give it to Narcissa's niece, as she is still in hospital.

Must review the packet for the NRBC board meeting on Monday. Also received word that Muggle-born Labour shall meet via firechat, as the muggle-born workforce is well on its way to restoration.

Court yesterday was ... illuminating. As is usual, the spring air instills in Our Lord a zest for new research. He has followed Rookwood's efforts closely, of course, out of concern for His people. His interest has expressed itself, however, by returning always to that subject which has been central to His pursuits for many years: To continually improve the strength of magic's ability to protect, to preserve and to prolong life and prosperity. We spoke yesterday at length regarding certain volumes He wishes to acquire .... Some are easily accessed in the library at Malfoy Manor; for others, I believe the Black home at Grimmauld Place may well hold the resources He would reference. Still others may be more difficult to find, though doubtless Hogwarts' library may have a musty copy somewhere. If so, Minerva, we may need to prevail upon your gorgon, Madam Pince, to release the manuscripts from their vault for a time.

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 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-09 01:49:53](#)**  
(no subject)


Kreacher reported finding only one of the volumes He requires in the library, though mother apparently has had a further thought or two about whether she might have stowed them away somewhere after father's

death.

I do remember that she went through some things and that she had bouts when she was downright ruthless about boxing things up and sending them out to the charity shops, but then she'd swing back the other way and refuse to part with anything further.

If Kreacher can't find them, then I'd guess they've gone for good.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:04:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Always assuming the elf can actually read. I have had my doubts at times about their basic abilities - though perhaps that is unfairly based on our experiences with the rather defective Dobby.

I'm certain the Restricted Section will have any tomes that have been misplaced from your father's library; the question is whether the manuscripts will be so fragile that they can be handled safely.

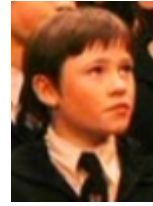
However, that is not to say that your mother's efforts (or her elf's) on Our Lord's behalf are not appreciated. Nor does it reflect at all on Our Lord's right to whatever He so wishes.



**2010-04-08 17:55:00**

*I'm all dressed up!*

I bought a mask today and I'm all ready for the party! Can't wait!



 **alt\_seamus**

**2010-04-08 18:43:00**

*Fancy dress!*

Just a reminder that the party is tonight! I hope you've all got costumes or dominoes or something because we've actually organised a little prize for the best one.




 **alt\_padma**

Johns, MacAvoy, Pyle and Gamp have volunteered to manage the music. And Lavery, Jenkins and Dougherty are overseeing the refreshments. Dougherty promised soda bread and Pennifold is donating the last of the jam her mum sent just before the packages were banned.

Unfortunately, I guess Gray won't be coming tonight. She found out today her dad's one of the 100 victims Mr Malfoy mentioned, so far. She's awfully upset about it. Chang and Edgecombe said they tried to convince her that the party would make her feel better, but she says she'd just spoil everyone else's mood. So Edgecombe said they might not stay long, either, on account of going back to Ravenclaw so she's not all alone. That's decent of them, I think.



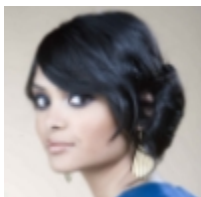
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 **alt\_pansy** at **2010-04-08 23:23:51**  
(no subject)

I could use a little fun.

I think costumes are a good idea, even if we had to use what we had here. It's a good distraction from everything.

Oh, and I've got an idea for History club I wanted to run by you. Maybe. If you're not too busy.




 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-08 23:36:56**  
(no subject)

So far the costumes people here in Ravenclaw have been putting together are pretty nift.


I dunno if tonight will be a good night to talk - it might be loud - but sure, I'd be happy to hear what you've got in mind.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-09 13:09:43](#)**  
(no subject)


You know what? *never mind.*



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-09 01:18:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Parvati and I have made the most Darling masks! I can't wait!




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-09 01:27:34](#)**  
(no subject)

It's going to be massive! I can't wait to see! Parvati wouldn't tell me anything.

But I guess that's only fair because I haven't told her about my frock, either.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-09 01:30:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Well if your own Twin hasn't told you anything then I certainly won't!

Let's just say that there's a certain Charm that I've been trying to learn for ages, and I've finally learnt it!




 **[alt\\_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:36:50](#)**  
(no subject)

It's really loud in here, Padma.

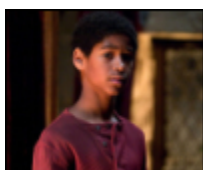
I didn't know people were going to be transfiguring themselves, too.


Who's the bloke with the cat's head, then?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:39:02](#)**  
(no subject)

That's Troy, I think.




 **[alt\\_dean](#)** at **[2010-04-09 03:05:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Hey Padma,

I don't know where you are, but I just wanted to say that this is a great party. It definately was a great idea, especially with all the costumes. Everyone I have seen looks great so far.

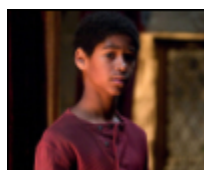
Anyway save a dance for me?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-09 03:09:32](#)**  
(no subject)

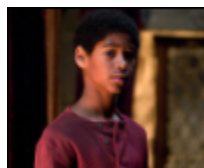
I know - I think challenges like this, when they're for fun, really bring out people's ingenuity, don't you?


You want to dance? Er...but aren't you here with Weasley? I mean, you two came together, right? Will she mind?



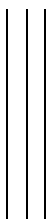
 **[alt\\_dean](#)** at **[2010-04-09 03:18:57](#)**  
(no subject)


Yes we came together, as in walked from Gryffindor tower. But she wouldn't mind, Ginny and I just talk alot, thats all. She is a good mate.



 **[alt\\_dean](#)** at **[2010-04-09 03:33:50](#)**  
(no subject)

But if you are afraid to, I undestand.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-09 03:38:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't be silly, I'm not afraid. I'm just waiting for a good song.

**2010-04-08 21:08:00**


*Oi Ron*

While you're up in Gryffindor would you nick Lee Jordan's music player? I don't expect he'd mind you borrowing it. Pansy brought music, and so did Jones and Hopkins, it's a shame not to be able to listen to it.



 **alt\_sally\_anne**



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-09 02:17:40**  
(no subject)

Oh, yeah, all right.

Nev's not here. I guess he's off with the rest of them.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-09 02:20:38**  
(no subject)

Huh.

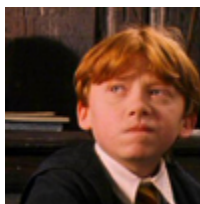
Did you find the player? I don't know how they keep their room, but I've never imagined the twins as very tidy roommates.


You didn't run into your brothers, did you?



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-09 02:24:15**  
(no subject)

No, they're not here, either.




 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-09 02:25:56**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Hope they're getting up to some mischief wherever they've all gone off to.

Tossers.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:20:16](#)**  
(no subject)

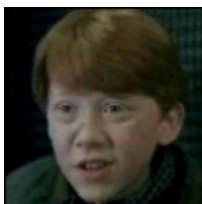
I wouldn't have thought


oh, well



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:27:46](#)**  
(no subject)

Come on back down, the elves brought cake. Don't know where Psyche Bobolis has gone off to, though.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:22:30](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I'm Up To No Good*

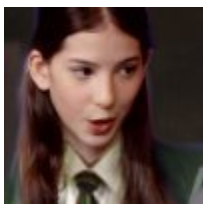
Er, so yeah. I've found it. Hope you don't mind, Lee.

I think I'm going to nick some music, too. I mean, you ditched out on us, so you can't really complain.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:34:46](#)**  
(no subject)

Heh. They've got a whole stash of food in here, too. Chocs and toffees. What do you think?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:36:27](#)**  
(no subject)

I think stealing food you find among things owned by the TWINS is a completely reckless idea. Put it in your own room if you're mad enough to do it, don't bring it to the party!

Anyway there is CAKE. Hurry up or we'll eat it all without you.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:37:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Cake?

Why didn't you say?!

On my way.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 02:51:13](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Alright now that I've got proper ink for this (and am in the loo so Pansy doesn't see me writing) I wanted to say, Neville I KNOW you wouldn't have kept it secret from Ron (and from me and Pansy) where the real party was, so I'm sure Seamus told you at the last minute and didn't give you any idea that it was a big secret.

Stretton went storming out when we realised and I think he was going to try to crash the real party (is it crashing when in theory you were invited, they just told you the wrong location?) so please do let me know what happened if he found it. Did they let him in? Was there a scene? I hate looking desperate too much to go looking, but I do kind of wish I could see Jeremy Stretton trying to get in.



**2010-04-08 21:50:00**

*Where is everyone?*

I've never seen the Ravenclaw common room entirely empty before.

It's rather cosy, really. I don't have to wait for one of the nice armchairs by the fire. It's so quiet that I can hear a cat across the room purring.

(Ginny, I'm sorry I missed getting your note earlier, but I'll talk to you at breakfast.)



 **alt\_luna**




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-09 03:04:31**  
(no subject)

Some of us are down in the large dungeon off the Potions wing. There's cake, if you'd like to join us, and music.

Not very many people, though.



 **alt\_luna** at **2010-04-09 03:11:49**  
(no subject)

It's very kind of you to think of me, thank you!

I have a cat in my lap now and another one napping on the sleeve of my robes. They look so comfortable that I think it would be almost too unkind to dislodge them. So thank you very much for the invitation, but I think I'll just stay here and enjoy the quiet until everyone gets back.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-09 03:15:32**  
(no subject)

Well alright then.

I'll send you up some cake with Sarah Fawcett. I think everyone's going to be going to their own common rooms shortly.

**2010-04-08 22:28:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To  
No Good*



Well that was utterly miserable.


I'm going to do my best tomorrow to pretend  
I don't care, and so is Pansy.

 **alt\_sally\_anne**

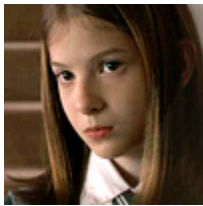
At least Psyche got the elves to bring us cake, before she wandered off  
wherever it was she went.

---



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-09 16:05:07**  
(no subject)

It really reeks, and that's no lie. And now Neville feels  
all miserable that he was there and had fun, and  
Finnigan's smirking like a hyena whenever we're in  
the same place, and Dean.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-09 17:41:52**  
(no subject)

Yeah Finnigan knew. I can tell from the way he was  
looking at you at breakfast.

I don't think you saw, because he looked away when  
you turned around. But, he knew.

I don't know about Thomas. He's hard to read.




 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-10 04:43:48**  
(no subject)

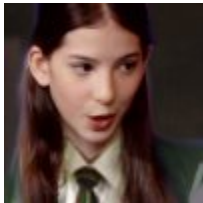
It was a rotten trick, and I'm so awfully sorry you  
missed out. If only I'd had my journal with me! Then  
I would have found you and had you come back with  
me, and Patil wouldn't have been able to pretend  
then that it was just an accident.

She's as spiteful as a doxy.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 16:05:50](#)**  
(no subject)


Did you hear he went with my sister, Dean? Like it was a date! I mean, danced with her and everything. And planned their costumes together. He's not sorry he went, and he's sure not fussed I wasn't there. The twins are giving him a hard time about it, though, so that almost makes it worth it. And Ginny. They got her so well at breakfast her face was redder than the jam.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:42:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Your sister is too young for dates. She's a whole year younger than us!



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 18:43:57](#)**  
(no subject)

You're telling me?

Mum would've had kittens about it.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:46:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Do you know if Dean really danced with Padma?

Ugh.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 18:45:36](#)**  
(no subject)

He what?

Should've made him shower before he came into the room last night!




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 20:25:55](#)**  
(no subject)

I expect Patil would've wanted to wash her hands as soon as she was done dancing with him. Maybe he felt the same way?

~~Lucky we haven't~~




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 20:43:32](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know. Sometimes I think he should've been sorted in Slytherin. Did you see where he asked her to dance? Just covering all the hoops, keeping her off guard or whatever--that's what he'd probably say he was doing.

Sometimes I really don't know what to think.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 16:10:00](#)**  
(no subject)

And, yeah. Jordan's been really decent about the stuff we borrowed. He said if he'd had his journal and seen when we wrote, he'd have come downstairs. And if he'd have come, the twins would've, too. They said it was just really loud and most people's costumes were just naff. Said we didn't miss much besides Sandoval acting like she was the queen of everything and Patil sucking up to her all night long.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:43:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Well it would have been fun to see the costumes.

But yeah. Other than that I don't think we missed much.



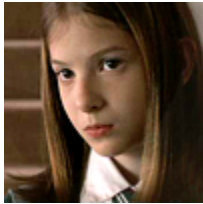
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:33:20](#)**  
(no subject)

You know, if you weren't friends with me, they'd let you be part of everything.

You could really be friends with Malfoy and his lot. I mean, they don't hate you at all or anything.

Anywiz.

I'm sorry.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:40:28](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll always be a halfblood.

I suppose if I were more like Seamus Finnigan I could be friends with people who talk to me even though I'm a halfblood.

But I'd rather be friends with the people who honestly don't care.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 18:46:37](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.

**2010-04-09 02:20:00**

*That was WIZARD!*

I danced so much tonight and drank an absolute tonne of punch and now I've far too much energy to sleep! The party was brilliant--it seemed like everyone in the school was there! I suppose some of the OWL and NEWT year students who are really, really devoted to revising didn't come, but it certainly seemed like everyone.



 [alt\\_susan](#)

They had the lights dimmed, and some sort of colored light show on the ceiling--I meant to check and see if it was done with charms or with some sort of lantern, but then I got absorbed in the party and forgot. The swirly lights and the masks and costumes people were wearing made it seem almost not real.

A whole crowd of us came together from Hufflepuff, but almost right away everyone got swept away by the crowd and pretty soon I couldn't even see Ernie or Hannah. Eloise and I stuck together for awhile and then we bumped (kind of literally as I tripped on the hem of her robe) into Katrina Bundy. All of us tried to guess each other's costumes (of course, Eloise and I already knew each other's, and mine was dead easy anyhow) and Katrina was a blank slate, which I thought was really clever! She showed me how to do the spell that would let me write on her robes with my wand, as if it were a pen.

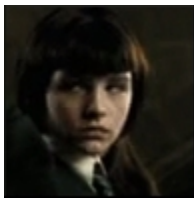
And by then we were sort of used to the lights and the noise and everything, and I saw that all these people were dancing in one corner and somehow I just had to dance too. And I'm not normally brave like this but I found I could be with the mask on, so I dragged Eloise and Bundy over and pretty soon we were dancing along with everyone else. It was wizard fun, except for some horrid boy who kept dancing near me and pinching me on the arm. He had a green mask on but I think he must have been a third year because I couldn't even guess who he was.


I went and looked for Parkinson when they played "The Witches are Wizard" cos that's a great song, but I didn't see her anywhere nearby. I guess she wasn't in the mood for dancing or something. Finally Professor Acton came in and told everyone it was time to go back to our dorms and sort of got the prefects organised to lead everyone since it was late. And there were a couple of other professors with her; for safety I guess.

I don't want to keep anyone else up so I'm writing this by candlelight and *trying* to be quiet, though it isn't easy as Hannah and I keep looking at each other and giggling for no reason at all. And I keep having to run up and go to the loo every five minutes, which is just irritating. Eloise was done and dropped straight off to sleep; I'm not worried about her 'cos nothing can budge her when she's really out, not even thunderstorms.

I'm afraid Megan might not be feeling very well though, because she was already in her bed asleep when we came in. She sort of looked up when we came in, and then turned over and went back to sleep. She must have left really early; I hope she's alright.

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 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-09 14:28:39](#)**  
(no subject)

I just *happened* to not know where the actual party was, because Patil *forgot* to tell everyone. She also *forgot* to tell Ron and Sally-Anne, and Jones and Hopkins. And Sandoval must've been awfully forgetful too, because Stretton, Frobisher, and Bobolis were confused about where we were supposed to be as well.

Do you see a pattern?

I sure do.




 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-09 15:03:42](#)**  
(no subject)

You mean not everybody...

Oh. *Oh*.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-09 14:48:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't listen to Parkinson, she's just convinced it was deliberate.

I'm glad you had fun, Bones - it was a nift to see so many really amazing costumes. What did you make your horn out of?

You could've poked that boy with it if it'd been sharp enough; that'd stop him pinching you!



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-10 01:19:41](#)**  
(no subject)

You've never seemed like the forgetful type, Patil, but I guess anyone can make a mistake.

And it *was* good fun--thanks for organising it. But it would have been even better fun if everyone had got the message.

My horn was really just *papier-mache* with a bit of charm-work added on, but I rather wish it *had* been sharp. I don't know why some boys are such berks.



**2010-04-09 09:28:00**

*Thanks - and Sorry*

On behalf of Sandoval and myself, I want to thank everyone who contributed to last night's amazing party!



 [alt\\_padma](#)

- Avery, Darst and Bobolis for charming the ceilings and the walls (if you didn't get a good look at the walls, they had tiny mirrors on to reflect the ceiling lights and also they helped with the sound)
- MacAvoy, Gamp, Johns and Pyle for running the music all evening - that was such a lot of work and it really made everything so marvellous!
- Laverty, Jenkins and Dougherty for organising the refreshments (and making sure we didn't run out!)
- Fletcher, Dames, Yaxley and Burrow for judging the costume contest and donating the prize
- Professors Vector and Carpenter for letting us use the attic, it's so much nicer than that dungeon (more on that in a bit)
- Everyone who came!

And congratulations again to the winners: Derrick and Avery for their 'Swedish Short Snout' in the team category and Kirke for her stunning representation of 'Queen Maeve'. (I'd like to give personal honourable mentions to Lavender Brown for her colour-changing charm and to Draco Malfoy for keeping us all in stitches all evening!)

That brings me to our apology.

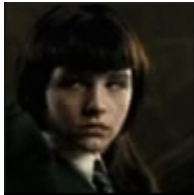
It's come to Sandoval's and my attention this morning that a few people weren't told of the last-minute location change. We're terribly sorry about that. Please believe it wasn't intentional at all - I know I meant to dash something into the journals, but in the setup and all, I just forgot. I'm sure Sandoval could say the same.


I guess that's our lesson: there's always something about hostessing that goes wrong, no matter how much planning one puts in. All I can

say is that it certainly wasn't *personal* and we wish we'd have known that not everyone heard about the change.

I'm not sure when we'll be able to host another party - probably after OWLs and NEWTs are over - but I do hope everyone (and I mean everyone) gets to come!

---




 **alt\_pansy** at [2010-04-09 14:23:43](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, don't worry, Patil.

Looking around the room at the people you *happened* to forget to tell, there's no way that *anyone* would think you meant it personally. After all, each and every one of us are all such good *friends* with you and Sandoval.

Honestly. How transparent and juvenile can you get?



 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-09 14:36:30](#)  
(no subject)


As opposed to how juvenile it is to accuse us all of going to such incredible lengths just to make sure a few people didn't come?

Honestly, Parkinson, how egotistical can you get?

I'm sorry you're cross, but really, it was just an oversight. The fact that they were all people we're not particularly chummy with explains everything - but not in the way you mean. It just means we had no occasion to say anything. Honestly, I would've thought the word would have passed through the people we did tell, and it wasn't until later I realised that didn't happen.

And I'm still interested in your History Club idea, whatever it was.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-09 15:17:56](#)**  
(no subject)


Seems to me it would take a lot more time and effort to tell people in person rather than just writing a quick note for everyone to

You know what, don't bother.

I'm not in the mood right now.

And I'm sure that next time, you'll be less careless. Or you'll actually do us the courtesy of telling us if we're really invited or not. If you want an invite-only, send out invites. That's all.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:26:44](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Y'know, I really wish you knew this spell so we could talk here when stuff like this happens.

I mean, I know why, but it would still make it so much easier just to talk, y'know?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-09 17:44:37](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

You think it's annoying to YOU not to be able to write to her this way?


Imagine how I feel.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-09 18:42:18](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


Yeah.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-09 14:28:17](#)**  
(no subject)

You're a pretty good social organiser, Patil. I reckon my Mother would be impressed, though she'd probably also have some advice for you on how to announce a venue change at the last minute.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-09 14:32:49](#)**  
(no subject)

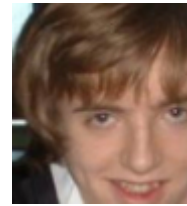
Hah, I know - that wasn't strictly our finest hour. I mean, we had the journals, we could've said. But it just seemed every time I was about to go write, someone had a question, or new people arrived, or something took me away from it.

But after all, even your mother wasn't able to cancel things right from the off over the Christmas hol's. That was such an incredible party - it's really too bad you missed it. But your birthday's coming up, right? That'll be wizard.

**2010-04-09 10:22:00**

*Last night's party*

Last night's party was wizard. I'm sure I speak for everyone, Padma, when I say thank you for all your hard work! I reckon you're going to be a shoe-in for Head Girl when we're in seventh year, you know!



 **alt\_ernie**

A nice fun evening was precisely what we all needed, at this difficult time when we can't go home and can't even send Owls to our families and that. I've been spending most of my time revising, since we're here and the library is on hand. I drew up a revision timetable at the beginning of the hols, and I've been sticking to it pretty well so far. Miles to go, though.


I scheduled in some break time too, so I've not just been working, but last night was an unplanned break, and sometimes that's just what you need to help refresh the mind! I'm looking forward to cracking on with some more work today.

Apparently some people didn't get the message about the change of venue? That's a shame. It was a bit last minute, but it's a good job we did switch. There were so many people there - it felt like the whole school! We'd never have all fitted into the other room, and then there might not have been room for dancing, and then we'd never have got to see Susan dancing! Haha!

Thanks again, Padma! And to the Head Girl as well, and all the other people who were involved in organising things. Jolly good show, I say!




---

 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-09 14:44:39**  
(no subject)

Cheers, MacMillan!

I guess next time we'll have to send out special invitations to certain people, since they're being shirty about going to the wrong place.




 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-09 14:49:22](#)**  
(no subject)

I suppose it's a bit embarrassing for them that they got muddled up, or didn't hear from anyone that it had changed. That's hardly your fault, though. They could've just asked someone where we'd moved to and come up instead of sulking about it.

Anyway, yeah, it was a great night. Thanks!



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-10 01:22:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Are you having a go at my dancing, Ernie?

**2010-04-09 22:48:00**

*(no subject)*

Pues el delito mayor  
Del hombre es haber nacido.



 **alt\_regulus**

If only.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-10 04:06:11**

*(no subject)*

Feeling maudlin, are we?



 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-10 04:07:20**

*(no subject)*

Talk me down from it?



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-10 04:14:35**

*(no subject)*

Honestly, Reg, you've not been listening to your mother again, have you? For Merlin's sake.

Ten minutes she had me on the Floo this afternoon. All about how your Kreacher has muffed the cookery since spending so much time with you these last weeks.

If you've any sense you'll simply ignore her ranting. It's been so much worse lately.

I wonder if it's because the anniversary of Uncle Orion's death is coming up? But that's not until June, isn't it? Well, I'm baffled, then.

At any rate pay no mind - she's just angling to borrow Fifi for a time.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:16:36](#)**  
(no subject)

I can't sleep. The elf's gone tonight.

I tried reading, but all I've got is Beckett and Calderón de la Barca. Well, and that dreadful biography of Rowena Ravenclaw that came out last summer. I don't know what I was thinking when I packed those.

*Bid us sigh on from day to day,  
And wish and wish the soul away,  
Till youth and genial years are flown,  
And all the life of life is gone.*




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:22:05](#)**  
(no subject)

I've no idea what you were thinking, either. It's like that period you went through in your OWL year, loads of *Sisters of Sorcery* albums and dark pronouncements.

It was boring then, Reg, and it's boring now. I forbid you to read another poem.

You were coming round for tea tomorrow, weren't you? Why not come tonight instead? I can easily provide you with a rather cheeky bordeaux and an even more ribald volume of *Tristram Bundy*.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:22:25](#)**  
(no subject)

It's true, Mother's been an utter shrew about sharing Kreacher. But she's got him now, so I have no idea what's she's moaning to you about.

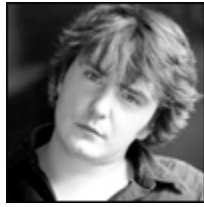
Definitely ignore her.


You'll ignore me, too, if you know what's good for you.

I promise to be in better form tomorrow.



Just having a bad evening is all.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:23:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Bordeaux and *Bundy*, though.

Well.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:25:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Limited offer.

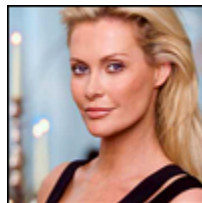
I'd not ignore *me*, if *you* know what's good for you.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:26:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, you do know how to twist my arm, don't you.

I could be packed up and in the Floo in twenty minutes. Make it twenty-five.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-10 04:33:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Lucky you: The offer is good for the next thirty minutes.

(Mention our ad and receive a bonus serving of cherry trifle.)



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-10 20:07:41](#)**  
(no subject)

What's that, then?

It looks like Spanish, or Italian, but I can't tell what it means.

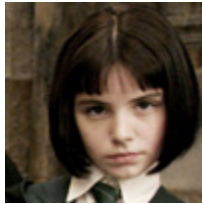



 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-10 20:39:07](#)  
(no subject)

It says, 'Humanity's greatest sin is being born.' Or something close to that.

I'm afraid Pedro Calderón de la Barca--the one who said it--was an incurable optimist or else he was simply taking the piss.

I'm not sure whether to recommend him to you. Do you like plays? There was a revival of his El Mágico Prodigioso (in translation, of course, and called something like The Supreme Sorcerer) at the New Drury Lane. The Sandovals and Harrods put up the dosh to get it done, and I've heard they've got another of his on the list for next season. El Médico de Su Honra, I think. Or maybe it's the other one about dishonour; I can never keep those straight.




 **alt\_pansy** at [2010-04-10 20:52:28](#)  
(no subject)

I like *seeing* plays. Mum takes me to Christmas pantos every year, and I've been to see Romeo and Juliet and Midsummer Night's Dream too. I'm always a little disappointed when I *read* plays, though, because they're never quite as good or interesting just sitting there on the page. I've tried reading Shakespeare, but it's always hard to get his meaning just by looking at the words, and the jokes aren't nearly as funny. I cried when I saw Romeo and Juliet, but reading it wasn't quite the same.

But plays aren't really meant to be read anyways.



 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-10 21:48:20](#)  
(no subject)

Well, yes. And I suppose you have to enjoy languages to bother with the original texts of writers like Calderón de la Barca, but he was a poet and a philosopher, so reading is sometimes the only way to really catch and chew on what he's saying.

Still and all, he's wrong to go dismissing all our culpability for the things we do. It's all well and good to dismiss life as a dream (that's another title of his, by the way), but it won't do to say everything just illusory because then you imply that we're not, in the end, authors of our own deeds. Or that what we do hasn't any important substance. D'you see? I've been working myself into quite a state over this dusty old Spaniard, and I really should quit him, except that he's so bloody beautiful sometimes.


Éstas que fueron pompa y alegría?  
despertando al albor de la mañana,  
¿a la tarde serán lástima vana?  
durmiendo en brazos de la noche fría.

That's from a sonnet of his that likens roses to people in their short-lived beauty. It's really poignant. Also true. To put it into English, he talks of the splendour and vigour of the flowers when, in the morning, they awake, but he points out that evening inevitably comes and with it the realisation that all vitality is vain and pathetic, a prelude to our long sleep in night's cold arms.

That's good, isn't it? Night's cold arms?

Terrible, but true.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-10 22:00:34](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, so that's what you meant. That if you've sinned just by being born, the rest all doesn't really count.

I still don't think that paints a rosy picture. Neither does the poem for that matter. Haha. Although you're right, it does sound very beautiful. And sad. I wish I could read foreign languages. I think I'll ask mum to hire a French tutor while we're in Scotland over summer hols.

If you do bad deeds in your dreams or think about doing them, does that count just as much as really doing it? I don't think so, because there is a choice, I think, between wanting to do something bad and actually deciding to do it. And because we have choices, what we do really does mean something.

If that's the case, then I don't think splendour and vigour is vain and pathetic at all.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-11 01:29:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Hey.

You're not having bad dreams again, are you?

Are you?




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 02:38:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Sometimes. They are the kind where I'm running around in a maze and can't find the exit, or I'm running late for something, only I can't remember what I'm late for. I do lots of running when I dream lately.

I haven't had really bad dreams since last term, though. The screaming kind, I mean.

It's funny, but sometimes, I really miss Marie.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-11 05:38:38](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm sorry to hear it, my friend.

Is there any relation between the times when you suffer the dreams and the days when your stomach troubles you? Or does it seem wholly random when the dreams come?

I don't believe our dreams can be held against us, by the way, unless we really are wandering about, committing mayhem whilst we sleep. That would seem to fall into a grey area where, at the very least, it's incumbent upon the dreamer to seek help. Of course, we don't get to take credit for anything we do in dreams, either.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 06:00:36](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I've been noticing more of both lately, so maybe. I can't imagine hurt stomachs are good for sleeping.

I feel fine now, though. That potion Madame Pomphrey gave me really did help things.


I used to sleepwalk last term, you know, but I mostly just went down to the common room and sat by the fire, which isn't very exciting. No mayhem for me.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 05:07:20](#)**  
(no subject)

I think I'm going to have excellent dreams tonight.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-11 05:39:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh?

Was there something especially delicious for pudding tonight?




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 06:07:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Not really. It was rice pudding, which always looks gross, but tastes okay I guess. I can't wait til we get strawberries in season again. Yum.


But between poetry and plays and French tutors, I think I'll have plenty of exciting and interesting things to think on tonight.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-11 18:48:15](#)  
(no subject)


And that's the only reason, is it?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-11 20:36:38](#)  
(no subject)

Naturally!




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-10 21:39:54](#)  
(no subject)

And I don't really see how that's particularly optimistic.

Is it a sin just to exist?



 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-10 21:54:42](#)  
(no subject)

It's only optimistic if you look slantwise. I was being a bit wry about it. I'm sure the poet thought he was being all moody and bleak about existence.


And, of course, he was influenced by his religion which taught Original Sin, so he's merely stating that no one is born free of the taint of sin.

Still, I think he misses the whole point of our being responsible for the havoc we wreak in the world. If our worst crime is being born, that's not even something we chose, is it? What then of all the things we choose to do. All the dreadful decisions that ought to be charged to our accounts?

Is it a sin just to exist? I don't think so. Certainly not for all of us. Not from the beginning. I suppose you might ask whether some of us sin by continuing.

Begging your pardon. My cousin will have my hide for this if I'm not careful. I'm supposed to be changing for dinner, not foisting morose poetry on you.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-10 22:03:08](#)**  
(no subject)

I think you're right -- he does rather skip out on any responsibility for anything by saying things like "it's all a dream," and "we're born in sin anyroad, so why bother."

It doesn't sound like he enjoyed existence very much.

You'd better get dressed. I'm glad you're going out and having dinner, and Aunt Narcissa mustn't be kept waiting.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-11 04:28:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, he *was* Spanish. Even Isobel Sandoval, much as I adore her, can become crashingly dull when she goes on at length about the homeland.

To hear her tell it, Spain hasn't much left the 16th century and I suspect they would rather forget that little incident with their armada, altogether!


But you'll be happy to know that Reg's chat with you did not keep him. Though we did not go 'out' at all, dear: I still insist on proper etiquette when we have company, and therefore we dress for supper. I don't believe Lucius has held you to this standard in town (nor strictly speaking need he do so).

By the way, Lucius did speak with me and with your mother about the holidays and we agree it would be a good use of your time to take lessons (imagine not knowing your languages, poor thing!) with Draco's tutors over the summer. We'd already had him in French, but we'd like to start him in German as well, Austria being one of the countries we suspect will soon follow in Our Lord's footsteps. I've given your mother the names of the wizards so I hope she'll be making arrangements soon.

(And Lucius has mentioned spending a week or so with him in

town. I'm sure you'll tire of each other before a full week, but if he wishes to shepherd a teen-aged girl, it's his own lookout. I did remind him that you'll want to see some theatre and ought not to be shut up in the library the whole of your visit!)



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 05:06:44](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm glad he wasn't held up on my account. Mum always has me look my best when we eat out, but I think dressing for dinner at home is quite nice too. It does make it seem more special.

The tutor and the week in London both sound lovely, Aunt Narcissa.

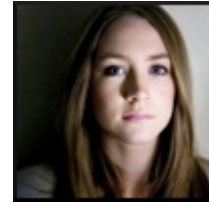
Thank you!

Summer hols is sounding better and better.



**2010-04-10 08:14:00**

*I was the one with the ears*



 **alt\_hydra**

I had a lovely time at the party the other night.  
The attic at Hogwarts is bigger than the one at  
L'Estrange Hill, but less spooky.

That might just be because it was filled with people  
and music and lights, though.

I didn't realise that some people had got lost on  
their way to the party and then never made it.

If I had known, I might've tried to help.

I got lost too, I think I took the wrong staircase, or else a staircase  
moved when I was in the middle of taking it.

Either way I ended up somewhere I wasn't supposed to.

I always thought that students liked to snog in the darkest parts of the  
dungeon, but I guess there are other places to go, too.

I was surprised, though, because I didn't think that these two students  
liked each other, much.

He's always been a little rude to her from what I've seen.

But secretly, their feelings must be different.

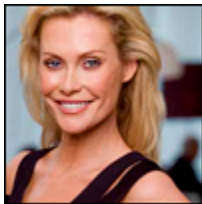
I wonder if that's true for anybody else?

A legilimens would know for sure.

But isn't there a saying that if a boy is mean to a girl, that means he  
likes her?

Does anyone know if that's true?

I remember that Mummy once told me that Daddy was rude to her  
sometimes, before they were sweethearts, and she didn't like it but at  
least it meant he was worthy.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-10 14:32:38**


*(no subject)*

Sometimes it's true that if a boy is rude or mean he is  
trying to get a girl's attention.

Sometimes it means he's simply rude.

And there are couples who say they don't like to quarrel, but really  
they do like to challenge each other. It adds a bit of spice.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2010-04-10 23:49:07](#)  
(no subject)

How do you know if he's simply rude or not simply rude?  
And what sort of challenges make spice?

From,  
Hydra




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-11 01:45:51](#)  
(no subject)

Well, you know how your father and mother sometimes act as if they're cross with one another but they aren't really very cross? That's one type of spice.

From time to time your Uncle Lucius teases me and I him. Or he

Well, there are other ways to add a spark. Really it's all down to what makes you feel desired.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2010-04-11 14:41:23](#)  
(no subject)

But sometimes they really are cross, how do you know if it's really cross and not pretend?

From,

Hydra



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-11 15:00:57](#)  
(no subject)


Well, I suppose for the most part, it depends on the energy it generates. It's harder for someone on the outside of it to tell. And sometimes, like with your parents, they can quarrel bitterly, but that's all part of the passion.

Just like with boys - if they do something rude to draw attention to themselves, that probably means they actually like you but

they're unsure how to show it properly. But if they are rude to show off for friends or they're not interested in your reaction, they're most likely not worth your notice.

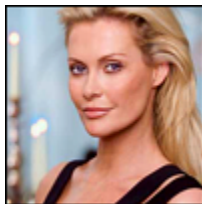
...Has a boy been tormenting you, Hydra dear?




 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-11 15:07:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Not right now, really, but a while ago.  
But it wasn't anything much, no one even noticed, so I don't think he meant anything by it.

From,  
Hydra




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-11 15:31:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Well ...

How did it make *you* feel? I know it's terribly confusing, but becoming the target of a boy's attention can make one angry and a little bit ... interested, all at the same time.

So. Did this boy make you feel nervous? Excited? Special? Or just unimpressed?



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-11 16:17:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Special at first, but a little nervous, too.  
I haven't seen him much lately, though, because he's older and has so many things to do.

I don't think Mummy will like to read this because I'm too young for boys.

From,  
Hydra




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-11 16:54:37](#)**  
(no subject)

Too young to let older boys kiss you, certainly!

But you're a good girl, Hydra, you know better than to let a boy do anything like that.

He's not ... tried anything, then? You know how to hex him if he does take liberties?



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-10 20:06:24](#)**  
(no subject)


I think if someone is mean to people in public and only ever nice to them in private, he can't be worth much.

Because it might be that he really does like them, but is too concerned with appearances to admit it, meaning he doesn't like them nearly enough to make it worth their while. Or he really doesn't like them and is only pretending in private so that they'll do what he wants.

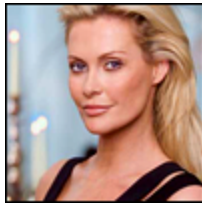
But that's different than just disagreeing because you think differently about something, or teasing. Because teasing can be fun. Especially if both people know it's just teasing.

I know you would've said something if you'd known. And I'm glad you had fun at the party.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-10 20:54:47](#)**  
(no subject)

And I agree with Aunt Narcissa, sometimes boys can just be plain annoying.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-11 04:15:18](#)**  
(no subject)


They really can.

Such as your uncle Lucius. Or your friend Regulus when he indulges himself in too much poetry and pity.

I do believe you're growing up, Pansy, to observe that.

But then we forgive them, don't we? More fool we. But I suppose someone has to maintain them or they'd go to pieces. And then where would we be?




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 04:35:53](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't mind the poetry part particularly much.

And I suppose that's why we're the better half. At least that's what mum used to say.




 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-10 23:53:45](#)**  
(no subject)

But what if it's really just that it's more exciting and special if it's a secret and no one else knows? You're right though that it isn't very nice to be mean later in public, when it's the kind of mean that's more than just teasing.  
It was fun but I never did find any nice chocolates.


From,  
Hydra



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-11 00:39:14](#)  
(no subject)

Secrets can be exciting, yeah.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-11 00:40:34](#)  
(no subject)

And I'm sure you'll get to stock up again if when we go home at the end of term.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-11 04:10:58](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, your mother would probably balk to hear me tell you, but trysts can be very exciting, indeed. Particularly if there's the thrill of - possibly - getting caught.


Or so I've heard.

No, I had *beaux* before your Uncle who wanted to play at furtiveness, sneaking about. And of course, at school, there were always certain nooks where couples could go ....

But romantic thoughts aside, it's most probable that this young man and lady simply don't want anyone to know they're dating. Possibly their parents dislike each other or more likely they do not share friends in common.

Or there's always the possibility that one or the other are already promised to someone else, but if so, at their age, they're not likely to remain entangled long. Someone will see, or say something, and the hexes will fly.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-11 04:03:59](#)  
(no subject)

Interesting. But what would you say about the reverse? For example, if someone pretends to be


friendly in front of witnesses but offers insult privately?

Or what of the person who cannot afford to be other than cold in public but comes to you in secret with an altogether different account of himself? Or one who reasons that he must hide his true loyalties lest his sympathies reveal him as someone you might be ashamed to claim a friend?

Though this wanders off the topic considerably, you have made me curious as to your opinion.

(And no, I'm not teasing. Well, not exactly. Let us say, 'challenging,' for the purpose of discussion.)




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-11 04:52:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, all right, I suppose it's not always going to be clear-cut. And although I'd like to think no-one would be ashamed to be seen with me, and same for the other way round, it might be a bit simple to think it'd always be that way.

I think even if their reasons for staying cold in public were for a good reason, it'd still be difficult to tell if they did truly like you, or were just trying to gain your confidence in private because they wanted something. And it also shows that the person is not upfront about what they really think and feel generally speaking. So even if I could excuse coldness, or even understand it if it had an explanation, I don't know if I'd completely believe the sympathies and loyalties part.

I guess it's really hard to sort out why people do what they do sometimes, and the only thing you can be really sure on is you.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-11 18:56:03](#)**  
(no subject)

I think you'll find as you grow that what people say and what they do are often diametrically opposed.

And they are devilish good at justifying both action and word - and even at reconciling them when they appear to an outsider to bear no relation to one another.

Occlumency and Legilimency are valuable tools, of course, but their mastery takes time and meanwhile, bonds are formed that may be hard to break later.

One's innate sense of character thus becomes a necessary component to determining motivations, particularly those below the surface.



**2010-04-11 00:30:00**

**EEEEWWWW!**

This is DISGUSTING.

I'm not going in that dormitory with all that in there.




 **alt\_padma**

Fawcett, Brocklehurst: We've already spoken to you about leaving crumbs up in the room. Honestly.


---



 **alt\_penelope** at **2010-04-11 04:41:16**  
(no subject)

For heaven's sake, Patil, what's the matter?




 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-11 04:42:01**  
(no subject)

There are BUGS all over the room!!


We need Mr Dawlish. Or the house-elves. Or something.



 **alt\_penelope** at **2010-04-11 04:43:02**  
(no subject)

Why not just banish them? Or swat them?




 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-11 04:43:52**  
(no subject)

There are TOO MANY, Clearwater!

And banishing didn't seem to work.

If this is another stunt like hexing off my hair someone's going to PAY.




 **[alt\\_penelope](#)** at **[2010-04-11 04:45:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, all right, calm down. A few insects never hurt anyone.

Where's Sandoval? Aren't you two usually peas in a pod?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-11 04:47:20](#)**  
(no subject)

I dunno where she is but I'm NOT going in there while there's more than A FEW insects, I mean, obviously no one would get upset about A FEW.

There's all kinds of filth in there. Beetles and millipedes and silverfish and roaches. It's absolutely revolting!




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-11 14:22:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Are you all right, then, this morning? I didn't see you at breakfast, but then it is Sunday and you had rather a lot of excitement last evening, I take it. I'm afraid I was tied up with Professor Carrow's project and knew nothing about it until after most of the excitement had died down.

Sorry you had to go sleep in the hospital wing. It looked for a while as though the rest of us might, as well. They were pouring into Ravenclaw from all over, and everywhere we looked there were more of them! But the elves have fumigated the place, and we cast banishing spells on every hole and crevice we could find.

I suppose it's spring and they're all hatching or crawling out of their nests. I know I've seen a lot more spiders recently than over the winter, but I've never heard of anything like this before! Ugh.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-11 14:28:21](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, I didn't sleep very well, in the hospital wing. I  
~~kept feeling like Stebbins~~

So I guess I'm getting rather a late start.

I haven't been back up there yet. I don't think anyone left the windows open, but just thinking about all those flies and things gives me the creepy-crawlies all over my arms. Ycch!


But I guess we have to go back up there sooner or later.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-11 14:32:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Did you need me to bring you any of your things?  
Any of you? I gather you left in a rush.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-11 14:42:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Sandoval, but I think we all need to go up, anyway.

We'll manage.

**2010-04-11 11:39:00**

*Padma?*

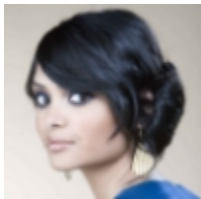
Did ALL the Ravenclaw girls have to spend the night in the hospital wing or was it just the girls in your year or was it the girls AND the boys in your year? I heard from Towler it was only girls but I'm not sure he'd want to admit boys would be scared off by bugs.




 **alt\_seamus**

If it was as many bugs as he said though I'd have gone to the hospital wing too! YUCK.

Is it true Morag MacDougal got stung or bitten or something by one of them?



---

 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-11 17:03:22**  
(no subject)

It was just the girls in our year: me, Morag, Belinda, Fawcett, Li and Brocklehurst. It was just in our room.

Like I said, I think Fawcett must have left some food out or something.

The house-elves cleaned everything up really well and cast some spells so that any other bugs that try to move in will die.

It was really, really gross, though. I'd never seen so many bugs all together like that. Like...swarms.


And yeah, Morag has all sorts of bits on her ankles. Madam Pomfrey says they're just flea bites. She made us all scrub. It's disgusting. I wish we didn't have to room together with people who can't be bothered to keep themselves clean.



 **alt\_seamus** at **2010-04-11 17:46:24**  
(no subject)


It can't have just been food left out, the second year boys in Gryffindor have food out all the time and we've never had a bug invasion like this. Someone must have hexed you.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-11 17:48:07](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, and I've a few ideas who.




 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-11 17:50:28](#)  
(no subject)

I'd rather like to know the bug hex.

Not to use it on YOU, of course.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-11 17:54:04](#)  
(no subject)

Well you could start by asking your mates Thomas and Weasley, Finnigan.


Sorry, don't mean to be wretched with you, either, but honestly.



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-11 17:57:08](#)  
(no subject)

You don't really think DEAN did this?!?



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-11 18:00:56](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, I don't know.


But then he DID ask me to dance just the Thursday before, he could've been put up to it by Weasley or Perks to plant the hex bag. Or whatever it is. Just like they used someone else to plant that hexed comb before.

I mean, they clearly don't care who else they drag down into the mud, do they? For all I know they held his background

against him and made him do it.

But I dunno, really. How chummy is he with Weasley, normally?




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-11 18:33:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Not very.

He's polite enough but not chummy.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-11 17:50:15](#)**  
(no subject)

But of course, I shouldn't like to falsely accuse anyone. As that's libel.

Notice how Weasley only gets shirty when it's his own kin and their mates who are the likeliest suspects?




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-11 17:53:24](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll count myself lucky that you're too well-mannered to go after a whole dorm just to get one person.

As I don't fancy waking up covered with bugs!



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-11 17:56:51](#)**  
(no subject)

EEEEWWWWW!

Imagine if we'd actually gone to SLEEP in there?!!!


Thanks a lot, Finnigan. Now I'll never be able to sleep. Ugh, every time I close my eyes I feel them crawling over my arms!

EEEEEEWWWWWWW.

OH. No fear, though. I shan't go after all of Gryffindor 2nd-year or anything. I don't need to sweep so wide, after all.

||| They'll be sorry.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-11 17:05:54](#)  
(no subject)

Well, the house-elves were \*supposed\* to clean.  
I guess it didn't work.


Ick.



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-11 17:45:08](#)  
(no subject)

There are STILL bugs up there?  
Ick is right.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-11 17:47:42](#)  
(no subject)

Well, they're dead.  
But they're still there.

The elves are cleaning it again.

(I'm sure it was a hex.)

**2010-04-11 13:05:00**

*More bugs.*

Sandoval, can we get the house-elves back upstairs? I think the spell's not working properly.



 **alt\_padma**

There are still dead bugs everywhere.  
EVERYWHERE.

We just nipped in to get dressed in fresh clothes and get our books and such. I know it was cleaned last night, they said it was, but honestly, it's like an insect carpet in there.

Gross.

Oh, and I sent MacDougal back up to Madam Pomfrey because she was scratching her head a lot.

I just don't understand why the bugs would keep coming after they were all cleaned out.

If someone hexed us, wouldn't it have worn off by now?

Maybe there's a hex bag or something hidden in the room? Could we tell the elves to look out for something like that particularly? I read about hex bags in the *Maleficarum* we're reading for Young Interrogators' Club. If we get rid of the hex bag it'll stop the hex, right?



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-11 17:41:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I thought we'd written it so it would only attract small stuff.

This is working a little better than I'd thought it would.

Maybe I should try to get the parchment back, what do you think Ron? If it came off in the dormitory like it was supposed to that could be hard, but if it's still stuck to Morag I could go up to the hospital wing to see how she's doing and I expect I could nick it back.





 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-11 18:57:31**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

If it's still on her and she's in the hospital wing, wouldn't there be loads of bugs there now? Is she still up there, anyway? I thought they just had to sleep there. D'you mean they've been hiding there

all day?



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-11 18:58:07**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Or wait.

When did you write this? I only just saw it.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-11 20:50:20**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I wrote this hours ago. Anyway, I went up to see Morag and she didn't even have lice, she was just scratching because she kept thinking of lice. The parchment's not on her shoe anymore so it must

have dropped off somewhere, probably Ravenclaw given that they got a whole load more bugs this morning.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-11 20:51:06**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oh and Morag hadn't been hiding up there, Padma made her go back because she was scratching and Padma thought she had lice.

She didn't. She probably will tomorrow, though.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-11 20:58:38**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Heh.

Only it'd be better if it was Patil that got the lice.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-11 21:14:02](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I know, but she SHOULD get them too if it works right, and it would have been a lot harder to plant the parchment on her.

Morag made this a lot easier by so obviously taking Padma's side with the party. She tried to go along with Padma's lie that it was all an unhappy accident, but she let it slip that she knew by lunchtime that day. Clearly they told her not to tell us and clearly she went along with it, so I'm really not fussed if she gets lice first.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-11 23:04:28](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I guess she's not so interested in being your friend as she seemed. MacDougal, I mean. I suppose she was just doing homework with you because Patil got in with all those older Ravenclaws who spend all their time in the library. I thought maybe she decided Patil wasn't worth it, but I guess not.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-11 23:43:19](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

You're probably right.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-12 00:15:38](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Then again, maybe after all the bugs, she won't be so keen on Patil anymore.

**2010-04-11 15:00:00**

*Order Only: Brewing*

I spent yesterday afternoon brewing Vim and Vigour broth to replenish my stores. We had such a dreary autumn and such a difficult winter that the demand on my curatives has been unusually high. Fortunately, I began the year with full cupboards, but with the ban on deliveries I've had to substitute things I can brew myself for things that have run out and cannot be replaced commercially now. But, of course, one may only brew what one has the ingredients for.




 **alt\_poppy**

Vim and Vigour broth is one of those things that serves many purposes and is relatively easy to brew--if only one has the ingredients required, and that's been problematic, though not for the reasons you might suppose. The trouble has been that all winter long there have not been any spiders to be found anywhere in this castle, and this potion requires two dozen zebra spiders. In any other year, I might have ordered a batch from Knockturn Alley, but as that's not been possible, you may imagine my delight when Dawlish popped up with a jarful yesterday after lunch.


Ironically, it was not V&V I needed last evening for the clutch of young Ravenclaws who arrived here in hysterics when their dormitory was 'OVERRUN!!!' by 'disGUSTing' bugs. Oh, dear. It took double doses of calming draught to ease them towards sleep. Girls of a certain age do have a way of making mountains of molehills.



 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-12 01:39:29**  
(no subject)

I saw Luna's entry. She doesn't seem bothered, but she was always a most unusual child.



 **alt\_poppy** at **2010-04-12 03:51:05**  
(no subject)

Yes, Miss Lovegood is singular in her equanimity; all around her, her peers have worked themselves into quite a state.

I cannot tell you how many Ravenclaws I've seen today, both boys

and girls, all of them certain they're being crawled on by things too small for them to see. I've sent each of them away with a soothing scrub to use in the shower, but I fear I will have a number of late-night visitors as their imaginations wake up after the lights go out.

Fortunately, it's been an otherwise light day on the ward: there are plenty of beds to spare should they be needed.

**2010-04-11 19:58:00**

*The bugs in Ravenclaw tower*

They've now reached the first year dorm room.


I had no idea Portia could scream that loudly.

Silverfish are really rather pretty, the way that they move. Celia and Portia don't see it that way though, I'll admit.




 **alt\_luna**



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-12 01:25:39**  
(no subject)

Only you would think it's interesting to be overrun by bugs, Luna.




 **alt\_luna** at **2010-04-12 13:55:45**  
(no subject)

interesting.


Well, I've made some rather good sketches for my sketch book. It's quite good practice, to be able to capture an impression of something that moves that quickly. And the way that they move is so very



 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-12 01:27:02**  
(no subject)

My goodness, dear. It sounds as though you and your housemates have had a rather awful weekend, with whatever's causing this infestation. I'm rather surprised. I can't remember anything like that at Hogwarts before.



 **alt\_luna** at **2010-04-12 01:35:37**  
(no subject)

We don't seem to have as many as in the second year dorm room. But I think Portia's even more upset than Morag was.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-12 01:38:10](#)  
(no subject)

I'd be happy to go through my charms books to see what I can find that would help. But I'm sure I wouldn't find anything that you couldn't get there at school, from either your Charms professor or the library. I hope that they solve the problem swiftly, dear.

**2010-04-12 00:13:00**

*(no subject)*



 **alt\_padma**

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEWWWWWWWWWW!

---



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-12 04:22:23**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Maybe we should try to get the parchment back and destroy it before they find it.

I mean, they already suspect us. Is there some way they could determine from the parchment who did it, if they found it? Fred and George, could you summon it out for us? I can't go into Ravenclaw and I don't want to involve Sarah (besides, she might get cross with me, although I really do think she'd think it was worth it to get Padma).



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-12 13:41:44**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I dunno. It's kind of fun.

I mean, it's not like it's hurting her. It's just making her cross.

"I'm in the midst of a traumatic experience, Clearwater, so if you were really interested in behaving like a prefect, you'd show a little sympathy instead of taking the piss."


She's still just the same old hag she's ever been. Traumatic experience, my tiny pants.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:23:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Now what?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:27:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Ugh, I'm NEVER going to be able to sleep again.

My skin is crawling!!! and there are little bites all over my ankles. MacDougal's and Dunstan's too - well, everyone, really.

I woke up because something itched. And there was a bedbug in my HAIR. It dropped onto my arm when I sat up.

UGH. Whatever those elves did to fumigate is NOT WORKING.

It has to be a hex. I don't *BELIEVE* those punters, they're utterly horrid!




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:33:04](#)**  
(no subject)

In your hair? Are you sure it was a bedbug and not a louse?

Yuck either way!



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:39:06](#)**  
(no subject)

No, it was a bedbug, filthy, disgusting, horrid bedbug. And there'd better NOT be lice in there, after all this! I'm not having to cut my hair after just getting it all back!


What I want to know is why the elves can't stop them coming back. The bugs, I mean.



I'm so angry I could cast a cardinal curse on every one of the Cruciatus Club.


This is NOT OVER.



 **[alt\\_penelope](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:42:07](#)**  
(no subject)

You certainly know how to attract friends, Patil!



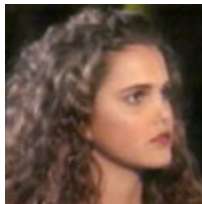
 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:44:08](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh, shut it. You weren't so funny when you saw the state of the dormitory yesterday.

Besides, how'd you like to wake up with bugs crawling all over you?

I'll have nightmares forever. If I can ever close my eyes without feeling millions of legs on my skin.


YUCK!



 **[alt\\_penelope](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:45:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Oi, you watch how you talk to me, Patil. I'm a prefect, remember.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-12 04:47:19](#)**  
(no subject)

And I'm in the midst of a traumatic experience, Clearwater, so if you were really interested in behaving like a prefect, you'd show a little sympathy instead of taking the piss.

**2010-04-12 09:48:00**

*Order Only*

I may, perhaps, have underestimated the magnitude of what's happening in the Ravenclaw dormitories.



 **alt\_poppy**


Before the night ended, I had seven cases of night terrors; eleven of psychosomatic itching; one child who'd been wickedly pinched by a beetle (never mind that he confessed he'd been trying to prise its shell apart); and nine students suffering from bed bug bites, two of whom proved strongly allergic.

Of course, one cannot merely admit them and put them to bed here on the ward. That would invite the bed bugs (and other things, perhaps) to find a new home here. So I supervised twenty-eight disinfecting showers and then closely inspected all twenty-eight of them. Children have a tendency to miss spots, even when they've been carefully instructed, so there were several repeat trips under the spray. Today's tasks will include mixing more superiour-cleansing scrub and brewing another large batch of deverminating shampoo. I suppose, if I am wise, I will also brew a quantity of delousing shampoo. Just in case.

I spoke with Professor Brutka and Mr Dawlish this morning at breakfast, suggesting that their assistance might be needed to address whatever is happening in the Ravenclaw tower. I should like to avoid another night like this one if at all possible.




---

 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-12 16:11:32**  
(no subject)

My goodness! It sounds perfectly dreadful.


I assume your Charms professor is also working on the problem as well? If there's something that's attracting these nuisances?



 **alt\_lupin** at **2010-04-12 16:23:08**  
(no subject)


I agree. Perhaps a cursed object of some kind? Maybe Minerva should take a look.



 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-12 19:07:17](#)  
(no subject)

The staff are looking into it, though I must tell you, as it's Ravenclaw House, it seems entirely likely that whatever's afoot is a side effect of some project one of them has undertaken that's gone awry. We are attempting to keep open minds in order to sort out the situation properly.




 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-12 16:52:40](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, I'm sort of glad we never got up to retaliatory japes with ~~any~~ many girls - they're right vicious.

Still, have to admire their ingenuity, even if it's not particularly elegant, going after an entire House just to have revenge on one little miss nose-in-the-air over there.

I hope you gave her a particularly nasty steel wool scrubbing brush, Poppy.



 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-12 19:03:56](#)  
(no subject)


Sirius Black!

I did no such thing. For Paracelsus' sake! To think that I'd set aside the Healer's code to take petty revenge on a child, who has done no-- Well, to take revenge on a child for any reason would be quite wrong.

I may, I confess, have been a tad brusque about all the shrieking and shrinking, but no more with one child than another. Honestly, they were in such a state and fueling one another in it all. I should think it's the best entertainment they've had in ages.

What makes you think this has been caused by retaliation or pranking? I realise that Miss Patil is an unlikable child, but do you really believe that anyone would bring down such a plague of nastiness on a whole House to target one sole member in its midst?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-12 20:16:17](#)**  
(no subject)

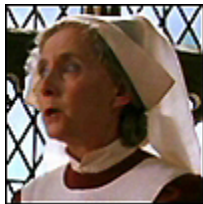
Steady on, Poppy, I was only joking!


For my suspicions, well, let's say that as an experienced prankster, I recognise the marks. The timing, for one thing.

I'm not sure whoever it was really thought through the implications, point of fact, nor the disruption it'd cause.

What I haven't worked out yet is just how they did it. I'll not go so far as to join the little wench and accuse Arthur's boys, but ... well, it doesn't bear their signature, anyway. I have some theories, but no conclusions yet.

It's possible that it's an innocent spell gone awry, though. I suppose.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-12 20:41:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Hrm. Well. It needn't be wholly innocent, either.

There was some discussion over lunch whether it mightn't be an attempt on the apparent victim's part to make it look as though she's been targeted for revenge after her nasty little prank with that party.

As I said, the staff are attempting to remain open to all possible scenarios in order to read the evidence properly (should any evidence, in fact, be discovered).



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-12 21:00:08](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, I don't know as that tracks.

I mean, what reason would she have for *this* type of prank? Granted, I'm reading it here and you've dealt with the girls in person, but she seems genuinely disturbed by it all - though that could either be exceptional acting or

simply because she's just as appalled by the repercussions as everyone else.

Still. From what little I've seen of her, I don't think that's the way her mind runs. Just like this doesn't bear the twins' stamp - it's doing far too much collateral damage.

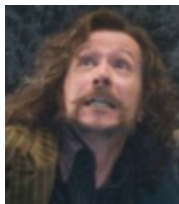



 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-12 21:07:35](#)  
(no subject)

That's so often the way of pranks in this school, though. They seem like a brilliant idea to the culprit until they begin to play out and then they find themselves trapped by the disastrous consequences of what they've wrought. Such things then drag on because if they are truly horrible, the culprit will do everything in her power (or his) to avoid detection... including suffer along with the rest in order to establish her innocence.

Perhaps your pranks were better executed than most, but I'd say that unintended consequences are the usual way of it.


The point is, making assumptions gets us very close to nowhere. Particularly when dealing with a group of young folk given to vindictive scheming.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-12 21:11:17](#)  
(no subject)

'Vindictive' is right. Sorry to say, Poppy, Minerva: I think you're likely in for a few years of escalation.




 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-13 01:00:26](#)  
(no subject)

Since our efforts to sort out this situation seem to amuse you, I thought you might enjoy hearing the theory that pushed to the lead at the staff table during supper. Did you read Miss Patil's most recent discussion of events? It's been mooted that perhaps the very helpful Mr Troy is not only the one to come to the

rescue of Ravenclaw House, but also the one who created the crisis. It's so convenient to have an excuse to use one's specialised knowledge playing hero.

I'm not convinced, but it does have a certain elegance, this theory. What say you?




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:49:54](#)**  
(no subject)

I'd say the latest news rather scotches your theory, Poppy.

Ah, well.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:27:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Actually, it was Professor Babbling's theory. She offered it to Professor Brutka, and he was noncommittal about whether he thought it likely Eudoxus Troy would do such a thing, but Professor Acton felt it fit certain elements of his personality and Professor Vector wouldn't rule it out, so then it seemed to take hold as the latest possibility.

As I said, I remain skeptical all the way around. The only opinion I'll commit to paper is that this is the most diverting thing to happen in a month of Sundays. I don't mean to say that it's entertaining or amusing, mind you, but we needed to be diverted from a castle-full of rather leaden thoughts, and this business has filled the bill.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:35:15](#)**  
(no subject)

And if by 'latest news' you mean the fact that Miss Sandoval has been forced to come here for de-lousing, I believe you are right. At the very least, Mr Troy's bid to become Hero of Ravenclaw House (if that indeed was his goal) has been dashed on the rocks of the Head Girl's fury.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:41:36](#)**  
(no subject)


Exactly. If he'd really been drumming up his own heroism, then he'd hardly have botched the endgame.

I don't quite know what to say about the diversion factor, except that our fun, even if it was sometimes destructive, didn't generally seem to have such a lethal - or well, not lethal, but you know what I mean, cruel - streak about it.

But then I suppose everything about the situation nowadays is more cruel than it was then. More ruthless, anyway.


I mean to say, sure, we were rather heartless sometimes, particularly where Snape was concerned, but we'd never have swiped a whole dormitory just to pin him.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:54:11](#)**  
(no subject)

There you go again, confusing intent with the ability to carry off one's scheme.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:57:43](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, that's my point. If this is really a minor prank gone pear-shaped, then it's the fault of the pranksters for over-achieving.

I like to think that we usually were pretty sure of the effects before we went forward. Though admittedly not always. And that was always when the worst resulted - when we hadn't gone enough rounds of practice.

Or worst yet, when we just acted without thinking at all.






 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:03:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Ah, yes. The ability to place thought before action is a capacity impaired by adolescence-- scroll up on scroll has been devoted to this topic.

And now, as though upon cue, I hear the shrilling of adolescent voices upon the stairs. This will be another long night, I fear.

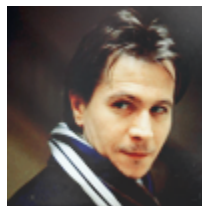



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:37:42](#)**  
(no subject)

I seem to remember the Charms classroom flooding with water on the day your class just happened to have an exam...

And that rash of shoelace pranks that lead to Kathy... what was her last name? She was in Ravenclaw. Remember? She chipped her front tooth when she fell. Merlin, she was sour about that, even after she'd gotten it fixed.

And that poor boy from Slytherin! Snape. Goodness. I don't know how many times I had to get him free from the toilet or help him mend his schoolbags.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:57:23](#)**  
(no subject)

I never said we didn't pull pranks, quite the opposite, Miss Prefect. I said we never got into a heated rivalry with girls. Snape was a special case (and turned out just as bad as I always thought he'd

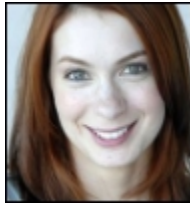
be, too).


Cathy Collins, you mean? I remember she was always shirty about being Catherine-with-a-C, if you please. She was a piece of work. But not what I'd call a deadly rival.

These girls have obviously got it in for each other, I think.



Sorry, Poppy. Assuming it really is these girls.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:04:54](#)**  
(no subject)


Cathy. That's it. She wasn't the type to take a joke very well. And neither was Snape, if I recall.

I can't identify really, as I was never the object of a prank, at least none that were meant for me, and didn't tend to pull them myself -- apart from the occasional April Fool of course.

It does seem to lead to a rather vicious cycle, though, doesn't it?

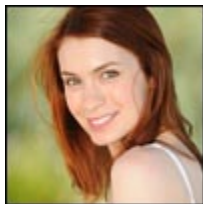
I still think your flooding the Charms classroom was rather brilliant. I wish I could have been there when they opened the door.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:01:32](#)**  
(no subject)

And anyway, fat lot of good that flood did us, with Flitwick clearing it all away in a tick.

We still had to sit that exam the next day!




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:06:13](#)**  
(no subject)

He really was fantastic at Charms, wasn't he?

I'm sorry Neville never got to know him.

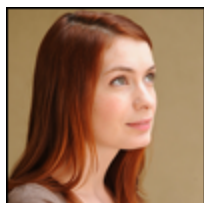



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:08:27](#)**  
(no subject)

That he was, love.

Did you ever get him talking about his duelling days? Competition duelling that is, not the

honour thing.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:13:53](#)**  
(no subject)

I was in his Duelling Club my last three years at school. It got me top marks in my first year of training as an Auror, I'm sure of it.

He did have some marvellous stories. I wonder if his trophy is still at school? From Worlds? I remember it was in his office when I was there.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:20:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Course you were, I'd forgot that.

But I just meant it was a great way to avoid serving a detention with him. Get him started on the 1961 cup in Frankfurt and before you knew it, he had the kettle on and the biscuit tin out and look at the time, off you go then, Black, and let's have no more of this 'experimental' application of weather spells to make it snow in the great hall or turn the bathroom into a sauna.

Best part was he could never remember if he'd *told* the story before, so it was good for multiple offences.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:33:43](#)**  
(no subject)

You would think of that, wouldn't you, my darling.

I must admit, I heard about the Frankfurt cup easily a dozen times while I was in the Club. It never failed to make me laugh when he'd re-create his "famous twirling two-step dodge and parry" move, though. Once, he did it three times in a row just to show us how to aim while spinning.

I remember his Christmas displays. And he always got such joy out of directing the choir.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:42:48](#)**  
(no subject)

You had to bring up the choir, didn't you?

I'll never forgive James. Never.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:55:19](#)**  
(no subject)

I have it on good authority that you have an excellent singing voice.

It's a pity you're limited to singing in the shower, when you think no-one else can hear.

Who'd have thought that you of all people would have stage fright?




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:03:05](#)**  
(no subject)

*Had* a good voice. Supposedly. Well, one of our tutors thought so, anyway. Voices change, though, don't they.

It's ... It sounds a dodge, but it's my mother's fault, actually.

Which is probably all anyone needs or wants to hear on that subject!

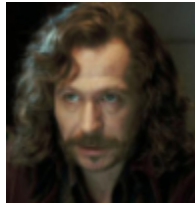



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:08:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Enough said, dear.

Frank can't sing worth salt, you know. He just sort of says the words in a rumble sort of way, and shifts around his voice a little every now and again for emphasis. It's rather sweet when he tries to sing the children to sleep -- they give him the oddest looks. Except for Melania. She's out like a light the moment he starts in on it. She must

be used to it after the week they had to spend together in isolation.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-13 04:13:24](#)  
(no subject)

Well, now you come to mention it, I did sing to Harry on more than one occasion, when the sprog was in his cradle or more like if he couldn't settle of an evening, and I was babysitting for James and Lily.

He didn't complain, at least not usually. But then he wasn't necessarily a discerning audience.

Out here there's a horrifying invention I've seen once or twice. I only hope it doesn't catch on. It's called a karaoke machine and it makes the most ghastly singers in the world think they can bloody well stand up there and torture cats to the tunes - or I should say, the background music - of popular songs.

It's atrocious. Listening to some of these blokes I can understand why Mother was dead set against me doing any kind of public singing.

**2010-04-12 15:58:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



...really, no good at all.

If anyone's wondering, it was me, Ron, and Pansy that set all those bugs on Ravenclaw. It wasn't supposed to work as well as it did.

 **alt\_sally\_anne**

We wrote a rune in invisible ink on a tiny piece of parchment that we charmed to stick to Morag's shoe for a few hours, so she tracked it back into her dorm and then it let go. I was hoping Padma would get lice and bedbugs, I wasn't expecting the swarms of silverfish and spiders and the rest!


We'd tested it out, too, and we thought we'd worked it out so it would only attract the small things. I think the problem is that we wrote the rune when we were still really angry. So be careful, runes seem like they're so solid and predictable but they're NOT really at ALL.

Anyway obviously I can't go into Ravenclaw to get it back. Fred and George, do you know the summoning charm? I'm feeling a little guilty now that it's ALL of Ravenclaw. Although I talked to Sarah Fawcett today, not that I told her it was me who did it of course, I just asked her how she was doing with the bug invasion, and she said it was worth putting up with the disgusting bugs to see Padma shrieking when the bedbug dropped onto her last night.

If you could summon it, I'll destroy it, and that should be the end of it (or once they banish all the bedbugs and wash away the lice...anyway).



---

 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-12 22:35:07**  
(no subject)

You saw where Troy gave them a Rune to keep bugs away? Maybe they'll cancel each other out.

Only.

You don't think that'll make them think to look for a Rune that's causing it, do you? I mean, it could've been anything, but now they're thinking about RUNES

um

yeah

What does Pansy think?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 00:02:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Pansy's all for destroying the evidence if we can. She doesn't want to know what happens if you put opposing runes in the same room. I mean what if they both catch fire or something?



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2010-04-13 00:16:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Now why would we do something like that?

This is an excellent prank, good job on thinking of it by the way, and we won't be responsible for stopping it before its run its course.

If you really want to summon it, the spell is Accio, but you might not be able to get it to work. It's a fourth-year spell. Besides, it looks like that Revenclaw beater has stopped it already...




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 01:47:49](#)**  
(no subject)

It does sound like things have settled down.

But if they realise they should have been looking all along for a rune...

Well, you don't have to get involved if you don't want. I'll see if I can get the summoning spell to work.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:41:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, you wrote it in invisible ink, right? So even if they find the piece of parchment, they might not realise what it is. They've have to think of using some kind of revealing spell that would show the rune. Why would they think it's THAT scrap of parchment? They'd have to test every single scrap of parchment in that room for invisible runes. Maybe even every scrap in Ravenclaw tower. That's really searching for a needle in a haystack. And if they thought of THAT, how could they prove who wrote it? Or planted it?

Maybe, I dunno, someone could think of some sort of tracing spell to trace who or what wrote the rune. That would be quite a stretch for them to think of it, and I dunno any spell that would do that myself. But even if they do, I bet you could foil it by getting rid of the quill you used. Maybe if you burn it or something, I mean if you're really worried?

You'd maybe end up revealing yourself if you did pull off that summoning charm and someone spots a piece of parchment flapping its way back to you. Maybe it's safer to leave things be.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:46:24](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know if there's some way they could trace it back to us.

I mean, they haven't traced Lana Sandoval's earrings back to Draco and Harry.

I'd suggest that maybe this was all a plot to get Lana by whichever person it was who hexed her last week to throw them off our trail, but I think saying anything at all will just increase suspicion. Maybe you can suggest it to Ron where Seamus can hear you and HE can suggest it to Padma. Unless you think that would get Hermione in trouble. Hermione are you still worried?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:55:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Anyway you might be right that summoning the parchment would just increase the risk of having it traced to me. It hardly matters though as so far I haven't been able to summon so much as a feather from the other side of my desk. I looked up the wand movement in Siobhan Calderwood's old books (I told her I wanted a banishing spell in case the bugs came here next and she laughed and said it was the wrong sort of banishing for that sort of thing but let me look anyway) but that didn't help.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:10:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Pansy had a couple of other ideas, one involved telling the house-elves, do you think we can trust them? They'll be cross, because they had to do SO much extra cleaning in Ravenclaw and I think a lot of the Ravenclaws blamed them for the bugs in the first place.

She also has this idea that maybe we can write a note that will attract the first note so Morag will track BOTH notes out but that seems really risk to me. I mean first of all the bugs will all follow Morag around so we'd have to get to her FAST and then pluck the notes off her shoe and destroy them without noticing.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:11:25](#)**  
(no subject)

That sounds dodgy to me.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:12:54](#)**  
(no subject)


What, the second note or talking to the house-elves or both?

She also thinks maybe if we BOTH try the summoning charm... but we can't practice in front of Daphne. I



mean Milli's as dense as a plum pudding but Daphne's clever enough she might suspect something's up.



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-13 04:18:51](#)  
(no subject)

The thing about a second note.

I don't think talking to the elves would do any good, either. I mean, wherever it's got to, the elves will clean it away eventually, don't you think? It was only a little bit of parchment. They'll think it's rubbish and sweep it up sooner or later. I think.

And, Merlin's pants! Don't let Greengrass see or hear you talking about it. Bulstrode, either, for that matter. I don't care how dense she is, she'd love to tell on you if she figures it out.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2010-04-13 04:26:05](#)  
(no subject)

Oh BELIEVE ME we're not talking about it in front of Daphne or Milli or anyone else in Slytherin for that matter.

But practicing summoning charms, you know, when it's not something we're supposed to learn for another two years -- that's odd and might be suspicious but isn't SO odd that Milli would think anything of it. I mean, she thinks we're utter swots because we do our homework and revise occasionally. And we've tried to learn too-hard spells before just for fun.



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-13 02:24:42](#)  
(no subject)

Oooh. Did you see what the Head Girl wrote?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:41:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh Merlin's arse did we give lice to Lana Sandoval?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:42:55](#)**  
(no subject)

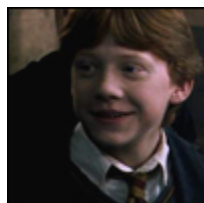
I mean she's cross enough with Patil, if she works out it was us she'll KILL us.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:43:55](#)**  
(no subject)

But if she does, at least I'll go to my grave AFTER having given lice to Lana Sandoval.

It could be worse!



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-13 03:15:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Heh.

Yeah.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:05:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Pansy says Sandoval's going to have a rough time casting cruciatus on each and every nit.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:06:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh but that's okay, she says. Because anything close to her for an extended amount of time will surely jump off and commit suicide.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:07:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh and she thinks we should call Patil and Sandoval the Bug Club.

Not where they can hear us, though!



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:08:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Totally!!!

How are you writing without Pansy knowing?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:10:21](#)**  
(no subject)

She went to the loo.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:11:04](#)**  
(no subject)

'Do you suppose they've set up camp in her enormous eyebrows yet?'


She really does have enormous bushy eyebrows.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:11:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Patil?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:13:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Or Sandoval?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:13:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Sandoval!

Patil's eyebrows aren't anywhere near as enormous as Sandoval's.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-13 04:13:43](#)**  
(no subject)

I suppose they both sort of have. Maybe.

I haven't really noticed.

**2010-04-12 17:14:00**

### *Back to lessons*

And I mainly managed to get through the day without the shudders every few minutes.



 [alt\\_padma](#)

Also, I hope we may have found a way to stop whatever has been attracting these horrid SWARMS of insects. D'you know there was actually a wasp's nest forming in the upper corner of the dormitory by this afternoon? A wasp's nest.

Anyway. So, what happened was Troy came to Ravenclaw Corner this afternoon and he said that he's not having another night's sleep interrupted by 'shrieking females' because he needs his rest for the last Quidditch matches of the year and to revise for NEWTs. So while ordinarily he wouldn't see fit to put himself in the middle of a second-year's dust-up, as it's affecting everyone in the tower, he'd do us a favour this one time.

So he gave me a piece of parchment with a rune on it. He says it'll repel all the bugs. I nipped up to the dorm to set it on the shelf so it'll start working as soon as possible.

When I came back to the library he was telling Capper all about how he's been making a study of useful insects and used a variation of the rune that he gave me to protect himself from stings and such. (He was really chatting up Capper, as if studying bugs were the most *fascinating* thing in the world and honestly, I know he's really doing us a favour with this rune, if it works, I mean, but he could have been more of a gentleman about it all instead of making it seem like we ought to kiss his robe hems. As it was I think he wasn't half doing it because he thinks she'll be impressed.) Honestly, she already fancies you, Troy, you don't need to push at it so!

Well, anyway, thanks to Troy, we ought to have a relatively restored dormitory by the end the day. I hope. (And really, Troy, it'll be as much a relief to us as to you! And I hope after all this Ravenclaw wins the cup, or you get 12 NEWTs or something else, because you needn't be so shirty about it!)


---



 **alt\_seamus** at [2010-04-13 01:49:01](#)  
(no subject)

Did Troy's rune work? Or are there still bugs everywhere?



 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-13 02:45:11](#)  
(no subject)

Well, it seems to be working in our dormitory.

Unfortunately, the 7th-years are just upstairs. And they've all gone there...

So Sandoval's cross with me.

As if it's my fault! I can't help it if **certain people** are out to get me, can I?




 **alt\_seamus** at [2010-04-13 02:50:47](#)  
(no subject)

Blaming you for other people hexing you is dead unfair!


If a rune worked for you lot, why don't they just put a rune up in the 7th year dorms as well?



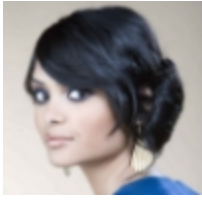
 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-13 03:02:55](#)  
(no subject)


Cheers, Finnigan, that's just what I said to Sandoval!



 **alt\_luna** at [2010-04-13 02:44:18](#)  
(no subject)

If it works, I think we all should thank him. It was clever of him to suggest it, and certainly everyone will sleep better.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-13 02:47:28](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, of course we'd thank him! I mean, that was my point, Lovegood. He's being a sport to try to help (even if it seems it only helped to some extent), but my point was that he needn't have been so...so patronising about the whole thing.

Especially as it seems to have only shifted things. Is your dorm worse, too?

**2010-04-12 22:17:00**

XXII.

**PATIL!** If this is all down to your petty squabbling with with whomever it is you're always on about, I promise you you'll regret bringing this plague down on all of us.



 [alt\\_lana](#)


Argh!

Troy, I thought you said that Rune would banish all these awful, creeping, itching, writhing, horrible things!!!

Gah!



---

 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-13 02:34:36**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Sandoval. Though it's not as if I asked to be hexed by anyone. (And it's not my fault if they're jealous or petty.)

Anyway, yeah. The bugs aren't in our dormitory. Maybe Troy ought to draw you another rune? Or show you which one it is?

It seems to be working here. But maybe they just went elsewhere.



**2010-04-13 19:54:00**

### *Spring cleaning*

Dunstan, MacDougal and I all went up to the hospital wing after lunch to get that shampoo stuff.



 **alt\_padma**

And then we went up the dormitory and we've cleaned out all our cupboards, trunks, and everything to check for anything that might still be causing bugs to come into the tower.

The nearest we can figure it, something was attracting them. Troy's rune repelled them from our dormitory, but then they were going as close as they could - which meant the 7th-years' and the 1st-years' dorms, to start. Then they copied out the runes but the bugs went into the next closest rooms, and so on.

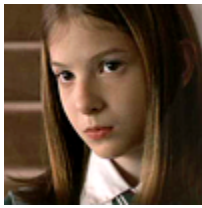
We've copied out about twenty sets of runes, but as long as the bugs are being summoned somehow, they'll keep turning up. Even when the elves made it so that the bugs would die, they kept coming in anyway.

We didn't find anything, but we did bin anything that we didn't recognise, down to the little bits of parchment and old quill feathers and so on. I'm really good at tidying spells now.

If we'd found something suspicious, though, I was all prepared to cast Scarpin's Revelaspell on it to confirm a hexing. Bobolis showed me where to copy it out from her Charms book, but she said that if we had trouble we could bring it to her and she'd give it a go, as it's a rather advanced spell. (She had a horrible night, an earwig got itself onto her pillow and she woke up when it crawled in her ear! Poor thing! I think she'd have been just as happy to have a go at the people who hexed us. That alone makes me wish we'd found something definite.)

But the thing is, we've cleaned out the entire dorm, and we've all got protective runes up now, so if anyone else starts noticing a load of dirty great insects congregating outside Ravenclaw Tower, we'll know we've missed something.

(Meanwhile, Sandoval's still ever so cross. She's banned ~~me~~ everyone from Ravenclaw Corner until we've all finished the treatments, so we don't pass anything back and forth.)



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-14 02:00:23](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well hopefully they binned the rune with the 'scraps of parchment' they didn't recognize.

I'm just heartbroken for Patil that she's been banned from Ravenclaw Corner!




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-14 02:00:59](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

And really I had no IDEA it would be this powerful.

I hope runes work half so well for me when I'm doing them for classwork next year.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-14 02:46:10](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I don't think you anything to worry about. You're going to be an absolute whiz at Runes.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-14 23:04:59](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, except it might not be a good idea to let anyone find out how good you are at them.

Just in case.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-14 23:08:01](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Er, not you Nev.

Y'know what I mean.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-15 01:41:33](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Ha. Yeah, I know what you mean.

I'm still waiting to find out what I'm going to be good at. Haven't really figured it out yet. Hope it'll be something.

**2010-04-14 14:38:00**

*(no subject)*

It's Wednesday already and I've not had any opportunity to dash out to Ramsgate to consult with the Broadmoor twins about the Quidditch course for Draco's birthday party. And Draco, darling, I know we haven't discussed it (as you haven't yet told Mother exactly what you want) but I've had this in mind for you for the summer at any rate and the Broadmoors really do require long notice as they're always training with one team or other, so if we're going to arrange for them to come in June we really must get them booked in.



 **alt\_narcissa**

Regulus, I don't suppose you'd be able to come along, perhaps tomorrow? It's such a shame you couldn't come back to the Manor after the Fudges'. I haven't begun to tease you properly over the whole thing.

It's a foregone conclusion that within ten minutes of arriving at any party hosted by Ministry personnel, my husband will be enveloped in some deep political discussion, destined to occupy him until nearly the time we must leave. But for someone who claimed his only purpose in going was to induce little Marvolo to cry, Reg, you certainly failed utterly.

In fact, if you come along to Ramsgate, I could amuse you with the names of various witches who wondered if they might engage you as a nanny!



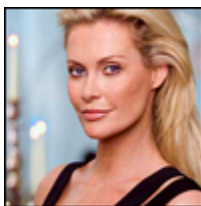
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 **alt\_pansy** at **2010-04-14 21:50:29**

*(no subject)*

Now *there's* a thought.

I think his hook might interfere with nappy-changing.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-14 22:21:38**

*(no subject)*

One would think!

But he's really become quite adept at using the

charm I'd given him, so that generally he's not using the hook - or at least, not the *hook*, but one of the other incarnations of it.

Though it seemed for much of the time he was holding Marvolo in the right arm, anyway, so that his left was free.

It just proves, Pansy, that one can grow accustomed to nearly anything, so long as one makes the best of the situation.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-15 00:05:53](#)**

*(no subject)*

Most observant.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-14 22:52:31](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'd like to think I could come along tomorrow, but, cousin, I have to tell you I've not spent more than two hours away from Buckingham since Sunday evening-- and not because I fear your teasing.

I think you must have missed all the crying. I'm absolutely terrifying to children.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-14 23:44:10](#)**

*(no subject)*

You only think you terrify them; actually you *fascinate*. Just look at your friend Miss Parkinson.

In any case, you've disproved your own thesis, and in front of witnesses, no less. Maisie Fudge herself thought perhaps you'd cast a muffling charm on the child, until she went over to see him smiling and cooing like nothing in the world could bother him.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-14 23:59:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, please.


That was in no way cooing. It was gasping with horror at my fearsomeness.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-15 00:59:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, dear. You're very frightening. After supper I'll spare a moment to quake at your ferocity.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-14 23:01:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Still.

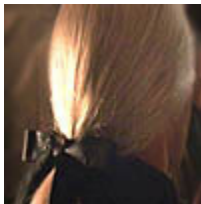
them.


Let's plan on my coming. I know the Broadmoors, and I imagine I could be helpful in your discussion with



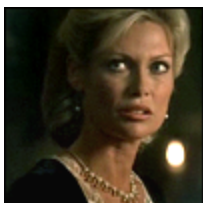
 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-14 23:45:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Good. Of course, I'll understand if plans change. And I'll be glad of your help, though I've no doubt I could manage them alone if need be.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-15 01:23:41](#)**  
(no subject)

You make my options sound equally unappealing.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-15 01:28:46](#)**  
(no subject)

You'd rather be surrounded by a bevy of witches all discussing the best tutors and comparing when their children achieved all their milestones?

Somehow I doubt it.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-15 01:30:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Quite perceptive. But the real difficulty is avoiding the political tracts while still encountering anyone intelligent enough for conversation.

Though fortunately the afternoon was not all given to ministerial grand-standing.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-15 20:07:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Cousin, I've only a moment to myself, but I'm afraid there's no way I can go with you to Ramsgate this afternoon. I'm sorry.

We've moved shop to Windsor, and that took much of the day to accomplish. Perhaps when we've settled in here, I'll be able to make my apologies.

That's if you wouldn't mind waiting until tomorrow, of course.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-15 20:15:15](#)**  
(no subject)

I can't cancel now, Reg.

But it's all right. As I said, I fully understand.

**2010-04-15 13:07:00**

*Order Only*

I don't have any news on Tonks, I'm afraid. Since Malfoy's post last week, I've been up to St Mungo's so often the witches on reception have started greeting me by name.




 **alt\_lupin**

I know she's been moved to a new ward while they trial this cure, but that's as far as I've been able to get. I can't find the ward and none of the staff can, or will, tell me where it is. I don't know if it's even in St Mungo's, or if they've moved Tonks and the other patients off to another site.

The ward healer, who I've spoken to before, said Tonks is in the best possible hands now, and was very lucky to have been taken onto the trial. She's right, I know, but I don't think I'll really feel happy about it until she's safe and recovered and back home. It's a big step from getting 'decent results in rats' to curing human beings.

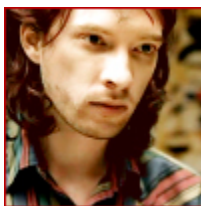
So, that's all I know, I'm afraid. Arthur, I don't suppose you've had any better luck?




 **alt\_arthur** at **2010-04-16 02:47:09**  
(no subject)

No, I haven't, and it's driving me mad. I'm most anxious to see her, too.

Molly and I are also extremely worried about Xenophilius. Once the epidemic is over, they won't have the excuse anymore that he's 'being kept in isolation,' of course, which is total rot. Bill have you heard any word breathed about where they are stashing him? I hope to Merlin they haven't decided to send him to Azkaban. If they have, who knows when any of us will see him again, and what will happen to poor Luna then?



 **alt\_bill** at **2010-04-16 02:48:30**  
(no subject)


I haven't heard anything about Xeno myself, Dad, but I can have the analysts stir up the cauldrons a bit. Maybe we'll hear a rumour that will give us



some more information.

You and Mum would take Luna in, wouldn't you?



 [alt\\_arthur](#) at [2010-04-16 02:53:16](#)  
(no subject)

Well, we'd be willing to, but I'm not sure we've be allowed to do so. Especially--and this is Molly's great fear--if they decide to declare him dead and bury him forever, perhaps in Azkaban. We'd never really have a way to know what happened to him then. And if he is declared dead, then I suppose Luna would get declared a ward of the state. I imagine the property would be held in trust, if they don't steal it outright. I don't know what happens to Luna in that case, but we'd certainly petition for custody. I don't think she has any other relatives.

It's a ghastly situation.

Since my hours have been curtailed, I've been going over to Xeno's place to keep an eye on the place, and helping your mother get his garden in. We hope he'll come back, and if he does, he'll need to have the spring planting done if they want to have food next winter.

**2010-04-15 19:52:00**

Oi

Is it really still only Thursday?

This has been the longest week ever.

Honestly, I'm so ready for this year to be done. Ugh. Today was Charms and Transfig, which, y'know, wouldn't be so bad if I could ever actually make my wand work, but today Professor Acton made us all come forward and demonstrate the spells we've been learning to cast, and

yeah.

Tomorrow is double Herbology and that's okay. Well, except for the part where it's with Ravenclaw. I heard Professor Sprout's been making all the Ravenclaws have special scourgify charms cast on them--and everyone else if they've got her lessons at the same time as the Ravenclaws. I guess she doesn't want any pests getting into the plants. I mean, I guess, that makes sense, only, you just know Patil's going to be totally ridiculous about it, don't you?

So, yeah. Can it be the end of term yet, please?



 **alt\_ron**




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 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-16 02:03:50**

*(no subject)*

Well done, Weasley.




 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-16 03:14:19**

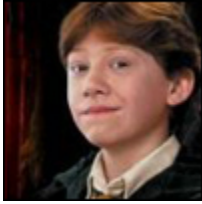
*(no subject)*


Oh, shut it.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:23:16](#)**  
(no subject)


I mean, you know it's true. You'll just make a big thing out of it tomorrow when she casts the cleaning spells on you.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:24:11](#)**  
(no subject)

D'you still have lice, then?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:33:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Let's see, do you still have pudding for brains, Weasley?


It's almost hard to imagine Gryffindor vying for last place in the House Cup, with wits like yours to represent it.



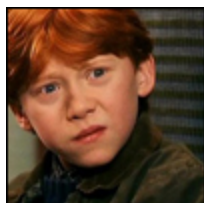
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:33:49](#)**  
(no subject)


Guess you do, then.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:36:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Ronald. Show some discretion for once.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:41:43](#)  
(no subject)

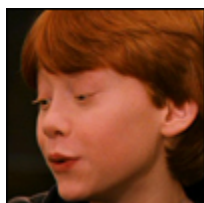
For once?


It's been yonks since I've written anything here.  
And then it was just to ask Bill a question, so  
you don't need to get all shirty, y'know.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-16 03:43:55](#)  
(no subject)

No, *I* don't, but apparently **you've** finally realised  
that your village is missing its Squib.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:56:28](#)  
(no subject)

Ha ha.


Didn't think you grew up anywhere near us,  
Patil.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-16 04:13:42](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well, Percy may sound like he's scolding you in  
the journals. But he broke up laughing when he  
read this comment just now, sitting in the  
Common Room. I think he's got some sneaking  
sympathy for your point of view about Patil.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-16 04:18:08](#)  
(no subject)

**NO ONE** would grow up anywhere near you,  
Weakley.

I'm not sure how Perks and Parkinson can  
spend so much time with you, but perhaps they like the smell  
of sweaty socks.

Or did you just get hit with another hex so that you have to answer everyone again? At least then if you said something rude you'd no one to blame but yourself - but then, I don't know if you'd recognise a *polite* comment if it shook your hand - which it wouldn't because it would then have to go wash off the stink.




 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2010-04-16 04:22:04](#)**  
(no subject)

His last name is spelled 'W-E-A-S-L-E-Y.' I mention it because I remember you always say that proper spelling is important.


I grew up near him, actually.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:24:56](#)**  
(no subject)


I mean, I can see why Professor Sprout would want to be careful about what gets loose in her greenhouses. Think of the damage it could do all her plants.



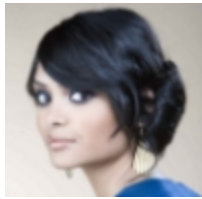
 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:45:30](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, she lets you in every week. So she must not be too worried.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:54:57](#)**  
(no subject)


I don't come in dripping nits and fleas and mites and aphids.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-16 04:19:35](#)**  
(no subject)


No, just stupidity and incompetence.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-16 14:44:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Too true, and slugs are ever so much more charming.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-16 02:15:07](#)**  
(no subject)


Yes, please.

Except for the part where we have to take all those exams that I haven't studied nearly enough for.

Bother.

I feel like I'm behind in *everything*.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:17:09](#)**  
(no subject)

You've been studying like mad all year. You'll do fine. I mean, didn't you think exams were sort of, I dunno, just what you'd expect. Only more. Loads and loads all piled together, but not a surprise or anything.

Last year's, any way. I dunno. I'm not fussed about that. There's still loads of time before exams.

But that's what I mean, really. There's just all these lessons, and it's just endless, innit?

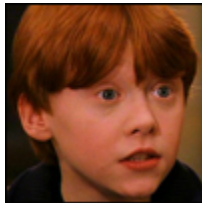



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-16 03:28:39](#)  
(no subject)

That's true.

And yeah, it does seem that way sometimes. Thank Merlin it isn't really.

What do you think they'll do if it gets to be end of term and we're still under Quarantine?




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:33:00](#)  
(no subject)

Don't even say that!

Oi!

It feels like we've been here ten years already.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-16 03:47:14](#)  
(no subject)

I take it back!


Never said it!

Not going to happen!

So are you going to have a Quidditch get-together this summer like you did last? Because that was a lot of fun.

I'll be in Scotland for a good bit, and in London some, but with Lucius and Aunt Narcissa, so I can't have a lot of people visit me, because I'll be a guest sort of myself. But I might be able to visit you. Maybe. I hope.

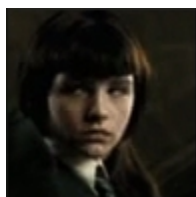



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:59:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, that'd be great, wouldn't it?

I bet Mum will let us do some fun stuff since this was such a rotten year.

What are you going to be doing in Scotland, anyway? Does your mum have family up here or something? I mean, I'm going to be glad to get as far away from Scotland as I can when they let us out of here!




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-16 10:37:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Mum's spending most of the summer with Mr Campbell. You know. Her suitor.


So I am too, for part of it at least.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 12:07:06](#)**  
(no subject)


So he lives in Scotland, then? I guess I thought he lived in London. So you have to go stay at his, then? That seems, I dunno, more serious? More something.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-19 19:40:49](#)**  
(no subject)

You could say that, yeah.

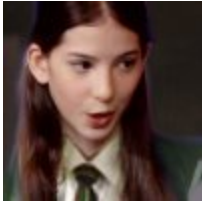


 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-16 02:42:12](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Do you WANT to make everyone in Ravenclaw hate you?

Should have put this post under the lock, maybe.






 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-16 03:09:45](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Bit late now.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:18:27](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I dunno, I could still do it.

Keep Patil from going on and on.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:17:48](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Huh.

Yeah, I guess I could've.

Still could, I guess.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-16 03:18:17](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

NO YOU CANNOT.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:20:55](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Huh?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-16 03:19:34](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I mean don't you think it would look SLIGHTLY suspicious if this post suddenly vanished out of the journals? Once it's written it STAYS, I've heard it even stays if you rip the page out though I haven't

tested it.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:21:57](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

What do you mean? If you rip the page out? It just writes again on another page?

But what about the spell?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-16 03:23:28](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

What about WHAT spell?

I don't actually know what happens if you rip out a page, but I have heard that once it's appeared in someone else's journal it stays. You can go back and cross out if you really want but it'll still be there.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-16 03:28:51](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Huh.

Yeah. I was forgetting I'd have to write it again in the other ink, too. Not just put the words at the top.

Doesn't really matter, anyway. I didn't say anything I didn't mean. And I've been dying to tell Patil off.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-16 03:30:49**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I wasn't even thinking about the ink. I don't know what happens if you use the ink without the spell or the spell without the ink.

Just that, even if you COULD make this entry disappear it would be ten times worse than a bunch of cross Ravenclaws.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-16 03:38:43**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I guess it wouldn't be a good idea to find out what would happen.

So, yeah.

I think I'll just put this up for tonight, maybe.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-16 03:44:22**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

That would probably be a good idea before you provoke Patil any more than you already have!

Not that I mind seeing her cross mind you. At least at night when I'm safely in Slytherin House!




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-16 03:22:04**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

And Patil is exactly the sort who'd notice it was gone and want to know how you did it and suggest to everyone you ripped the page out and that's not allowed, is it, and shouldn't you be in trouble for defacing the journal the Lord Protector gave us? except she's heard from Belinda that Belinda knows someone who TRIED ripping a page out and that didn't work so HOW DID YOU DO IT Weasley?

Patil and her cronies already hated you. Don't worry about it.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:27:46](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Blimey, she's right, Ron. Don't go trying to make the post disappear now, cause that would make things ten times worse. Trouble like that we DON'T need.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-16 03:30:18](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Yeah, okay. Okay.

No worries, right?

**2010-04-16 16:02:00**

### *A Brief Statement*

This afternoon's WWN coverage of our press conference has generated an outpouring of support for our family. On behalf of my wife and her relations, we humbly thank the citizens of the Protectorate.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

As we said in our original statement, Miss Tonks was given a dose of the experimental cure on Tuesday morning in a location which remains undisclosed at this time for her own safety. We were told that the Healers estimated it might take as much as one day for every week in which she had been comatose before we would see any results. We are extremely grateful to report that they were correct: Miss Tonks awakened early this morning. She is disorientated and very weak, but there is every reason to believe that the worst is over. I refer you to the St Mungo's press release in to-night's *Evening Prophet* and to-morrow's regular edition for more details on her condition and that of the other patients.


To our address of this afternoon, and that of the St Mungo's staff, we can only add that while it is true the early signs of our niece's recovery have shown promise, she has a long road to travel yet. We know that the Healers there have her in the very best care, as they extend to *all* the victims of Black's Paralysis. They will continue to monitor her progress and we know they will take swift action to care for her throughout the next phases of her recuperation. We are fortunate that hers was a mild case and that she resisted losing unconsciousness for some time after falling ill. Her Healers believe that this stands her in good stead for her rehabilitation, but it is rest now that she needs, more than well-wishing. We appreciate and are grateful for your good intentions but ask you to understand that for everyone's safety, gifts and cards must remain at a minimum. Any parcels arriving at St Mungo's, as Healer Acton made quite clear, will be fully screened before they are passed to their intended recipients. Visitors must observe the proper quarantine procedures and may not be admitted subject to the Healers' discretion.

And once again, Narcissa and I cannot over-emphasise the gratitude and relief we feel at the apparent success of Augustus Rookwood and his joint team from the Ministry and St Mungo's. Their tireless and dedicated service has been instrumental in contravening the effects of Black's indiscriminate attacks upon our people. We continue to

provide them every convenience in the pursuit of restoring our society to its fullest health.

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 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2010-04-16 21:46:49](#)

*Order Only*

Thank God.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-17 05:26:36](#)

*Re: Order Only*

What, you mean no one told you? I thought you said the matrons practically knew you by name.

Well, on the bright side, you might be able to see her tomorrow, then.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2010-04-17 12:57:17](#)

*Re: Order Only*

The witches on reception at St Mungo's know me by name. Sadly, they're not privy to the outcome of the Ministry's top secret trials of the paralysis cure, which may indeed have taken place at a completely different location.

It sounds like she's being kept wherever she is at the moment for observation, so I doubt I'll get to see her for at least a few days. For now, though, it's enough to know that she's awake again.

**2010-04-16 18:20:00**

*Could we all just stop pushing each others buttons?*



 **alt\_dean**

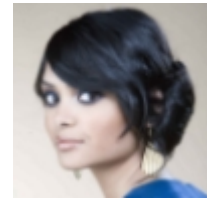
It seems that being stuck in the castle has put us all a bit on edge. Just because we are forced to look at each other nearly everyday, doesn't mean we need to be rude and uncivilised. I would say some people need to just kiss and make up, but that might start an out right war. And i really don't have time to get caught in the middle of all this rubbish. Its totally sickening.

I know its Friday evening and people just want to hang about, but does anybody want to revise for potions?

**2010-04-17 12:22:00**

*Mostly things are back to normal*

Although we're still having to use that horrid shampoo, but only as a precaution now. At least it's the weekend, and Sandoval said at breakfast this morning that as we've been generally spared the invasion of insects ever since putting up the runes, she's reopening Ravenclaw Corner today.



 **alt\_padma**

And Morag, honestly, it's nothing personal. If you had the chance to revise with Troy and Sandoval and Johns and the others, you'd take it too, you know you would. And if you'd make a little more of an effort, you might be invited next year, and then you'd see for yourself it's really so much more fun than revising with - well, well people who aren't as much help to you as you are to them.

Anyway, I still spend loads of time with you and Dunstan and Moon, and anyway it'll be summer soon and we'll get together plenty at the holidays. And Parvati and my birthday is coming up, too! We've asked Mum and Dad if the quarantine is lifted, if they'd send up a real traditional meal and we'll invite all our friends. That'll be nift. And it looks like the quarantine will be lifted soon enough, so I think it's not even a waste of time to think about it.

Oh, and Mum, if Sanji keeps whinging about getting a puppy, tell him he'll just have to leave it home when he comes to school, anyway. It's too bad he's already thinking about his birthday - it's ages away. I guess it's unavoidable whenever we start planning for ours.



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 **alt\_seamus** at **2010-04-17 19:17:50**  
(no subject)

Well thank goodness your house is back to normal.

How old is Sanji? Puppies are wizard and dogs are even better but you do miss them since you can't bring them to school.





 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-17 19:40:21](#)**  
(no subject)

He's 9 - well, he'll be 10 in August. And Mum says she and Dad already reminded him that he'd have to train the dog and teach him not to bark all hours and take him out for exercise and clean up after him.

Sanji says he will, but you know he's easily distracted.

I think Dad's going to tell him he can have his wand a year early if he gives up on a dog.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-17 19:44:45](#)**  
(no subject)

He'll be starting at Hogwarts in less than two years. Your right, it makes no sense for him to get a dog. Does he like cats at all? Because you can BRING a cat.

I wonder why they don't allow dogs?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-17 20:15:16](#)**  
(no subject)

We like cats, but Sanji's idea of what to do with a cat is to tie a feather to its tail to watch it run round and attack it. Besides, Dad doesn't like them much.

And it's obvious why not, isn't it? Cats can take care of themselves, but dogs need attention. And they make messes. They have to go outside and they whine and tear things apart if you leave them alone too long.

Did he do it again last night?




 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-17 20:21:27](#)  
(no subject)

Weasley, you mean?

Of course he did. He does it every night.



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-17 20:21:57](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think he has any idea how disgusting everyone else finds it.

**2010-04-18 15:15:00**

*(no subject)*

Reg, I don't suppose you could be a dear and go visit Nymphadora tomorrow? I was going to go after our weekly planning session for next week's issue, but Mariposa's just informed me that Celia Harkiss is unable to attend tomorrow, and she's asked me to supervise the photography session afterward, so I'll be there all afternoon as well as the morning.



 **alt\_narcissa**

I don't like to leave her without anyone to visit, but you know they are only letting in family. Mother can't do tomorrow, she and Pascoal are training for that broom race at the end of the month. Of course Aunt Walburga is not an option and Lucius has court. You're not needed for all that, so I thought you might be free.

If you can't break away, I'm sure she'll be fine for one day, but the Healers have said that it will help with her rehabilitation to have a few minutes' visit each day, so, would you?



 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-18 19:44:26**  
*(no subject)*

I will do my level best, cousin. I can't make any promises, but perhaps with so many others assembling for court, I'll be expendable.

In any case, you needn't worry. I'm certain Cousin N is being fully tended by the Healers: they won't dare to fail her in any particular now that the media have made her such a *cause célèbre*. You've provided St Mungo's with a windfall of positive press, and they would be loathe, I'm sure, to risk the coverage they'd receive should she now suffer a setback.

You've done your very best by the girl.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-18 21:08:03](#)**  
(no subject)


You're kind to say it, though the girl certainly has done little to make it easy. Sometimes I'm not at all sure how Bartemius and Norah ever managed her.

I wonder what your opinion is on a related question. Healer Wright mentions that since she awakened, Dora has been asking for 'Junius.' It took some recalling on my part, but I believe she means her employer - you know, the chap who runs that charming little commons shop in your old neighbourhood.

Healer Wright has indicated that we could add him to the approved list of visitors. I'm not sure it's wise, though. Obviously, he knew that she had taken ill and by now I'm sure he's heard her situation. I'm not sure what purpose it would serve to invite him to visit, though. It might come across as pressure, which we certainly would not wish him to feel if he would rather leave her to recuperate in peace.

What do you think?



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-18 21:59:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Hm.

I confess I only saw the man once or twice at a distance while I was living there, and I had no particular reason to take note, except, as you say, he was my cousin's employer. I had occasion more than once to glance about, wondering if he'd seen her nearly smash the jar of pickle or brown sauce she was writing up for me. Such a clumsy thing! But he seemed quite distant. I can't imagine he'd bother with visiting her.

I wonder, too, if he's the sort of character you'd wish to encourage, if you take my meaning. He struck me as, well, rather weedy. Not to say dodgy, exactly, but not entirely our sort.

Did you have a reason to think of it? Has he asked after her?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-18 22:28:42](#)  
(no subject)

I'd really no intelligence of him other than Healer Wright's comment yesterday when I went to bring a few items to the ward. He seemed to think Dora wished some conversation with the chap.

I presumed it was merely to assure him that she'll be back to her job, that is if he hasn't already replaced her. Particularly if she's still as clumsy as she was when she was young, I can imagine he might have sighed in relief at the convenience her illness presented. I must admit that it's likely that even once she's fully recovered, she'll be much more likely to drop things. (There's a peculiar palsy seeming to afflict those who have woken, as they regain their faculties.)

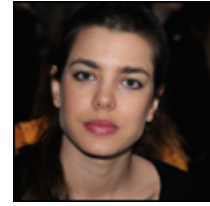
I agree with you, of course, that he's not someone with whom we would socialise. It's only that her healer believed she might be easier in her mind if she were able to tie up loose ends - feeling responsible somehow for letting down her obligations, you understand.

But I'm sure you're right. Lucius doesn't think it's worth bothering, either.

**2010-04-18 18:01:00**

*XXIII.*

One expects a bit of nonsense from first years and from those in other Houses for whom academics is not a strong suit, but honestly! Is there no calm corner in this castle where one may depend on an unbroken hour of peace? The library has been Bedlam this afternoon in Madam Pince's absence, but when I despaired of Ravenclaw Corner and returned to the Common Room, things were worse here. I know it's raining today, but really! I expect better of my own House.



 [alt\\_lana](#)

Patil, I've been meaning to ask if there isn't any way you could use your influence with the younger set. I did think they'd follow your example a bit better than they seem inclined to do. Perhaps a bit of reminding and chivvying is in order? I'd be so grateful if we could nip all this foolishness in the bud.

**2010-04-19 10:44:00**

*Narcissa*

I've only just got here, and I'm being called back. Nymphadora is napping at the moment, I'm informed, so I'm not able to speak with her. They tell me that she ate breakfast, though without great enthusiasm, that her urine is normal, and her other vital signs are within the ranges they expect at this point in her recovery.



 **alt\_regulus**

I gather she's to have some sort of therapy this afternoon, and I suspect that's the part you were hoping I could look in on?

I'm sorry I can't stay or do more.




 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-19 16:05:32**  
(no subject)

It's not Nymphadora Tonks' vital signs you need worry about.

Narcissa. There's no need to trouble yourself over this. I'll stop in on my way home this evening. I assume they'll let me in to see her.



 **alt\_lucius** at **2010-04-20 03:35:29**  
(no subject)

Really? What, pray, *should* she worry about?



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-20 03:46:28**  
(no subject)

She?

No, no. I was answering Black. Dithering here about his halfblood cousin's urine studies when his presence had been requested at Windsor?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-20 03:49:18](#)  
(no subject)

I prefer to think he was merely setting me at ease, Barty. I'm sure our Regulus was not shirking his appointed duties.




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-20 04:14:39](#)  
(no subject)

You're right, of course. And I believe he did make haste in answering His summons, so all's well. It's only that sometimes he shows such weakness and hesitation. I know you must be concerned on

his behalf now and then, too.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-20 03:53:18](#)  
(no subject)

Ah, yes. For a moment I thought there was some more shocking detail about Miss Tonks of which we ought to be wary.

No fear; Regulus turned his tail when summoned.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-20 04:08:38](#)  
(no subject)

Good.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-19 16:07:34](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you for trying, cousin.

Barty volunteered to go later today, as Lucius still has afternoon commitments. I'm contacting Healers Page and Wright to let them know he's on the approved visitors' list, though as an Auror I'm sure he could gain entry on his own!

It's odd, as he and Nymphadora never got on much when she was



fostered there, but I suppose he's feeling a measure of fraternal nostalgia.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-19 16:13:40](#)**  
(no subject)

That's not entirely how I would have put it.

Nonetheless, I'm pleased to do it to spare you the trouble.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-19 16:16:11](#)**  
(no subject)

And you're a dear for running my errand for me.

Can I repay you with luncheon tomorrow? You can brief me on your visit.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-20 01:34:56](#)**  
(no subject)


Certainly. Where should I meet you?

She was awake and quite purple when I stopped. I gather she was hoping I would be someone else, but she did manage seven or eight civil sentences before she feigned tiredness and sent me packing.

She seems concerned about her career as a shopkeep. I told her that I shouldn't be surprised if she'd been replaced, that she should be prepared for that news. It's simply the way of the marketplace. Business doesn't wait for employees who can't--for whatever reason--fulfill their obligations.

Say where and when: I'll tell you the rest when I see you.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-20 03:39:40](#)**  
(no subject)

*Purple?* All over or just her hair? Do I even want to know?

Well, I suppose I'll hear all the news tomorrow, at any rate. Let's say The Berkeley at one o'clock? I've changed shifts with Ursula again - this time for her convenience, but it works out as I've a new project, so I'll be in New London already. You can prepare me for what I'm likely to see when I go.

It's laudable, I suppose, that she feels so conscientious about her own obligations to her employer. But then, she has had the most problematic time holding on to the positions she's managed to get so far. After that disgraceful episode at the Ministry, it's no wonder she's grasping for the sympathy of this Ponds fellow. Still, it's disappointing to think that with all the advantages she should have had, this is all she's amounted to thus far.




 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-20 04:01:28](#)**  
(no subject)

The Berkeley, then, at one.

It was just her hair, of course, although that included the eyebrows and those were particularly alarming. You know that she studies ways to be provoking, but I'd forgotten quite how skilled she is at it.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-19 18:25:28](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oh, poor Miss Tonks.

She HATES Mr Crouch. In fact her whole foster family was dreadful to her. I think she'd be happier to see nearly ANYONE else.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-20 02:19:14](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, is it just me, or does he seem dead creepy to you, too?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-20 02:34:58**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

IT IS NOT JUST YOU.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-20 02:37:40**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

And be careful, I think he reads all the journals at least some of the time.

He popped in to mine to say hello during Christmas hols, on that entry I made for Gemma.

**2010-04-19 13:25:00**

*I had a very nice birthday*

My birthday was on Saturday. Last year it was during spring hols and no one was here. This year I got to see all my friends! Pansy gave me chocs, I didn't know she even had any left. And Hydra, sweetie, thank you so much again for the thought, it was really nice of you. You know there are just as many cats in my room as yours though! I will be sure to stop up to pet Tully soon.



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

And the pudding after dinner on Saturday was lemon cake and that was excellent even if it wasn't just for me.

And now I'm officially a teenager.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-19 19:37:49**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


Hydra tried to give me her rabbit.

Which was really sweet of her but really strange, too. I mean, she LOVES Tully. I'm afraid if her mum finds out she'll be really cross, she was cross about Hydra getting the rabbit but she'd be cross about her giving it away, too, I expect she'd say it showed a lack of responsibility. Hydra said Tully got hurt once in her dorm room but there are just as many cats in mine, Pyewacket is clever enough not to try to eat someone else's pet but Fergus isn't.

I really really REALLY wish I had a pet. I've never been able to have one and I'd need permission from the Strettons and I don't want to give them -- well you know, if I had a pet they could threaten to take it away from me if I made them angry. Holding Tully yesterday before I said no almost made me think it would be worth it, though. Maybe if it were a really small pet they wouldn't have to know, they never come into my room as it is.

I wonder if



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-20 02:08:08](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

She what?

She's mad about that rabbit, I thought. I mean, I don't know her all that well, but she talks about him enough.

You really want a familiar? I guess Pyewacket's pretty nift for a fuzzball, but I dunno. Charlie's had loads of pets at different times, but he didn't keep any of them all that long. I think Mum was always trying to get him to give them away to other people.

Oh, and Percy had a rat, and it was alright. I think it was sort of ancient, though, when he got it. It never did much. I don't think it was even a magical rat, cause I've seen ones that can do loads of tricks.

You could probably hide a rat from the Strettons, y'know. If you really wanted a pet.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2010-04-20 02:20:18](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, I was just thinking about that. How maybe I could get something small like a rat and just not tell them. I can't very well pop by Magical Menagerie and buy one, though.

I wonder if Professor Carrow would notice if he were suddenly one short? Don't worry, I wouldn't REALLY. It's not worth the risk of getting caught.



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-20 02:32:16](#)

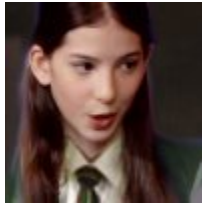
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oooh!

We could save Carrow's rats--liberate them! That's what you call it, right? We could, I dunno, get the twins to set off dung bombs outside during one of our lessons, and when he leaves the room, we could nick one of them.

Or!

Maybe there's a Rune for this, too. There must be one for unlocking things. And then they could all escape and he'd never know how they got out, but you could watch for it and grab one when it gets loose.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-20 02:38:03](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

For Merlin's sake Ron ARE YOU COMPLETELY INSANE?

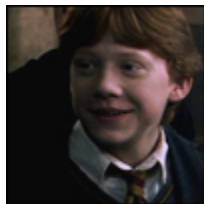
There probably is a rune that unlocks things but Carrow is just a tiny bit more experienced than Padma Patil at FIGURING THINGS LIKE THAT OUT.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-20 02:46:58](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

~~Alright, I found the rune that unlocks things but I can't think of any way that~~ Never mind, it's a bad idea.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-20 03:37:31](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Heh.

If you want to do it, I'll totally help. And I bet the twins would, too.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-20 03:44:00](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I want to do it but I want to NOT GET KILLED BY CARROW more.

Anyway if one of Carrow's rats went missing he WOULD notice and I expect he'd have the school searched and while I could hide a rat from the Strettons I doubt I could hide it if the school got searched for a missing Carrow rat.



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-20 04:17:59**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Guess you're right about that.

Oh well.

Or you could just say Pyewacket found him and you've no idea where or how.

Yeah. Probably not.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-20 04:22:31**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

First of all, that would probably work about as well as trying to convince Patil that the insect invasion was just the result of someone keeping chocs in her trunk.

Second, even if I could convince him I had nothing to do with the rat breakout, once they found the rat they'd take it away from me, and the horrible things that happen to Carrow's rats would be a lot worse if it were a rat I'd kept as a pet.

He has both magical and non-magical rats in that cage in his classroom, I think.

If it happened at the very end of the year, right before we left for the summer...it would still be a bad idea.



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-20 16:22:34**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I would have sat on him, Sally-Anne, before letting him try something like that. I'm not so sure the twins would have helped, either, really. They like pranks, yeah, but they're not mad enough to cross Professor Carrow for not a particularly good reason.





 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-20 16:36:46**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, it's one thing to cross Carrow to find out what he'd done with Terry. Rats are a whole different matter.

~~If we could somehow get Patil to do it~~ never mind, it's still a bad idea.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-20 02:34:47**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

So, you're not upset I didn't get you anything for your birthday are you? I mean, I can't really make anything much, and I figured you wouldn't want anything I'd tried to charm. I mean, it might curse

you by accident!

Anywiz, it's not bad being thirteen, is it?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-20 02:43:14**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Of course I'm not upset you didn't have a present for me. I couldn't believe Pansy still had chocolate, and she's got a lot more self-control with food than you do!

It sounds like they'll allow parcels again soon, I can't WAIT. I mean not that I'll get one but plenty of my friends will and they'll share! And being thirteen isn't bad, especially since no one played any pranks on me for my birthday. Yet, anyway.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-20 04:19:50**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Where did you hear that? That'd be wicked if it's true. And you can totally have some of whatever Mum sends me when they let parcels in again.





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-20 04:24:11](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It was in Lucius Malfoy's journal. Let's see. He said, 'It was recommended to the Ministry that owl traffic resume to all quarantined areas, including camps and Hogwarts. We await the final decision of the Minister, of course, but it should be a matter of time.'



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-20 16:26:41](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I wonder...d'ye think they count fish as pets? I mean, they're not very exciting, maybe, and you don't get to hold them or pet them or anything. But they're not listed as legal familiars so maybe they're not considered 'pets,' exactly? (I never really understood why anyone should care about the blood status of who gets to keep what animals.)

But even if they aren't too exciting, they can be quite interesting. Evelyn has a fish tank, and she often writes about it in her letters.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-20 16:35:38](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I want a pet I can hold. Anyway, I'm not sure the rule against halfbloods having familiars counts now that I'm at Hogwarts. That rule was for blood-traitor families, like the rule about brooms. I could have a broom now if I could afford one, so maybe I could have a familiar if the Strettons would let me.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-20 17:18:33](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well, anyway, I think it's stupid you have to ask the Strettons of all people for permission.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-19 19:40:03](#)**  
(no subject)


I've been hiding away the last bar of mum's chocolate for *ages*. It's not quite a proper birthday present, but we can make up for it over summer hols.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-19 19:43:23](#)**  
(no subject)

I can't wait! Will we really get to ride horses? I've never even seen a horse up close, just pictures.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-19 20:09:09](#)**  
(no subject)

That's the plan. He even has a groom to help us learn how and everything. If the Strettons let you come, that is. I've already asked mum.

I hope they do!



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-20 16:38:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I really think the Strettons will, they let me come during Christmas hols after all.

I can't WAIT for summer. It feels like I've been at school forever.

**2010-04-19 21:24:00**

*Increase in Commerce*

The Lord Protector's decision to move court to Windsor necessitated some changes to the timetable. Consequently Magical Commerce met this afternoon, instead of this morning.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Fortunately, industry has been on the rise since the camp populations have returned to work. It is particularly stronger since Rookwood's restorative was deployed with success. There was even discussion of opening the camps again, though in the end it was determined too early for that.

However, the supply situation was discussed and it was recommended to the Ministry that owl traffic resume to all quarantined areas, including camps and Hogwarts. We await the final decision of the Minister, of course, but it should be a matter of time. None too soon, it seems, from the reports we have seen this week!

Pansy, spoke to your mother regarding spending time in town. She is amenable, which was surprising enough in itself, and we are awaiting the YPL schedule to decide on suitable dates. She indicates that Campbell has a rather full agenda planned while you are on holiday with them; doubtless he knows that he still has some work cut out for him.

**2010-04-20 12:02:00**

*Today's library access will be restricted*

His Excellency the Lord Protector will be spending a few hours at Hogwarts today. There will be a period when student access to the library will be restricted. Madam Pince will be stationed at the library entrance, and she and a few Prefects (I am one of them) may be able to retrieve books from the library's collection which are urgently needed today on a case-by-case basis. This will not, however, include any books from the Restricted Section. All of the Professors have been notified, however, and of course no one will lose points for work that a student was not able to complete due to today's restricted library access.



 [alternity](#)  
 [alt\\_percy](#)

The students who ordinarily meet in the library for study purposes will need to find other locations today. The Great Hall will be opened for extended hours to accommodate.

His Excellency will not be available for questions in any way. Please do not embarrass his security staff by having the temerity to attempt to interrupt Him or anyone else in his entourage in order to request an autograph.

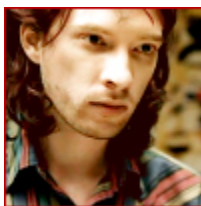



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 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at **2010-04-20 17:30:21**

*Order Only*

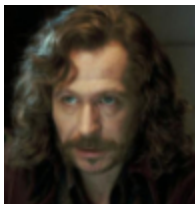
The LP is coming to Hogwarts to use the library? Any idea why, Minerva?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2010-04-20 17:31:19**

*Re: Order Only*

Interesting. If there's any way you can find out what books he requested, Minerva, I'm sure my analysts would love to know.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-20 18:17:01](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

I assume whatever he was looking for in my parents' library wasn't there.

Wish I knew what it was, though. If it's so dark my own father didn't have it ... well, then it must be nefarious indeed.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-20 18:07:50](#)**

*(no subject)*

What did you do to be chosen for that detail, Weasley?

How many people came with Him?



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-20 18:46:09](#)**

*(no subject)*

All of the Prefects, of course, expressed their willingness to help. I assume that the ones who were chosen simply had more open class periods this afternoon.

There are a number of people accompanying Him, but of course, due to the fact that His security arrangements may not be discussed, I am not allowed to give you the exact number.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-20 22:12:04](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Ha. That's telling her.

What d'you suppose she wants to know that for, anyway? Wondering if she could break through security and go lick His shoes?



 [\*\*alt\\_sally\\_anne\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-04-21 00:22:47\*\*](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Maybe she was wondering if Bellatrix Lestrangle was along, since Patil worships Sandoval and Sandoval worships Mrs Lestrangle.



 [\*\*alt\\_ron\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-04-21 01:34:32\*\*](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Did you see what she said to Sandoval? About wanting to touch books the Protector touched?

Now that's creepy.



 [\*\*alt\\_sally\\_anne\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-04-21 01:50:00\*\*](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, I did.

As IF he'd be looking at books anywhere but the restricted section. The most restricted part of the restricted section.

**2010-04-20 13:57:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Loathing*

I loathe these nearly-unannounced visits.

He has closeted himself in the library. I hardly know what he is looking for. He has brought Regulus Black with him, and I have sequestered him in one of the least-used and least-interesting antechambers. I daren't have him here.




 **alt\_mcgonagall**

He looks extremely unhealthy.

---




 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-20 18:12:28**  
(no subject)

I saw Arthur and Molly's boy's announcement - no disruptions - perhaps that's due to his health. We can only hope he's come down with something debilitating.


But what's Reg doing there with him, Minerva?



 **alt\_arthur** at **2010-04-20 18:43:40**  
(no subject)

I wonder...I note that Percy said that the students' requests for books may be able to be accommodated--unless the book they want is in the Restricted Section. That may suggest that HE'S in the Restricted Section, and doesn't want anyone nosing about looking over his shoulder to see what book's he's reading. Which makes sense, I suppose.



 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-20 19:06:52**  
(no subject)

Well, with Pince guarding the door it's likely that she can't sign anything out of the Restricted Section, either.

But it's not much of a guess that he's in the Restricted books, is it, if he's bothered to come all the way out there.




 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-04-20 19:11:05](#)  
(no subject)

As far as I can tell, Regulus is merely here as his cloak-holder and general servant. I have no idea why else he might be present; he has done nothing and contributed nothing. Unless, of course, he is here to spy; that is why I've sequestered him so.

I suppose the elves have brought him food; I ought to confirm that they have.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-20 20:02:22](#)  
(no subject)


Wait. You mean Reg is the one who looks unwell?



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-04-20 20:56:05](#)  
(no subject)

Reg looks as he always does. The Lord Protector looks unwell.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-20 22:13:48](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. That's what I thought you'd said.

~~I don't suppose you'd~~

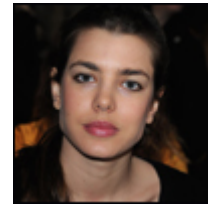
No. Never mind.



**2010-04-20 19:10:00**

XXIV.

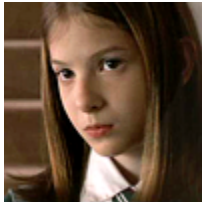
I'm sure each of you joins me in expressing what a deep honour it was today to welcome Our Lord to Hogwarts. It is a testament to the unparalleled quality of our library that He should require its resources. We have materials available nowhere else in the world, and our library is undeniably the finest and most ancient collection of its kind.




 **alt\_lana**

I for one will never enter the library again without thinking what a privilege it is to attend this school which Our Lord Himself attended, an institution unrivaled anywhere.

---




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-21 00:25:05**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

The Lord Protector is a WANKER and YOU are a pompous nitwit. And I hope you both choke yourselves to death on book dust.

Merlin, I love being able to say things like that.



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-21 01:52:18**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It sure is useful, isn't it?



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-21 03:53:56**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Heh.

You hardly ever say anything, y'know, risky here.

You ought to do. It really does feel good!

Like this: Padma Patil is a complete pustule.




 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-21 13:57:38**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

If you'd been raised by my Gran, you'd understand why it's not easy for me to say things like that. Even if it's only with people who are safe.



 **[alt\\_padma](#) at 2010-04-21 00:30:12**  
(no subject)

Dunstan and Moon and I went up to the central corridor to see if we could see the Lord Protector's party on their way out. Not to disturb them, of course!

But only because it's so exciting. I've seen Him up close a handful of times, I mean, but still, it's ever so impressive to think that He would come here just to do research in our library. Just like anyone, really! I wonder what books He needed. Imagine what it would be like to look in the very same book.

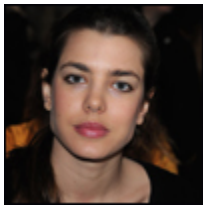
Professor Acton says sometimes the presence of a really powerful mage can linger long afterward, like the ripples in a pool after a stone is dropped into it. I wonder if you'd feel the aftereffects if you touched the page He touched, or anything like that?


Anyway, I hope it's quieter in the common room tonight. We made sure to remind everyone in first-year (and some of the second-years and even a few third) that it's within your power to tell them they've got to take their business to the dormitories if they're not respectful. Although everyone's really looking forward to maybe getting care packages once owls are allowed again. Do you think we could tell them that if they're all really, really careful not to disturb everyone revising in the common room, we could have a big Ravenclaws-only

party after OWLs are over? I'm sure we'll have parcels again by then, don't you think?

And it would give everyone something to plan for - and us something to disallow if they don't behave.

What do you think?




 **alt\_lana** at **2010-04-21 02:51:15**  
(no subject)

Actually, that's an excellent idea about a House party after OWLs and NEWTs--if they all tow the line between now and then.

I like how you think, Patil: you'll make an excellent Prefect one day.

As for Our Lord, I suspect we would not have occasion to touch the texts He was consulting. For myself, I shouldn't presume to think that my knowledge or interests approach His own. On the other hand, I do imagine we'll feel the profound effects of His Presence lingering in the library for many days to come.



 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-21 03:05:18**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Sandoval!

And no, of course I don't mean that He'd be looking for anything as...as elementary as something we'd be doing in lessons, or anything like that! I mean, obviously if He's coming here it's for something really, really important that He couldn't get anywhere else.

But on the other hand, He was a student, too, wasn't He? I mean, when He was our age (it's really amazing to even think He was ever our age!). So He must have used the library then, too, right? Which means that some of the books there, maybe even a lot of them, must have been books He read. So I wonder if you could tell, just by touching one, that He'd ever used it?

I can't believe I never even thought of that until now! To think, all this time we've been using the library, and His Presence has been there all along.

How old is Ravenclaw Corner? You don't think it might have been a place where He used to go, back in the day?

Gosh, that's an exciting thought.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-21 03:28:45](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I wonder if there IS any way of knowing who touched which books? I mean, that's actually sort of an interesting question. I bet there's a rune, actually, I mean I wouldn't expect to be able to use a rune on a book and know which people had touched it in the last 200 years, but maybe there's a rune that if you put it there, you'd know later who'd touched something.

Of course, if Madam Pince caught you writing a rune on a library book she'd make you WISH you'd just been caught by Carrow stealing his rats...

P.S. The Lord Protector was a SLYTHERIN and not a RAVENCLAW you self-satisfied little prig.

P.P.S. But you can have him if you want, as far as I'm concerned.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-21 03:46:44](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I hope there's not a Rune for that. I mean, it sounds like the sort of thing that could get us in trouble someday. A way for the Headmistress to catch you if you do something, y'know. Or Madam

Pince.

And, yeah, she'd have your head if she caught you writing something in one of the books. You're right, it'd almost be better

well, no, actually

I can't think of anything as bad as getting caught by Carrow



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:50:24](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

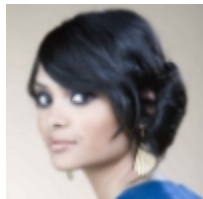
No, you're right, I was joking. I'd face Madam Pince a dozen times before breakfast before I'd take on Carrow, given the choice.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:35:21](#)**

*(no subject)*

The Lord Protector wasn't in Ravenclaw though. He was in Slytherin. Are Slytherins ever allowed to revise in Ravenclaw Corner?



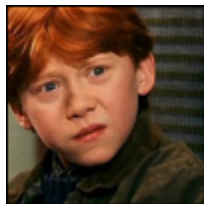
 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:39:09](#)**


*(no subject)*

Of course, I know He was in Slytherin, Finnigan! That's what I was asking - whether Ravenclaw Corner was ever possibly Slytherin Corner, you know?

Because it's the very best spot in the library, so I'm sure when He was here He would have wanted the best. So it's possible, if Ravenclaw Corner hasn't been in that very spot forever and always, that at one time there were Slytherins who used it. And maybe the Lord Protector was one of them!

(It was certainly never Hufflepuff Corner or Gryffindor Corner, but Slytherin Corner? Maybe!)



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:43:31](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oi!

What does Finnigan even see in her? I mean, she's always on about how Gryffindor's a nothing House, and yet here he is, always answering everything she says.

D'you think she Confunded him? I dunno, back before Christmas hols, maybe.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-21 03:48:55**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well, there's a lot of different ways to be a halfblood.

One of them is to pretend really hard that you're not.

There are some advantages to that approach but the problem is, you have to twist yourself in knots to live that way. He can't stick up for his House because his housemates would accept him for who he really is, and that's not alright because HE doesn't accept himself for who he really is.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-21 03:55:34**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Huh?

That doesn't even make sense.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-21 04:01:40**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

You're a pureblood. I don't expect you'd understand.




 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-21 13:59:53**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well, I understand it. And I'm a pureblood.


(Not that I think it makes any difference, really.)



 **alt\_seamus** at [2010-04-21 03:46:22](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, I see what your saying now.

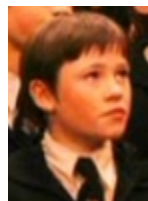


 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-21 03:56:41](#)  
(no subject)

I mean not that all Gryffindors are bad (you, for example), but they're not really much for staking out a place for revising, are they?

Anyway, I wonder what He was looking for. I'm sure it was something really incredible and advanced. Maybe it was a way to keep anyone from ever getting sick again, like with Black's Paralysis?

Of course, that would mean St Mungo's could basically close, which would be bad for Haruman. But good for everyone else!




 **alt\_seamus** at [2010-04-21 04:05:04](#)  
(no subject)

Gryffindor House is not known for being where the swots go. I'll give you that!

I'm sure whatever the Lord Protector was looking for was really important. Maybe its a kind of magic that will find Black once and for all? And everyone who sympathises with him?



 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-21 04:10:38](#)  
(no subject)

Well, we don't all have castles and servants, you know! Some of us have to work hard to get ahead.

But yeah, you're probably right! Did you see what Mr Crouch told Mr Malfoy? Oh, that would be wonderful, if they could catch him! We'd all sleep a little safer, I expect.



But we probably shouldn't talk about it in case he sees and takes measures to get away. You wouldn't want to be responsible for that!




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-21 04:22:00](#)**  
(no subject)

You don't really think

I reckon your right, we shouldn't say anything else.




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-21 14:03:28](#)**  
(no subject)

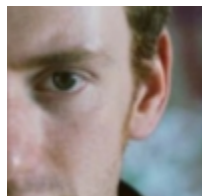
I certainly agree, Sandoval.


One thing I suggested was that a place in the library might be set aside for His exclusive use: a particularly nice study table in an alcove off the Restricted Section, perhaps with a special plaque, etcetera. Madam Pince seemed quite taken with the idea.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-22 11:34:49](#)**  
(no subject)

That is a very fine suggestion, Weasley. I thought you presented it well at our meeting last night. I hope you weren't disappointed when the Headmistress said it would require approval from the Board. I can't imagine they'll be anything but supportive of your initiative.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:41:36](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank for that, and for your support on the proposal.



**2010-04-20 21:58:00**

*(no subject)*

Narcissa.

Thank you for lunch. I haven't been to the Berkeley in ages. I meant to ask if they've hired a new chef: the food was excellent. Surpassed only by the company.




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)

I'm sorry I had to run off and desert you at the Elysian afterwards. If it's any consolation, the meeting I was called away to was genuinely productive: it seems we have some real intelligence to follow for once.

But what about you? Did you find them in the end?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2010-04-21 02:44:49**  
*(no subject)*

Well, if I must be left standing in the entry hall of the Elysian looking for a husband who is not there, at least it was in service to a breakthrough on your quest.

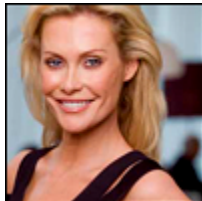
And I did eventually find him, but I can claim no credit for the stalk. It's not at all worthy of the hunt when the prey walks into the dining room for supper.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2010-04-21 03:15:48**  
*(no subject)*

So he wasn't there at all?

I'm sorry it was a fool's errand, then.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2010-04-21 03:21:55**  
*(no subject)*

Why, Barty, are you calling me a fool?

As he says, he was seizing a rare opportunity for solitude and secrecy. Given the mountain of manuscripts I have seen travelling from Crispin's desk to Lucius', I

am almost not sorry at all. He too rarely gets to work on projects for the pure enjoyment of them.




 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:30:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Not at all, though I'll concede it was a poor choice of phrase.

I can well imagine that Lucius's diary and desktop are both overflowing with work to be completed. He's fortunate to have Crispin. I could do with one of those myself!



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:52:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Even Crispin still has his days when he is not his usual indispensable self.

Thankfully they are few and far between. Still.


You might consider Ned. He was interning at the Ministry through the end of last year and I do not believe he has settled on a permanent situation yet.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-21 04:00:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, now there's a thought. Do you think he'd be interested in shifting to MLE?




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-21 04:03:55](#)**  
(no subject)

I know he was keen to get a taste of the department and somewhat disappointed when little of his work in Purity Control crossed into the MLE. It would be worth your time to


inquire.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-21 04:05:49](#)  
(no subject)


I'll ask after him tomorrow.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-21 04:05:48](#)  
(no subject)


Indeed, I was thinking of Ned, too. After all, Lucius did have something of a breaking in period with Crispin (which was not at all pleasant! but luckily for us all he learned quickly).  
Ned might even do for you and Bella, I think he could manage.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-21 04:11:34](#)  
(no subject)


I don't see why I should share the windfall if he's as good a catch as you're suggesting!



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-21 04:15:00](#)  
(no subject)

I beg your pardon, Barty, dear. I remember Bella complaining some time ago that your jobs would be easier if you could each have a dedicated assistant, instead of having to share.  
Perhaps Rufus has seen her point and you're now each allowed your own - I quite agree it's much more agreeable if that's the case.




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-21 04:22:05](#)  
(no subject)

It's all a matter of justifying one's expenses. And catching the right people at the right moments to gain approval.

Certainly galleons do not fall from the sky in any department, but there's no doubt that we could work more productively if we had sufficient administrative support.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:14:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Entirely my fault; Ari cancelled yesterday and I forgot to tell Narcissa that I would not be taking tea there today.

In fact, with the Lord Protector in the North, I confess I took full advantage and escaped to relative anonymity in order to spend some much-needed time writing.

But there has been a lead, truly? That is encouraging. Particularly in light of your recent ... concerns ... I'm sure we will all find an end to a certain hunt quite a relief. On many fronts.

Narcissa tells me that you two spoke at length about your perspective on Regulus' status, and what he ought to do to improve it. I hope you had more success than I in convincing her to encourage him in the right direction.

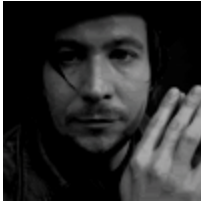



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-21 03:26:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Ah. Well, I hope your day was as productive as mine.

And, yes, we do seem to have had a breakthrough in that regard. Very promising.

It's Black who's impossible to convince. I have every reason to believe Narcissa when she says she's tried everything in her power to make something of him. In the end, of course, if he won't help himself, it may simply be beyond anything any of us can do.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-21 04:24:44](#)  
*Order Only*

What do you think you know, you reptile?

**2010-04-21 10:22:00**

*Order Only: Still Safe*

After Crouch's self-confident pronouncements yesterday, I thought I'd better do some checking around, just to make sure the hounds aren't closing in.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

So far, I've heard nothing from any of my contacts that suggests the DE's are on to *me* at all. Frank, Kingsley, you'd better check your trails, as well.

But for the moment, everything seems fine. I was just home last week and nothing had been disturbed. I picked up a few things, switched out the travelling robes and so on, looked in on the neighbours, and no visitations like last time, or anything like that.

Nigel's about to appear at a few Quidditch matches in the next two weeks, so look for his posts if you're hoping to verify I'm all right.

Moony, I've been thinking about Nymphadora. If I know you, you'll not want to call attention to yourself, but seeing as how Narcissa has discussed Junius openly, you'd be well within your rights to contact her, as Junius, and let her know that not only is Dora's position assured, you'd very much like to visit. That'd shut her noise, if you like. I had a right chuckle over the thought of Dora yawning affectedly to get rid of that overgrown lizard, Crouch.


Well, anyway, it's a thought. And you could tell her we're all wishing her well.

Meanwhile, Marguerite, Fatima and Aleks are gearing up for more traffic, now that more of the victims are waking. I expect Laszlo's of London will need its junior associate soon - and yes, Kingsley, I'm having them set aside a portion of each shipment for another smuggling run at the solstice. Wands, too, and more Wolfsbane, especially.

Come to that, Remus, have you been able to spare any for Stephen to start analysing? I'll get more before you run out, never fear.

---




 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-04-21 18:23:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll have Emmeline do a run to check in with our contacts. She's the best of us at evasion, if there are any problems.

Good news about the smuggling run. Keep safe, my friend!



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2010-04-21 21:11:21](#)**  
(no subject)

You're right, yes. Maybe Junius should leave a note in Narcissa's journal. I don't want to draw too much notice, but it would be seemly to reply since she mentioned it herself. Maybe tomorrow.

I did manage to get a small sample over to Stephen, but it may be helpful to him to have more. Alice probably knows better than I where he's up to with it.

**2010-04-21 13:25:00**

*Daddy*

Portia and Celia have been very kind, but still...Ginny, I expect you've heard. The Headmistress called me into her office to tell me, but I suppose word spreads fast around here. I don't think I will want to come to dinner tonight, but I'd really like to see you, if you can come to the Ravenclaw common room. The Prefects said that they would watch for you and let me know when you're there, and we'll find a place to go away for awhile to talk.



 **alt\_luna**


I can't believe I'll never be able to go home again. And that I'll never see him again.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-21 19:49:25**  
*(no subject)*


Oh, Luna. I heard at lunchtime. I am sorry, I am so, so sorry about your father.



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-22 01:39:42**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Blimey. What's going to happen to her now? I mean, she's been declared a half-blood, hasn't she? So will they have to get a foster family for her? Or will Ron's family take her in?



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-22 01:40:04**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I mean, she's an orphan now, isn't she?





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-22 01:49:37](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Well she'll need someone to take care of her. I expect the Weasleys will offer, they've known her since she was a little girl. Surely they'll let her live with the Weasleys? I mean they're as pureblooded as the Malfoys and Mr Weasley works at the Ministry, for all Padma makes nasty comments all the time about Ron's family they're really quite respectable.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-22 02:12:51](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Of course, she'll come live with us. And I reckon my parents will want to make it official, however you do that. Did you see what Mum said to her? About having serious stuff to talk over. I bet they mean to adopt her. If she wants them to, y'know.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-22 02:20:30](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Can they adopt her, though? If they call her a half-blood? Sally-Anne, do you know? I mean, aren't half-bloods called, what d'ye call it, wards of the state or something?

I hope she'll be able to live with you. It sounds like she gets along real well with your Mum and your sister.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-22 02:34:18](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I dunno about that stuff. I mean, I know Luna's not ever a halfblood. Not that it ought to matter, except that it does matter for stuff like this, and she's not one.

But, yeah, they're really good friends, I think. Ginny and Luna. They practically grew up together. I mean, with Luna's mother gone and her father so, well. He was a different sort than my dad--than most anyone, really. And he was mad about Luna, but

I don't think he paid her much mind most of the time. I mean, she was always just turning up and staying at ours and he didn't ever seem to even notice she was gone. Mum'd go spare if we ever just disappeared like that without saying where we were going or when we'd be back. I mean, not that she really ever could keep up with all of us, but it wasn't because she wasn't worrying about where each of was, so she's always shouting at someone about how we're going to kill her one day with worrying her. Yeah. Luna's father's not, wasn't, I mean, like that at all.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:43:30](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

There's no rule that says a half-blood can't be adopted, but there's no provision saying they can, either. The rules sort of assume no one would want to.

It would probably be best if they just ask to foster her for now. Finnigan's foster father really acts like his father; if you CAN adopt your foster child he'll do it and once he does, there'll be a rule saying you can. Because Mr Rosier is part of the same inner circle as Mr Malfoy and Mr Nott and the rest. If he wants something he'll get it.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-21 21:54:21](#)**

*(no subject)*

That's just awful, Luna. Just  
yeah

I'm really really sorry.




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-21 21:59:46](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'm very sorry for your loss, Lovegood. If there's anything at all that I or the other Prefects could do, you've only to let me know.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-21 22:35:48](#)**  
*Order Only*

They killed him?

Why? Why now? What purpose does that serve?




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-22 00:11:57](#)**  
*Re: Order Only*

It defies imagination, Sirius. It does.

I don't know what to tell you, except that none of it makes sense. Minerva and I have been trying to shake some credible information out of the bureaucrats all day. I've spoken with six different representatives at St Mungo's and been given a very hazy story. I really don't believe he was kept there all this time, but of course they're not going to confirm or deny that. What they have said is that Xeno signed some sort of contract or codicil or whatever the term is they use for such things that requires his body be turned over to the Programme for Anthromantical Studies. I've never heard of it.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 00:19:19](#)**  
*Re: Order Only*

Come again? They're giving out he's dead but his remains are to go to some obscure and presumably experimental project?

No.

I cry foul. What's more, I'd wonder whether he's really dead, if that's the way they're playing it.

More likely they just wanted to keep him round as a play-toy for old Voldy-trousers. Well, they can just stuff it, that's all.

If we don't flay every one of them alive and then pour lemon juice over them and then grow all their skin back so we can do it again  
....

Sorry. I know, that sinks us to their level. I know it.

Merlin, it would feel good, though.



 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-22 01:07:58](#)

*Re: Order Only*

I know exactly what you mean, Sirius, about wanting to put them through even a fragment of what they've done to their victims.

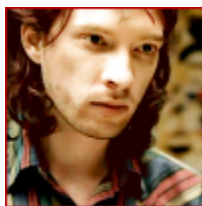
But, I truly do not know what to think about Lovegood. You're quite right, of course: their nonsense story means anything at all might have happened to him, including the possibility that he's not dead at all. And you're right that the timing makes little or no sense.

Unless they've killed him accidentally. I really do wonder if that's not it: all it would have taken was someone getting frustrated when he persisted in making no sense at all regardless of what torment or technique they applied. A moment's fury and piff! Dead.

I can think of all too many reasons they might not wish to release his corpse. You know that they had to open a new sanitarium last spring to cope with the number of irremediable injuries inflicted by Buckingham and the Ministry on persons in custody. The fortunate souls may be the ones who die.

I--

Yes, Sirius, it would feel good.



 **alt\_bill** at [2010-04-22 01:21:42](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Bloody hell.

I saw this and like Poppy and Minerva, I've been wringing every connection I have, trying to find out more. The analyst team has been being extremely careful, though, to not draw attention to our inquiries.

I can tell you this much: his death certificate hasn't been registered this week. It might mean nothing, though, depending

on when he died, if he died. It could come with next week's report. If it does come in, I have someone who thinks she can grab a quick look and at least get an official cause of death. That'll give us the Ministry's story of what happened.

But I agree with you, Sirius, given what we know about how they made him disappear. Whatever they will tell us will be a lie. We just have to figure out how much of a lie.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2010-04-22 02:22:34](#)

*Re: Order Only*

If he is alive, what would they do with him? Now that the cure's out and presumably they can't pretend to be stashing him in a contamination ward?

Azkaban?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-22 02:25:50](#)

*Re: Order Only*

That's why I'm afraid they might not actually *be* lying about it, Kingsley. I mean, it's possible that, especially after he was so damaged by the Cruciatus curse, he grew to be more valuable

dead than alive, as it were.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-22 00:22:20](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Oh, crikey, that research trip of his.

You don't think

I mean to say, there's not a reason he'd need

And Reg was doing something with lots of dead

bugger



 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-22 01:09:10](#)

*Re: Order Only*

What? I don't follow what you are saying here at all.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-22 01:18:38](#)

*Re: Order Only*

It's all right, Poppy. You don't want to know.

That's part of the legacy of living with a family of dark wizards. Sometimes the brain goes places you'd rather not.

Suffice to say I think I know what Reg was doing on that 'project' he was working on for so long recently. And it requires corpses.

When I'm finished being sick I think I'll *murder* that little goblin.



 **alt\_poppy** at [2010-04-22 01:59:50](#)

*Re: Order Only*

I-

Corpses?

Some sort of necromancy, then. I suppose that makes sense with Voldemort behind it.

I do wish I knew what he was researching here. Irma said he had her pull out all the Darkest tomes and manuscripts in preparation for his visit, and then he insisted on going down into her vaults and tromping around them himself. He wanted to see all of Slytherin's papers, of course, but also a trolley-load of private journals kept by some of the early teachers--Sprenger and Grunnion, among them. Neither of them was strictly a necromancer, but she did say Viridian (Hogwarts' first and only vivisectionist, you know) was in his stack. The only other thing she could identify with certainty that he dragged out to read were the Piers of Chesterton scrolls. There was more, but he was careful to keep her from ever having a clear view.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-22 02:09:08](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Grunnion? Not the inventor of the dungbomb, I assume.

(Though I could use a few dungbombs lobbed over the Malfoy gate right about now ....)



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2010-04-22 02:16:03](#)

*Re: Order Only*

No. Not the inventor of the dungbomb.

Although, I'm not sure you could say that this particular Grunnion--he was on staff here in the early years, a generation or three down from the founders, I'd guess--was any more respectable than his latter day descendant.

Dungbombs.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2010-04-22 02:15:55](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Thanks, Poppy. I'll give that list to the analysts, see if they can make anything of it.

Kingsley, do those names suggest anything to you?



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2010-04-22 02:17:05](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Not really, but I'm not the expert on dark arts that Emmeline is. I'll ask her, and see if she has any ideas. If she does, I'll forward 'em on.





 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:23:52](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Well, I want to know. So does Emmeline. Spell it out for us.

So to speak.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:28:43](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

I can barely write it, it's that revolting.

Reg kept talking about the dead. Loads of them. What do you need to mass murder people for,

Kingsley?

And having Kreacher to ferry the corpses?

I'm gonna be sick again.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 00:25:48](#)**

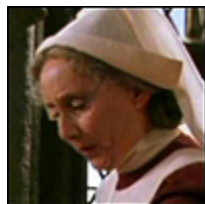
*Re: Order Only*


What about the girl, then? Have you heard from Molly and Arthur? I know they said they'd take her in if necessary.

Has Minerva any indication they'll be allowed to come see her? Or let her go home to them?

Circe. I just

Those bastards.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-22 01:19:25](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

I haven't seen Miss Lovegood. Minerva offered to bring her here for a quiet place and a bit of help with sleeping if that proves difficult, but so far the girl has preferred to sequester herself in her

House, I believe, and if that's where she's most comfortable, then




that's exactly where she ought to be.

I don't know whether Molly has sought permission for her to leave the school. I rather doubt she'd be granted the request, given the restrictions on travel that are still in effect and the rules about anyone exiting or entering the school. Anyone not the Protector and his minions, that is.

You have the right word for them.



 **[alt\\_arthur](#) at 2010-04-22 01:25:52**


*Re: Order Only*

Arthur here. Molly's been crying all afternoon. What a hell of a thing. But I agree Sirius; I am not satisfied that he's dead. And if he is, I highly doubt that the cause of death is what the

Ministry is saying.

We're definitely in agreement: we're going to apply to adopt her.




 **[alt\\_arthur](#) at 2010-04-22 01:26:55**

*Re: Order Only*

She just spent the weekend starting to put in the garden for him behind his house, so that he'd have something to harvest come next autumn. Bloody hell.



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2010-04-22 01:29:09**

*Re: Order Only*

I'm all for it, Dad, if you can convince the Ministry to let you take her. I'm sure the rest of us would support you on this, too.




 **[alt\\_percy](#) at 2010-04-22 01:23:20**

*(no subject)*

I'm so very sorry, Luna. Of course any of us will do anything we can to help.


Did Ginny manage to find you?



 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:08:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, she did. And it was very good to talk to her, but I've decided I want to be alone for a little while now. Except I'm holding my roommate's cat, because sometimes that's the very best thing to do when you're quite sad.



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2010-04-22 01:45:04](#)**  
(no subject)


Luna,

I am so sorry. I know you will always have a home with us. I just know that mum and dad will allow you to stay with us. Right mum? They wouldn't split us up, you are like my sister. Better yet, you are my sister. Just drink that tea I gave you tonight, and I will meet you outside of your house in the morning and we can go to breakfast together and if we have time go for a quite walk around the lake. I think you need to talk more than we could tonight.

I love you Luna, my whole family does. I know you are not in a good place right now, but hold on to that.


Try to get some rest, and I will see you in the morning.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:06:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, dear. Of course it's very soon for Luna to have to think about this, but your father and I have already talked it over, and as I told Luna, we want to talk with her about it, too. There will always be a place for her at the Burrow, and if she wants, your father and I would be glad to make it a formal arrangement.




 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:14:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks so much for coming right away. It helped better than anything, really.


Of course, I've been through this before. But that really doesn't help as much as you would hope it might. And this time I don't have any family members left to be with me through it.



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:27:13](#)**  
(no subject)


It was no problem really. You know I will be there for you anytime you need me. If you need anything else tonight send me word. And don't forget your blanket.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:04:40](#)**  
(no subject)

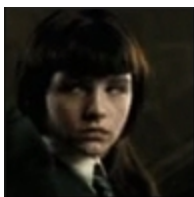
Luna, I hardly know what to say...Arthur and I are so dreadfully sorry. Oh, how I wish I could be there with you! As soon as the travel restrictions are lifted, we want to come to see you, so that we can talk with you about some decisions that will have to be made about your future. Please believe me, that Arthur and I are going to do everything we can to be there for you.




 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:12:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks, Mrs Weasley. It will be good to see you when you come.

Ginny brought me some of your ginger-pear jam--she still had a jar left--to have with some crumpets we toasted over the common room fire. I could close my eyes when I tasted it and pretend I was back at the Burrow with you.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-22 15:50:56](#)**  
(no subject)

i'm sorry, lovegood.

~~i know what its like to~~

**2010-04-21 21:25:00**

*OI, Goblin*

**Regulus Arcturus Black.** What **do** you think you're playing at, goblin?



You know, Father might have been a miserable sod who didn't think twice about using the dark arts, but bloody hell, Reg, there were *limits* to what he'd practise.

 [alt\\_sirius](#)

And now this? If I find out you've had anything to do with leaving that little girl 'orphaned,' so help me, Reg, I'll kill you myself.

---



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2010-04-22 02:06:02**

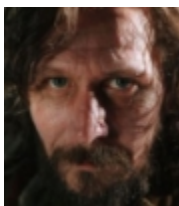
*(no subject)*

Will you desist? You caused this decimating plague, and now you have the audacity to accuse and threaten your own blood to cover your guilt? How can Regulus possibly have played any part in something *you*

unleashed?

Disgusting, loathsome man.

You cannot die soon enough. You're a disgrace to us all.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2010-04-22 02:18:28**

*(no subject)*

If you think I 'unleashed' this plague of yours you're less intelligent than I gave you credit for - or you're so blinded that you're willing to swallow your husband's lies without any sort of chaser.

And last I checked, disgracing you lot generally means I'm doing something right.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:25:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Leave her out of this.

If you want to cast hexes at me, fine.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:38:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, big surprise. Have you forgot your private room at St Mungo's?

You know what, forget it. It's no wonder you grovel and lick his boots. You're probably itching for more and more degrading assignments - you seem to interpret getting kicked the same as getting patted, after all.

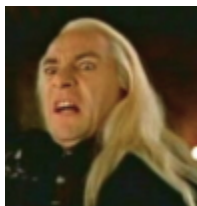
I wonder if Father would have been so pleased with your career choice if he'd known how much toadying it required.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:50:25](#)**  
(no subject)

It's not as though she's the only one who ever hexed me, though you're right: you never quite sent me to hospital. Maybe you just weren't as skilled.

And, no. I don't suppose Father would be satisfied with either of us. It's hard to imagine we could have come out any more disappointing, you or me.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:23:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I've seen roaches in the camps with more tact than you have, Black.

For once in your life, listen to your brother and don't speak on topics about which you can't possibly know anything.

But if you wish a quick death, rather than the public and painful justice that awaits you when you are within our grasp, by all means, do keep insulting my wife.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:08:24](#)**  
(no subject)

What in cod's all are you on about?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:15:01](#)**  
(no subject)


Just have a think, for a bit, Reg.

He was no plague victim, for all the Ministry would have it so. What, has your master been torturing him all this time, only to go too far? Or was his death 'necessary' for something more nefarious than that?

You know those books he's been looking for, have you asked yourself why they aren't in Father's library? Because there are some boundaries magic was never meant to penetrate, Reg.


When are you going to draw the line and stop making yourself his lapdog?



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:24:33](#)**  
(no subject)

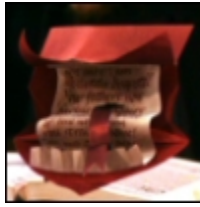
Who are you talking about? Have you gone completely round the twist, brother?




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:32:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Lovegood, I'm talking about. He was harmless, Reg - more harmless than you used to be, before you added several thousand kills to your resume, that is.

Your lot lie so often you've no idea what the truth sounds like anymore do you?




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 02:35:21](#)  
*Order Only*

Sirius, shut it.

Not now. Not tonight. Not in front of her.

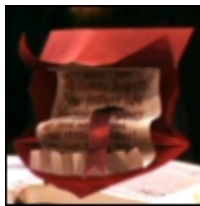



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2010-04-22 02:38:55](#)  
*Re: Order Only*

Bloody hell, Sirius.

That wasn't...particularly well-timed.

Dad, maybe you should take Mum's journal away for a bit.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 02:39:46](#)  
*Re: Order Only*

**NO ONE'S TAKING AWAY MY  
JOURNAL ANYMORE THAN THEY'RE  
TAKING AWAY LUNA'S!**



 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-22 02:41:16](#)  
*(no subject)*


Lovegood? The one that printed that completely mad news sheet about trekking to Bora Bora and sighting nonexistent beasts in Little Balderdash?

I didn't realise anything had happened to him. Has it?

The thing is, I don't lie, do I? And I can't hide.






 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:49:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes. The one whose nonsense was so threatening to your Lord Pretender that he mysteriously contracted the 'paralysis' when his routine took him nowhere near any danger. The one for whom the cure somehow didn't work. Why's that, then? I don't believe for a second that his death was natural.

As for lying, you've other people to do that for you. They can't afford to let anyone know what you're really up to, can they?

Hiding isn't the answer, either.

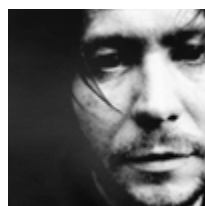



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 02:55:26](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm afraid you're wrong about his importance. As far as I know, he had four or five moments' notice and that was months ago.

Merlin's grotty pants!

Just ask what you want to ask.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:01:39](#)**  
(no subject)


Fine.

What are you doing?

I mean WHAT are you *doing*?

And don't bloody evade me, Reg. You know what I'm asking.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:15:15](#)**  
(no subject)


Look. I'm not evading you, but we can't discuss this here.

Not with that man's daughter reading every word we say to one another and thinking it's something to do with her father. I don't know what you were thinking, bringing him into this. If you want to take a shot at me, you'll have to do it another time.

And at the moment, brother, I'm sitting in a corridor in some old classroom building at Eton. Luckily, I've got Kreacher here to keep things jolly and the teapot filled.

Most exciting thing that's happened tonight, aside from you assailing me in print, was being chatted up by a ghost. Apparently, some of the toffs that came here were wizards boycotting Hogwarts. Not sure why. I was about to ask when he sort of drifted off through the wall.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:30:33](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, we'll just get together for tea at the Elysian, then, shall we, so you can spin your sob story properly?

For Morgana's sake, Reg.

Just ....

Stop fooling yourself. At least have the decency to do that.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:39:49](#)**  
(no subject)

You really think I'm deluded? That I don't see what I am? or who you've become? or what's

yes, do stop by the Elysian, will you?


it would be really decent of you to do this face to face, but then you were always one for running off rather than staying or standing up



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2010-04-22 02:54:06](#)  
(no subject)

It wasn't completely mad! It was a very important news story!

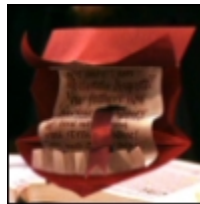



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-22 02:58:57](#)  
(no subject)

No, he wasn't completely mad, Miss Lovegood.

I believe he was trying, in his way, to open people's eyes. It's not at all fair, what happened to him, and to the extent that I may have brought him to my enemies' attention, I'm truly very sorry.


Please accept my condolences, and then follow your prefects' advice and ignore everything here .... It may seem very confusing but really, my conversation with my brother has little to do with your father or his memory.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 03:03:07](#)  
*Order Only*

**Fine words to say now! Sirius, you IDIOT!**



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 02:59:18](#)  
(no subject)


Luna, sweetheart...

Percy's right, dearest. Just ignore this--this nonsensical squabble these two brothers are having right now. It's ridiculous; it's all about their own sordid family history, and it has nothing to do with you.

I want you do to something for me, love. Get out your favourite

book, the one I sent for your birthday three years ago, remember? You can keep your journal with you, and I'll keep checking it through the night if you want to tell me anything. But take out the book and read one of those short stories. Forget the world for a little while.

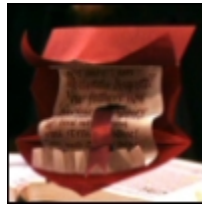



 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-22 03:03:04](#)  
(no subject)

Ah.

I beg your pardon. I hadn't realised what's happened.


I'm very sorry for your loss.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 03:04:27](#)  
Order Only


**And YOU can shove off, too!**



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2010-04-22 02:27:53](#)  
(no subject)


Wait, what--are you talking about my father?



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-22 02:29:11](#)  
(no subject)


Luna, don't read his ravings, and don't reply to him. You've got enough grief to deal with, without worrying about whatever lies he's telling.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-22 02:30:18](#)  
(no subject)


Sandoval, if you're reading this, I suggest you go find Luna and just...just take away her journal for the night. She doesn't need to be reading this rubbish right now.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2010-04-22 02:31:25](#)  
(no subject)

No! No, don't take away my journal! I want to be able to write to your mum if I want.




 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-22 02:32:44](#)  
(no subject)

All right. No one will take it away if you don't want them to.

But don't read anything else Black says.

Promise?



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-22 02:33:42](#)  
(no subject)

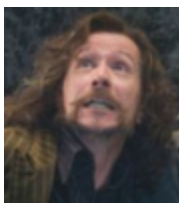
And as for you, Black, piss off. Leave this poor girl out of your lies. Hasn't she been through enough?




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-22 03:33:26](#)  
(no subject)

Your father was one of the finest men I've ever met. Principled. Proud. Courageous. And a piercing judge of character.

He couldn't have been more right about you.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:39:47](#)**  
(no subject)


You left out Insane. Bigoted. And a right bugger.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 03:44:19](#)**  
(no subject)

I've no idea where you came by those traits, Black, but you insult your father's memory to say it was from him.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 04:03:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah? And here I thought he was being generous when he called you a homicidal neurotic who ought not be left alone with helpless animals, especially of the furry, four-footed variety.

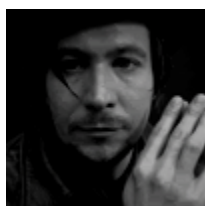
Course, whether that was because he thought you'd singe its fur off, or do something depraved to it, I never asked.


Which was it, then?



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 04:05:03](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm only a danger to vermin like you, who roll in their own vomit and spread their filth wherever they go.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 04:16:26](#)**  
(no subject)

If I were you, Crouch, I wouldn't put that in your personal advertisements. It's not strictly the sort of preference that attracts the ladies.

Though I'm told that when you have to pay for it, you can ask for almost anything. I've no personal experience with that sort

of thing, you understand - my tastes and my looks aren't nearly so repulsive as yours.

Something like that, though? I hope you save up your Galleons.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-22 03:40:21](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Ron and Neville are you reading this?

I don't even know what to think.

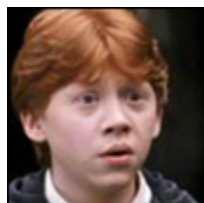


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-22 03:46:45](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I mean Black was right about the disease, and I don't believe for a minute he caused it. And the Ministry lied and lied and lied again.

But now Black's saying Luna's father never had the disease? How would he even know



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-22 03:48:19](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

He couldn't know, could he?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-22 04:11:46](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I don't believe Black's anywhere in the Protectorate, or they'd have caught him by now, surely.


The only way he could possibly have information about what happened to Mr Lovegood is if there's someone here who knows something, who's telling him. He knew about the sickness really early, maybe he has a friend at St Mungo's.

If he DOES have a friend at St Mungo's, he might know for certain Mr Lovegood wasn't in the ward where they were keeping

all the sick half-bloods.

I don't know how he'd be getting the information though. Can owls go to the continent? I thought they couldn't but maybe they have a way?



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-22 12:01:59**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I dunno. But it really makes you wonder.

He must have sources of information, you're right about that. I bet that there are a lot of people who are reading his Grim Truth posts who are secretly glad he's saying some of this stuff, and so if they find out anything dodgy that the Ministry's trying to keep secret, they'll send it to him so he can put it out in his next one. But as to how he's getting the news, I can't imagine. No one's sending owls now, and if he's really right about knowing how the epidemic started, surely he would have been doing everything he could not to get sick himself, right from the beginning. Even if he decides to take the chance that getting an owl won't make him fall sick, I'd think he might figure it'd still be too risky: since no one's sending owls anymore, receiving them might draw too much attention to himself. So I have to think he's getting his news someway other than using owls.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-22 13:50:48**


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It's just Hogwarts that's not getting owls right now. Everyone else is using them.

You know something that I thought of last night. If Mr Lovegood committed treason perhaps someone pulled strings to say he died of the disease to protect Luna, so she wouldn't be sent to the camps.





 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-22 15:26:10**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


That's right, I guess I forgot other people are getting owls. We really are in our own little bubble here, aren't we?

Huh. That's a thought. About Mr Lovegood, I mean. Can't imagine how we could find out whether it's true or not.

I wish there was a way to truly know about things. Okay, I guess that's what Sirius Black says he's doing. Telling us stuff we need to know, that other people want to keep secret. But I do wish we had more ways to find out things, so we could, I dunno, sort of check them against each other. How can kids like us figure out who's really lying and why?

Although, thinking it over, I think I'm more likely to believe Sirius Black.




 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-22 12:03:58**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

And if Lovegood's dad didn't die of the disease, what did he die of? Sirius Black is making it sound like he was murdered. Why lie about it?



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-22 03:47:27**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

He thinks his brother's done some really terrible stuff, doesn't he? But, I dunno. It doesn't seem he's the one that didn't anything to Mr Lovegood.

Do you think?



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-22 11:47:45**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I'm reading it all right. Everybody is, at least in Gryffindor.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-22 15:43:22](#)**  
(no subject)

You vicious, miserable, evil traitor. How DARE you imply that Luna's father died of anything but the illness! Do you realise that families of traitors to Our Lord may also be subject to punishment? Hasn't Luna suffered enough? Perhaps you're feeling some guilt over YOUR poisons having orphaned an innocent girl. If you want to atone, you should turn yourself in for the punishment you deserve, not fling accusations about your victims.

Fortunately for everyone, Our Lord and His loyal servants (and everyone else!) see your words for the rubbish they are.

Poor Mr Lovegood (may he rest in peace) deserves an abject apology from you, his murderer, but I suppose he's not likely to get it.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-22 15:47:17](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I hope he understands what I'm telling him here.

Because I don't think he's thinking at all, he's just furious. But if he DOES have proof that Mr Lovegood didn't die of the illness I want him to keep it to himself, for Luna's sake.

I copied all that out in another notebook before I wrote it in this one, I wanted it to sound just right. Like I hate him.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 00:13:39](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, you got it just right if that's what you wanted him to think.

Everyone else, too.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:53:08](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I didn't want him to think I hated him, but everyone else needs to think I hate him and if he thinks I do, too, it's not the worst thing.

**2010-04-21 22:36:00**

*Not a good year*

Just when one thinks things couldn't get any worse, something happens that makes the world turn up side down. I guess I will never understand why life sometimes seems like one big cruel joke.



 **alt\_ginny**

I mean I thought things were starting to get better. The ministry seems to have a cure for this mess that is going around, people are getting better, all the restrictions we are under might be lifted soon, no student has been attacked in a long while, and I haven't had an episode in a long while either.


Things were looking up, and now poor Luna. I really want to go home. Is anything really as it seems? Is what I consider to be a safe haven a bubble getting ready to burst. I am so very tired of having the rug pulled out from under me, and my friends for that matter.

I am just so very tired. I feel drained. Too much is happening and nothing makes sense.

What could possibly happen next?




---

 **alt\_arthur** at **2010-04-22 03:10:55**  
(no subject)

I do think the restrictions will lift soon, so at least we'll be able to exchange owl post. And it won't be very long until you're all home. Your mum and I are certainly looking forward to having you all within arm's reach. This long distance parenting is entirely too difficult.



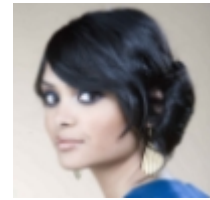
 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-22 03:12:10**  
(no subject)

Thanks so much for being there for Luna tonight, darling. It helps me to know that at least you could put your arms around her, even if I can't.

**2010-04-22 10:59:00**

*Well, I agree with Thomas*

We need something to lighten things up. Luckily we've duelling club tonight - that's always good for a lark. Still, it's really rather tense up in the tower, and in Ravenclaw Corner Troy actually snapped at me because he's having trouble cracking the Arithmantical equations for quantitative spell-blocking, or something.



 **alt\_padma**

Lovegood's still really upset about her father - and of course she would be, anyone would be - but she's so very quiet about it. Not like Fawcett was at all.

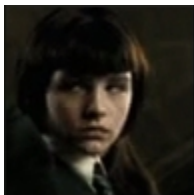
But what I can't work out is how Black thinks he can shift the blame away from himself. He's really quite mad, isn't he? And ever so rude. I hope Mr Crouch and Mr Malfoy are right and they do make him stand trial. They ought to publicly Cruciate him, in the bargain.

Anyway, Parkinson, did you hear what I found out from Tambllyn? You know how Weasley was telling everyone not even to try to disturb the Lord Protector when He was here? Well, *your* Mr Black was one of the people with Him. Tambllyn saw the hook quite clearly.


Didn't you say he was going to bring you presents the next time he came?

Guess he didn't mean it. Or he forgot - that can happen sometimes. But he came and said hello to you, at least, didn't he?

Well, I've still my Transfiguration essay to finish. Bobolis, may I borrow that book you had on the properties of once-living objects when they'd dried? Flower petals and skin and such? I think I'll need to quote it again.



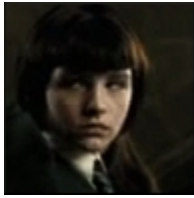
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 **alt\_pansy** at **2010-04-22 15:51:29**  
(no subject)

If he was with Our Lord, he had important work to do.

And you know we aren't allowed packages.

Besides, if it was Lucius that came here with Our Lord, I wouldn't expect he'd bring me anything either, or take the time away from serving Him to talk to me.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:19:22](#)**  
(no subject)

And *I* didn't say *anything* about expecting *anything*.

Because I don't.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:26:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, well, I know he said he'd send you something once we're allowed parcels again. But maybe it was Malfoy who said you were hoping to spend some real time with Mr Black and that you hoped he'd bring you chocolates.


My mistake, I'm sure.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:30:10](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm not *eight* you know. *Honestly*.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:34:34](#)**  
(no subject)


I know it but does Mr Black? I think that's what's got people feeling a little ~~sick~~ curious about it, if you ask me.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:41:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Who, exactly, asked you, Patil? Pansy certainly didn't.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:45:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't get in a state, Perks. All this began because I didn't know if Parkinson knew her acquaintance was in the castle and I thought, as they're such good friends, she might have seen

him.

There's no need to get all shirty about it.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-22 16:43:55](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm too tired to deal with your nasty gossip and rumours today, Patil.

So shove that nose of yours into someone else's business besides mine.

Because I'm not in the mood to teach you a lesson about manners, but if you insist, I'll give you one.

**2010-04-22 12:42:00**

*The Lovegood home*

Besides working hard to get my own garden in the ground, I have also been putting long hours into planting Xenophilius' garden behind the Lovegood home, as well as generally looking after the property, since we knew he was at St Mungo's. We had hoped that once he recovered, it would make things easier for him, so that he wouldn't have to worry about the harvest next autumn. That's what neighbours are for, after all, isn't it? Since receiving the tragic news yesterday, I headed over there again, and I had a chat with a couple of nice young men who were there from the Ministry. A seal has been put onto the door to protect all the contents. Rita Skeeter and several other *Daily Prophet* employees were there, too, on press business, I imagine. I suppose the *Prophet* will have to make some decisions about what to do with Xeno's printing press and so forth, perhaps winding down several journalistic projects. I'm not sure the *Quibbler* will continue. It just couldn't be the same, I suppose, without dear Xeno.




 **alt\_molly**

Luna, dear, I just wanted to assure you that everything in your home is perfectly safe, as the Ministry has stepped in to make sure that everything is handled in an efficient manner. Things will become clearer in the weeks to come, but for now, I hope that this eases your mind.




---

 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-22 18:00:40**  
*Order Only*

Those...those miserable vultures! No pretence of any respect for the dead, no. They've already moved in to seize anything and everything that Xeno owned!

Thank Merlin I heard them coming in time before they caught me.



 **alt\_bill** at **2010-04-22 18:01:09**  
*Re: Order Only*

Bloody hell, what happened, Mum?





 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 18:03:52](#)

*Re: Order Only*

I was upstairs trying to find a photograph of Luna's father and mother to send to her, once owl service is restored--I thought it would comfort her, the poor dear, if she had a picture of them together. I spied them through the window, coming up the walk. They did an *alhohamora* charm on the door and walked right in, bold as you please! I apparated out of there as fast as I could.



 [alt\\_arthur](#) at [2010-04-22 18:04:16](#)

*Re: Order Only*

But you said that you spoke to them.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-22 18:10:10](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Well, I didn't want them to know that I had a key, did I? But I did want to hear what excuse they had for being there. So I nipped around to the back and started working in south garden, as if I'd been out there all the time.

Sure enough, one of them came out within five minutes and asked me every sort of impertinent question. Rita Skeeter was with them, and she gave me the cold fish eye for a few moments and told them I was simply a neighbour, which is what I told them. So they decided to ignore me and went back into the house. After putting up every imaginable locking charm.

Arthur, they were throwing all the printing press parts out the window! Will they leave anything for poor Luna at all?!




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2010-04-22 18:11:34](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Bugger. Did they say what department they were with?



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-22 18:12:04](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

No. They just said they were with the Ministry.  
In the *snottiest* way imaginable.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-22 18:13:09](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Bugger, bugger, bugger. Um, sorry, Mum.

I'll see what I can find out.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-04-22 18:15:00](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

You'd better ditch that key. Or hide it. In case they  
get the bright idea to do a cross-check spell, to see  
who has access to his home.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-22 18:16:12](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Oh, my goodness. I didn't even think of that.

I'll hide it. Somewhere off our property.



 **[alt\\_arthur](#)** at **[2010-04-22 18:19:22](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Well done, though, Molly. You were smart not to  
be caught inside, but I AM glad that they saw  
you over there, actually. I hope they'll think it  
shows a tie of sympathy with the family, which  
very well might help us when we apply to foster Luna.

**2010-04-22 15:09:00**

*(no subject)*

I must say our niece's acquaintances are colourful. Though thankfully not as colourful as her hair!



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

I went to see her myself yesterday and like Barty, found her exercising her strength by changing her looks to amuse the mediwitches in the ward. Pink hair and pig's snouts may be droll, but as attractions they leave something to be desired.

She at least seemed glad I had brought her a few creature comforts and was appropriately grateful for the care she has received. But she became so agitated when she asked after Mr Ponds that I found myself agreeing to pay him a call, if for no other reason than to make her subside.

Barty had already volunteered to look into the fellow, to make sure the shop was even still there, for one thing, but more to the point I think out of his own sense of probity. When he informed me he had found nothing untoward, he asked if I should like to be accompanied. I think, though I'm sure he will deny it, that he was more than casually curious to know what sort of wizard would hire someone like his former foster-sister.

Needless to say, I accepted his offer and together we went this afternoon in search of Laszlo's of London. Lucky for me I had done; I had only been to the place twice, and the first time was with Regulus, so I was not at all certain I could find it again, but with Barty along, we retraced our steps from Regulus' quaint little bedsit in the neighbourhood to the street of shops nearby, and thence to the rather dubious snickleway that led to the door.

I admit, I had quite forgot how Mr Ponds has managed to nestle small treasures right next to the most mundane of items. There is a knack to it, I think, combining the hopelessly dreary with the completely unexpected. I'm sure I've never seen a conglomeration quite like it - though I agree, Reg, with your assessment that our Dora must have lost as much stock as she sold, given how cramped some of the place's corners are, and how oddly arranged its shelves. Barty himself nearly overturned a case of dried salamanders, and you know how light he usually is on his feet!


But at any rate, we found Mr Ponds, who to my surprise assured me he had *not* engaged a replacement and moreover, was anxiously, even eagerly awaiting Nymphadora's return to the shop. I told him that he needn't say so out of politeness; after all, she will be at least another month all told, counting it all up. Healer Wright said he thought perhaps three or four days before she leaves the private ward, then at least another week before she can come home, and you know she'll need light work at first, and so on. Mr Ponds merely said that whatever she needed she would get, even if it took a year for her to feel back to normal. Which was really very kind of him to say. You know, Barty, I do believe I detected a bit of apprehension in his tone as well. Almost enough to believe he actually *has* been worried for her. You were across the room looking at the jams, but he told me that he had intended to write to me today, in fact, having seen my conversation with Reg. Can you imagine?

Well, nonetheless, I told him that she's still not up to many long visits, but at least I can tell Dora when I next see her that she is possessed of a most understanding employer.

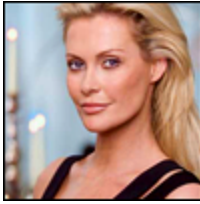
Though, thinking about it, I wonder if the reason he's not yet hired is that his trade has been slow? Well, it's soon to increase, I'm sure, when I reveal that I actually found fresh lemon peel, unsweetened baking chocolate *and* whole cinnamon sticks in what passed for his spice section. The only other shops outside of Harrod's and Sainsbury's I've heard of with similar stock lately has been that specialty grocer's on Clarendon Road in Portsmouth, and of course Folkestone's operation in Dover.

Reg, if you're able, you could join me for tea tomorrow, as we'll be having lemon scones.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:17:47](#)**  
(no subject)


Lemon scones, did you say?



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:24:08](#)**  
(no subject)

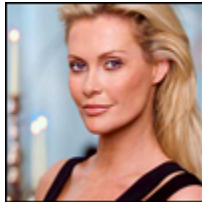
Provided we save at least two for Lucius.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:41:41](#)**  
(no subject)

If I'm lucky, I might just be allowed the afternoon tomorrow.

You might ask Barty, as well, if you think the scones will stretch. That way you wouldn't be left to nibble alone if I'm not able to get away. And if I'm able to come, it would give me a chance to ask him what it is he's meant to see in furry creatures. I couldn't make heads or *tails* of my brother's riposte on that subject last night, but I'm eager to have Barty enlighten me.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:48:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Careful or he might enlighten you right into a bed at St Mungo's next to your cousin's.

I can't believe he thought you'd hold that against me, after all this time. After all, you were so dear to let me practise that summer - and it paid off in the end, I've the OWLs to show for it.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 21:15:43](#)**  
(no subject)

I learned a thing or two myself from the experience that's proved of use.


Though I'm sure I didn't say it at the time, I ought to thank you. I suspect it was as good training as I'd have got if I'd joined the Aurors.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:54:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Take care what you wish for, Reg.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:58:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Boys, no roughhousing in my journal, thank you.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 21:07:05](#)**  
(no subject)

As you wish.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:29:17](#)**  
(no subject)

I had the impression that our Mr Ponds might have a bit more than professional interest in the girl. Did it strike you that way?

It beggars belief, but he seemed almost pathetically eager to have her back. Honestly, I can't imagine anyone finding either of them appealing, but I suppose they might suit one another.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:39:02](#)**  
(no subject)

More than professional ....

Goodness, that would explain why he's so determined she should return.


But no, I don't think so. It would never do. And he's far too old - and awfully staid for someone like Dora to amuse him for long. More likely that the only witches he sees on a regular basis are not nearly

so young or ... well, let us say pert, as she.

Can you just imagine her turning her ears to mouse ears or painting her hair blue or some other nonsense across the supper table at a restaurant? Even a third-rate one such as he might afford?

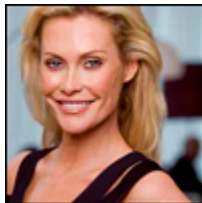
Oh, I needed a good laugh, thank you.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:43:15](#)**  
(no subject)

That Ponds chap?

Surely you jest!



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:46:12](#)**  
(no subject)

It's too laughable to credit, isn't it?


No, I think Barty was addled by the sight of some catnip in a jar. Doubtless thinking of all the ways he could tempt and corrupt the kittens of the realm.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:51:24](#)**  
(no subject)

No, you're right. It's too ridiculous.



 **[alt\\_arthur](#)** at **[2010-04-22 21:02:30](#)**  
*Order Only*

You know, for someone who's putting on airs about how 'concerned' she is for her dear young cousin, she certainly does hold Tonks in contempt, doesn't she?






 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-22 21:02:59](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Noticed that too, did you?



 **[alt\\_arthur](#)** at **[2010-04-22 23:34:13](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

It's really insufferable. She's as fine a young woman as any I've met, and all they do is sneer at her. And make insinuations about Remus for being concerned about her.

Remus, do tell me when she's back at the shop so that I can come by to say hello and welcome back. I'm most anxious to see her and satisfy myself that she's on the mend again, but I don't want to draw attention by trying to visit her.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:30:52](#)**

*(no subject)*

Is Barty back to himself, then? Word up at Fudge's office was that he nearly put Gupta through the conference table at this morning's briefing.

And it's not surprising that the shop should have anything Clarriker has on hand. The supply runs through the same chain, after all.

Still, lemon. I might have to come home for tea myself, or barring that, have the elf send some along while they're fresh.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-22 20:47:46](#)**

*(no subject)*

Gupta's lucky he's in one piece. Someone should teach him to be more careful about who's coming through the door next time he wants to snicker over a bit of gossip.





 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-22 20:56:07](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Barty, really. It's obvious that horrid speck of trash was only trying to rile you.


Don't let him see that it bothers you in the slightest. Remember what you told me today - you'll have the last laugh sooner or later.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-22 21:10:56](#)  
(no subject)

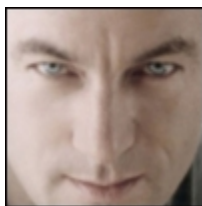
That I will.




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-22 21:26:53](#)  
(no subject)

You see that he's still fractious. But it's nothing to his mood when we first set out, so I suppose that's progress.


You know I'll make sure you get them fresh - why else would I even have Fifi make lemon?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-22 21:29:43](#)  
(no subject)

One of many reasons I married you, my love.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2010-04-22 22:15:48](#)  
*Order Only*

Dreary though we might be, she was falling over herself to get that lemon peel.

Crouch was in a foul mood too, stomping around the shop, knocking the merchandise about. I'm quite sure he kicked that box, rather than tripping over it. I think you scored a definite hit

there, Sirius.

Although I must say, when he first darkened the doorway, I took one look at his glowering face and thought I was about to breath my last.

Perhaps I should've laid it on a bit thicker, said something about doing one's duty to the Protectorate in keeping the loyal half-bloods of good families employed, setting an example for the younger generation of how anyone can succeed with the right supportive family and positive attitude, all that guff. It seems like the sort of rubbish she might buy into.

Oh well, too late now. She and Crouch seem to have developed their own theory anyway.

**2010-04-22 21:31:00**

*(no subject)*

It's dark as pitch

behind you, the bright one

there, low in the south, with the Lyrids shooting

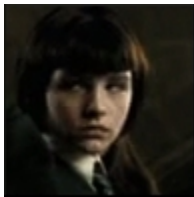
like hexes towards you, past you

there: one

another



 **alt\_regulus**



---

 **alt\_pansy** at **2010-04-23 01:49:50**

*(no subject)*

Hello.

Did you write that?

It sounds like you.

I like it.



 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-23 01:51:30**


*(no subject)*

Oh, hey there.

I--

yes, I wrote it. Didn't really think about how it would sound to anyone else.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:13:39](#)**  
(no subject)

I think that's often the best sort of poetry. The real kind.

I don't sit around the Common Room blabbing on and on about chocs and prezzies, you know.

I don't want you to think that.

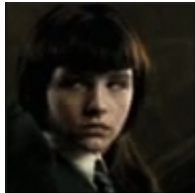



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:18:04](#)**  
(no subject)

That girl is not very nice, is she?

I saw it, but I knew better.

You were worried?



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:21:12](#)**  
(no subject)

kind of.

About lots of things.

I don't know.

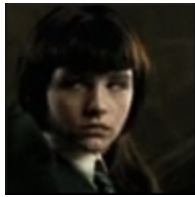
I'm sorry.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:22:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't be.

What things? Or, sorry, that's rude of me.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:29:17](#)**  
(no subject)

no, it's not.


I just feel lately like everything I do and think is wrong. I just end up making a mess of things, and the harder I try the more mess I make and it just doesn't seem to stop.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:29:32](#)**  
(no subject)


for starters.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:45:37](#)**  
(no subject)

Now you have me worried.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:51:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, that does us both no good at all.

We'll just end up worrying one another to bits.

I'm know I'm not supposed to.


worry about you, I mean.

but I do.

sometimes.


friends can worry about friends, can't they?



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:54:43](#)**  
(no subject)

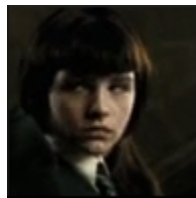
yes




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:33:29](#)**  
(no subject)

You haven't been in trouble lately, have you?  
I've been a little preoccupied, I guess, but I  
haven't seen any word of great messes you've  
made.

You could always compare yourself to me and then you'd see  
that you're a model citizen.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:45:47](#)**  
(no subject)

You're right. I haven't got in too bad a trouble  
this term.

Yet.

See, right now? this is a mess I'm in the middle of making. I'm  
probably not supposed to get all mokey and talk about actual  
feelings, because then I'll get you in trouble or something,  
and next thing you know

well


I guess it's more anticipated mess than actual mess. Which is  
silly of me.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:54:01](#)**  
(no subject)

You think you'll get me in trouble?




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 02:57:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, knowing me, it's a distinct possibility.

I have a knack, you see.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:06:39](#)**  
(no subject)

Ha.

I can get myself in plenty of trouble all on my own. A little help from you one way or the other probably won't make it any worse.

Should I tell you a secret? I can't decide if it's a good time or not.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:08:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Please do.

As long as it's the good kind.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:11:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Of course it's the good kind. It's only that it's a present and that may seem a bit ironic given where we started this conversation.

I sent you a parcel a couple of weeks ago. It's waiting in the special delivery office until they can send it on to you. I really thought hard about what you might like to read next. I hope you like this one.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-23 03:18:08](#)  
(no subject)

Well, see, now, that is the best kind of secret.

Because it's something I can look forward to, and it'll still be a lovely surprise.

And I'm not worried about *that* any more. I just didn't want you to think anything of it is all. And you don't. Which is all that matters.




 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 03:20:37](#)  
(no subject)

Exactly.


And I can tell you that I'd never believe anything that awful Ravenclaw thing says.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-23 03:23:12](#)  
(no subject)

good.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-23 03:27:24](#)  
(no subject)

It's getting late. I'd better try and get some sleep.

Good night, Pirate.




 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 03:34:04](#)  
(no subject)

That's a good idea, I think.

Good night, Pansy.






 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-23 03:02:30](#)  
(no subject)

And no, she is not.


Did you have anyone at school you didn't get on with?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-23 03:03:08](#)  
(no subject)

Besides the obvious, that is.




 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 03:09:01](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, now that's funny!

And, yes. There were one or two I had trouble with. Worse than with him even.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-23 03:09:41](#)  
(no subject)

Tips would be greatly appreciated.

Once we've got owls again, that is.




 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 03:18:40](#)  
(no subject)

Never let her get to you. Never blink or back down. Never let her find out your secrets.

Well. Aside from this set of super-secret

advice!




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:22:37](#)**  
(no subject)

You can bet she's committing every word of that to memory.

You're right, though. I think the key is to find out which people's opinions you really do care about, and just not bothering with the rest, because why waste the energy?




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:37:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Have a good chat?


I've been watching. Didn't want to interrupt.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:40:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, now. That's not creepy at all.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:42:42](#)**  
(no subject)

You should know.

Anyway, I didn't mean it like that. I just meant

I didn't want to chase her off.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:52:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. Thanks for that.


She's a good

kid

person

She thinks about other people, you know, and also she just thinks. About what things mean, about what people are about. She thinks.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 04:02:34](#)**  
(no subject)

I've noticed that.


Not that I've had the

No

Yes, you're right.


So. It's poetry again? Does London still have tatty coffeehouses where everyone wears berets?



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 04:07:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Not so many. Berets are a bit out of fashion here these days




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:50:56](#)**  
*ORDER ONLY*

You just keep drawing one another in, don't you?

Please be careful, love. I know how you can get when you talk to him.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 03:53:19](#)**  
*Re: ORDER ONLY*

I know. 've been ~~drinking~~ thinking about it most of the day.

Promised myself I wouldn't, though. Not tonight.




 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-23 03:46:38](#)  
(no subject)

You're between Mars and Jupiter, here.

And there's one - right past you.



 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-23 03:54:50](#)  
(no subject)


Yeah.

So where are you?

I don't mean where where, but what kind of place?


I'm in the great park. Nothing but wand light here. And you.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-23 04:05:07](#)  
(no subject)

Me? Why, I'm at the Elysian, of course, waiting for you to drop by.




 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-23 04:08:39](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

Nice chatting, then.

G'night.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-23 04:17:28](#)  
(no subject)

Oi, you started off wanting to talk. So? Talk to me.

I've been waiting all this time.

Just

She's right, you know. It's important to know whose opinions matter.

Trouble is sometimes the ones who matter aren't the ones you *want* to care about, but you do, nevertheless.

It's not as easy as saying you're done.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 04:34:23](#)**

*(no subject)*

It's not as easy as saying you're done. Too right, there.

Oh, I don't know, Sirius. I just don't.

The trouble is some opinions trump all.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 04:40:48](#)**

*(no subject)*

It's thinking like that that made me leave. Made me *need* to leave.

You've just changed one tyrant for another. It's the same trap.

And do you really think escaping was equal to not standing up?



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 04:53:39](#)**


*(no subject)*

Home wasn't a trap. And he was strict, but not a tyrant. He just thought what he thought, and you had to fight him, but for what? A bike and some notions about making things 'fair' by giving up everything we had?

I don't know.

I don't.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 05:06:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Not to you, maybe. Things changed once they thought you were their only hope. Didn't need me anymore, did they?

And it wasn't about giving up everything. It's about

Being decent to people. Isn't that what you meant when you said your friend thinks about people?

Look what his way creates - horrid little hags like the one you were discussing. That's your future down the road.

Is that really what you want?



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 05:16:34](#)**  
(no subject)

You left them. What were they supposed to do? You made it clear you didn't need us.

It's different now than it was. That's


true

but what you wanted wasn't right any more than

it would have gone wrong even faster

No. I don't want that. All right? I don't.



 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-23 05:30:34**  
(no subject)

Once again, we remember it differently. I'm not surprised.

And you don't know if it would have gone wrong, but that's

That doesn't matter now.

I mean


look what he's done to you, for

I do believe you, Reg. That it's gone wrong for you and you know it.

I'm just not sure you

The *trap* wasn't *home*, or Father's strictness, or even Mother and her spiderwebs of guilt and whatever else. It was in thinking theirs were the only opinions that mattered - their philosophy the only one that worked.



 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-23 05:45:16**  
(no subject)


Who knows if it worked or not? If it would have. It's not what it

This isn't

Mordred.

It's not as if He doesn't know I think it, anyway, but I can't



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-23 05:56:37](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, for mercy's sake, Reg! You're a WIZARD,  
not a damn MOUSE.

Sorry.

I told myself I wouldn't

Look, I know it's scary, right? But you have to believe there  
can be another option.




 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 06:13:39](#)  
(no subject)

I can't fight you tonight.

I just

can't



 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 05:27:24](#)  
(no subject)

And trust me. It wasn't a party being their  
only after you left.


They changed then. Got harder. Father went  
bitter, Mother sour.

It's good he's gone.

I wonder sometimes if she knows that, too.



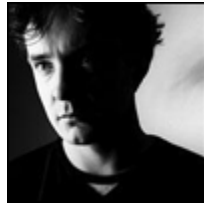


 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 05:43:06](#)**  
(no subject)

It wasn't easy for me, either. But I know now that it saved me.

You could have followed, you know.

you still can



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 06:02:29](#)**  
(no subject)

I didn't have your reasons to go. Not that you asked me along. But I wanted to be Father's second.

Now look who's stating the obvious. Sorry. It's just

I wanted

I'm not good at this, you know? Finding words for all this rubbish. I wanted our family--you and them and what we should have been if you just hadn't hated it so much all along or if Mother hadn't

and I know it was never what it should have been, and that's why you didn't love us

love

I don't know


with you, you know, there were times when none of the rest mattered at all? Mother could turn away and Father could thunder and it didn't matter because we were together for it all

but afterwards

I'm sorry, I just, I don't know what to say now to you

that I'm not you? and I couldn't do it like you would, like you did?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-23 06:19:14](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't think you'd have wanted

Besides, you *always* followed. Everywhere except Gryffindor.


I thought

I dunno, I guess I thought if I paved the way

No, that's not true. Not exactly. I thought you were on their side. And if you weren't, that you'd change too.

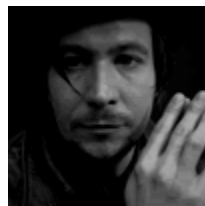
But as for the rest? Merlin, Reg. I've been drunk for about sixteen hours and I'm not drunk enough for that conversation.




 [alt\\_regulus](#) at [2010-04-23 05:29:52](#)  
(no subject)

I was serious when I said Father would be disappointed.

But not only with us.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-23 05:35:50](#)  
(no subject)

No, Father wouldn't be proud of what you've become. I know that. He and I may have disagreed about ... well, everything, more or less, but he'd have hated the way your 'master' makes you show your loyalty.

That's the real irony for you, Reg. You're better than that. He's twisting you into something I don't even recognise.

And I know it's partly to hurt me. Well, surprise - it works.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 05:50:38](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, obviously.

And again. Do you think I don't know? Really?

I'm sorry, you know. About that, too.

Do you need me to say it for it to be real?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 06:06:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I know. How many times d'you think I've picked up my quill only to stop myself and wait until it was really necessary?

Not that it mattered much. Not if what I think you were doing last is what you were doing.

And no, I guess I don't need to see it on the page, or hear it spoken. But maybe you do.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 06:12:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't tell me what you think. Really, don't.

Just let this be enough.



 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-23 04:10:54](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, look.

I'm just tired of it.


Just tired.

Can't we just

Right.

Never mind.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2010-04-23 04:14:34](#)  
(no subject)

Don't


I wasn't taking the piss, all right?

Fine.

I'm outside, as well.

Somewhere... quiet.




 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-23 04:34:51](#)  
(no subject)

Good.

Quiet is good.




 **alt\_regulus** at [2010-04-23 05:04:58](#)  
(no subject)

It looks like there's a war up there in the darkness.

I can't tell who's winning.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 06:46:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Hey.


You know when I called you goblin?

You know I meant it as a term of

well.


I didn't mean anything by it.



 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 06:50:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I know.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 06:51:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Look, it's getting light out here. Where I am. Which I'm still not telling you but, you know, only because.

I should get some sleep.

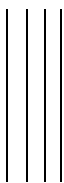
Go to sleep, little brother. It'll be better in the morning.




 **[alt\\_regulus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 07:01:46](#)**  
(no subject)

That's a good idea, I think.

Good night, arch-traitor Black.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-23 07:03:06](#)  
(no subject)

Good night goblin, Pirate.

**2010-04-23 09:22:00**

*Breakfast, what a DISGRACE!*


I realise that tempers are running high after last night's meeting of the Duelling Club. Understandable.



 [alternity](#)  
 [alt\\_percy](#)

That, however, is no excuse for students to be breaking school rules. Throwing hexes over the breakfast table in the Great Hall is NOT ALLOWED.




 [alt\\_lana](#) at **2010-04-23 14:33:46**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Weasley.

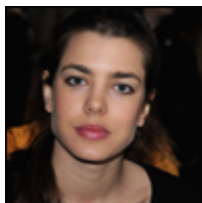
I hope those who needed this reminder will listen to you. Honestly, it seems a bit early for things to be getting this far out of hand.




 [alt\\_percy](#) at **2010-04-23 14:40:54**  
(no subject)

Well, one can hope they'll gain a little wisdom with age. We don't see many fifth, sixth or seventh years making such a reckless display.

Although perhaps they're better at being stealthy about it.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at **2010-04-23 14:46:40**  
(no subject)

You may be right about that. And I expect we will have some things that need handling as exams come closer, but this morning's scuffle was completely inexplicable. Inexcusable, at any rate.

**2010-04-23 10:18:00**

*You're lucky Parkinson*

Lucky that didn't hit me full-on.

Think you're clever, do you?




 **alt\_padma**

It's no wonder you're such a burden to everyone who tries to look after you. You do have a knack.


---



 **alt\_lana** at **2010-04-23 14:35:19**  
(no subject)


Was Madam Pomfrey able to give you a salve for it?  
You did go to her, didn't you?



 **alt\_percy** at **2010-04-23 14:38:35**  
(no subject)


I would certainly urge you to go, too, Patil. Boils like that can scar if left to themselves, but Madam Pomfrey's salve is excellent and will have it cleared in a trice.



 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-23 14:40:28**  
(no subject)

Why do they always have to start trouble before Herbology?



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-23 14:38:56**  
(no subject)

You started it. I don't know just what you said to her, but you'd better leave it alone, Patil.





 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:39:59](#)**

*(no subject)*

Parkinson attacked you at BREAKFAST? Really?

Also, thanks for lending me your wand last night at duelling club. If you're ever duelling someone with a broken wand and want to make it sporting, I'll be happy to return the favour!



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:41:36](#)**

*(no subject)*

She didn't attack her, you git.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:43:38](#)**

*(no subject)*

Oh, I see. Padma's neck just spontaneously sprouted boils, then?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:47:52](#)**

*(no subject)*

It's not an attack when it was Patil that started it.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:52:07](#)**

*(no subject)*


Belinda says Padma's wand wasn't even out, how is that 'starting it?'



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:55:55](#)**  
(no subject)

You don't have to have your wand out to hurt somebody, do you?

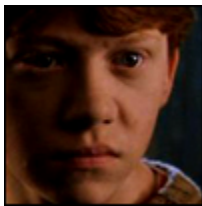



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:56:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Taking her side, how surprising.

Guess you figure if she weren't around you'd have no shield whatsoever.


But you're wrong. She's got her eye on older men, Weasley. Give over.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:59:18](#)**  
(no subject)


You really are stupid for a Ravenclaw.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:02:06](#)**  
(no subject)


And you are an embarrassment to Gryffindor.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:03:36](#)**  
(no subject)

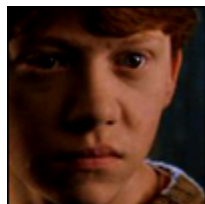
Speak for yourself, mate.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-23 14:43:51](#)  
(no subject)

Yes she DID, Weasley!

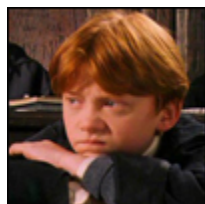
If it's any consolation, she followed her bloke's advice to the letter.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 14:50:07](#)  
(no subject)

It's not like she just hexed you out the blue.

Do you even know what your face looks like when you say nasty stuff to people like you were saying to her this morning? It'd make a basilisk fall over dead to see it.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 14:52:31](#)  
(no subject)

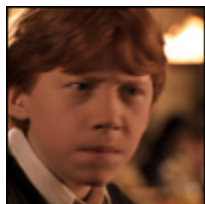
What are you even on about?


Her bloke?



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-23 14:55:47](#)  
(no subject)


You know perfectly well she means Regulus Black.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 14:56:59](#)  
(no subject)


No one asked you, Finnigan. What? You trying to be Patil's bloke now?



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:59:41](#)**  
(no subject)


Better hers than Parkinson's! Or are you Perk's bloke this week? Who can even keep track?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:04:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Nice one, Finnigan.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:01:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Did you see how she fell over herself telling him she *wasn't* expecting anything out of him, and then how pathetically happy she was that he's sending her presents?

Gross.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:04:44](#)**  
(no subject)

No, what's gross is you twisting everything she says into something dirty and horrible.

You're what's dirty and horrible.

And dead gross.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:09:44](#)**  
(no subject)

I'M not the one who chats up men who are old enough to be my father.

Or who wishes a perfectly respectable, upstanding man like Mr Malfoy to leave his WIFE so he can be her daddy.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-23 15:15:14**  
(no subject)

She has NEVER said that. What a disgusting LIE.

She said -- to MORAG, who we thought we could trust not to MAKE THINGS UP -- that Mr Malfoy has been like a father to her. Only you could turn that into her wanting Mr Malfoy to leave Mrs Malfoy.




 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-23 15:36:09**  
(no subject)

You know, you're right, Perks. She never said she wanted Mr Malfoy to leave Mrs Malfoy. Only how she thought her mum was daft to think it could ever happen, seeing as how Mrs

Malfoy is so beautiful and glamorous and attentive, while her mum doesn't even remember her only daughter's birthdays.


Pitiful, really. I can see why you two get on so well.



 **alt\_ernie** at **2010-04-23 14:40:07**  
(no subject)

What happened? What did she do?




 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-23 14:42:41**  
(no subject)

I was talking to Morag and she just looked me in the eye and cold as you please she HEXED me.

Luckily I saw her wand hand come up and ducked just in time.


This HURTS. Sandoval says I should go to the hospital wing, but I can't be tardy to Herbology again! They always do this, her and hers.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-23 14:43:37](#)  
(no subject)

You left out the part about what you said to her first.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-23 14:47:28](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't say anything TO her.


And anyway, everyone else is thinking it. They're just afraid Mr Malfoy will get cross - and I couldn't blame him, really, it must be really disappointing for him, after everything he's done for her, and the number of times he's kept her from getting into far worse trouble.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-23 14:50:33](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

You are such a LIAR.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 14:53:39](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

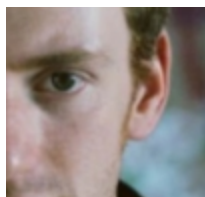
Say right out, Nev.


Somebody needs to.



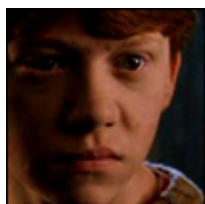
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 14:54:04](#)  
(no subject)


Liar.



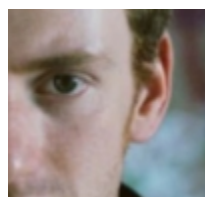
 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-23 14:55:27](#)  
(no subject)


RONALD! You are NOT helping.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 14:57:23](#)  
(no subject)

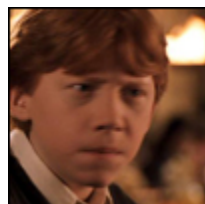
Oh, and you are?




 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-23 15:03:24](#)  
(no subject)

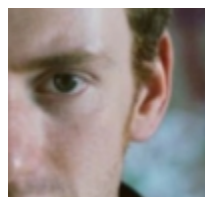
I am TRYING to lower the hostility a little.  
Which would result in fewer of your friends  
getting hexed.


Although why you should be taking Parkinson's part is beyond  
me.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 15:06:48](#)  
(no subject)

What?!




 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-23 15:28:27](#)  
(no subject)

For your information, I am a PREFECT. I am  
charged with helping to keep ORDER around  
here. I would certainly appreciate your  
refraining from making things worse.






 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:29:37](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Ron, Patil's already going out of her way to make herself look as awful as she really is. If you can manage to keep your mouth shut for now (and yeah, I can understand the temptation to give as good as she's dishing out, honest) HER nastiness will be all the more on display.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:03:36](#)**

*(no subject)*

Squib for brains.




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:09:18](#)**

*(no subject)*

That is beneath you, Patil. It's hard to stand on the moral high ground when you're showing yourself willing to get down and wrestle in the mud.




 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:10:41](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Whoa. Didn't expect to see Percy make a crack like that to her!



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:14:58](#)**

*(no subject)*

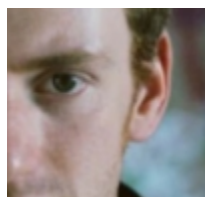
You're right, Weasley. But I'm sure you can agree that your brother hardly understands any argument more befitting a *real* wizard.


I know he's your brother and all, but honestly. It's like talking to a board.

I've never actually spoken to a muggle, though, so maybe




you're right and I shouldn't make assumptions. They might actually be more intelligent than Ronald.



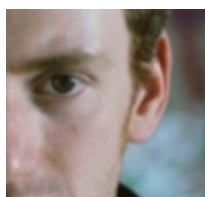
 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:24:00](#)**  
(no subject)


Patil, I can certainly understand that you're outraged and in pain, and therefore I will charitably overlook what you've just said. I'm sure that once you've reflected a bit, you'll understand that insulting a Prefect's family when he's trying to help is not the best way to win sympathy to your cause.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:48:42](#)**  
(no subject)


I didn't hear it, but from the look on her face I'd guess it was really foul.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:50:02](#)**  
(no subject)


It doesn't matter WHAT she said to Parkinson. If Parkinson expects to be treated with any respect, she should not let her temper get the best of her. Hexes like that are not ALLOWED.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:46:37](#)**  
(no subject)

No one will mind you being late, Padma, just go see Madam Pomfrey! You have good reason for being late, its not your fault!




 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-23 14:53:50](#)**  
(no subject)

That's well out of order. She's always been a bit volatile, but hexing someone at breakfast is just going too far! And in front of all the professors, too.

I agree with Seamus, you should go and see Madam Pomfrey about it. She can give you a note for being late, that's okay.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:02:39](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I'm waiting for her now.

I hate the hospital wing.




 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-23 15:58:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry you got hexed, especially in such an obvious, non-Slytherin manner. Hopefully, Madam Pomfrey will put you in order.

I would appreciate it, however, if you kept my family out of it next time, as well as Pansy's place in it.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:03:42](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh.


Sorry, Malfoy. No offence to any of you was meant.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:45:59](#)**  
(no subject)

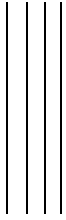
I believe you. Hows your face?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:50:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Better. But I missed nearly half of Herbology.

And I'm so tired of the hospital wing! I don't know how you Quidditch players do it, you must be up there all the time with bruises and cuts and things.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2010-04-23 16:58:13](#)  
(no subject)

Chasers do, yeah. We get the most bludgers aimed at us.

**2010-04-23 11:19:00**

*(no subject)*

She is a bit of a broken record, isn't she?

How nice of her to repeat all the lovely things she was saying at breakfast right here for everyone to see.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)


I believe my opinion on the matter has already been very clearly expressed, so I'm not going to bother to express it again here.

I owe her nothing.

It's only a pity I didn't manage to get in a shot at Morag, too.

---




 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2010-04-23 15:44:44**  
*(no subject)*

Are you in trouble, Pansy?

From,  
Hydra




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2010-04-23 15:47:22**  
*(no subject)*

Probably.

I don't particularly mind, though. I did what I needed to do, and now it's done.




 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2010-04-23 15:48:58**  
*(no subject)*

I hope you aren't punished too terribly much.


From,  
Hydra



 **alt\_pansy** at [2010-04-23 16:46:04](#)  
(no subject)


Thanks.



 **alt\_draco** at [2010-04-23 15:52:17](#)  
(no subject)


Did that make you feel better?



 **alt\_pansy** at [2010-04-23 15:52:57](#)  
(no subject)


Yes.



 **alt\_draco** at [2010-04-23 16:03:51](#)  
(no subject)

So it feels better to know that everyone else now knows that you're bothered by idle gossip?




 **alt\_pansy** at [2010-04-23 16:07:19](#)  
(no subject)

It's funny, now that it's done, I don't think I'll be nearly as bothered by it in the future.


I just needed to get it out of my system, I think.



 **alt\_draco** at [2010-04-23 16:13:53](#)  
(no subject)

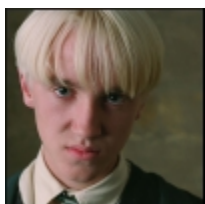
As usual, I can see that you're utterly satisfied with your course of action, no matter how it might look to others.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:23:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, that sort of depends, doesn't it?


On who the others are?



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:32:25](#)**  
(no subject)

How about my family, for a start. You know, they do do a lot for you, and sometimes I'm not sure you care, or maybe you just forget.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:41:05](#)**  
(no subject)


I know.

She can say what she wants about me, but when she started going on and on about your mum and dad, and my mum, I'd had enough.

I'll never forget what they do for me. Ever. You too.


I might not have shown it in the best way, and I'll be the first to admit I can make a royal mess of things, but it certainly wasn't absent-mindedness on my part. Or lack of trying.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:52:13](#)**  
(no subject)


Or caring.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:53:16](#)**  
(no subject)


As long as it's out of your system, then. But next time, consider a dark corridor. That's what they're for, yeah?



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:54:08](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:05:31](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oi!

I mean, I want Patil to get it as much as the next bloke, but 'next time, consider a dark corridor. That's what they're for'?! He is such a bloody piece of work! That's exactly what's wrong with this whole thing! It's what Finnigan's getting from that Mr Rosier. It just makes me want to kick something! Like Malfoy's face.



 **[alt\\_horace](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:53:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Miss Parkinson - I was intending to speak to you privately, but it appears this is simply too serious to wait.

Unauthorised magic is forbidden outside the classroom, as you are well aware, and hexing your fellow students is equally against school rules.


I had hoped you might show some regret, perhaps even remorse, for your impulsive actions this morning. I see instead your regret is that you were not able to attack another student as well.

Whatever Miss Patil and Miss MacDougal may have said that upset you, there is simply no excuse for such conduct.

Detention - one week.

I'll see you in my office this evening to assign your detention, and to hear your explanation for your behaviour. I suggest you give it some serious thought in the intervening period, if you don't want your detention extended any further.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 16:54:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, Professor Slughorn.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:25:46](#)**  
(no subject)

Professor Slughorn, don't you think getting cruciated by Mr Professor Carrow (when she was not the one who started things this afternoon) is enough punishment?

I don't think she can come tonight, anyway, she's really not well because of what Patil did to her, and Professor Carrow.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 19:34:32](#)**  
(no subject)

What do you mean, what I did to her? I've not done anything since duelling club, and that was just a jelly-legs, it didn't even last very long.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 19:57:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, she was vomiting blood after you hexed her.

Cruciatius quite often makes people vomit after. It does not usually cause people to vomit blood.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 20:06:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Listen, I can understand why you'd have a high opinion of my hexing ability, but I'm sure I don't know any spells that make a person puke blood.

And even if I did I'd never cast it on a person if it weren't an emergency. Which just running into Parkinson in the corridors wasn't, and as Professor Slughorn and the prefects and everyone



have told us, it's against the rules to duel in the corridors, anyway.


Stop lying. Whatever's wrong with Parkinson has nothing to do with me.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 20:11:17](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm not the one lying here, but I understand you have to keep saying that since otherwise you'd need to admit both that you ambushed us, and that you thought you needed at least six people at your back to do it safely even when you had the element of surprise.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 20:38:37](#)**  
(no subject)


Barking mad, the both of you. Longbottom, too.

I was just as shocked as anyone when that happened. And I hope she's all right. I really do.

But there's a difference between a harmless jest of a hexing and really trying to hurt someone. Like, say, the difference between making someone write whatever they want in their journal and making someone's hair fall off over and over, or making a whole dormitory positively crawling with disgusting insects.

Besides, she'd already got a detention. That should have been enough.



 **[alt\\_horace](#)** at **[2010-04-23 19:46:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Miss Perks - I understand that the punishment Miss Parkinson received from Professor Carrow was in relation to a different, although perhaps related, incident. Professor Carrow is quite within his rights, as a Professor at this school, to mete out whatsoever punishment he sees fit for the incident he witnessed. As Miss

Parkinson has already been punished for this incident, I, as her Head of House, will be taking no further action. However, in relation to the incident at breakfast, my original punishment most certainly still stands.

I would also very much like to speak to Miss Parkinson about her recent behaviour, but I quite understand that tonight may not be the best time. Please let her know that I will see her when she's feeling better.

Sally-Anne, if you girls are having trouble with your schoolfellows, please don't resort to fighting in corridors. Come and speak to me, or one of your prefects, or any of the staff you feel comfortable with. Hexing is not the answer. Especially not when done in the vicinity of your teachers.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 20:00:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Sir, I am happy to be able to come to you with problems.

But when we're attacked without warning in a corridor, what can we do other than defend ourselves?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 20:12:54](#)**  
(no subject)

And to be clear, sir, it wasn't just Patil: it was Patil, McDougal, Dunstan, Moon, Li, and Finnigan, and I think there were a few others. We were outnumbered and taken by surprise.

I don't know what we could have done other than defend ourselves.



 **[alt\\_horace](#)** at **[2010-04-23 20:38:58](#)**  
(no subject)

I understand you found yourselves in a difficult situation, Sally-Anne, but confrontations can often be avoided if we apply our minds above our hearts. We Slytherins are known for our cunning.

We're not Gryffindors, bursting in with fists flying in the heat of the moment. We think, we plan, we assess those around us and we judge the situations we find ourselves in.

I'm quite sure both you and Pansy have all necessary skills and qualities to approach such difficulties with your classmates wisely. Miss Patil is a popular and well-connected student. You may have your disagreements, but I trust you understand the benefits of doing your best to keep them to a minimum.

In short - the best way to defend yourself, in any given situation, is not to get into it in the first place.

I would advise, if you can, that you and Pansy do what you can to make peace with Miss Patil. And then, if you can't be friends, do what you can to avoid upsetting one another. I have every confidence in you both to understand the wisdom of such an approach.

**2010-04-23 12:27:00**

*Narcissa*


I'm sorry to ask, but Apparating seems unwise today. If you could open your Floo at the appointed hour, I would take it as a great kindness.



 **alt\_regulus**

In fact, if you're not otherwise engaged, do you suppose I could come by a bit earlier? I could use the company and a place to retreat to.




 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-23 16:53:37**  
(no subject)

Feeling unwell? So was I for a bit after seeing what you got up to last night.

Unfortunately I shan't be at home until an hour or so before tea. But the Floo is open, if you like, and I'm sure Trinny can dose you with one of my restoratives should you need it.




 **alt\_regulus** at **2010-04-23 16:58:27**  
(no subject)

Thank you, cousin.

Your restorative is a marvel, and the elf was most accommodating. Far more than I deserve.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-23 17:01:13**  
(no subject)

Well, I hope you learnt a lesson. Talking will get you absolutely nowhere with that one.


And for your sake, I hope that's as far as your escapade goes.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:11:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, I thought it was quite a useful conversation, myself. Full of promising details between its twisty lines.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:21:49](#)**  
(no subject)


I'll grant you I thought Reg might have been on to something, getting him to discuss the positions of the stars. But you'll have to concede that he didn't try very hard, did he?



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:32:04](#)**  
(no subject)

It's not my place to pass that judgement. Perhaps he was acting on instructions?



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:45:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Always possible.

Do you care to come to tea? Regulus did mention it yesterday and although I doubt he'll be in the same mood to tease you, he's quite right that you ought to take a share of the spoils from that diverting visit to Ponds' shop.

Though as I warned Reg, I'm honour-bound to hold at least two scones for Lucius, if he's unable to leave court in time.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:52:17](#)**  
(no subject)

I have several assignments this afternoon, but I'll see if I can't wrap those up in time to come. Do you need a definite commitment?



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:55:44](#)**  
(no subject)


Not at all. Just be prepared to make it up to me should you disappoint.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:21:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Not that that excuses it.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:23:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Indeed.

You've not heard of any ... there's not been any hint of ... fallout, that you know of?



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-23 17:29:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Not of the kind you mean. No. But I wouldn't care to guess what silence signifies in this case.

**2010-04-23 12:50:00**

*(no subject)*

Didn't expect the iron tang of blood.


That was an unexpected pleasure.

The bile, however, unnecessary.



 [alt\\_amycus](#)

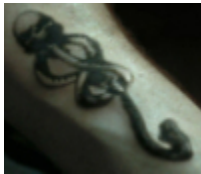


 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-23 18:01:29**

*(no subject)*

Thank you, Professor.

There's no telling what she would have tried if you hadn't come along.



 [alt\\_amycus](#) at **2010-04-23 18:07:17**

*(no subject)*

Not at all, Patil.

It's not every day that brings the opportunity to combine discipline with enjoyment.

**2010-04-23 12:53:00**

Urgh

That was horrible.



 **alt\_neville**



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-23 17:55:41**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Sally-Anne, is she going to be all right? It looked like she was bleeding from the mouth.



 **alt\_percy** at **2010-04-23 17:57:18**

*(no subject)*

What now?



 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-23 18:02:36**

*(no subject)*

Um, it was Padma Patil and Parkinson again. Having a go at each other. Well, Patil and a bunch of other Ravenclaws.



 **alt\_percy** at **2010-04-23 18:03:13**

*(no subject)*

Oh, Merlin. Don't they have any sense?!



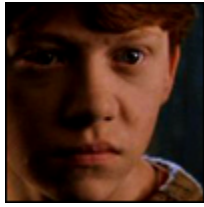
 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-23 18:03:59**


*(no subject)*

Well, you don't have to worry about it. Professor Carrow, um, he stopped it.




He did the Cruciatus Cur spell on Pansy Parkinson.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:05:24](#)**  
(no subject)

WHAT????

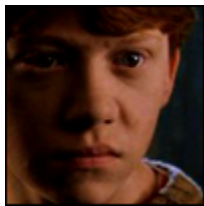



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:09:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Cur

Mr Professor Carrow cruciated Pansy. Neville helped us get up to the hospital wing but Madam Pomfrey made him leave, she tried to make me leave too but I wouldn't.

Pansy was throwing up blood after, I don't know what hex Patil put on her that made that happen.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:15:13](#)**  
(no subject)

She what?!!!!

I'm on my way and I'm going to make her let me in there. You can tell Madam Pomfrey she's going to have to allow it. I mean that.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:08:19](#)**  
(no subject)

They were not HAVING A GO AT EACH OTHER.


Patil AMBUSHED US. Pansy was DEFENDING HERSELF and me and Carr Mr Professor Carrow stepped in and cruciated just Pansy.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:15:04](#)**  
(no subject)


After being reminded this morning that duelling in the corridors or at mealtimes is forbidden? You're mad, Perks.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:17:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Tell me everyone who was present, Patil.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:23:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I don't know who all was there. I know MacDougal and Su Li were walking down the corridor with me and we ran into Parkinson, Perks and Longbottom. Parkinson saw Morag and I guess she figured she might as well cast the spell she'd got detention for.

Then Professor Carrow came out. And he said something like, 'Isn't a detention enough for you, then?' to Parkinson. And he cast it. The Cruciatus, I mean.

And he told the rest of us to clear off. By then I don't think there were many people left there, anyway. But I was too busy trying not to get hexed to count heads.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:25:39](#)**  
(no subject)

Anyway, it was *Professor Carrow* who told us all we could go, so I don't see why you're making an inquiry.


If you want to know why he didn't take all our names down, I suggest you ask him.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-23 18:29:03](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, believe me, I will, Patil.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-23 18:18:28](#)  
(no subject)

No, she's not. I saw the whole thing, and I wasn't involved at all. You clearly threw the first hex.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:20:27](#)  
(no subject)

You AMBUSHED US. Pansy would not have taken you on with a dozen of your friends unprovoked in the corridor.

You insulted the Malfoys to her face this morning; she hexed you and got detention for it. And everyone's supposed to believe that she saw you come round the corner with a dozen people at your back and said 'oh, lovely! perfect time to hex her again!'



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-23 18:24:09](#)  
(no subject)

Names, Perks.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:28:45](#)  
(no subject)

Finnigan was there for starters. He's in your house, maybe he remembers who else came along?

It was Patil who threw the first hex.




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:30:27](#)**  
(no subject)

I have to turn my attention to my class; I haven't time for this nonsense now.

You will all undoubtedly be hearing from your House Prefects later.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:33:22](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oh now that LANA SANDOVAL is telling you that PROFESSOR CARROW has it all in hand, you're too busy for this 'nonsense.'


COWARD. YOU DON'T DESERVE TO BE IN GRYFFINDOR HOUSE.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:49:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I was there, what of it? I was on my way to Defense.




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:29:20](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Weasley. I think it's under control now.


I've spoken with Professor Carrow, and he says he has fully assessed things. If anything further is required, I'm sure the Headmistress will sort it out with him.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2010-04-23 18:33:36](#)**  
(no subject)


Good. If you like, I'll speak with Seamus Finnigan and Neville Longbottom and pass on to you whatever more I learn.



 **alt\_lana** at **2010-04-23 18:38:29**  
(no subject)

I think it's best if you pass any information directly to Professor Carrow. I wouldn't want anyone to think I had used my influence to interfere, and, in any case, his investigation will go more smoothly if there aren't extra layers of hearsay diluting the evidence.



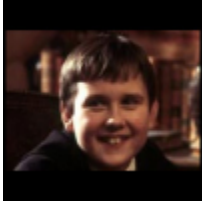
 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-23 18:07:19**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


What happened?!

Is Sally Anne okay?

How bad is it?

Where are you?




 **alt\_neville** at **2010-04-23 18:09:59**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Sally-Anne was there, yeah. I think she got hexed, but she didn't seem hurt too bad. She's helping Parkinson to the Hospital Wing.

That Professor Carrow is sick! He was cursing her until she spewed, and there was blood in it.

He was laughing.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-23 18:12:04**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Nothing happened to me, someone tried to hex me too (it wasn't just Patil, she had a bunch of people with her) but Pansy got a spell off in time and that stopped it.

It's really, really awful, she threw up blood, BLOOD, I don't know what Patil cast on her to do that. We're on the hospital wing.

Madam Pomfrey won't let you in if you come but if you won't go away when she sends you she might give in.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:12:50](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Wait, Neville's right, someone did get me but it was just a stinging hex, nothing all that big. Nothing to make me throw up BLOOD.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:13:50](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Ron, seeing a friend get cruciated is the worst thing in the world.

It's a hundred times worse than getting it yourself.

A thousand.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 18:17:38](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I can't believe she won't let me in.

This is horrible.

And Patil's saying she didn't do anything? That

that

total

arggh!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:21:38](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I HATE HER.

I WISH SHE WERE DEAD.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 18:32:35](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I know.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-23 18:34:40](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

She's poisonous. How can anybody listen to anything she says?!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:16:46](#)


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

And I don't believe for a MINUTE that Carrow just happened to come around the corner and he just HAPPENED to see only Pansy casting a spell and so of COURSE he assumed it was Pansy ambushing

Patil instead of the other way around.

He knew. HE KNEW. Exactly what was going on. He KNEW it was Patil's fault and he didn't care.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-23 18:18:22](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

How many of them were there?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-23 18:23:15](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


I don't know exactly.

FINNIGAN was there, though, along with a load of Ravenclaws. No Slytherins, at least, unless

Daphne was there and I didn't see her, she's pretty short.






 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2010-04-23 18:26:34**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Linus Moon, for sure. And Belinda Dunstan. It all happened really fast.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2010-04-23 18:31:57**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I'm going to hex Finnigan so hard he won't know what's hit him. I swear, he'd better not sleep in Gryffindor tonight because it may be the last bad decision he ever makes.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-23 18:42:55**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Madam Pomfrey says that Pansy was bleeding because she had an ulcer and she'll need a series of special potions to heal her stomach.

She doesn't seem to think it had anything to do with Patil, but I expect there's a hex somewhere that gives ulcers. I'm going to see if I can find it and see how Patil likes having them. And Morag and Belinda and all the rest of them.

She tried to make me drink a calming draught but I told her I wasn't angry anymore just sad and I think I convinced her. Either that or she decided making me drink it would just upset me more.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2010-04-23 18:57:44**


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Pansy's sleeping and Madam Pomfrey says she thinks she'll be asleep for a few hours and she said if I want to stay here any longer I'll HAVE to drink the calming draught so at least she'll feel like I'm a patient instead of just being in the way.

So I'm going to come down. Ron or Nev if you can find me on the stairs -- I'd like someone to watch my back.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-23 19:18:50](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I'm still out here. Just sitting in the corridor, actually, since she wouldn't let me come in.

Did you want to go for a walk somewhere? Or do you think that's a bad idea?

**2010-04-23 13:08:00**

*Final word*

Well, that settles it.

Mother, I've decided that I only want a few select friends at my Birthday celebration. That should make it easier to plan something really fantastic, shouldn't it?




 **alt\_draco**

It's become obvious that if I invite the whole second year that there will be nothing but chaos. Frankly, I'm looking forward to not being surrounded by so many people for once.


Harry will be there, of course, but beyond that I really don't know who I want to invite. I'll have to give it some thought.



 **alt\_hydra** at **2010-04-23 19:33:13**  
(no subject)


Will I be there?



 **alt\_draco** at **2010-04-23 19:34:09**  
(no subject)

Of course. It's not as if you're ever any bother, Hydra.




 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-23 20:16:58**  
(no subject)

Yes, of course. It's very sensible, dear.

We can talk about it later. Your Father thinks owls will be allowed again soon (it was discussed yesterday on the Board of Governors' fire chat) and as soon as Valerian can travel again you can send Mother a list of all the things you want and the people you wish to invite.


How does that sound?



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2010-04-24 16:11:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Can I really invite whoever I want? Or is there that noblesse oblige thing to consider? I mean, they were all invited to your Christmas party, whether they chose to attend or not.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-24 16:27:26](#)**  
(no subject)

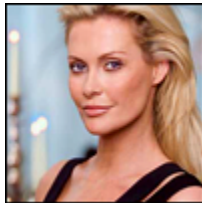
Different occasions call for different protocols, son. We may wish to discuss your choices, but particularly as you've expressed a wish for an intimate affair, I see no reason you may not be as selective as you like.

Recall that the Christmas party is both a social occasion for your mother and myself and a society event - and I don't think we need review the circumstances in which your classmates came to be invited, but remember that your original intention was to be as inclusive as possible, a desire which we attempted to honour.

Compare the atmosphere of our past holiday parties during the afternoons and evenings, hm? There are times to open one's arms wide and welcome the masses, and times when one wishes to be surrounded only by one's closest friends.

I see no reason for your birthday celebrations to require an extensive guest list, though as I said, we will of course discuss it further via owl.

One piece of advice, though: it is far easier to add someone late in the process than to *uninvite* someone you have already included.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-24 16:50:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, dear, there are almost always a few people one really ought to invite, but as your Father says we can discuss it together. If you've someone in mind you really want, but are afraid to invite, I'm sure we'd be interested to hear why you think it's a good idea. And


if there are people you'd rather not have, but we believe wise to include, I'm sure you'll listen to our reasoning, as well.

I meant to say yesterday, I'm so glad to see you in the journals again, my son. We have missed your letters so much, and hearing about all your lessons and all the little things I know you would be embarrassed to write here in such a public place.

But I do hope you and Harry have paid attention to your studies and that you feel yourself well-prepared for the end of the year. It's a little hard to tell from your entries and his, but do I understand that Harry has been allowing you to share his mudblood's services at running errands and keeping your room tidy, and your clothes and shoes cared for?


Don't worry, sweetheart. This wretched quarantine is almost over and Mother will be able to send you a lovely hamper just in time for your exams.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-25 20:24:11](#)**  
(no subject)


Yes Mrs Malfoy I have. It seems like it's silly for me to have a good servant and him none. And she likes it actually I think.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-25 20:30:53](#)**  
(no subject)

That's very generous of you, Harry, but you mustn't hesitate to make sure she does all your chores first. Draco will not mind and can get along well enough with the school elves. I know he would not be pleased to think you've deprived yourself in his favour.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-23 22:35:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, quite sensible, indeed.

And good job this morning, son. Well handled.

I'm glad to see you and Pansy speaking with a bit more civility as well. I do hope she'll be feeling better soon.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2010-04-24 16:12:25](#)

*(no subject)*

Thank you, Father.

It's not as if getting cross with that one really does much, does it? But I hope she will feel better soon as well.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-24 16:36:36](#)

*(no subject)*

I think it's fair to say that the way she reacts when you are cross with her and the way she behaves when I am cross are very different. But I take your meaning. She does have a certain stubborn streak, it's true. It comes of being so self-directed, I believe.

But it has made her year perhaps more difficult than it needed to be. Still, you are keenly aware that the choices you and she and all your classmates make in these initial years will shape and affect your relations well into adulthood.

Not always to the bad: Your mother had a rival or two early on, who, by the time they sat their NEWTs, had become good friends. Sometimes the crucible forges a bond, once the petty disputes are resolved.

**2010-04-23 15:45:00**

*(no subject)*

Lucius, are you still at Windsor?

We'd just sat down and Reg felt Our Lord's call.

Is everything all right?



 **alt\_narcissa**




 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-23 20:03:40**

*(no subject)*

Narcissa. What's happened?

Have you heard from Lucius?



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-23 20:11:04**

*(no subject)*

Just as I've said.

We weren't sure of your coming, so we decided not to wait. And Reg had no sooner spread cream on his scone and taken the first bite than he felt his Mark.

I can only conclude that Lucius is detained at court, as well, as he's not replied.

I'm sure Our Lord is speaking to them both on a matter of importance. But you can understand that, in light of our conversation this morning, I fear we may have miscalculated Reg's autonomy in drawing out that odious traitor.



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-23 20:16:52**

*(no subject)*

I'm all but finished here. In fact, I could really leave right away.

Would you like me to go to Windsor? I'm doubt there's much I could accomplish there--besides bring word back.

Or would you prefer I come there and wait with you?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-23 20:24:06](#)  
(no subject)

Winds


Much as I appreciate your offer, Barty dear, you're quite correct. There's nothing you could accomplish by rushing off to Windsor and it's even possible that your arrival might disturb proceedings which would otherwise conclude without reproach.

I mean, without anything noteworthy occurring.

But Regulus was right to predict that taking tea alone, looking at this tray of perfectly triumphant lemon scones, is quite a bore.

So if you'd indulge and amuse me? I'd be so grateful.




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-23 20:28:37](#)  
(no subject)

As you wish.

I'm on my way, then. Don't let the elf clear the scones away. No sense having them go to waste,

is there?




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-23 20:32:05](#)  
(no subject)

Take your time; I'll keep the tea hot.

You don't by any chance play Spite and Malice?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-23 22:15:07](#)  
(no subject)

I'm sorry to have caused you any distress, my dear wife.

Although court had a mercifully brief docket, you are quite right that His Grace required Regulus to discuss a particular

matter at some length. It is likely He will wish to see us both back at Windsor late to-morrow, once Reg has completed the errand with which Our Lord has tasked him.

I shall be home shortly.

You didn't let Barty eat all the scones?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-23 22:49:59](#)  
(no subject)

It couldn't be helped, I suppose.

Of course, there are scones still. Barty has been most agreeable in the meantime.



**2010-04-23 23:24:00**

*Order Only*



 [\*\*alt\\_poppy\*\*](#)

I feel as though I owe you all a note to let you know the state of things here at Hogwarts since there have been several events involving children with close connections to the Order. First of all, Molly: I have not seen Miss Lovegood, though I have sent to her Prefects to ask after her and have been assured that she is finding comfort in a private, but not reclusive or worrisome manner. She has declined my offer to supply a mild sleep aid, but I have made clear that she could come to me at any time should she need my assistance.

Next, I'm aware that several of you have taken a special interest in Miss Parkinson and Miss Perks, in part because of their close association with Ronald Weasley. I'm afraid that Miss Parkinson suffered not insignificant trauma today, first at the hands of other students and then as the most recent victim of Amycus Carrow's viciousness.

As I assured Lucius Malfoy in a firechat this evening, the girl should feel very much better tomorrow, though at the moment she is sleeping off a course of palliative potions I administered this afternoon and evening. We are testing her to see whether her alimentary troubles are due to a common stomach ulcer or to some magical intervention. I personally suspect the former, given what I have learned of the girl. She is, undoubtedly, under a good deal of stress, and that alone could produce the symptoms she is experiencing. Still, her young friend, Miss Perks, was passionate about the possibility that Miss Parkinson might have been poisoned or hexed or afflicted by some other magical means. I have run several tests today and will conduct several more tomorrow. In the meantime, she is sleeping peacefully here on the ward tonight.

The firecall with Malfoy was, of course, to head off any inclination he might feel to drop everything and come here and hover over us as he has done on other occasions involving children closely allied to him. Minerva and I agreed that we should make every attempt to avoid such a visitation, and I'm pleased to say that he seemed content to stay away.

That is all I have to report at the moment. I hope you are all well and

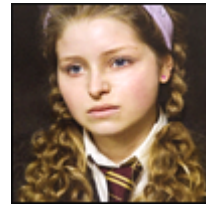
safe.

Carry on.

**2010-04-24 00:03:00**

*Let Padma Alone!*

Honestly! I am so sick and tired of this. Padma has done more for this school than just about anybody in our year. When practically everyone else was whinging and complaining about not being allowed to go home for Easter hols, she actually went out and *did* something that made the whole Experience loads better than it would have been. And plenty of the people who have been making stupid jokes and Whispering behind her back were more than Happy to go to the parties and eat biscuits and dance. They got to have fun and didn't have to do any work themselves, and this is the Thanks she gets!




 **alt\_lavender**

She and all the Ravenclaw girls in our year have had to deal with horrid, nasty Bugs everywhere, all because Some People take things too *Personally*. I don't blame them one bit for being Upset!

I'm sorry Parkinson got Cruciated, but it's not as if *Padma* did it to her. Professor Carrow handles things his way, everyone knows that.



---

 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-24 04:08:33**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Lav.

I can't believe the fuss people are making.

I mean, Malfoy was right to ask me to leave his family out - and I really didn't mean to make any of them sound dodgy in the slightest, because it's hardly their fault if she makes them look bad - but really, otherwise, people are acting as if I planned to kill Parkinson or something.

Can you believe Perks actually suggested that when she threw up and it was bloody, it was because I'd done something to her to make it happen?

They have no sense of where to draw the line.




 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-24 04:11:18](#)**  
(no subject)

We're only in second year! It's not as if we could do spells like that even if we wanted to.

I understand Perks is upset, but I think her imagination is running away with her.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-24 04:15:03](#)**  
(no subject)

She thinks because I've been lucky enough to get included in Ravenclaw Corner with Sandoval and the others, that they're teaching me really advanced Dark Arts early.

Which if you look at it one way is a great compliment. But to suggest that I'd target someone with the intent to really harm them (that's the legal term, you know, it's all about *intention*), well, that's just ridiculous.

I mean, just because *Some People* go and get help from older students to plan their malicious pranks, it doesn't mean we all go about it so under-handedly, or so viciously.

I bet they wouldn't have laughed so hard if it'd been their hair hexed off. Or their beds filled with roaches.

For example.

**2010-04-24 14:13:00**

*(no subject)*

Well, my stomach feels loads better.

I even ate lunch today, and it didn't hurt after or anything.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)

Madame Pomphrey say that I've got a stomach ulcer, and even though we're doing all sorts of tests today, she thinks it's not magical. Which is okay, I don't think it is either. But that's why I vommed blood yesterday. And why I've had trouble eating and sleeping and all. Because my stomach wasn't right. ~~She's much nicer than I thought she'd be.~~

I might go back to the dorms tomorrow. I hope I'll be ready for classes on Monday.

Madame Pomphrey says I can have people come over to visit a little after dinner, because we should be done with the testing by then. I'd like that. I also need the Potions book to read through so I can work a bit on my essay. If someone can spare one, or fetch mine, that would be nice.

Lucius, Madame Pomphrey said you Firecalled yesterday. I'm sorry to have worried you. My stomach really is feeling lots better.

I'll report to your office as soon as I'm well enough, Professor Slughorn. I understand that you and Professor Carrow were enforcing the rules, rules that I broke. Other people broke those rules too, but if Professor Carrow only saw me, there's not much I can do.


And this is the last I'll say on it, but here goes: I'm not saying there will be a next time, but I generally prefer things to be a bit more evenly matched. And it was probably a good thing it was stopped when it was, because I really don't relish the thought of having a gang of seven-odd second and third years wipe the floor with me and Sally Anne.

For the record, I didn't go looking for a fight. It came to me. And even if I did go looking for one, I wouldn't be dumb enough to do it with no-one else around but a giant pack of Ravenclaws and other people friendly with Padma and Morag that just happened to be there.

But that's all done now, and I trust everyone's properly satisfied, and we won't get a repeat performance. And if there is one, it won't be because of me.

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 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-24 19:35:09](#)**  
(no subject)

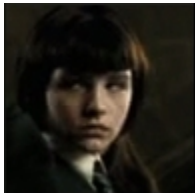
I hope it's not too, I dunno, awful whatever kind of testing she's doing to you. Sounds not all that nice.


I tried to come by before lunch, but she said no visitors then. Did she tell you?

So, yeah. I'll bring you my Potions book unless Sally Anne's going to bring your own up for you. I'll ask her. Did you want anything else?

It's good you're feeling better anyway.

So, yeah. I'll see you later, then.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-24 19:54:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, she told me. I was too

I was sleeping.


They aren't bad. Some of them are potions, which taste awful, but for the most part, it's just wand waving, and a bubble over my stomach will glow different colours, or flash a little, and she'll write it all down and nod her head. Sometimes she just asks lots of questions.

I don't need anything else. But I would like it very much if you'd come by and see me.

Maybe

I'll see if Sally-Anne can bring Pyewacket. That would be nice too. She said it would be all right. Madame Pomphrey I mean.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-24 19:59:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, sure. 'Course I'll come.

Soon as dinner's over.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-24 20:09:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks.

For everything.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-24 19:45:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, I spoke with both the matron and the Headmistress regarding your injuries, your condition and the circumstances leading to both.

Suffice to say I'm very glad, first, to hear that you are feeling more well to-day, and that Madam Pomfrey is conducting a full spectrum of tests to ensure that there are no unnatural causes to your ailments; and second, that you have resolved to take a more mature attitude toward your rivalries.

As to the source of the ulceration, there can be no doubt that you've had rather a lot to be going on with over the past year. I am sorry that I had not realised quite how deeply it has been affecting your health. I told you earlier that I have been looking forward to your visit to London over the summer, in part because I have been wishing to speak with you privately about things that I know have worried you. Luckily, I do believe we are within days of being allowed post again - at least, letters - into Hogwarts, so we may at least begin the discussion and, I hope, unburden some of your anxieties.

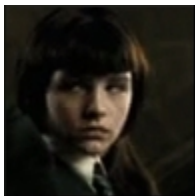
The key to any illness, however, is to keep up one's strength and one's determination. I understand Madam Pomfrey has already prescribed a course of action which should alleviate some of the physical symptoms of your distress. See that you follow her direction. She is a most accomplished mediwitch and will do all in her power to help you, but you must do your part as well, Little Bit.


We will speak more at length about the long-term strategy to manage your temper, as well as how to avoid misunderstandings in future that might lead to further disturbances and, sad to say, to your own personal discomfort. I support Professor Slughorn in his comments to you and your Miss Perks and sincerely trust that you will give his remarks their full weight when considering your actions and how you yourself are culpable in this series of events. But in the meantime, you must rest easy in the knowledge that I am most relieved you are recovering and especially that an inherent component of your physical well-being has been uncovered and may now be restored through this incident.

That I am sorry it came to such a pass is almost unnecessary to say. And that I am pleased you are approaching the incident with composure, albeit after the fact, and committing yourself to learn from the experience, is equally self-evident.

We'll speak and see each other soon. Until then, I am as ever, your affectionate

'Uncle' Lucius



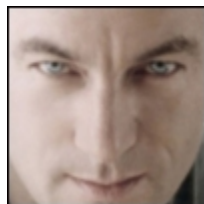
 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-24 20:06:11](#)**  
(no subject)


I'll do everything she tells me to.

I'll wait for your letter.

I miss you so much.

I'm so sorry, Lucius.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-24 20:09:25](#)**  
(no subject)

It's all right, Pansy. These things happen. It's a sign you're growing up.

I know you're sorry, my dear. I'm not angry, only concerned for your welfare.



**2010-04-24 15:48:00**

*Regulus?*

Lucius arrived home just when he said he would, but only said that you and he have been entrusted with a task. He did say you might be unable to reply today, so I understand if that's the case. But if you could take up your quill just long enough to let me know you're all right, I would be greatly relieved.



 **alt\_narcissa**


Lucius also said he expects to be called back to Our Lord once you've finished, that it might be late tonight. Are you well-fortified for such a lengthy mission? Ought I to send you a leftover scone or two, to keep up your strength?

Barty, I don't suppose you've heard from him? It sounded like the kind of thing he might need intelligence to accomplish, though Lucius wasn't certain of many details himself.

Oh, and thank you, by the way, for keeping me company yesterday. Though I hope you were honest with me about just learning the game; I accept no forfeits, you know. I like to win by skill and not pity.



---

 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-24 20:15:30**  
(no subject)

No, I'm sorry. I've not heard a whisper of news about Regulus today, though you shouldn't read anything ominous in that. I was called in for an extra shift this morning. It's refreshing to have hard work pay off, even when it means more work is needed.

Do you really think I would lie about such a thing? No, I assure you I'd never played Spite and Malice before yesterday. I'm sure it will take several more sound thumpings before I'm able to hold my own against you at the table.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-24 20:22:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, that is encouraging - on both counts. Though it's sad to think we might see less of you, even if it is only temporarily. The Ministry ought to be thankful they have you to interpret the twistings and turnings of the criminal mind.

No, not lie, dear boy, never lie, but it did cross my mind that when I asked you to indulge me, you thought I might find the game more diverting if you threw the hand once or twice.


I assure you, I thrive on a challenging conquest.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-24 20:35:06](#)**  
(no subject)

In that case, I insist on a further lesson at your earliest convenience.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 15:54:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Aunt Narcissa? Have you

Well I suppose if you had you'd write it here if there was.

But have you heard anything? From Lucius or ~~Pi~~ Regulus?

Is there a reason to be worried?



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-25 16:06:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Pansy.


Yes. Well, as for Lucius, the elf tells me that he arrived home shortly before dawn, so I expect he's sleeping still.

I've not heard from Regulus, no.

I hope that when your godfather awakes he'll be able to give me news, but I intend to let him sleep for a while longer, if he needs it.

I'm sure he'll put everything to rights for us. For us both.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 16:11:00](#)**  
(no subject)

yes. thank you.

**2010-04-24 17:34:00**

*The Brave Brother and Sister, Continued*

Dear Peter and Carrie,



 [alt\\_susan](#)

I'm sorry it's taken me so long to write any more of your story! After I started I got so many good ideas from so many people (and from you too!) that whenever I sat down to write more I couldn't think which ones I wanted to put in and in what order. Just putting down a sentence felt a bit like wading through treacle. But yesterday I sat down outdoors after lessons and all of a sudden I started to know what I wanted to write. I keep hearing that we're to be allowed owls soon, but all it is rumours so far, so I thought I'd better go ahead and write this part in my journal.

...so, the wicked witch stirred her cauldron and stared into the smoke, and she thought long and hard. "What can I do to this disgustingly cheerful kingdom, so that everyone in it will be as miserable as I?" She pondered and pondered and at last she had a notion. This witch was a Potions Mistress, and she considered poisoning the king or the queen, and trying to take over the kingdom herself.


*But really, she thought, poisoning people is so unoriginal, and taking over a kingdom full of people who are angry about the death of their king sounds like a lot of work.* Then she thought of something much more clever. "I shall make the Draught of Lethe!" she exclaimed, and she was so excited by her own cleverness that she exclaimed it out loud. "And then, I shall pour it into all the wells in the kingdom. The people will become confused and unhappy, because they won't know who they are. And while they are trying to figure it out, I will take over the kingdom and rule it my way! It will be as simple as stealing sweets from a baby!"

But the witch, clever as she was, was so absorbed in her planning, that she did not notice the face at the window, looking in and listening to everything she said. The face belonged to a tinker whose name was Mad Jack. His real name was John, but his face was merry and full of laughter--too much laughter to belong to anyone but a Jack. And everyone called him "Mad Jack" because they never knew what sort of mad thing he might do--he might put on an eyepatch and a bandanna and say "Arrr!" all day like a pirate, or try to teach doxies to run races, or challenge a centaur to a rhyming contest. You simply never knew with Jack. And he was curious as anything, curious as a cat some said,

and with as many lives. Which is why, when he realised someone had done something bad to his friend the woodcutter, he came closer instead of running away.

And it was a good thing he did.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-26 23:32:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, hey. I was just looking back and realised I didn't say anything to you about this when you wrote it. I like this Mad Jack chap. So what happens next?

You're not going to stop writing it here, are you? Now we'll be able to send owls again, I mean.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-27 03:50:40](#)**  
(no subject)

I dunno, I sort of thought that I'd start owling the new parts to Peter and Carrie now that we can send owl post again...

Do you really think people (I mean, people who aren't my siblings) would want to read it?

**2010-04-24 20:47:00**

*It's not very often*

but sometimes I wish I were in Gryffindor.

Not because I want to be a Gryffindor. But because Parvati and Lavender are there.



 **alt\_padma**

Belinda and Morag, of course, they're trying. But it's not quite the same.

So, Finnigan, I know I told you I'd be in the library tonight and we could work on History Club. I guess Troy was a little short with you when you came to Ravenclaw Corner looking for me.

What happened was, Sandoval said the Headmistress wanted to see me. Me and Parvati, in fact.

I didn't know what to expect, so I thought at first maybe we were in some kind of trouble. You know, I think that's what everyone thinks because you never think it's going to be something so

Sorry. It's sort of hard to write it all out.

Um.

Professor McGonagall had an open firechat going and it was our parents. Mum was crying and Dad's voice sounded sort of scratchy.

They said Sanji's missing.

I guess he didn't come home from playing, or something. So when it started to get dark, Mum and Dad got really worried and they called MLE. And they're out looking for him. There's a bulletin or an alert or something going out on the wireless in case anyone's seen anything. And the Aurors are organising a sweep of the parkland.

Including the ponds.

So, they said they'd keep Professor McGonagall informed about it and the Auror in charge of the search will let them know through the night what's going on, if they find any evidence of what happened, or what.


Oh, I didn't say, I guess the neighbourhood kids were all at the park

near our house, where we usually play. And they said they saw a man, and then later they found this puppy. It's kind of sad because you know Sanji ~~wanted~~ wants a puppy so badly. They made sure he wasn't transfigured or anything, but it's a real puppy, not Sanji turned into a puppy. So I guess they're also trying to find out whose puppy it is. And who the man was.

But in the meantime Dad said they'd keep the puppy for now. In case Sanji gets back.


So, yeah. I guess I just wish Parvati and me could be together tonight.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:04:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Patil. Are you still awake?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:07:08](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, I

yes

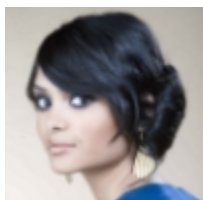
is it lights out already?




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:09:16](#)**  
(no subject)

No. No worries.

I just wondered how you are. I'm finishing rounds, and I wondered if you'd like to go for a bit of a walk. No one will mind if you're with me.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:10:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh.

Okay.

Should I wait in the common room?




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:13:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes. Bring your cloak for outdoors. I need to go check something on my star chart, and I thought maybe if you were with me, I could talk through this problem I'm having such a time working out.

I think if I could just explain it all to someone who would understand, it might all click and make sense.

Anyway, I hope you don't mind.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:18:52](#)**  
(no subject)

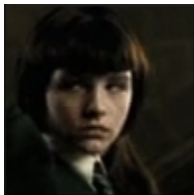
All right.


thanks

I'm not really tired, anyway.

Su Li and I were just talking. She says she had a brother who died when he was really really little.

I didn't even know that.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 02:51:29](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm sorry to hear about your brother, Padma.

You and Parvati both.

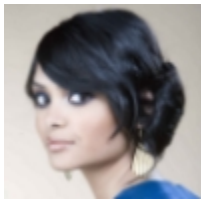
I know how much he means to you, and that's just awful. I hope they find him, I really do. Really.


I probably don't deserve to say this to you right now, and if you're angry about me saying it I understand, but sometimes things happen that make everything else seem really small and petty, and this is one of those times.



So yeah. I just wanted to say that I'm sorry you're going through this right now, and offer up a truce if you'll take it. Because you have other much more important things going on, and it really is all so silly compared to that.

I hope you know that I really do mean this. All of it.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:04:12](#)**  
(no subject)

I believe you, ~~Parkin~~ Pansy. Thanks.


Sandoval asked me to come with her to the Astronomy tower, isn't that nift?

And looking at the stars it's really amazing that they're so far away but they're there all the time, and here we are so small compared to them. You know?

Anyway, I think you're right. I'm not even sure what there is to fight about, really. Sandoval says that whatever divides us is far less strong than the blood and magic that binds us. And I think that's true.


So I'm willing to give things another go if you are.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:06:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Good. I'm glad that's settled.

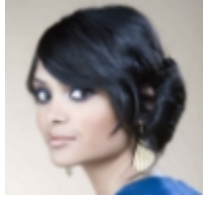



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:13:50](#)**  
(no subject)

The light from a star takes years and years to get to us, you know. So a star could explode tonight, or just disappear, and we'd keep on seeing its light for maybe even hundreds of years.

I like that.

And there's all those Greek stories about the constellations, how the Greek Gods would put people they loved or had wronged up in the sky as stars, so they could be remembered forever.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:23:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, we have our own stories and names for the stars. I've just been telling Sandoval some of them, and she's been telling me the Spanish words.


Like, there's a star out tonight, it's mostly straight up, and we call it Magha, but it's also Mr Black's name. Your Mr Black, I mean. Not the horrid one.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:24:10](#)**  
(no subject)


That does sound nift. I'd like to hear those sometime.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:04:39](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh, and you'll never guess who was up here when we arrived!



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:05:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Who?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:08:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Moran!

He said he was working on his assignment, but he didn't have his star chart and it's not his night for

rounds and Sandoval teased him about being there to meet a girl and he got all shirty about it with her.

Then he stomped off down the steps.

If you're in your common room, or near it, he'll probably be coming back any second. You should ask him what he was doing and see if he gets all red in the face.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:13:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'm not back there until tomorrow, but I'll be sure to tease him about it later.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:14:21](#)**


*(no subject)*

Oh. That's right. I'd forgot.

Sorry.

I really never would have cast anything that would make you sick like that. To tell the truth it was sort of scary.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:19:11](#)**


*(no subject)*

I know.

And yeah, it was.

It felt like I was



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 03:23:40](#)**

*(no subject)*

If Madame Pomphrey sees me writing instead of sleeping, she'll probably be hacked off.

So I'd better put this away before she comes back around and try and get to sleep.

I hope things turn out better for you tomorrow.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-25 03:51:21](#)

*Order Only*

Oh, my. Arthur, have you seen this? The story was on the WWN tonight, too.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2010-04-25 04:13:44](#)

*Re: Order Only*

I saw it too, Molly.

And Reg just

I was actually having a rather good day.

Ever been on a broom that oversets itself midair, and had to execute a starfish and stick to get back on track?

Well, the feeling your stomach makes when you're hanging by one hand and one ankle. That's this.




 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-04-25 03:56:57](#)

*(no subject)*

I assume you will keep us posted if the Headmistress informs you of any updates from your parents. Of course one's fears are natural, but in most cases such as these a child will come home safe and sound (and the only dire result is a thundering scold from Mum and Dad).

So keep your hopes up. We will all expect to hear good news soon.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 13:58:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, it's morning and they haven't told us anything.

I read that this is the sort of thing that used to happen all the time, when muggles were in charge. It must have been awful. Parents probably didn't want to let their children out of the door.

But our way was supposed to stop all that. So why is this happening?

You don't have to answer. I'm just upset and I want my brother back, please, from wherever he's gone to.

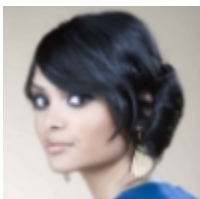



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-25 05:41:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Sanji will be so excited about that puppy when he gets back. Surely they'll find him, surely? With all of MLE out looking.

I'd have asked Moran what he was up to, to see if he'd blush, but I didn't see this until just now.

I hope you get good news tomorrow. Or before tomorrow, even.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 14:05:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Not all of MLE. Mr Crouch said

Well, he probably didn't mean for us to see but I was looking through the journals last night, you know, in case anyone reported anything.

He told Mrs Malfoy that ours wasn't his case, but that he was sure the Auror in charge would find him for us.

I guess you've seen that Parkinson and I, we decided to start over. I want you to know that goes for you, too, if you like. So I don't think you ought to go after Moran on account of he probably wouldn't

take it as well if you asked him instead of Pansy. No offence - I mean, really. I'm just saying, you wouldn't want him to get you in trouble if it made him cross enough.

But you should have seen Sandoval asking him questions! That Auror's internship she did over the holidays has really made her good at interrogation. He was actually stammering. Any other time I think I would have burst out laughing - as was, it made me smile, which was worth it.

I mean, there's no other reason for him to be out in the castle when he's not supposed to be taking rounds, is there?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-25 17:55:08](#)**  
(no subject)

That really is funny about Moran and I expect you're right. I can tell you if he's got a girlfriend she's not in Slytherin, though. It's funny he's be so secretive about it though, I mean he's a seventh year. NEWT students are practically required to have a girlfriend or a boyfriend.

I saw what Mr Crouch said but not until morning. It sounds like loads of people are out looking. Let me know if there's anything I can do to take your mind off things.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-25 17:56:01](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I wonder if Moran is dating a half-blood girl? He'd keep THAT a secret from Slytherin, anyway. His family too, I expect.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-25 05:45:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Padma I heard from Lavender earlier but I couldn't find my journal until just now.

Thats terrible about your brother. Maybe they'll find him in the morning once its light.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 13:52:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, it's morning. We still haven't heard anything.


I wonder if Applebee would let us borrow his wireless. But then we'd have to listen to the announcement about Sanji over and over.

Maybe not.

I'm sorry I wasn't there to meet you in the library, Finnigan.

Parvati and Lavender and I are going to go to the Astronomy tower for a bit. If you want, we could talk about History Club for a while.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-25 13:56:17](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll come find you.

We can talk about History Club if you want. I mean, if it'll

I'll be there soon.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 20:09:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks for spending time with me, Finnigan.

I just had a thought, though.

You know how we were talking about how things are for you in Ireland. And people said they saw a man before Sanji disappeared.

You don't think it could be one of the Irish resistance, do you? I mean, they're not cross with me because you're a chum, and you're in Parvati's house?



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-25 22:23:01](#)**  
(no subject)


I hadn't even thought of that. They wouldn't. They Well  
if

It's not

If it were the Irish muggles they wouldn't have targeted Sanji  
because you're my mate. It would have been

Surely it wasn't




 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-25 05:53:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Parvati and I wish you were here too. I waited for her in  
the common room, and when she came back...Padma, I've  
never seen her look like that, so pale and greyish and  
tired-looking. I knew something had to be terribly wrong  
to make her lose her cheerfulness.

We sat in the common room and just hugged each other for a long  
time, and wanted you to be with us.

I'm so, so sorry. I hope they find him soon.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 13:47:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Professor McGonagall told us to stay where people  
could find us if there's any news, but honestly I'm  
getting rather anxious with so many people here  
wanting to be encouraging.

And I appreciate the encouraging, I really do, but somehow it's  
making me more nervous instead of less.


Did Parvati eat any breakfast? I could only manage a little toast.

I think I want to go back up to one of the towers - maybe Astronomy  
or near the owlery. I'd say Divination but somehow that seems like  
asking for trouble.



Want to meet up at the Astronomy tower steps?




 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-25 20:13:00](#)**  
(no subject)

She was really distracted at breakfast; I don't think she slept much.

We'll both be there in a few minutes.


It's funny that you should mention Divination; there's something that I should maybe talk to you about, but I want to wait until I see you in person.



 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-25 08:48:47](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm very sorry to hear that your brother's gone missing, Padma. And Parvati too. I hope they find him very soon.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 13:49:45](#)**  
(no subject)


Thanks, MacMillan.

You've got a little sister, right? And a brother?

It's funny, Sanji's always pestering us and teasing us and wanting to be included in whatever we do just mostly so he can tell us it's stupid. But I don't want him gone forever, you know?

Well, anyway. Thanks.



 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-25 14:20:04](#)**  
(no subject)


I've got two brothers at the moment, but my mum's pregnant with twins so I'll have two more little brothers or sisters soon. One of my brothers is the same age as your brother, I think. They'll be in the same year at Hogwarts anyway.

I know little brothers can be a right pain sometimes, and sometimes you say stuff like "GO AWAY!!", but you don't mean it. Or not forever, anyway. I bet he knows you don't mean it too.

I'm sure you'll hear from your parents soon that they found him and he's fine. He was probably just hiding somewhere or something.


Well, if there's anything any of us in Hufflepuff can do for you or Parvati, just let us know.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2010-04-26 22:23:17](#)**  
(no subject)

I agree with Ernie. Everyone who has little brothers and sisters is sharp with them sometimes, no one's perfect, but I'm sure he knows you love him.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-25 14:08:23](#)**  
(no subject)


I hope they found your brother or he came home safe last night. I got lost once when I was small, and Mum went spare, even though she's got this childminder thinger on the wall that tells her whether any of us is in danger at all. But she didn't trust it, I guess, or maybe it said 'LOST' for me, and for her that was as bad as if it said anything worse. Anywiz, I'd just been following a fox I saw when I was out in the orchard; it kept circling back around and winking at me, and then jogging off, and I'd follow. It was fun, you know. Until it got darker, anyway, and I didn't know where I was. I'd never seen that pond before or those woods. And I hadn't had supper, so I was hungry. And I couldn't just go back 'cause I didn't know which way back was, so finally, I just sat down on a big rock and waited. That's what Dad always said you should do if you get lost ever. Sit and wait for them to find you. The fox came back and checked on me two or three times during the night, too, after it was done hunting. And, anyway, Dad and Charlie found me well late into the night. And Mum shouted at me and cried on me and hugged me and shouted some more, but she made me the biggest plate of eggs you've ever seen, and we all had breakfast even though it was still dark out.

I was smaller then than your brother is now, I guess, from what

Parvati said. Anywiz, I told her last night, but I wanted to say to you, too, that I'm really sorry this is happening and that it's so worrying. And I hope they've found him already and everything's all right, yeah?

Yeah.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-25 14:23:46](#)**  
(no subject)

Er.

Thank you, Ronald.

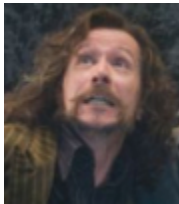
**2010-04-25 00:01:00**

*(no subject)*



 **alt\_regulus**

*Oh, Mordred*



 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-25 04:10:20**

*Order only*

BUGGER.

BUGGER BUGGER BUGGER BUGGER BUGGER.

I think I'm getting Miss Parkinson's ulcer.



 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-25 04:21:27**

*Re: Order only*

Oh, Sirius...the boy?



 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-25 04:27:17**

*Re: Order only*

Well.


Let's hope not.

I mean, I've a sinking feeling, but

No. I can't believe it. He's a pureblood child. What purpose could it serve?

Merlin. 'Best' case is he's finally defied the bugger and is paying for it.




 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2010-04-25 04:31:27**

*Re: Order only*

Narcissa Malfoy seemed to think he'd have something coming to him.

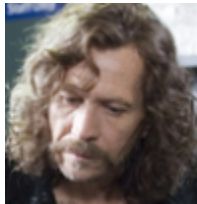
Oh dear.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at 2010-04-25 08:40:15**

*Re: Order only*

I can't believe he'd hurt a child. I just can't. Not Reg.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2010-04-25 13:30:54**

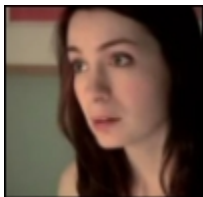
*Re: Order only*


Let's not get ahead of ourselves, Remus - the boy's missing, not

I can't see him harming a child either, really. But being tricked or coerced to bring a lamb to the slaughter? That I can envision all too easily.

But I can't shake the feeling that the boy's disappearance and this ritual of Voldemort's are connected.

Merlin, I want to be wrong.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2010-04-25 04:25:21**

*Re: Order only*

Love, do you think

Oh, no, he couldn't have.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-25 04:29:56](#)**

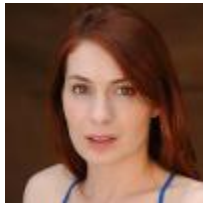
*Re: Order only*


I don't know what to think, Allie.

I thought I got through. I really did.

So maybe ... maybe he said No. Maybe he finally said no.

But if not



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-25 04:36:10](#)**

*Re: Order only*

I don't know either, love.

I really don't.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-25 04:33:04](#)**

*Re: Order only*

Well, if he has anything to do with it, it's without the knowledge of anyone at the Ministry. They're certainly burning the midnight oil over at the MLE offices with this case.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-25 04:37:01](#)**

*Re: Order only*

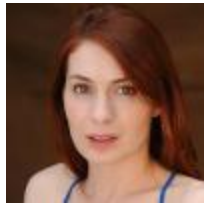
But if Reg...the Patil boy is pureblood, though. It doesn't make sense.




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-25 04:38:00](#)**

*Re: Order only*

Yeah, exactly. The fact that he's pureblood is the reason why everyone's going spare.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2010-04-25 04:40:22**

*Re: Order only*

What about Xenophilius?

Despite what the official records said...

But the Patils are so loyal, just by looking at their daughters, it's obvious.




 **[alt\\_frank](#) at 2010-04-25 04:50:27**

*Re: Order only*

whatever he's doing, it's never been up to him. regulus, I mean.

it's all on the other bloke. and I don't know if we'll ever be able to think enough like that twisted son of a bitch to understand why he does what he does.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2010-04-25 04:38:10**

*Re: Order only*

But he's been working for that... that Monster. And from what little we know, his sort of work certainly doesn't show up in any official capacity.

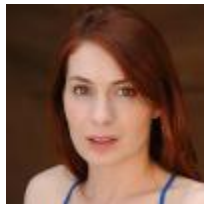



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2010-04-25 04:41:32**

*Re: Order only*

That's what worries me.

There are too many possibilities, really. But none of them are good.




 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2010-04-25 04:44:33**

*Re: Order only*

I know.

Bugger.




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-25 04:16:03](#)  
(no subject)

Regulus?

Did something happen to one of you on your errand?

Is Lucius with you still?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-25 04:17:03](#)  
(no subject)

Has something gone not according to plan?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-25 04:23:22](#)  
(no subject)

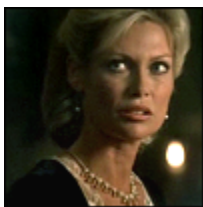
Regulus.

What's happened?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-25 04:26:58](#)  
(no subject)

Ill again, are you? Do you need help?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-25 04:32:44](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think so, Barty.

Lucius left a little before midnight and said he didn't think I ought to wait up.

Now this.

I think something may have gone wrong with whatever they were about.





 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-25 04:42:47](#)  
(no subject)

I trust there's nothing to worry about on Lucius's behalf.

Listen, Narcissa. It could be quite a long time before you hear anything. Particularly as Reg seems unwilling to explain himself. I don't know what he thinks he's playing at, sounding the alarm this way and then not answering either of us.

It's mayhem here, but it's not my case that's causing it. I could come sit up with you if you like.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-25 04:49:54](#)  
(no subject)

Well, not in the sense you mean, no. I trust not. But you'll forgive me if I worry at any rate. Given that Our Lord has been studying arcane lore, it's possible they've attempted something dangerous and failed.

I quite agree with you that Reg has much to answer for - I only hope his absence means he has sensibly put his journal down to deal with whatever crisis the post signified.

But as to your offer: I appreciate it, I do. But at this hour? Thank you, but it won't be necessary. If you're working this late, it must be important and I would not wish anyone to say I pulled you away on a 'fool's errand' to minister to a wife's fears, which I'm sure will turn out to be unfounded.




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-25 04:59:47](#)  
(no subject)

I wouldn't call it a 'fool's errand' to set a friend's mind at ease, but I do understand. Do you want me to check the obvious places for Regulus? I did open the Floo and speak with St Mungo's, who assure me he's not been admitted there. We both know there are several other possibilities that I could check if it would make you

feel better. Of course, if he's any of those places, he'd as soon I didn't find him and drag him out.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-25 05:15:41](#)**  
(no subject)

If that's where he is, then I'm sure he's in no condition to be dragged out, nor would he thank you for the favour.

No. Somehow I doubt he's even left Eton. Our Lord has kept him so close of late that I should be very surprised if he'd been given leave to take in the delights to which you refer.


I suppose we shall both simply have to soldier on until one of them can give us word.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-25 05:38:20](#)**  
(no subject)

I will let you know if I hear anything. And I will keep my journal close to hand in case you want to be in touch.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-25 05:46:51](#)**  
(no subject)

You're very kind.

I think I shall just finish this last nightcap and perhaps if I can't close my eyes, read a chapter of *Bundy*. But thank you for offering.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-25 04:36:56](#)**  
(no subject)


Are you on the Patil case as well?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-25 04:44:11](#)  
(no subject)

No. But that's the one that's got everything in an uproar here.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-25 04:54:28](#)  
(no subject)

It must be awful. I feel so terribly sorry for Revati. When Draco wandered off this summer in Paris I was frantic. Of course there, one had to contend with muggles wandering loose so anything could have happened to him. At least here the likelihood that he will be found simply hiding somewhere or taking refuge with a nearby family is far greater.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-25 05:29:50](#)  
(no subject)

I'm certain they will be thorough, and if the child is to be found, they will bring him home unharmed to his parents.

I am, however, learning a great deal about Mudblood servants this evening. Did you know that Surrey is thick with households that have taken on live-in domestics in lieu of elves? All of which to say, that the investigation is keeping all lines of inquiry open at this point, leaving no stone unturned. Arianna Zuckerman is an excellent investigator, so the Patils should know that their son's case is in the best hands.

**2010-04-25 14:49:00**

*Our Status*

Pansy, Narcissa informed me as soon as I was up that you have been fretting — unnecessarily — over the brief comment Regulus posted last night.



 **alt\_lucius**

She implores me to explain to you (and doubtless to all the others who have been alerted by her exchanges and yours) and to reassure you as to the nature of his silence.

It may be necessary to first remind you that since his return to the fold, Regulus' chief duties have been to serve Our Lord in a personal capacity as a retainer, and that is exactly what he was about yesterday. He has been in the constant company of the Lord Protector since departing Malfoy Manor on Friday afternoon, leaving His side only to fetch any items or ingredients needed as components of Our Lord's latest effort. (This effort, I am pleased to say, is audacious in its ambition, a testament to Our Lord's commitment to uncovering the most arcane and occult of magical lore — I might go so far as to say, areas of magic previously thought lost to us, but now only imaginable through His unparalleled skill as a sorcerer and superior mage.)

At any rate, it is this pursuit which has occupied all of Regulus' attention, and not, as you may have feared, any kind of reprimand over his lengthy contact with the arch-traitor, Black. Indeed, Our Lord was most magnanimous on that subject, as I understand it, correctly surmising Regulus' purpose as a means to pressure Black to cease his interference, if for no other reason than to spare the deplorable casualties his methods have thus far produced, with no effect other than to harm his own cause further — not least being the damage he does to his own kin's mental health, by reason of his insane and despicable ranting.


I hope I can thus ease your mind by reporting that Regulus was present and not at all in distress when I arrived at Our Lord's private laboratories at Eton last evening. However, my next will doubtless cause you some disappointment. For all that you are fond of Regulus as are we all, you must know that his capacity to serve Our Lord has severe limitations. I hope this does not lower him in your esteem too greatly, but it is as much due to his history of unreliability as to his particular talents and thus cannot be helped. I am honoured to say for my own part that the Lord Protector decided to entrust me with the

task of assisting him in the most delicate and vital of procedures within the course of His ... groundbreaking ... experiment. Regulus remained close to hand should the need arise for a courier, while Our Lord accorded me the privilege of seconding him in His work. I cannot say with certainty, but it should not surprise me to learn that Regulus' expletive in his journal was the result of his untimely — from his perspective — ejection just prior to the pivotal moment in the ritual. If nothing else, it is the clearest indication I have seen in some time that, while He has forgiven much of Regulus' prior failings, Our Lord still holds him in small regard.

Our business, as Narcissa told you already, took us well into the night. As Regulus had already been on duty for nearly forty-eight hours preceding, I can only conclude that he has been enjoying a much-needed and admittedly deserved repose.

I should remind you that despite the confluence of the past few days' events, and the understandable temptation to connect the unfortunate tragedies reported in the recent news, such as Lovegood's passing, the Patils' hopeful vigil for their son and Black's absurd pronouncements, together with Regulus' ill-timed flair for dramatics, it is much preferable for you and your current malady to try not to assume the worst. In future, I trust you will remember the witch who cried 'Werewolf!' and remain sanguine in the face of others who jump to unfounded conclusions.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-25 19:12:08](#)**  
(no subject)

I understand, Lucius. And it's such a great honour, you being able to serve Him that closely. And Regulus too, in his way. I think sometimes I forget what an honour it is, and it's good to be reminded that you're doing something so important, and that I shouldn't be concerned if I don't understand what's happening or why, because it's for a greater purpose.

~~It's only that sometimes it seems more like~~

~~It's only that he doesn't seem very fine at~~

Thank you for letting me know.

I think it's just everyone seems a bit on edge is all, with all the bad

news going around lately, and Aunt Narcissa seemed and I've just been so worried about everything that it's hard for me to separate out what's really worth worrying about and what's just me.



 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-26 02:27:44**

*Order Only*

*correctly surmising Regulus' purpose as a means to pressure Black to cease his interference,*

Bollocks. I may not agree with him, that was about the first decent conversation we've had in fifteen years, but I know my brother, you pompous windbag. He was in distress, all right. He's been in distress, I think, for a long time. Over his head.

But you can't afford to let *her* see that, can you, or you'll expose yourself for the monster you are. You and your lord and master.

Nimuë and Morgana, I felt sure I'd reached him. I thought, perhaps, he'd see that he has options besides comply or die.

But now ....

Frank's right, he's never had much say in his own actions, but he could at least have some pride. Voldemort's lackey?

'Oh, Mordred,' indeed. Sickening.

I don't understand how anyone could bow and scrape to a maniac like that. Even Malfoy's falling over himself to make it sound as if he's been taken on a fantastic pleasure cruise instead of delving into some obscure black art that even my father would have been loathe to practise.

I hope we manage to get a massive load of muggles out at Midsummer's, but more than that I want to strike them somehow.

Think we could dungbomb Windsor and get away with it?



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-26 02:47:10](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

I don't trust anything that comes out of that slick rat-bastard's mouth.

but he sure is going out of his way to toady up to His Mightiness. even more than usual.

stinks like damage control to me.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 03:12:29](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Sure. But damage control for *what*?

I'm sure they're up to something nefarious, but if so, why on earth would he even hint at it like that?

Why not just say they were up late playing poker or planning a new programme?

That's what has me the most concerned, I think. He's spinning without a real obvious reason to do it.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-26 03:39:48](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

yeah, that's where I can't help you. just seems to me like he's already coming up with the official version of whatever has been going on. but in terms of what's going on? no goddamn idea.



**2010-04-25 17:00:00**

*ORDER ONLY: No news may be good news.*



Sirius, it may relieve you to know that I have heard nothing about Regulus or Sanji that would lead me to suspect that they are at all related. I would not trust my own knowledge, of course; but Lucius Malfoy, whatever his flaws, is a father, and I cannot help but think that his paternal instincts - at least in private -

 **alt\_mcgonagall**


In any case, having spoken to Lucius, I can confidently say that he knows nothing of Sanji's whereabouts that is bad.

The incident, however, has caused such tumult at Hogwarts that I cannot express it. Of course, one's heart goes out to the Patils; but for me it is more than just that. It was heartbreaking to see their interactions with Parvati and Padma, of course. But the atmosphere was so bad already and has only gotten worse, particularly in Ravenclaw Tower. Students are upset; I have dealt with more problems personally in the past week than I had in months past. It seems as though the older students are irritable and snappish and the younger ones - even though they've drawn together in the time of crisis - friable and hysterical.

Only Luna Lovegood, strangely enough, seems to be a bastion of calm and silence in the middle of the Ravenclaws. She is a bizarre girl, but somehow I had expected otherwise - that she would do something, say something that seemed like typical grieving. But she hasn't, not at all. Molly, Arthur, have you submitted your application to adopt her yet? Is there anything you'd like to say to her?



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 **alt\_poppy** at **2010-04-26 00:18:40**  
(no subject)

I'm very glad to hear this. I've just been seeing the Gryffindor Patil twin, who is very sad about the continued uncertainty regarding her brother. I do believe that no news is more difficult to carry than bad news because it can't be processed properly, and because hope wars with the fears and anticipatory sadness.



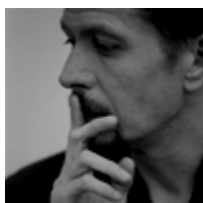
I spent the afternoon brewing up some fresh calming potions in a variety of strengths. They are always needed this time of year for students suffering end-of-term stress, but we've had extraordinary need of them this term.


I confess that I've taken to crossing off the days on the calendar in my office. Each day completed is an accomplishment. Does it feel that way to you, as well?



 **[alt\\_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2010-04-26 17:26:49](#)**  
(no subject)

It certainly does.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 02:12:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's good to know.

Merlin, it's been a hard couple of days. On top of staying up all night trying to get through to Reg, I've had to keep up the pretence as Nigel Cullenden that nothing in the world is bothering me.

Still, I reached a point where I couldn't face people anymore and had to get away. I actually went to a film today. And if you think it's easy to find a cinema in the Algerian desert, you're fooling yourself. But at least the dark and the celluloid gave me a chance to regroup.

Though


I don't want anyone to worry, but after commentating the match yesterday, there were the usual crowd of people wanting a word, or an autograph, and of course, witches wanting more than that. I was as charming as I could be, you know, playing the rôle, and I thought I saw someone on the edge of the crowd. Watching. Not watching as in waiting a turn, mind you. But *watching*.

I'm not that superstitious, but I felt a shiver. Mind you I was in the desert. And yet the hairs on my arms stood on end.

When I'd finished with the fans, whoever it was had gone.

But in light of Crouch's smug mood since I insulted him, I dunno. I'm going to be doubly careful for a while.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-26 02:38:21](#)**  
(no subject)

trust your instincts, mate.

crouch has something he's proud of. he's just cocky enough to strut about it a little, but not enough to show his hand, so I can't be sure if it's your case or not. but walk careful.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 02:58:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. The only thing is I was sure Bellatrix was heading up my case, so I don't think it's Crouch's to crow about.

But don't worry, I'll keep eyes in the back of my head. 'Constant Vigilance,' as Moody tells us.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-26 17:25:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Don't forget that I gave them information that was supposed hint at your whereabouts, with the cipher set up for them to break, during my interrogation with the aftermath of that whole

Archer business.


Maybe the clues we fed them were a little too good....



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-04-26 17:19:33](#)**  
(no subject)

I agree on trusting your instincts. That's the sort of thing that would raise the hairs on the back of my neck, and I'm not even an Animagus.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-26 02:42:18](#)**  
(no subject)


I agree with Frank, love.

If Regulus was trying to distract you and get your mind off things...

Well, who on earth would blame you?

But please be careful.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 03:06:48](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know if he was or not, Allie, but I don't think that was the top of his mind.

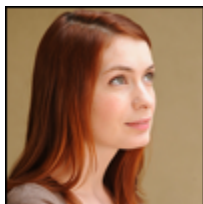
I mean to say, he's always been a fragile little bugger. But Thursday he seemed ....


When we were very small, he used to crawl into my bed. We had separate bedrooms - Merlin, we had a whole world of our own up on the third floor - but easily three nights a week, he'd invent some excuse to sleep over in my room.

Talking with him Thursday, I felt certain he would have given nearly anything to be able to crawl into my bed.

That doesn't sound right. I'm not sure it makes sense to anyone else. But it was like ....

Like I could be a big brother again. Sort of, anyway.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-26 03:30:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, Sirius.

It does.


And I don't think you've ever stopped being one.

You could have just walked away. Gave up. Roger did with me.

And I know how much it hurts you to keep trying to reach him over and over again, but there's no doubt that you love him. And he knows it.

I'm not sure if it is enough, but Merlin, Sirius, if he's turning to a child for support, he certainly needs it.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 03:44:56](#)**

(no subject)

He knows it?

'that's why you didn't love us' he said.

And I *did* walk away. He thinks I left him when I left them.

Maybe he's right but

Well, he was so concerned with taking up Father's point of view that it was impossible to reason with him. Plus he was always writing terrible poetry that would have put William McGonagall to shame. (No offence, Minerva!)


Still.

I do think the connection to young Pansy Parkinson is telling. They're very alike, you know. But don't forget, she first became fascinated with him when she was staying with my Mother, which could drive anyone to develop an ulcer!

Oh, I don't know.

Roger, if you don't mind my saying it, was a pillock then and he's still a pillock now. I know he was protecting his family but that's no excuse.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-26 04:16:48](#)**  
(no subject)


You've fought for his soul ever since he started writing in here, love.

He knows.

You can't change what you did when you were young. And at the very least, you've had a chance to address it now, as best as you can.

Roger... well... he had a very narrow definition of family. One that didn't include me. So I've had to make a family of my own. And you're part of it, you know.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 04:17:40](#)**  
(no subject)

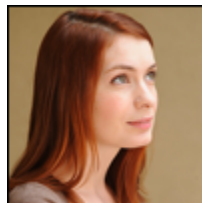
I may be fighting a losing battle, Allie.


I hate to lose.

And you don't have to tell me about the kinfolk we choose, as opposed to the ones we're born to. You, James and Lily, his parents - I'd've gone spare if I hadn't had them, and Remus and even Peter, back when I left home.

But I know that doesn't make the break any easier to bear.

Anyway - Nigel's got to go be the life of the party. Sylvie's here with her team so I'd best get along before she gets curious about my correspondence.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-26 04:22:46](#)**  
(no subject)

I know. But no-one can fault you for trying.

You keep safe, now, my love.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-26 04:03:17](#)**  
(no subject)

'I don't want anyone to worry' you say, and then you tell us you saw someone dodgy who was watching you and then disappeared before you could have a proper look?

Well. I'll have you know, Sirius Black, that Anyone is worried. Mind you take care of yourself, or you'll have me to answer to!




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 04:12:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Your concern is touching, Poppy.

I'll keep looking over my shoulder. But remember I have ways to hide that they don't suspect.

Besides, I've got to say out of trouble - I've got potions and other supplies to smuggle in!



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2010-04-26 04:18:43](#)**  
(no subject)


Mock me if you will, Sirius. I know I fuss at you more often than any of the others, but someone must.

And for Merlin's sake, don't grow overconfident in your disguises. That can be a fatal mistake. Far better to assume they've discovered your secrets and keep safe than suppose yourself invincible and find to your cost it isn't so.

We need you for well more than smuggling. I hope you know that. There's no replacing you if you go.

Oh, don't get me started down that maudlin track. Just keep safe.



 **alt\_arthur** at **2010-04-26 17:16:58**  
(no subject)

Molly and I have been pulling together the parchment work together these last two days, yes, although it's quite difficult to figure out where we should even apply. We quite anxious to get started with the process as soon as possible, though: given the Ministry's extremely dodgy hand in Xeno's fate, we're very concerned about protecting her. I do not like proceeding without her permission and consent, but it's not something I'm eager to air through the journals, and I've heard owl service is going to be restored in the next day or two (thank goodness). We'll put in the request, contingent on her agreement (she may be a child, but she should bloody well have a say on whatever her future's going to be) and we'll owl her personally as soon as the ban is lifted.




 **alt\_mcgonagall** at **2010-04-26 17:30:18**  
(no subject)

If you like, I could put in a word for you. It would be quite natural for you to have contacted me to find out how best to proceed, I believe. I haven't heard anything to suggest that anyone is terribly concerned with Luna; rather, Xeno's press is the topic of conversation among the Death Eaters. She's a pawn to them, so perhaps they'll let her go to you lightly.

You are right about one thing: owl service will soon be restored, likely *very* soon. I merely await confirmation. I had not wanted to even hint at it, in case I was wrong; but now I feel comfortable saying that it *will* happen soon!



 **alt\_molly** at **2010-04-26 19:00:46**  
(no subject)

Oh, Minerva, if you could put in a word for us, it would be a huge load off our minds.

I'm so worried about her, but I'm not surprised by your report about how she's doing. She always has been an eerily composed child. Perhaps it has to do with losing her mum so early. Still, she was very close to Xeno.

I'm sure you've told the Prefects to keep an eye on her. Well, not that poisonous Sandoval girl; I'd prefer she keep as far away as possible. But I doubt that Luna will let on to any of them if she's distressed, although I hope she might turn to Ginny.


I'm pinning my hopes on being able to owl her personally. If she writes back, I can perhaps judge a little more accurately how she's really doing. I do believe she'd be more open with me than with anyone, except perhaps Ginny.



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-04-26 19:36:42](#)  
(no subject)

I certainly will. As you may have seen, owl post has already been restored since my last reply - excellent news, and I hope you will write to her as soon as may be!



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-26 21:24:07](#)  
(no subject)

What wonderful news! We're sending Errol off with letters for all the children telling them of our plan, as well as one for Luna.



**2010-04-26 11:01:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Do any of you lot know whether they've found out anything about the Patils' little brother? Parvati looks really awful, so I don't want to ask her about it. And obviously I'm not going to go up and ask Padma.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Anywiz, I just wondered 'cause, y'know, it's really

I keep thinking what it would be like if one of us

and how it would be for Mum

or how it would feel to, y'know, just never see the twins again or even Ginny

yeah

it'd be awful




---

 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2010-04-26 17:31:08**  
(no subject)

No, I don't know. I tried asking Harry but he just snapped at me that I oughtn't think he gets any special information just because he's the Lord Protector's son. I suppose that means other people have been asking a lot too.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2010-04-26 17:51:35**  
(no subject)

I want to know what's wrong with Seamus. Is there some reason for him to be really upset about the Patil kid, other than being friends with Padma and Parvati, I mean? Because he's acting like this is driving him around the twist or something.

He's been bolting for the shower first thing in the morning when he gets up. Usually he waits until the last possible second to get dressed. And did you know he threw up in the loo after Muggle Studies this morning? I know that Miss Professor Carrow was telling

lots of gory stories about the terrible stuff that Muggles used to do to kids when they kidnapped them but...I took him to the Hospital Wing. And he asked me the strangest question while we were waiting for Madam Pomfrey.

He asked what I'd have for my last meal if I knew I was going to die. And did I think I could act normal?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:07:53](#)**  
(no subject)

He asked you what? Was he saying you don't act normal?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:12:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Or wait, he was asking if you thought YOU could act normal if you were going to

Does he think the person who killed Sanji is after him next? WHY?




 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:45:26](#)**  
(no subject)

I think he was thinking of himself. But he was asking me about myself like--like, uh what's that word? Hpertheticle. But then it was like he thought he had said too much, and he shut it after that.

He looked so scared and sick. Well, maybe just because he felt like he was going spew again.

I haven't seen him come back to classes after lunch.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:16:20](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't see what he's got to worry about with Mr Rosier as his guardian. He's safe as houses.


I think it was just something he ate didn't agree with him.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:21:53](#)**  
(no subject)

I dunno, Ron. I can't quite explain it, but...it seemed like there's something going on with him and we have no idea what it is.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:31:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I agree he's been acting dodgy today.

I guess I just thought it was, well, never mind because, yeah. There's definitely something odd going on now. He just came through the common room and looked like--I dunno, not like he usually looks.

Not smug and all, like everyone should see how special he is. He actually looked like he just really wanted for no one to say anything to him, and he was really odd with Lavender when she cornered him before he could go upstairs. Anywiz, he got away fast and practically ran upstairs. But with him, who knows, really?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 23:51:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Padma suggested last night that maybe it was the Irish muggles who took her brother. And then he threw up after Muggle Studies.

Maybe he thinks his father's the one who did it? I mean, so far as I know he doesn't know his father, but I can say for a fact that plenty of halfbloods learn to tell lies about their family from a young age. Maybe he thinks it's his father, and his father's going to come for him next? That really seems like a leap, though.



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-27 01:04:38](#)  
(no subject)

D'you think that's it?

I mean, we asked him one time about his parents, and he was really odd about his father. I'm not sure he's even still alive, his dad. But then he went on and on about how he lived in castles and all, and made it sound like his family's really so important and of course that's why he got such an important man to foster him. At the time I thought it was pretty interesting, but now. Well, it gets old, doesn't it, being told your family's nothing and you smell bad and you're stupid and a mugglelover and all. I mean, honestly. If we don't get to go home after exams, I may seriously lose it with him.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2010-04-27 01:40:01](#)  
(no subject)

Well, his mother's family is quite important over in Ireland. If you look at Chronicles of the Protectorate: A Modern History they take sort of a geographical view and they have a whole section on Ireland. Technically his family works under the Ministry but no one here really wants to go over there because it's so dangerous.

It's funny, Padma thinks she's so clever but she had no idea. She thought he grew up poor like I did.

It probably is why he's being fostered by someone so important but now that I think about it, it is a bit strange they're treating him like a half-blood. He's got loads of cousins who aren't at school at Hogwarts; they're schooled at home in Ireland, and I'd have thought Finnigan's mother would want to keep him there and have him educated with the rest of his family. But instead he came here, and the Protectorate has him living in fostering like -- well, like me. Susan Bones is a quarter-blood and she doesn't have to live in fostering. Milli, she's not in fostering. Seamus is truly half, I mean his dad wasn't even a muggleborn wizard, he was a MUGGLE.

Anyway Padma says it wasn't a muggle who did it, so you can watch and see if he acts all relieved now.

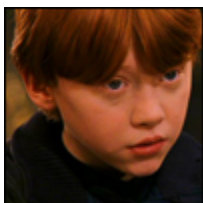



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:12:16](#)**  
(no subject)

I really can't stand Padma so it's really odd feeling so sorry for her.

I think her brother's probably dead, or someone would have made a demand or they'd have found him or something. She looked terrible in Defense this morning. At least Lockhart didn't seize the opportunity to tell us horror stories about muggles murdering children like Alecto Carrow did. I heard Lavender was just furious because of the effect on Parvati, I don't know if she noticed about Finnigan.

Why would anyone kidnap and murder a little boy?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:13:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. It's not Padma I feel sorry for, though. Or Parvati either. I mean, it doesn't change how nasty they are to everyone. But it's still really awful, you know? To think about what could have happened, and to think about how it would feel to not know. I mean, it's like Luna. For so long not knowing where her father was or whether he was really sick or if maybe she was being lied to. And now she finds out he's dead. It's just. I knew her father, and he was really strange and kind of mad, really, but he was also just Luna's father and someone my Mum and Dad are friends with and

I don't know. I kind of wonder whether we're really going to get to go home for summer or whether things have got really bad out there. I mean, don't you get the feeling that there's loads of stuff we don't know and nobody wants us to. It's just

I dunno.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 23:53:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Things were bad at the Stretton's muggle camp at Christmas.

I don't know. Maybe you're right, though mostly grownups in the journals are just whinging about how their favourite shops are closed and they can't get any lemon peel, or the quarantine means they can't see Cousin Maude, nothing really dreadful.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-27 01:14:45](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, actually, you're right about that. So maybe it's only bad some places.


I guess you'll hear from the Strettons again now. Maybe? They haven't written you in your journal have they? Do they want you to come this summer, d'you suppose?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-27 01:41:20](#)  
(no subject)

Maybe, we'll see. They don't write in my journal but they don't write in Jeremy's either. I look at theirs sometimes, it's all business stuff, orders for jam or wool trousers or who knows what.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-26 18:22:19](#)  
(no subject)

Pansy's been beside herself too.

I think she thinks Regulus had something to do with Sanji but she can't stand to look at it straight on. But, she thinks the Lord Protector is punishing Regulus by making him do terrible things, and it's killing him, Regulus I mean. I know Lucius Malfoy said Regulus was just angry at being left out of something but I don't think Pansy believes it, and THAT is tearing Pansy apart because she feels toward Lucius Malfoy, oh probably the way Luna feels toward Ron's mum. He's always been there for her, he's always been kind to her, he's always protected her -- I mean for Merlin's sake he went after Lana Sandoval in the journals because she cruciated me, all because Pansy was upset about it after.

Anyway Pansy can't stand to think Lucius is in on whatever the terrible thing is that Regulus is doing, and she can't stand to think of Regulus doing something terrible, and yet she's too clever and too

thoughtful to just go on lying to herself that everything's fine. She KNOWS even if she can't altogether admit it.

No wonder she had an ulcer.

I feel a little guilty for blaming Padma. About the ulcer, I mean, the cruciatus was still her fault. Maybe I should apologise, I'll have to think a bit on how to do that.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:32:55](#)**

*(no subject)*

And you know what really scares Pansy. REALLY scares her.

She's always been told to follow the rules and do as you're told and everything will be alright. I mean, it's not as if she's always followed the rules (ha! far from!) but when she's gotten punished for things, or everything's gone horribly wrong (like when she had to go stay with horrid Mrs Black) she's always been told that if only she'd been more careful to toe the line, things would have been better.

So now Regulus is clearly doing what he's told. To the LETTER, he's obeying the Lord Protector. And things are not going well for him, whatever it is he's doing is killing him a little at a time.

And that's making Pansy wonder, will obedience really keep her safe? What if they tell her to do something HORRIBLE?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:05:07](#)**

*(no subject)*

They lie to her, and, yeah, to fit in you have be willing to be really nasty to people. It's like Seamus. He wants to fit in, and so he does whatever Patil wants him to do--like hex me and my journal, the git. And goes around sneering at people and rubbing people's noses in how they're not as good as other people. And I can't even tell if really likes Patil. Really, I think it's Malfoy he wants to impress. I mean, have you seen him since Malfoy said he was going to think about who could come to his party and who couldn't? It's mad, really. (I mean, I guess maybe it looks different to me since I know he'd rather die than invite me along. And, yeah,



never mind.)

I think you're right about that Mr Black, too. And I'm really sorry for Pansy about it cause she really likes him, and sometimes I think about how they seem kinda alike, you know, from what she's said about his Mum and hers and what people expected of them growing up and everything.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 23:56:05](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm trying not to think about Draco's party. I really hope he invites me but I won't be surprised if he doesn't.

You're right though, I think Finnigan would light himself on fire if he thought it would impress Draco.

I think Pansy does think they're a bit alike, her and Regulus. I think also she talks to him because she can't talk to Sirius, you know, without getting into trouble. Talking to Regulus is the next best thing.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-27 01:11:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Merlin, you really want to go to that git's party? Are you having me on? I mean, who cares if he doesn't invite you?

Well, go ahead if you want and watch Finnigan wet himself whenever Malfoy tells him a joke or whatever.

You think that's what it is with Pansy. It's about the other Mr Black, really? I guess the other one would be sad to know that if it's true. I mean, he seems to think they're really friends.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-27 01:45:09](#)**  
(no subject)


Sure I want to go to his party! The Christmas party was great fun. Besides, if Draco snubs me then Teddy might decide to be nasty to me and



Blaise definitely would and Daphne might be a lot ruder than she is now.

And I think Pansy is really friends with Regulus Black, now. Just when she started, though. She talked to him because she couldn't talk to Sirius.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:52:58](#)**  
(no subject)


I know what you mean about how weird it is feeling a little sorry for Padma. Parvarti isn't nearly as bad, anyway. Or maybe she's just less nasty to people in her own house.

About apologising: do you think that if Padma could have thought of a way to make Pansy bleed from the mouth she would have done it?

Yeah, me too.

No, I wouldn't apologise. Or at least until some months have gone by and she's treating people decent.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:05:54](#)**  
(no subject)

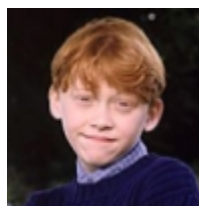
Months? More like never!




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-26 23:56:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Of course you wouldn't!

But I'm a Slytherin.



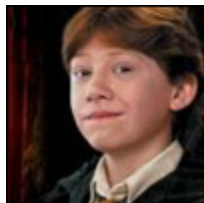
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-27 01:12:20](#)**  
(no subject)


And again with saying that like it's a good thing!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-27 01:46:13](#)  
(no subject)

It IS a good thing!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-27 02:04:50](#)  
(no subject)

Well, all right then, if you say so!

**2010-04-26 12:25:00**

*Order Only: Archer investigation, Sirius, Luna*



 **alt\_bill**

I've been notified officially that I've been cleared in connection with the investigation surrounding Aloysius Archer's death. I waited a month and have reestablished contact with all the analysts. None of them have felt any heat, but we're all taking extra precautions. I got the impression that the report I offered has even raised my status a bit. If I get lucky, I hope my security level will be raised at the next yearly review.


Sirius, as I said, I hope that the trail of breadcrumbs we left them about you aren't the cause of Crouch Jr's smug hints.

Dad, I've been knocking my head against Ministry bureaucracy, trying to figure out the procedure you should put in to adopt Luna. I haven't gotten any official confirmation, despite what was said about Xeno's 'illness,' that Luna's been officially classified as a halfblood. That's good, because if she was, you couldn't adopt her, and you'd have to go through Purity Control to foster her. Obviously, we want to avoid that.

I think you act as if there's no question that she's a pureblood and submit the forms to the Office of Underage Wizard Protection. Don't even breathe a hint that there's any question of her blood status, and maybe we'll get very lucky. It's a very small operation, because there are so few minor pureblood wizards in her position. Maybe that will help.




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 **alt\_sirius** at **2010-04-26 17:48:02**  
(no subject)

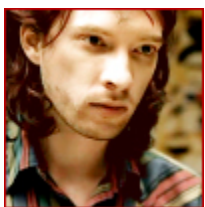
No worries, Bill. Even if they did find something from that cypher, I'm long gone from where we thought I'd be over a month ago.


I'm sure I was just letting my imagination run away - though as I've said, I'll keep a weather eye for anything untoward.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 17:52:00](#)**  
(no subject)


Bill, if it's a small office, Underage Protection, that is, are they strained with the search for the Patil boy? Or are they not searching at all anymore? It's been over 24 hours. And if Voldemort really were behind the boy's disappearance, I'd expect the message would have been passed down to ease off the investigation.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:39:57](#)**  
(no subject)


The case is drawing enough attention now that Voldemort's press agent issued a statement from the Lord Protector himself this morning. There are definitely still plenty of people at work on the investigation. None of my analysts have yet detected any 'ease up on this story' signals yet.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-26 18:57:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, that's assuring on a whole other level. Not that they haven't found the boy yet, of course, but - well - you know.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-26 20:30:00](#)**  
(no subject)

good news, mate. have one on me.

just a note, though -- you pop up in any more investigations in the next year or so, even if you've been cleared in this one, it'll show up as a pattern and they may even re-open. hell, I wouldn't be surprised if these people kept cross-tabs on every internal investigation they've ever run. and you don't want to show up on it twice.


glad you weathered this one, though. good work.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2010-04-26 21:10:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, I'm planning on keeping my nose very clean, believe me.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2010-04-26 21:12:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, that's such a relief to hear, Bill!

Thanks for your sleuthing out which department to approach. Honestly, Arthur's worked for the Ministry for years, and I still don't always understand how the departments work together!

Owl service has been restored, so we're sending Errol with a letter to Luna today.

**2010-04-26 13:36:00**

*The Patils*

I hope all will be well with your family. I know this is a hard time for you girls to cope with, but I want to tell you that you are welcome to talk to me if you just need a good ear. I can only empathise with you.

I, too, know what it is like to lose family, and have the uncertainty about their fate. I know that we don't always get along, but this is not a fun time for anyone. No one likes to see anyones family member disappear for suffer for an unknown reason.




 [alt\\_dean](#)

So like I said, if you are in need of a good ear, into which you can vent, I am here as a friend if you need one who partially knows what you are going through.



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 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-26 19:33:14**  
(no subject)


Cheers, Thomas.

It's odd to think about how many people in the school have suffered. But then, there *was* a war.

Dad said something, when we talked, about that if Sanji's been kidnapped, they should get a ransom or something. Applebee said yesterday I could listen to the wireless, but somehow that was worse.

Mainly I'm just trying to concentrate on what I need to do, and keep my mind off it. They've just got to find him. And in the meantime, there are still lessons, and Future Interrogators, and all that.



 [alt\\_dean](#) at **2010-04-26 19:48:14**  
(no subject)

Cheers to you for keeping your spirits up. Its goo to see that you havent let the fight in you die because of the present situation.

I guess thats the mark for a winner. No matter what happens Patil, remember only the strong survive. I'm sure they will find your brother.

**2010-04-26 13:47:00**

*Owl Post Service restored to Hogwarts*

Per the vote of the Board of Governors, I am pleased to announce that effective immediately, Hogwarts students may once again receive owl post. At the moment we are restricting this to letters only; we expect parcels to be allowed again in the near future.



 [alternity](#)  
 [alt\\_selwyn](#)

Students may also send owls to their families; however, the school owls are still in use at the Ministry. We do expect them to return shortly and look to the Prefects and the Head Girl and Head Boy to set up a system to manage initial demand in a civilised and reasonable way.

I would like to personally thank each and every student and staff member at Hogwarts, especially the Prefects and Head Students, for their fortitude during this difficult time. It has been an exceptionally trying year, and it fills me with pride and confidence in our future to see how our young people have handled themselves.



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 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-04-26 19:37:40](#)  
(no subject)

You will be pleased to note that your announcement has been greeted with cheer; when I make the formal announcement at dinner I suspect there will be an outright ovation!

**2010-04-26 18:30:00**

*There's still no news*

Not the good kind, anyway. I know everyone's trying to be really supportive, but stop asking, all right?



 **alt\_padma**

I mean, thanks to everyone who's been really understanding this week. Bones, MacMillan, Thomas, Li, Capper, Parkinson, Perks - I could keep going but just know that I appreciate everyone who's offered their sympathy.

I'm really glad owls are allowed again, now, because I'm sure Mum and Dad will send one right away to let us know how things are going. Haruman has been managing the journals for the family because he says they're just not up to it. He put up a big long post today just to keep us informed.

First, most important, he said the Lord Protector's office issued a statement this morning about Sanji! They said that He was disheartened to learn of our tragic circumstances and hoped it reached resolution soon. I know He had already met us personally before, last year, you know, when Parvati was chosen for the unicorn hunt, but imagine Him thinking about and caring about what happens to us, personally. It's really awe-inspiring, but it makes me sad that it's because of something like this.

Haruman also said Mum and Dad went in to the WWN to record an, um, an appeal. The Aurors found his lunch sack, it was a special one Mum made, and it had a charm on that kept the cold things cold on one side and the hot things hot, and it'd never spill. Well, they found it and they took it to a Diviner, right away. Saturday, I mean. She said at the time that he was still alive, but scared. They didn't find anything else anywhere nearby, though. They searched the whole park, and all the neighbourhood. People even loaned their mudbloods to the operation, so they could go through the whole area inch by inch.

So they haven't found anything yet to suggest that he's been

Well, they think he's still alive, anyway.

And I guess they've been looking into the man the kids said they saw. There wasn't anything remarkable that they remembered, he was just a man in a plain set of robes. They don't think he's an escaped muggle



or mudblood, because they've been interviewing every servant in the area and they all were where they were supposed to be at the time. No one's missing or anything. (So Finnigan, I don't think it has anything to do with Irish terrorists, which is good news!)

But the problem is that if another wizard took him, then he probably Apparated away or used a Portkey, and the Aurors say that's mostly impossible to track. The only way to find out where he is is if someone issues a ransom demand. But they're still not at all sure why anyone would do that in the first place, or why they'd pick Sanji.

I've been thinking about it since I read Haruman's post. I think, if no one's asking for a ransom, that it must have been a wizard or witch who doesn't have children, or who only had Squibs, or something, and wants a child of his own. Like the Raja in the story, who prayed and prayed to Sivitri for a child. Only in this case, he didn't wait.

So. I guess I just want to say to that person, that I'm really sorry if you don't have your own children, but please give Sanji back. He's really not all that good. He whinges and he'll just annoy you, so you might as well bring him home. Plus, he's our brother. And even though he's a pain, we love him and we had him first. So give him back. Please?



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 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-27 01:21:05](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

D'you reckon she's right about that? That her brother could've been taken by wizards who want children but can't have them? I'd think it'd be pretty easy for MLE to check on that, don't you? I mean how many Indian wizards are there here? And if it wasn't a family like the Patils, then he'd look different from the people who were trying to say he's theirs and somebody'd notice and turn them in, wouldn't they?

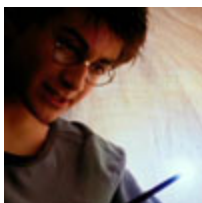



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-27 01:47:32](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

No.


She's grasping at straws because she wants him to still be alive.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-27 02:59:37](#)**  
(no subject)

I know Father really feels like that. I mean. I'm sorry.

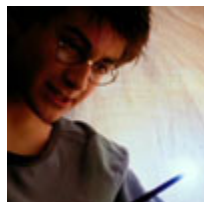



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-27 03:13:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks, Marvolo.

And I'm sorry people keep pestering you to find out what you know about it all. It's not like you get any special information compared to the rest of us.

At least we'll be allowed owls, now. I'm going to send a thank-you to ~~the Lord~~ your-f your Father, do you think He'd like that? Once the owls get back into rotation, that is.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-27 03:48:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Sure, I think he'd like that. I mean he always likes things like that when I do them.

**2010-04-26 23:41:00**

XXV.

I understand that everyone's excited about Director Selwyn's announcement that the Ministry have authorised the resumption of owl post from and to Hogwarts.



 [alternity](#)  
 [alt\\_lana](#)

## **HOWEVER!**

Before things descend into chaos here, the staff have instituted a lottery system for those wishing to use the remaining school owls. There are only three school owls at the moment and many more of you who would like to employ them--as those of you who queued up outside the owlery this afternoon discovered.

Professors Acton and Vector and their NEWT 6ths and 7ths all put their heads together and came up with a rather elegant solution. Tomorrow at breakfast each of us will be assigned a random number: your number determines your place in the queue for using a school owl. Your number will magically appear on your breakfast plate when you take your place at the table.

If you do not attend the meal, you will not receive a number.  
No exceptions.

As you move about the castle tomorrow, you will see a lighted globe hovering high overhead in every room and corridor. Every time an owl returns to its roost, someone's number will appear on each and every of these magical counters. The progress of the numbers will be entirely random, so it is simply the luck of the charm whether your number comes round sooner or later.

When your turn arrives, you will proceed to the owlery with your number, which will be cross-checked by the magical sentry Professor Acton has placed on the owlery door. If you cannot remember your number, you will find that you are out of luck and the turn will pass to the next selected number. If you do not arrive at the owlery within twenty minutes of your number's being advertised, your turn will pass to the next selected number. If for some reason you must pass your opportunity when it arrives, your number will return to the pool of as-yet-unused chances and will come up again when fate allows.


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 **[alt\\_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-04-27 03:53:02](#)**  
(no subject)

What if we're in a lesson, though?



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-27 03:58:14](#)**  
(no subject)

It is up to each teacher to determine whether a pupil may leave a lesson for this purpose.

**2010-04-27 00:07:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*




 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Ron and Neville, if you have time before breakfast, make four copies of the letters you want to send home. Pansy and I are doing the same. We'll each carry a copy of every letter, so I'll have my letter to the Strettons, Pansy's letter to her mum, and your letters to your families. Whoever's number comes up first, that person will send the whole packet to Mrs Weasley and it'll be her job to get the rest of the letters where they're going. We can't very well ask her first (even in the journals, I'm not sure we're supposed to do this and I don't want to get in trouble) but I'm sure she won't mind. Well she might not be wild about having to deliver to Mrs Parkinson but if it means she gets Ron's letter earlier I think she'll consider that a reasonable trade.

Anyway, I wanted to let you know so you could copy your letters before breakfast. Tell Pansy you had the same idea we had.



---

 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-27 11:47:59**  
(no subject)

So, yeah. I said I'd tell you my number, so you'd know if it came up.

It's 4375849123.

What does that even mean?

So Marvolo was number 1? There's a surprise. And I bet he didn't even have a letter ready. And, anywiz, did he even loan out his owl to the Ministry? He probably didn't need to have a number today.

Whatever.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-27 14:38:07](#)**  
(no subject)

My number is 3257839798.

Harry's number got called first. I thought it would be -- I even thought for a minute about asking him if he wanted to do the group letter delivery with us, but he probably is going to send a letter to his father and I don't think Mrs Weasley would want to have to deliver to the Lord Protector.




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-27 19:00:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Well he had to send Hedwig away but his Father has plenty of owls, he'll probably just send one and tell Harry to use it.

Anyway, when he got the number he didn't have a letter ready, but Corey Whitacre was sitting there and he looked like he was going to cry because he got number 9999999999, and so Harry just grabbed his letter and told the owl to take it wherever Corey said. Then he told Corey to shut it and sort of stared at his plate. I think he was really cross with whoever gave him number one.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:56:28](#)**  
(no subject)

That'd be Acton, wouldn't it? I mean she's the one who designed the spells, so it must've been her that gave Marvolo number 1 and made sure it'd be the first number that came up.

Well, or Vector, but it's Acton that goes all gooey on him all the time, isn't it?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-28 04:29:38](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm sure it was Acton. Professor Vector might've helped her but it would've been Acton who REALLY wanted to be sure to rig it.


It's a shame they didn't have Professor Sinistra doing it; I think she'd have either done a true random draw or she'd have rigged it so all the kids whose families don't have owls got to send their mail first thing. Plus Padma and Parvati, but I don't think anyone grudged them the chance to send mail to their mum.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-28 04:26:13](#)**  
(no subject)

The funny thing is I think I saw 9999999999 come up in late afternoon. But that was kind of Harry, I'm glad he did that. He'd rather be last than first with this sort of thing, I don't know how it is that Acton has worked that out yet.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-27 16:50:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Bugger it all, Pansy's number came up during Charms.

She didn't even bother asking. Blaise's number had come up earlier and Acton took five points from him for asking if he could go.

I wonder if the numbers are running right up until curfew? It'll be dead hilarious if my number comes up five minutes before we're supposed to be back in the dorms.




 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-27 12:24:02](#)**  
(no subject)

That's a dead clever idea, Sally-Anne!

(My Gran has her own owl, and I expect it'll arrive soon, so I should be okay. Hope your number comes up really soon!)




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-27 13:01:41](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't think you get it, Nev. Did you write down your number at breakfast? You can still wait for your Gran's owl if you want and not send anything with the school owl, but if your number comes up before any of the rest of ours, it'd be really great if you'd send our letters to Mum.

Way to carry the side, you tit.




 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-27 13:08:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry! I read Sally-Anne's post quick and didn't get it at first...now I feel really dumb.

Anyway, of course I'd help. My number's 4256972322 if it comes up first. And sure, I'd be happy to do that, if my number comes up first.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-27 13:04:12](#)**  
(no subject)

I mean, I expect my parents are sending Errol and if he gets here first, we can send the letters with him instead of with the school owl. Well, except for the part where he'll probably have to sleep two days after he gets here if he even makes it all the way here at all.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-27 14:40:59](#)**  
(no subject)

I've seen Errol. I think he may collapse under the weight of the letters from you, the twins, Ginny, and Percy, never mind adding letters from me, Pansy, and Neville to the bundle.

Besides, if one of us DOES have our number come up, your letter will arrive before Percy's does, and how often do you get to show up Percy?





 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-28 03:53:19](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, did you see him tonight? Percy says it'll be tomorrow afternoon at the earliest that we could send him back, so we'd best stay in the lottery for a school one. Not that Neville or I'll ever get a chance by the looks of it.

Did you know Greengrass's number came up three times today? That's what Towler said, anyway. I don't know what she did to miss out and have her number go back in the pot, but it's obviously rigged if the same number can come up again and again while no Gryffindors got called at all. I heard there weren't any Hufflepuffs that got chosen, either. I'm not sure whether that's right or not, though. I can't even remember who I heard it from.

**2010-04-27 11:31:00**

*(no subject)*

The last few days have been so demanding that I confess I had not found the time to visit Nymphadora. I did go during my volunteer shift this morning, however, and found her in much better spirits. She is able to rise from her bed and can even manage a few steps on her own - earlier, in fact, than her Healers anticipated.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

She is still weak as a kitten, but Healer Page believes she can be moved to a regular ward perhaps as early as tomorrow. We decided that we ought still to limit her visitors, but upon further thought, I elected to add Mr Ponds to the list. She asked after him again and I gathered from her that one reason she wishes to see him is that she believes her journal is in his possession, as she was at work when she first collapsed. I wish I had known before I went to see him, as I could easily have obtained it at the time and saved him the trip! But that is the way, it seems, with Dora: she never does think about others' convenience in these things. I recall Norah saying much the same, the last time I saw her.

Speaking of which, Barty, the Witches' Institute have asked me to serve on the nominating committee next term, but I simply can't take it on this season. I thought your mother might be interested; I know she was chairwitch several years ago but hasn't occupied a leadership rôle for some time. You speak to her more often than I; do you have any sense that she'd be open to the prospect?


I hear that the search continues for that poor Patil boy. Revati must be beside herself, especially the longer it is without any word or hint of his whereabouts. I can't stop thinking about it, I confess.

And the other thing I can't stop thinking about is that Regulus has still not found his way to his quill to report his status. Lucius told me he saw him at court yesterday, at Our Lord's hand as always. Well, I am beginning to think you are not quite as devoted to me as you professed, dear cousin. And I think if I do not hear from you within the next twelve hours, I shall be forced to replace you permanently at the game table. Barty, I see long hours of instruction in your future, if you are to match me with anything like Regulus' experience. The clock, my dear cousin, is running!

Now I am to join Ari and Lucius for tea - he has promised me that they will be there, today, and Pandora is coming as well.

---



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2010-04-27 17:43:37](#)**

*Order Only*

Thank God Tonks didn't think to mention her journal to Narcissa earlier - I can only imagine what might have happened if one of our journals fell into the wrong hands.

That said, I am grateful she thought to add me to the visitors list. It sounds like Tonks is at St Mungo's after all, just in a closed ward. If I'm on the list, perhaps I finally stand a chance of getting in to see her.

I think I shall head over now, actually. Wish me luck!



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-27 17:55:10](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Yeah, good thing, Moony. Being able to see her, too - although don't be surprised if they put you off until she's moved to the new ward, but perhaps you can point out that you're 'approved.' Better bring her journal with you, too, as further evidence that you're supposed to be allowed in.

I'm more concerned by the bit about Reg, at the end. I don't think there's anything to be done, however. It seems clear he's once again decided to cave rather than take a stand, the little worm.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-28 02:12:04](#)**


*(no subject)*

Narcissa.

I can offer a report on your prodigal cousin, but I am in no way allowing him to write for himself this evening. He tells me I'm to say that he's devoted to you beyond measure and has no intention of conceding his place at your game table to me. Of course, he's also just promised to tell me all your

secret strategies at cards if only I'll give him house room for the night.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-28 02:22:53](#)**  
(no subject)

He's at Marlborough House?

When you say he's unable to write for himself, is that because he's truly unable or merely, er, *incapacitated*?

Oh, Morgana.

I suppose I may rely on you, Barty, that if he's in need of any assistance you will of course provide - whether that's a room in Marlborough or a cold compress come the morning.

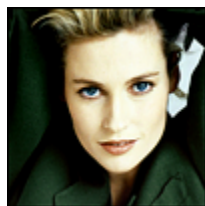
I also suppose I ought to tell Aunt Walburga that he's turned up. She's been nothing short of bullish that he came here on Friday and hasn't visited her in weeks.




 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:14:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Let's just say that Regulus needed scourgification top to toe before I'd let him past the door post. You would never have allowed anything so foul through your gates, which is doubtless why he came here.

That and the fact that he's in no state for Apparating.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:24:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Really, it's rather like having a particularly wayward jarvey for a pet, on occasion. Dear Merlin.

Well, I daresay it's not the first time you've seen him to sleep off whatever he's over-indulged on.

Ought I to come round tomorrow so he has someone to see to him while you're at work?




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:32:51](#)**  
(no subject)

My dear, Regulus is not a child. He is not the first man to suffer the after-effects of a hangover and nor shall he be the last.

Moreover, he lived in Marlborough for long enough that I am certain Barty's elf knows how to see to him.

Besides, you know perfectly well that if you do go to see him, Walburga will demand you come report to her on his condition.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:46:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Given his volatility tonight, I've instructed the elf to add a dash of sleeping powder to his morning tea. A long rest will do him good.

You're welcome to come if you wish, Narcissa, but I expect it will require nothing more of you than sitting by his bedside while he snores. Lucius is right that the elf will be more than capable of handling his needs, but that needn't dissuade you if you are set on coming. If he should wake up, I'm certain the company would do him good.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:49:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, perhaps you're right.

Bella was saying to me recently that I've come to spoil Regulus only because I've not had the opportunity to send as many care packages to Draco this year as last.

I suppose I've been rather too indulgent. But do let him know that I'll see how my day goes - and if he does wake and wishes for the company, he knows how to bring me word.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-28 02:47:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you for letting us know, Barty.

It is unfortunate that he should make such a spectacle of himself and expect you to shepherd him - but not entirely unexpected.

For the sake of a certain young lady who, I am sure, is watching these pages with interest, I shall for the moment guess that the lack of urgency in your reply to my wife signifies that he is unharmed and merely, shall we say, the worse for wear.

(It rather reinforces a point I have been trying to make, regarding his prospects, more's the pity.)



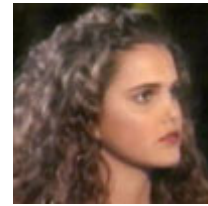
 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:18:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry, yes. He's required rather a lot of shepherding, as you term it. He's come to rest in a chair by the hearth, finally, and I am trusting he'll stay still long enough for me to answer without fear he'll overturn the shelves or topple into the fire.

**2010-04-27 14:47:00**

*(no subject)*

I know that the demand for owls is great, but honestly! There's no point in getting into arguments about whose number was first.



 **alt\_penelope**

And does anyone know why Brown was leaving the library with that great stack of books? I needed that copy of *Omens and Portents Explained*, but Madam Pince said she'd checked it out just ahead of my going to look for it. Brown, do you really need all that just to send an owl home?

---



 **alt\_lavender** at **2010-04-27 19:07:15**

*(no subject)*

Not everything is to do with owls, Clearwater.



 **alt\_penelope** at **2010-04-27 19:23:18**

*(no subject)*

I wish more of your classmates felt the same, Brown.

I've already had to separate Zabini and Jugson, when Zabini knew full well his time had elapsed. And Goyle apparently can't tell the difference between 9648 and 9468, as he tried to get past the sentry with the wrong match. And when Gamp tried to point it out to him, he wrestled Gamp to the floor outside the Owlery! I had to send Gamp down to the hospital wing and he lost his chance to send his owl.

So if this isn't to do with looking up big words to send to Mummy and Daddy, then would you mind bringing *Omens* back to the library? I only need it for a few minutes.



 **alt\_lavender** at **2010-04-27 19:27:37**

*(no subject)*

Merlin! I'm not surprised at Goyle, but Zabini's usually quite Proper.

Anyhow, I'm sorry they're giving you difficulties, and of course I'll be happy to return the book just as soon as I've made a couple of notes.

It won't take long at all.



**2010-04-27 16:56:00**

*Order Only*

Hello again. Still alive, just about. It's a bit tiring holding a quill. This has taken me ten minutes already. The healers say I'm doing well though. I just need to be patient. I hate being patient. I hate being a patient too. I just want to go home.



 **alt\_nymphadora**

Remus here. I've taken over quill duties for a moment, as our impatient patient needs to rest her arms. I shall be transcribing as directed:

Right. I'm fine, don't look so worried. No, don't write that down. I said don't. Now you're just being silly.

Okay, I'm all right. Thanks for all your kind wishes. I didn't say anything to anyone, you know, anything compromising. Even when I was all loopy from the sickness. I hope you're all okay. Remus has given me a bit of an update, but it's quite a lot to take in. I don't feel like I've been out of it for weeks, but everyone insists it's April. I suppose just have to take their word for it. The healers might go in for an elaborate joke like that, but Aunt Narcissa never would.

I can't quite manage to read back through this little book at the moment. Just holding it makes my arms ache. But it's a comfort just knowing you're all out there reading this.


Remus is going to take my journal back to the shop for safekeeping, if that's all right with you? (Yes, it's fine.) I don't think my Aunt would bother reading it when she visits, but just in case, you know.

I think that's enough for now. All this thinking is tiring me right out. Here, let me just write the last bit myself.

Thank you. Bye.

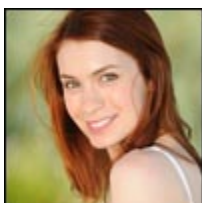
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 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-27 21:11:59](#)**  
(no subject)

It's good to see your handwriting, kiddo, even if it is shaky.

Be sure to get plenty of rest, so you can knock Mr Moony on his arse the next time he decides to get literal on you.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-27 22:09:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Hello, sweetheart. It's Alice Longbottom.

You probably won't be able to read this until you're back safe at the shop, but I'm glad you're feeling better, and I cannot wait to meet you properly. You take as much time as you need. It's just so good to hear that you're awake.



 **[alt\\_arthur](#)** at **[2010-04-28 02:07:19](#)**  
(no subject)

How wonderful to see you're back with us! Molly and I have been so worried.

Looking forward to sharing a cuppa again with you, when you're up and about again. But take as much time as you need.

**2010-04-27 20:53:00**

*Owl service*

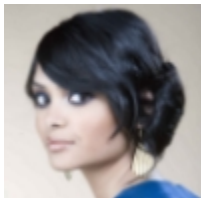
I'm going to get in so much trouble. I know that Mr Peakes wanted to receive an owl from me as soon as we were allowed again, he told me in his journal. But that first day it was utter chaos trying to get one. Now we have this stupid number system. Is it just me or has anyone else noticed that **not one Gryffindor number has been called all day?**




 **alt\_dean**

I'm going to get in trouble for following the rules, how pathetic.

---

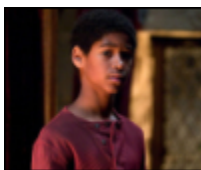



 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-28 01:28:11**  
(no subject)

I'm sure he'll understand, Thomas. It's not your fault that people who don't have their own owls are having to wait their turns, or that your lottery number hasn't come up yet.

He could send you an owl, anyway, and then you could reply and you wouldn't need to wait for the school owls.

But anyway, now that you've written here I'm sure he knows that you're trying to send him a letter.




 **alt\_dean** at **2010-04-28 01:33:55**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I guess you are right. Its just so...

Stressful I guess.

Have you at least been able to get an owl out? I don't mean to bring it up, but I know you are worried about your family.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-28 01:37:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, I wrote a letter from both me and Parvati and my number flashed this afternoon, when I was free, so I could get it out right away. Lucky, really.

I'm sure the Gryffindors' numbers will come up soon. And anyway I know a few other people who've been sending joint letters. Of course, that means the owls will take even longer to come back.


But you could always see if someone will send a letter for you along with their own.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-28 02:08:57](#)**  
(no subject)

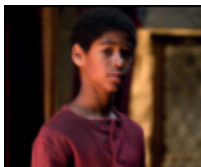
You're not the only one to notice, believe me.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 02:22:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Too right, mate.

You could send yours along with mine, if you want. Once Errol can fly again, that is. I've never seen him look so done in as he did tonight. I was just glad it was Percy's pudding he fell in not mine. So, yeah. If our numbers come up for school owls before Errol's ready, then you could send yours with ours that way, too. Thing is, it would go to Mum, and I don't know if she knows your Mr Peakes, but I guess she'd see he got it one way or another.



 **[alt\\_dean](#)** at **[2010-04-28 03:03:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks mate,

I think I will wait. Mr Peakes lives in New London, and I don't know if your owl could make it, especially after tonight. And I am sure your Mum would be nice enough to send it forward

for me, but Mr Peakes has his mail pre-screened to see where it has come from. He might think something was up if it went to your house first.

**2010-04-27 22:06:00**

*Padma?*

Do you want to meet me and Parvati in the Astronomy Tower before breakfast?




Maybe we can see the last few morning stars.

 **alt\_lavender**



---

 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-28 02:57:14**

*(no subject)*

Oh. Did you

Okay.

Sure, I'll meet you.

**2010-04-27 22:55:00**

*Mr and Mrs Weasley?*

I got your letter.


Oh, I would! I would.

Thank you.



 [alt\\_luna](#)




 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2010-04-29 01:17:40**  
(no subject)

I'm so glad, dear.

Arthur and I are beginning the process--well, there's a lot of parchment work, and we need to find out what's involved. But we'll keep you up to date as we learn more.

I wish I could be there with you. But I deputise Ginny to put her arms around you for me, all right?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2010-04-29 14:59:34**  
(no subject)

Um. Luna.

I just wanted to let you know that I'm glad you wanted to do this. I think it's a really good thing.

So, I don't ever seem to see you, but are you getting on okay? You'd let one of us know if you weren't, right?

**2010-04-28 09:29:00**

*Er, Sandoval?*

Could...Could you meet us at the bottom of the astronomy tower?

Lavender ran off and we're not sure where.



 **alt\_padma**

Oh.

Parvati thinks she hears her. We might need a little help, though. Something's not quite right.


---



 **alt\_zacharias** at **2010-04-28 13:33:26**  
(no subject)

Why. What's wrong?




 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-28 13:34:24**  
(no subject)

She's...er, not herself this morning.

Uh-oh.

Gotta go.




 **alt\_lana** at **2010-04-28 15:17:49**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Patil. I was in Charms when you wrote and have only just seen this.

Do you still require assistance?





 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-28 15:22:28](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, sort of. Only...we've kind of lost her.

I mean, she ran away from us when we tried to stop her.

I dunno if you saw her at breakfast but she wasn't acting herself.

And I'm not sure but I think she probably oughtn't go to Transfiguration in her state.

**2010-04-28 10:47:00**

*Has Lavender Brown gone completely mad?*



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

She just came running into the Potions dungeon. Blaise started to take the mickey like maybe she'd forgotten where she was supposed to be (we had Potions with Gryffindor LAST year, we're with the Hufflepuffs this year!) and she started laughing this really wild laugh. And then she used the hover charm to pick up the cup of slug juice on Blaise's desk and drop it into the potion on Professor Slughorn's desk. The potion does call for slug juice but you're supposed to put it in a drop at a time. You definitely don't want to put it all in at once, just so you know, but fortunately it explodes UP not OUT so no one got any on them.

Professor Slughorn was furious and he's usually pretty even-tempered. He took twenty points from Gryffindor and gave her detention but she ran off before he could say when and where.

Then once she was gone he started to realise something must really be wrong, I think, because that's not like Lavender. Or anyone, really. WHO acts like that?!?




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-28 16:02:28**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

And Professor Slughorn looked at me and Pansy after she left like he thought maybe we had something to do with it but we DIDN'T. We didn't do ANYTHING to Lavender. Or anyone else this week.



 **alt\_ron** at **2010-04-28 16:21:21**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Er. That's not good, is it? That he suspects you first of anybody.

D'you think he knows about the Rune?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:26:00](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

No, that's not it. He just knows we can't stand Patil. I think he might also have suspected later about the incident in Potions class last

Well anyway, he knows I don't much like Lavender either.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:16:42](#)**

*(no subject)*

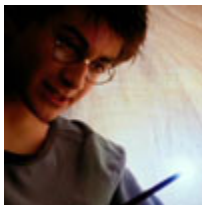
PERKS IS A BERK, NEVER SHIRKS, TOO MUCH WORK!



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:26:23](#)**

*(no subject)*

Lavender, I think you need to go see Madam Pomfrey.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:27:36](#)**

*(no subject)*

Nobody I know. Well maybe the Weasley twins. But Lav is a wet blanket. Not that I talk to her much.

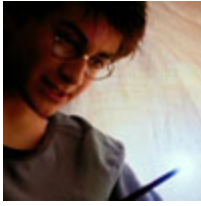



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:31:02](#)**

*(no subject)*

Well she's certainly not acting like a wet blanket today.

Did you see where Sandoval called her Peeves? Did you know Peeves could take people over? Because I didn't!



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2010-04-28 16:35:04](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't either. That's really scary.

**2010-04-28 10:56:00**

*Owl post*

My number for the owls today is even longer than my number yesterday. I wrote it down so I don't forget it, but I think I might have written it down wrong. Is there any way I can check it with someone?




 **alt\_ernie**

I suppose it's very fortunate that we have these journals, so even when we don't get picked for the owls we can still contact our families.

What was up with Lavender Brown at breakfast though? Why did she put her wand into the owl number? Does she know some spell to remember the number or something, or was she trying to change it? She was cackling like crazy too, so she must have been up to something. If she's got a special spell for the numbers, I think we should all know what it is. It's only fair.



---

 **alt\_padma** at **2010-04-28 15:04:32**  
(no subject)


The numbers aren't supposed to change from day to day, MacMillan, who told you that? I think they're having you on.

As for Lavender...I'm not sure what she was about. Parvati tried to stop her, but she says she couldn't.

But then I heard someone say that after she took her wand away that table's sign kept changing - way too quickly for anyone to have sent their owls.

Um. I think if anyone sees Lavender they should try to get her to go to the, er, hospital wing.




 **alt\_ernie** at **2010-04-28 15:32:05**  
(no subject)

What? Are you sure? It was written on a piece of paper next to my breakfast plate .. oh wait. It must have been someone else's number from yesterday.

That would explain why it suddenly disappeared while I was writing it down. I better go and find my number from yesterday then.

I think Lavender definitely needs to go and see Madam Pomfrey. Maybe the stress of everything has got to her.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-28 15:38:53](#)**  
(no subject)

It's not stress, it's

Er. Nothing. Yeah, maybe it's stress.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:15:15](#)**  
(no subject)

MACMILLAN IS SPILLIN AND NOT TOO WILLIN!

**2010-04-28 11:22:00**

Wow

We just all got chunked out of Transfiguration!  
CarrProfessor Carrow was shouting at us and told us to get out, so we ran.




 [alt\\_ron](#)

He tried to Crucio Lavender, but she was leaping and rolling around so fast his spells didn't hit. Well, they did, but what they hit wasn't Lav. He blew a hole right through his door into the corridor!! And there were some tables that are mostly matchsticks now, though I'm not sure. That might have been one of Lav's spells did that. I got hit with a pot of ink--she was hurling ink pots everywhere! But I'm okay. And anywiz, when I got back to the common room, Bobolis had a charm for taking stains out that worked great. I've got a dirty great knot on my head, though, from where it hit me.

Oh, and the rats. Lav was throwing blasting hexes everywhere and some of them hit the cages and let out a load of his rats. That's actually why no one else got Crucio'd I guess because he was so busy trying to catch the rats before they could make for the hole in the door. I don't know if any of them escaped when we all ran for it, but I think he'd got most of them with summoning charms before that. Just. I didn't stay around to find out.



---

 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2010-04-28 15:40:49**  
(no subject)

She WHAT?

Oh. I hoped she wouldn't go to Transfiguration like that. Um. Is Parvati with her?

She needs the hospital wing.

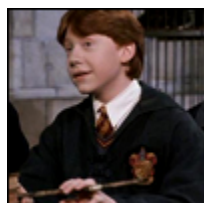
and maybe Professor Carpenter




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-28 15:58:34](#)  
(no subject)

Lavender was just in the Potions dungeon. She didn't have Parvati with her, or at least I didn't see Parvati.

I think you're right about needing the hospital wing.  
What is making her act like this?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-28 16:12:01](#)  
(no subject)


I don't know. She was saying stuff, and it was all rhymes, y'know. Like naughty limericks and stuff. Oh, and, heh.

She was singing to Professor Carrow like she was taunting him, you know.

You're Carrow, not Pharaoh, you great fat wheelbarrow!

Huh. It's a lot funnier now than it was then!



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-28 16:16:52](#)  
(no subject)

She was trying to help us. Me and Parvati, I mean. And the Aurors.

But it didn't work.


Or it worked too well.

Um.

I have to stop him. Her! Stop her.






 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:07:03](#)**  
(no subject)


No. Parvati's up here in Gryffindor crying like mad.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:13:30](#)**  
(no subject)

WEASLEY IS MEASLY AND KIND OF SNEEZILY!




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:14:21](#)**  
(no subject)

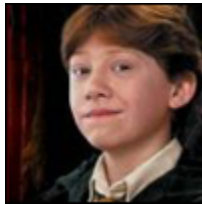
Um. Lav?


Where are you right now?



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:17:32](#)**  
(no subject)

WOULDNT YOU LIKE TO KNOW, BO?




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:24:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Er.

Hey, Peeves!!

Why don't you go Down to the Kitchens and give the elves a hand? Think of all those cauldrons and trays. And the food!!




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-28 17:20:41](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, NO! Don't go to the kitchens! That'd be *just awful*.

Especially if you spoiled our pudding! I'd cry.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-28 17:27:23](#)  
(no subject)

I was just thinking that then they'd know where to look for her, er, him. And they'd be able to catch him. But he stopped writing.

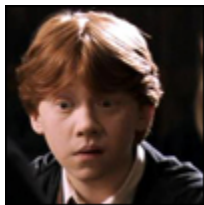
I wonder if he threw Lavender's journal away somewhere?


That'd be bad.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-28 17:31:38](#)  
(no subject)

I know, silly. I was trying the same thing.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-28 17:33:25](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, huh.


Yeah, okay.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-28 18:13:22](#)  
(no subject)

Well, if she threw her journal away, it doesn't much matter any road.




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:16:36](#)**  
(no subject)

Brown.

Tell me exactly where you are right this moment.  
And then stay there so I can come collect you.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:17:33](#)**  
(no subject)

It's no good, Sandoval. She won't stay put.


She's not actually Lavender at the moment. I don't think.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:22:58](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry. What?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:28:09](#)**  
(no subject)

She's


Oh, Sandoval, I

Lavender thought she could find out more information for us, you know, because we weren't hearing anything about it. And she's been coming over all funny with feelings - sort of , visions, maybe? - and she thought as she's taking Divination next year she'd just read up on it now, and see if she couldn't do something to help find out what's happening. Yow know, like how the Aurors looking for Sanji took his lunch sack to a Diviner?

Only it went wrong. Or maybe it went too well. Because Peeves....

We have to get him out. Does Professor Carpenter know how to stop a possession?




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:31:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, for goodness sake.


I've got Moran, and I'm sending Darst for Professor Carpenter. We're meeting all the other Prefects outside the Great Hall in minute and we're going to find her. If you're not with her now, would you please meet us there?



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-28 17:21:30](#)**  
(no subject)


I'd check the kitchens first.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:17:51](#)**  
(no subject)

SANDOVAL SANDOVAL WONT GIVE HER A HAND-OVAL




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-28 17:25:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Ouch. I'm sorry to hear about your head.

And I don't blame you for sticking around. That sounds *mental*. All of it.

At least nothing caught on fire this time.



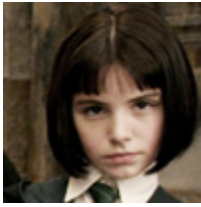
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 17:31:43](#)**  
(no subject)


Yeah, and it's not me Carrow wants to skin.

At least I don't think so. I mean I wasn't doing anything but wiping ink out of my eyes and ducking

hexes.

And, yeah, running like anything when he said Go!




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-28 17:34:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Haha, yeah, I would too!

Do you need to see Madame Pomphrey?




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-28 17:36:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Um, no. I'm all right.

But I can still hear Parvati crying and crying and I wish somebody'd take her. She's up in the girl's dormitory, so none of us can really do anything about it.

Where are all the girls when you need them? I mean, when you don't, they're all over like a pack of glittery, giggly flies.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-28 18:13:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Um.


If you need, I can come over and you can let me in.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-28 18:16:55](#)**  
(no subject)


I'll just make my way over there.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-28 18:14:19](#)  
(no subject)

And I'm pretty sure I don't glitter.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-28 18:44:49](#)  
(no subject)

Ha! Yeah, I just-- No, of course, you don't glitter.  
You're not a

You're not that kind of girl. You know what I mean.

Anywiz, yeah. I'll let you in.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-28 20:26:45](#)  
(no subject)

No need to worry, Ron.

The reason you can't find any girls is cause they're all up here. Well, not all, but Bell and Bundy and Dames and your little sister and some other people. So it's okay.

I might head back down in a few. They looked at me really weirdly when Bundy opened the door to see who it was, but they're being nice about it.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-28 21:36:13](#)  
(no subject)

Wait.

You went up to Gryffindor?

Well, that's just

Anyway, tell Parvati we're supposed to go to the Headmistress' office. Sandoval's waiting to take us there.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-28 21:45:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, yeah.

We're outside now, I only went up real fast to make sure she wasn't alone, because Ron heard crying and couldn't go up the stairs without setting off alarms. So he needed a girl to check on her, and couldn't find any around. It's sort of funny, though, because the reason he couldn't find any was because they were mostly all there in the room any road. So I didn't really hang around.

But Dames was up there keeping an eye on the journals, so she'll probably read this and tell her to come down.

**2010-04-28 12:04:00**

*I HAVE A LAV!*

A LAV! A LAV!

WHICH IS BETTER THAN A LOO! WHOO-HOO!

TAKE THAT MYRTLE!

BUBBLES! BUBBLES! POP POP POP!

LOOK AT ALL THOSE FACES DROP!

PROFESSOR SLUGHORN LOOKS LIKE A WIGLORN  
PROFESSOR CARROW IS BIGGER THAN A SPARROW  
HEADMISTRESS MCGONAGALL GOES ON-AND-ONAGALL

WHEEE!


PEEVES IS FREE!

CAN'T CATCH ME!




 [alt\\_lavender](#)



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-28 16:14:16](#)  
(no subject)

GIVE HER BACK!!!



 [alt\\_lavender](#) at [2010-04-28 16:16:02](#)  
(no subject)

SHANT AND YOU CANT


MAKE ME

HEE HEE

PATIL PATIL LOOKS LIKE A SEAL





 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:30:06](#)**


*(no subject)*

THAT DOESN'T EVEN RHYME!

STOP IT!

STOP RIGHT NOW!



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:18:32](#)**

*(no subject)*

Peeves!

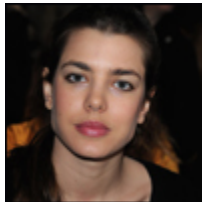
You're to stop right this instant! Leave that poor girl alone or I promise you, you'll regret it!




 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:19:29](#)**

*(no subject)*

REGRET REGRET YOU'RE ALL WET!



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:26:29](#)**

*(no subject)*

Stop this instant!



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-28 16:27:45](#)**


*(no subject)*

Peeves. PEEVES?

Well, that answers my 'who on earth would act like this' question rather neatly.


I didn't know Peeves could do this. Can he do this to anyone? Why did he pick on Lavender?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2010-04-28 16:46:12](#)  
(no subject)

None of us knew. How deplorable.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2010-04-28 17:17:04](#)  
(no subject)

Well, this puts things into perspective. I guess it could have been a lot worse.

Have they found her yet? I hope she doesn't hurt herself. Or, rather, that Peeves hurts her.

He is a little monster. He spend a solid hour *giggling* outside the second-floor loo last month, and I didn't want to leave until he'd gone.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-28 21:29:40](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think he can, normally.

But we - well, that is Lav - oh, it's just that she tried something, but her idea went wrong.

And now we're being called up to the Headmistress' office - when it's not her *fault* that he took over her body!

**2010-04-28 17:39:00**

*(no subject)*

Barty, Lucius just owed to say that he'll be dining with Peakes, Evan and Fleet this evening, so I'm unexpectedly at loose ends for supper.



 **alt\_narcissa**

Do you mind terribly if I were to come and see Regulus? I've no idea of your plans, but if you wished to avoid the convalescent, you'd be able to go without any worry that he's alone.

---



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-28 22:03:42**

*(no subject)*

You're welcome to go by, Narcissa. Of course.

I'll tell the elf to plan on your staying for supper.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-29 02:45:03**

*(no subject)*

Well, I had no idea I would be treated to dinner theatre, Barty.

Is that a ... typical occurrence or was it just for my entertainment? If the latter, I think you fell rather short of the mark. And if the former, then I think we really ought to speak further. I should like to know if you concur with my assessment re: your houseguest.




 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-29 03:25:27**

*(no subject)*

Narcissa. I am sorry it was such a melodrama. You shouldn't have had to see that. I- we should speak about him, you're very right.

Is there a time you'd suggest?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-29 03:40:18](#)  
(no subject)

I'm far less concerned with what I had to see than the situation it represents.

If nothing else, I'm afraid I'm honour-bound to take the family side if it comes to resolving a dispute with wands drawn. Were I not certain that your actions were motivated by concern on his behalf, I should wonder whether you *meant* to teach him a lesson of your own. Of course, that's absurd, I know.

As for a time to meet, I don't like to delay, but I'm afraid tomorrow is simply impossible. I could manage luncheon on Friday, if my time at *Witch Weekly* doesn't run over.

Would that suit you?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-04-29 03:50:25](#)  
(no subject)

Mid-day is difficult, I'm afraid. I could be more certain of a promise for late-afternoon tea.

But perhaps it's not a matter that requires meeting at all. You weren't privy to the whole of it, and I presume you agree with me that it was not in his interest to take himself off to Windsor tonight. He was in no state to make any but a disastrous decision for himself. I apologise if what was required to bring him to see sense upset you, but I'm sure you're well aware not only of his headstrong moments, but also what his melancholy sometimes brings him to. It's not a simple thing to be Regulus's friend; certainly it's not a friend's part to allow him to do himself harm.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2010-04-29 04:18:32](#)  
(no subject)

I certainly do agree with your motivation, dear boy, as well as with the temptation at times to knock sense into his head. If you think I wish merely to upbraid you for your methods, you quite mistake me.


It is more the state of mind to which you refer that concerns me. He has always been moody, I know, but I must say it has been some time since I have seen him so low in spirits. I think you know just how long.

Lucius believes it is a matter of his frustration at continually finding himself in poor standing - but however is he to improve himself if he only mopes? I try to encourage him as necessary and give him the latitude he seems to need to approach his lot more philosophically. But it seems despite the effort, he has sunk lower. Perhaps my husband is right and more stringent measures - less *indulgence* - would convince him to take the initiative he needs to truly rise in Our Lord's esteem, for the long-term.

Well.

Tea ought to be fine - in fact, better for me, as well. Shall we say four o'clock?




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-29 05:06:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Whatever Barty has done to keep Regulus at Marlborough, it was surely the best course for him, my dear.

I did not wish to distress you further, nor had I much opportunity to write between Court and my supper with Peakes (which went well, by the way), but I learned this afternoon that Our Lord is not pleased with your cousin at present. It seems he took a rather unprecedented amount of - initiative, I suppose one might call it - but in a direction entirely contrary to His expectations. Had he presented himself at Windsor in anything less than complete possession of his faculties, I am sure he would have received far worse treatment than any friendly drubbing Barty could have afforded him.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-28 22:49:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I thought we'd agreed you've been spending too much time cossetting him, my love.

Were Bella and Rodolphus unavailable?



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-04-28 22:55:36](#)**  
(no subject)

I have no intention of cossetting him, husband. That does not mean I shall be prevented from satisfying my intuition.

And no, Rodolphus had something come up; Bella would rather spend the time at the office.

**2010-04-28 18:55:00**

*Ugh.*

I *hate* waking up in the Hospital Wing!

Not that it's happened to me often, but when it does it's never Pleasant.



 **alt\_lavender**


Apparently being possessed is really exhausting. Not to mention embarrassing.

Padma, Parvati, I'm so sorry--I didn't mean to make things worse. You know I was just trying to help, right?

And I didn't even *get* anything. I tried as hard as I could, I promise, but I didn't See anything at all, just floated around the castle.

~~I want to crawl in a h~~



 **alt\_poppy** at **2010-04-28 23:17:10**  
(no subject)

Miss Brown. Our arrangement was that you would have one quiet half hour to work on your Charms homework for tomorrow and that we would then see how well you are holding up. If you are not feeling up to that exercise, then I really must insist that you take the sleeping draught I have prepared for you and get the rest you need.

It was a rash, dangerous thing you did today, attempting an advanced Divination practice without having had a single lesson in the subject. You are very lucky we did not lose you entirely to the four winds.

Now. No more foolishness in these pages.




 **alt\_lavender** at **2010-04-28 23:22:14**  
(no subject)

Yes, Madame Pomfrey. I'll finish my revising right away.

It would have been worth it, though, if it had really worked.




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-29 00:09:48](#)**  
(no subject)

No, it wouldn't have. It wouldn't have mattered, Lavender.

And it would have been much worse if you'd never come back, too.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-29 14:36:26](#)**  
(no subject)

What do you mean, it wouldn't have been...

...oh.

Padma, I'm sorry.

I'm so, so sorry.

Are they letting you go home to be with your mum and dad?




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-29 01:26:58](#)**  
(no subject)

What you did was really brave.

I'm sorry about Peeves. No one blames you for what he did while he was in your body.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-04-29 14:38:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks, Perks. I appreciate it.



**2010-04-28 20:09:00**

*Belinda,*

Can you collect my homework assignments for the rest of the week? And most of next? And take notes too? (Linus and Morag, you too?)



 **alt\_padma**

We're home for a while. I just came upstairs for a bit because everyone's all over the house and my aunts are crying and Dad's

Well, it's sort of crazy here. I needed some quiet.

I thought the Headmistress maybe wanted to talk to us about what Lavender tried, you know, estral projection.

But it was much worse.

They....

They found Sanji. This morning, I guess.

Well, not *found*, exactly. I mean, yes, someone *found* him, but because he'd been left to find.

I have to go back downstairs in a few minutes. I think Parvati's going to sneak up here for a bit, too, when she can.

It's just hard to believe.

I really miss him.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-29 01:08:24**  
(no subject)

Oh, no.

I was hoping

I am so, so sorry, Padma.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-29 01:30:07](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I was really hoping I was wrong, and that he'd be found alive.

I heard from Siobhan, his body was left somewhere this morning. I don't know if MLE was able to tell right away how he died.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-04-29 02:12:55](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It's really really horrible. But

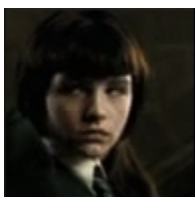
how could this happen? I mean, he was just a little boy



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-04-29 15:11:16](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I know. Padma Patil's awful, but I wouldn't wish this on any family.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2010-04-29 01:35:39](#)**

*(no subject)*

me too. That's awful.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-29 02:54:14](#)**

*Order Only*

Oh, *Mordred*.

BUGGER.

Bill, Arthur ...? What's the word round the Ministry? Have they released what they think happened to the child?



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-04-29 14:23:47](#)

*Re: Order Only*

They haven't told me, whatever they think.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-29 15:09:41](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Minerva, did you see what that beast Amycus Carrow just wrote to the girl?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2010-04-29 15:42:56](#)

*Re: Order Only*

His body was in really bad shape. The family is still going head to head with the authorities about allowing an autopsy, so I don't know many of the details. What I do know would turn anybody's

stomach

I got wind of an eyewitness account, of someone who was present when the body was brought in. Preliminary indications are that cruciatus was involved, and they used other torture on the poor kid, too. He was just about bled out when he died. There's no evidence that he was held by, um, a pederast. For whatever small crumb of comfort that might be for the family--although of course, nobody's openly talking about that.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2010-04-29 13:02:07](#)


*(no subject)*

Padma,

You're not to worry about things here at school. We're collecting your assignments and compiling copies of your classmates' notes--I suspect it's the best revision some of them have done all year. Let me know if there's anything else you need.

Our thoughts are with you and your family.



 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-29 13:08:55](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, I know Professors Vector and McGonagall said that we wouldn't be held to account for anything we miss, it's just...

It's something else to do. To think about.

~~It's been so awful~~

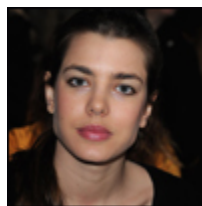
But we'll manage. Thanks.




 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-29 13:46:01](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. I forgot to say, they might send us back to school sooner than ten days. They're arguing about whether we should count Sunday as the first day (because the Healers determined he was...that he died sometime around then) or not start counting until Wednesday, because that's when he...came back to us.

But I dunno what they'll decide. Dad's really angry about it. I've never seen him so upset.




 **alt\_lana** at [2010-04-29 14:55:32](#)  
(no subject)

I'm so very sorry. Especially that there's uncertainty or disagreement about how to proceed. I hope that whatever decision your parents come to, the time at home will help you all.


We will be very glad to see you whenever you return, and I'm very sorry we, your friends, can't come and pay our respects in person.



 **alt\_draco** at [2010-04-29 14:14:41](#)  
(no subject)

It's all really unfair, Padma. I don't blame your Father one bit for being angry, I would be too. Have they told you anything more about what happened to him?



 **alt\_padma** at [2010-04-29 14:24:29](#)  
(no subject)


Yeah, Auror Zuckerman has been coming to the house every day; she's very nice and I think she really hates having to tell us this stuff.

They said that he'd been tortured, Draco. They think someone used him in a ritual of some kind, but no one knows why or what. And then they killed him.

But the thing is that they waited three days to bring his body back. And then they didn't even give him back properly, they took him to a funeral home, like they just wanted someone to bury him or put him in a mausoleum, and none of the *antysti* had been observed or even started - he hadn't been cleaned properly or placed correctly, and we don't know if he had a lamp burning over him or not. And that's why Dad's so upset, I think. He thinks Sanji's soul can't go to Shiva, because no respect was paid right afterwards.

I probably shouldn't be talking about this, but I know you'd understand. At least when your mudblood got killed, they said it was instantly and painlessly. He and Sanji were about the same age, and Sanji was pureblooded. Why would anyone want him to die like that?



 **alt\_draco** at [2010-04-29 14:30:54](#)  
(no subject)


That's terrible. Please give your family condolences from my whole family, will you?

I don't know why anyone would do that to Sanji, except that they must hate purebloods and want us all to be afraid.

I don't know much about Shiva, but I'm sure that he understands

that these were special circumstances and it wasn't anyone's fault that respect wasn't paid right away.




 [alt\\_amycus](#) at [2010-04-29 15:06:37](#)  
(no subject)

Because it was useful, of course. At least whoever killed the brat took pride in his work.


Malfoy's mudblood's death could have used a touch more artistry. I do regret that.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-29 15:12:29](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oh for ONCE I hope MLE is reading the journals, for ONCE. What a horrid thing to say. Is he admitting he murdered Dennis? But what a cruel thing to say to Padma.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2010-04-29 15:44:09](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It's probably because it IS cruel that he said it.

Merlin, I can't believe they still let him teach here.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-29 15:51:55](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Did you see what Mr Malfoy said to him?

I think Mr Malfoy's hated him for years, though, and even though he's a school governor

Carrow's still teaching here.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-04-29 15:43:41](#)  
(no subject)


Carrow, you would do well not to compound the family's grief with your callous observations, nor further embed yourself in suspicion. One in your *precarious* position ought to practise more discretion.

But thank you, certainly, for providing another clear example to those who remain unconvinced of your total unsuitability for any kind of appointment relative to education. I have long believed your ... talents ... better put to 'usefulness,' as you say, in an arena where your savagery is a boon, rather than a bludgeon.

Miss Patil, pray ignore your erstwhile professor and his sickening remarks.

I can only echo Draco's wish that you and your family weather this tragic event as well as could be expected. It is a dreadful thing to lose one so young, and under such traumatic circumstances. Mrs Malfoy and I both extend our heartfelt sympathies to you all. Though it is cold comfort, I am sure that the MLE are doing all in their power to bring his murderer to justice.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2010-04-29 15:50:12](#)  
(no subject)


Thank you, Mr Malfoy.

Oh, Mr Malfoy, I'm so sorry about last week and Pansy and everything! I didn't mean anything bad about you, sir, honest I didn't, and not even really about Pansy. I don't know why I said those things. They were hateful and horrid and wrong.

But thank you for being so kind.






 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-29 15:59:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Please don't trouble yourself about that, young lady.

It's hardly the worst rumour I've heard about myself. And as for your conflict with Pansy - my wife is a very astute woman and can tell stories of fast friendships begun through similar feuds, as can my sister. Between them I understand that in young women, your rivalry may be considered something of a rite of passage.

I hope that such will be the case between you two, and that you both find a bond where before there was growing animosity. Indeed, I believe you two have much to bring you together, especially in light of common loss and new-found understanding of each others' vulnerability.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-29 16:04:23](#)**  
(no subject)

This is so awful Padma.

I'm so sorry.

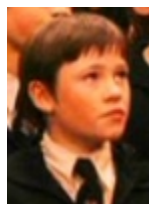



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-29 20:16:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.

Thanks, Seamus.

Are you doing okay? Parvati said you weren't feeling well a while ago.




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-29 20:30:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm okay, don't worry about me. You've got enough -- I mean you shouldn't be worrying about anyone else right now.






 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2010-04-29 20:31:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Anyway Mr Rosier sent me a letter, he said it wasn't any sort muggles who did this so it definitely wasn't Irish muggles.

That made me feel better, knowing that.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-29 18:49:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Merlin Padma.


Was it awfully bad??



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2010-04-29 18:50:13](#)**  
(no subject)

I mean I'm really sorry. I just was wondering. I hope it was quick. I suppose that's what I mean.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2010-04-29 20:03:12](#)**  
(no subject)

No, it wasn't. Not at all.

If you really want to know, Haruman's been putting updates in his journal for people. He's home from work, obviously, but he wants my parents to authorise an autopsy and I think he wants to be there when they do it, but Mum and Dad said that Sanji suffered enough already and that it's been four days and they just want to move on with the *antysti* and not put everyone through all that.


And Mr Ashton-Scripps, the owner of the parlour where they found Sanji, he came over personally to see Mum and Dad, and Dad nearly threw him out. He has had wand out and everything. It was *horrid*. He said that no limey funeral home could be trusted to observe the rites properly, and that Sanji didn't even have his head facing the right direction when they laid him out. And Mr Ashton-Scripps said he certainly hoped none of us thought any of his

people had anything to do with that, it was how they found him. Like, someone came in after hours and arranged him. I guess they thought he'd look peaceful that way. Well, as peaceful as he *could* be, considering. But it really wasn't, because nothing was done right. Or well, it was done the way someone would do it who didn't know the Hindu way, you know?

Anyway, everyone's just really tired, here, I think, and we all need to get him back so we can do what we need to do. Uncle Kapoor is making arrangements for the pyre, it'll be in the park near one of the millponds. And I guess Aunt Sivarti is donating her father's funeral jewels and his wand, and all. So things are sort of moving forward.

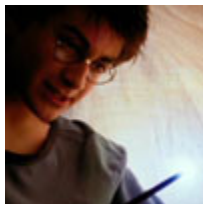
It's just. Mum and Dad seem kind of stuck. And that's hard. Haruman's really doing a lot. I guess it's a little easier for him, being a Healer. But I just wish they'd all stop arguing and just do it. It sounds awful, but I think it'll be easier once it's all over.




 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2010-04-29 20:33:03](#)  
(no subject)

I looked at Haruman's journal.

I rather wish I hadn't. Merlin Padma it's really as awful as it could possibly be.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2010-04-29 21:13:30](#)  
(no subject)

I'm really sorry Padma. I suppose I don't know how Hindus do funerals. I actually don't think I've ever been to a funeral. Well, nobody I really knew. But a lot of things are easier once they're over.

I think I sounded really mean before. That isn't what I meant. I suppose I don't know what you are supposed to say. I mean what one is supposed to say. Father hates it when I say 'you' and mean 'one.' But you know what I mean.



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:52:20](#)**  
(no subject)

That's dreadful.  
Someone ought to pay.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-04-29 20:44:26](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


People have been talking about this all day. There are people checking Haruman's journal so even if I wanted to avoid the details I couldn't because they won't stop talking about it. It must have been a wizard because the person who did it used cruciatus and so of course people have speculated.

A few people have discussed -- quietly -- whether the Patils were involved in something they shouldn't have been, and if this was to punish them. I mean, Carrow seems to think that's it, but it doesn't make any sense, not considering what Padma's like. If the Patils were being punished, it means that people can follow all the rules and do EVERYTHING right and be purebloods and still be punished.

Of course some people have suggested Black. Sirius, I mean. Or someone 'in league with Black.' So I just have to say this here.

If they end up saying it was Sirius Black who did this, it means they know who did it, and it's someone they want to protect. It means the person who killed Sanji has a Dark Mark, because they're the only people powerful enough to commit a crime like that and have MLE cover up for them. I don't care what they say, I don't believe for a minute, not for one tenth of a second, that Sirius Black would torture a little boy.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:12:36](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I don't believe he would either. Anyway, if he would, he would've done it to Harry a long time ago. You know, he's been writing to Harry for a long time now. I don't think that the Lord Protector knows, and I suppose I shouldn't have told all of you, but what I mean is, if he really wanted to kill someone, there are ever so many ways he

could've done it, and I don't believe he did it, and I think you're right, Sally-Anne.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-29 22:39:50](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Sirius Black writes to Harry?

And Harry hasn't told his father?

Does Harry write back?



 [alt\\_lavender](#) at [2010-04-29 20:54:37](#)

*(no subject)*

Whatever Madame Pomfrey dosed me with was really strong.

I've just caught up on the journals...

Oh, Padma.

I wish I could be there with you and Parvati, just to keep you company and maybe take your mind off things a bit.

Would it help to talk about Sanji, or would you rather not?


I remember the first time I was allowed over to visit, right after he was born.



 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2010-04-29 22:14:16](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm so sorry Padma. Please tell Parvati too, and the rest of your family.



 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2010-04-30 00:32:40](#)**  
(no subject)

There are so many ways to say the wrong thing at a time like this. I don't want to do that. I'll just say that I'm glad you can be with your family.

**2010-04-28 20:27:00**

## *Letters*

My number came up this afternoon so I sent off some letters. The owl was pretty cross, I think it was tired, and he was extra cross because I was giving him a whole packet of letters instead of just one. I pointed out that we were sending four letters to one person and then the PERSON was going to deliver three of them to other houses and that would spare him (or one of the other owls) three flights but I'm not sure he found it very convincing. He did go in the end though.



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

I think Professor Carpenter finally caught up with Lavender in the Prefect's bathroom, Lavender wouldn't have been able to get in there on her own but I guess Peeves knew the password from eavesdropping. I heard Peeves turned on all the faucets and flooded everything and there were bubbles everywhere.

It was really brave of Lavender to try what she did. I had no idea Divination could be so dangerous.



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 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2010-04-29 02:08:16**


*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Ron and Neville, in all the excitement this afternoon I didn't see you so I wanted to let you know, our letters went out. It was while Pansy was up in Gryffindor. (I didn't know we were even ALLOWED to go in each other's houses but it sounds like there isn't actually a rule against it, it's just people hardly ever do and of course they need someone to let them in because of passwords and so on.)

I asked Pansy if a lion appeared to shout YOU ARE NOT ONE OF THE BRAVE AT HEART, GO BACK TO YOUR SNAKE DEN and she laughed and said no, but you lot really do have red everywhere.

Anyway our letters went out.



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-29 02:58:00](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah. You'd have thought I'd let a mantichore in and not just a friend.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2010-04-29 03:19:06](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well to be fair, you and Neville wouldn't be any more welcome in Slytherin than Pansy was in Gryffindor!



 **alt\_ron** at [2010-04-29 03:30:04](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah, I'd like to see the look on Malfoy's face if you ever did let me in. That'd be worth it twice over!



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2010-04-29 03:52:37](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It would probably look a lot like the look on your face if Finnigan let Draco into Gryffindor.



 **alt\_pansy** at [2010-04-29 02:44:43](#)

*(no subject)*

I hope Mrs Weasley is okay with delivering my letter to mum. Because they've never really met before, so it might be weird for her. Mrs Weasley, I mean.

But I'm glad it worked, and Ron and Neville got their letters off too.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-29 03:21:49](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think she'll mind.


I suppose she might be reading so: Mrs Weasley, I sent a packet of letters to you. There's one from Ron that's to you lot, but also one from Neville to his Gran, one from Pansy to her mum, and one from me to the Strettons, and we'd all really appreciate it if you'd deliver our letters. There's quite a shortage of owls here at the moment. I don't think the Strettons are anxious to hear from me so if you have to wait on that one it's fine.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2010-04-30 02:31:16](#)  
(no subject)

I got the owl today, dear. What a clever solution to the shortage of owls! I will make sure that all of the letters get delivered.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2010-04-30 19:23:09](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks, Mum.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2010-04-30 20:54:28](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you very much, Mrs Weasley.

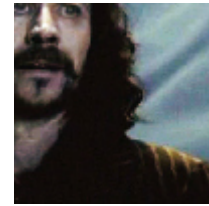


**2010-04-29 16:18:00**

*Order Only: Never Rains But it Pours*

Bugger all.

Y'know I said not to worry, about the figure I thought I saw on Saturday?



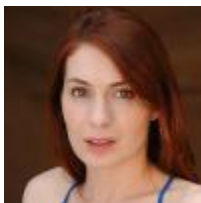
 **alt\_sirius**

Well, you can start worrying. He was back at today's match. This time I caught him earlier in the day, as I was looking for anything suspicious. He was definitely paying close attention to me in particular, and again, not in an 'I've got to talk to Mr Cullenden' way. Then, just at the end of the post-game, I distinctly saw him raise his left sleeve and grip his left forearm, like he was touching a Dark Mark to report in.


I've told the commissioners here that I think I have a stalker and that I'm going to have to beg off Monday's match. If there's a chance I'm wrong, then I don't want Nigel's cover completely blown, so they're going to give out that I've just got laryngitis and I'll be back for Friday's tournament-closer. But in the meantime, I'll nip back to the homestead to make sure it's still secure.

Oh, I'm also going to dash off contingency orders to Marguerite so that she can help cover my tracks for us. Fatima's pretty close; I can plan a course of action with her on the way back to Monaco. If nothing else, I'll want a ready supply of cash so that they can't track me using Nigel's line of credit, and we'll want to obfuscate his presence on Laszlo's books so as not to mess with the import operation.

Moony, I've not forgot about your potion. There's more on the way - same supplier (so same disguise).




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 **alt\_alice** at **2010-04-29 21:12:05**  
(no subject)

Shit.


Please be careful, Sirius.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:12:32](#)**  
(no subject)

little pitchers, Al



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:14:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Hermione.

But still!


Why must all these things happen at once?



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:18:17](#)**  
(no subject)

It's all right, I mean, I know I'm not supposed to say it, but I think it an awful lot lately. I promise you haven't rubbed off on me too badly.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:21:16](#)**  
(no subject)

things have been a little nutty on your side of the pitch, haven't they?

at least you're not in the cross-fire, like last term.

how've you been, kid? haven't heard a lot from you lately. not that it's bad, it's just good to know you're still keeping up.




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:31:27](#)**  
(no subject)

I've been all right. Harry got worried after everything, because I'm practically the only Mudblood left in the school, so he keeps me with him a lot more than he used to. Which is okay, I mean, I'd rather be with him and safe than maybe getting hurt by whatever is in the castle. But it also means I don't get to

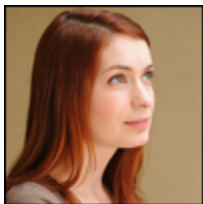
spend a lot of time writing on my own and I don't like writing to you all in front of Harry very much. And there doesn't seem to be much to write about otherwise, I mean, people used to get so angry with me for backchat when I wrote.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:52:54](#)**  
(no subject)

yeah, I figured it was something like that. must be tough without Terry around.


but it's good he's treating you all right, and you're keeping safe and all. and that Malfoy ponce, he isn't running you off your feet too much now that he doesn't have someone all his own to boss around?



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:17:08](#)**  
(no subject)

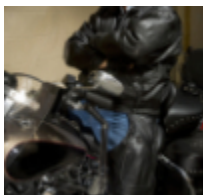
And you're one to talk.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:13:35](#)**  
(no subject)

but yeah, watch yourself, mate. leaving in a hurry makes it more likely you'll leave something behind.

I know you're careful, but take the extra minute to look things over before you take off.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:20:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Right, Frank.

It's hard to imagine after so many years of being well-buried. I guess once the journals came in it was a matter of time.

I do hope it wasn't anything I said somewhere, tipping them off. Or anyone I've - well, no use worrying about all that. If it's so, it's so.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:23:00](#)**  
(no subject)

it's worth it to do an additional check for tracking charms on your stuff too.

those little buggers can be on a coin or something. so a quick scan won't do it, and if they can tell where you've gone to, you won't know till they're right there.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-29 21:32:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Now you tell me.

Right. If I find anything out of place or disturbed, I'll leave it as-is. It'd take too long to go through ten years of accumulated stuff.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 22:00:35](#)**  
(no subject)


you can always do a secondary check once you're on the move, just to make sure.

tracking charms activate as soon as you move more than about a kilometre, and if you apparate a long distance, they really go bonkers. but they're not exact, especially if you're walking, so you've got about three minutes give or take.

if I were you, I'd take what matters, apparate somewhere, take two minutes to check over your stuff, and keep moving until you're sure you've checked it all.


and since they're all idiots nowadays, you can always lose them by apparating, walking a little under a kilometre, waiting a minute or two, then walking again. because they're going to think you'll apparate everywhere and won't be looking for someone just walking, and tracking charms don't know how to respond if you move slowly like that. if it's a populated enough area, might be worth a try.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 22:02:01](#)**  
(no subject)

if they've got a tracking charm on you, that is.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-29 22:08:23](#)**  
(no subject)

and if you do walk, take some left turns.  
because most people don't when they have to  
decide quick where to go.


I'll leave off now, you've got enough to do.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-04-30 00:37:29](#)**  
(no subject)

All good advice.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-30 14:28:02](#)**  
(no subject)

we've certainly spent enough time on both  
sides of things, haven't we?


funny thing is, I think we'd be better Aurors  
now than we used to, we've had to come up with so many  
ways to work around the system the last couple of years.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2010-04-29 22:03:39](#)**  
(no subject)


Thank you. Do be careful, though. This all sounds very  
worrying.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2010-04-29 23:14:10](#)  
(no subject)

...



 [alt\\_arthur](#) at [2010-04-30 00:36:34](#)  
(no subject)

Definitely keep us all apprised, Sirius. Good luck.

**2010-04-29 20:22:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


What Carrow said to Patil. He admitted he killed Malfoy's servant, didn't he? That's as much as saying he's the one who petrified all of them, too.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

If we could just figure out how to prove it, then they'd have no choice but to sack him. Maybe arrest him, even. But I don't know what we can do.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2010-05-01 02:41:22**  
(no subject)

I've been thinking about it all day long. I really wish we could hit on a way to prove it, but I dunno what the grownups would count as solid evidence.

But it sure looks like people are noticing. I mean, look at what Mr Malfoy wrote to him.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2010-05-01 03:07:47**  
(no subject)

Yeah, but Sally Anne's right, it seems as though Mr Malfoy's never liked Carrow, but that hasn't helped. I mean he's one of the governors, right? And Carrow's still teaching.

I was thinking if we could get into his office, he seems like the sort who keeps notes. D'you remember how he used to make those lists of odd things in his journal? Well, when he stopped, I reckon it might be because he was writing that stuff down somewhere less public. If we could go through his cupboards, I bet we'd find something.

Just... I'm not sure when we could do it and not get caught.




 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2010-05-01 03:18:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Blimey, you're more of a Gryffindor than me, I reckon, if you're thinking about breaking into his office. I'd rather try to sneak past a dragon.

Surely there's something else we could do that wouldn't be quite so...suicidal.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2010-05-01 03:29:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I was thinking. He'll probably go to the Quidditch match tomorrow and so will everyone else. We could (or, okay, I could maybe) slip back in and see about getting into Carrow's office. Did you see whether he's got his door fixed yet or not? I heard someone say they thought the headmistress might be making him keep the hole in it for a while just to, y'know, make a point.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2010-05-01 04:21:25](#)**  
(no subject)

You are barking mad.

But just so you know, all I had to do to get into the classroom was alohomora on the lock. He's surely got better charms on his office, though.

I really don't think this is a good idea. First of all, if he did take notes, he probably used some sort of code for what he was doing, like when he babbles about pigeons, so you wouldn't be able to know for sure what he was saying. And even if you DID and brought it out, everyone would be furious that you broke into Carrow's office, enough that they might ignore what you found.



**2010-04-29 23:53:00**

**ORDER ONLY**



 [alt\\_alice](#)

I'm sitting here waiting rather anxiously for word from Sirius, and I figured while I was, I'd let everyone know how we were doing here at Moddey Dhoo. There has been so much cause for worry and close calls out there lately, but we're still quite cozy and safe (thank Merlin for that!) in our little corner of the world, and are working quite busily to prepare for John and Lucinda's trip to set up the new base camp for Sherwood.

As such, we've got several projects going, and John being John, he's given them all names. "Operation: Grow" is a four-part process. We're planting the standard rotation of crops for our little group at Moddey Dhoo, of course, but have also designated extra space in one of the greenhouses and plowed under another acre designated for Sherwood. We're going to nurture some seedlings for a starter garden up there for summer, provide seeds for fall and winter crops, and once things start coming up here, plan to process as much preserves that an acre can yield so they'll have some ready food for the mouths they're expecting to feed. In addition, Danny has managed to come up with a system for using one of our more rambunctious male goats as a stud (is that the right word for goats, I wonder? Well, he doesn't know either, but regardless, you get the point), so there will be a larger group of kids than usual in a few weeks that we can spare, and we've cut down on our egg and chicken consumption this month to get more chicks we can pass along as well.

Stephen's been in charge of "Operation Plunder," where we take trips out to villages we haven't mined yet for extra supplies the folks are going to need on hand and might not be able to look for at their leisure: water purifiers and filters, soap and other sundries, clothes, linens, towels, and even mattresses. We've moved a shed to the grounds to store everything, so when the time comes it'll all be in one place.

John and Lucinda have really been working extraordinarily hard to do their usual duties, manage this extra work load, and plan for what's needed in the months ahead - as many adult hands as can be spared makes the work go faster, and there is so much to do before they can truly go. John has already been out once or twice with Davidson to look at various sites that might suit, but they haven't found one yet to their liking. Once the Muggle camps open up, Sherwood will most

likely have to vacate where they are at the moment and get rid of any obvious evidence that they wintered there, so there is a bit of a push to find a place they can go next, as the epidemic appears to be truly coming to an end.

And of course, while we've been busy as bees (and our bees are fairly busy right now as well!), dear Judith and Jacinda and Laura have been most helpful with the children, working extra hours to make up for the rest of us -at the end of a day when you've been doing hard work out of doors all you want to do is eat and sleep, and they've been so good about answering to those late-night nightmares, getting the lunch meal ready when Victor is busy working elsewhere, and providing things the children can do when they're not in lessons so they won't be underfoot. When the sun is out, the weather is just wonderful, and often it's enough to let them loose outside to run around for a few hours before dinner. The older children have really taken the Memorial garden to task, and have begun going on supervised excursions with Stephen to nearby forests to pick out seedlings and young trees to dig up and transplant, and have staked out where they want to place things in the plot we've designated. Colin spent ages poring over botany books to find the perfect tree for his brother, and last I heard, he's settled on a dogwood.

When Stephen isn't planning the garden with the children, or teaching them, or working in the fields with us, he's burning a candle into the evening in his "lab" trying to "reverse-engineer" the little bit of potion he got his hands on. I honestly don't think the man sleeps at all. He thinks he's been able to isolate the main ingredients, but the secondary ones are giving him some trouble, and then there's the actual order of things as well.

And the boat! Kingsley, Ben, Danny, and Victor had a find the other day while on Operation Plunder - a giant stack of treated lumber. So they're all pleased as punch, and the boat itself (from what I've seen) is looking quite impressive. I'll let Kingsley speak to the details.

As you can tell, we've got several dozen things going on at once. And it's largely due to the Players wintering with us, and lending us a much-needed hand. It's a true blessing, and I'm grateful for them every day.

Sirius, love, I feel for you, and I remember how awful it is to be on the run, especially with everything else happening all at the same time. But you do tend to land on your feet, which will serve you well. I hope you'll not take any extraordinary risks in the process, because if you


do, I'm sure that Poppy and I will track you down and beat you silly. Identities can be re-established and possessions can be bought again, but you can never be replaced, love.

And please promise me you'll get something to eat if you can. You never know when you'll have to go a while without settling down, and I've had many a moment back when Frank and I were hand to mouth where I'd wished I'd taken the opportunity to get a sandwich for later. I don't need to remind you of that week Frank was pinned down in Scotland and had nothing but a packet of crisps and some toffee on him, now, do I?

Be safe, be smart, and don't be predictable. Let us know once you believe yourself to be in the clear. And even if you believe you are safe, assume you aren't, at least for a little. As Moody says, Constant Vigilance! It's certainly served me and Frank well.

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 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2010-04-30 12:44:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Allie. I'm about halfway back.

Don't worry, I'll remember all Frank's advice, if it comes to that. I'll even Apparate - if I have to do - though I'm not sure I'll be able to take quick hops like Frank recommended. Well, I know I *can*, but. Blergh. I don't fancy Apparation as a method to induce vomiting. Can't be helped.

I'll leave the bike in the next village over and come up to the house as Padfoot.

Look, all of you, don't fret if you don't hear from me for a few days. I'll try to write, but you all know that if it's the worst-case, running for a bit will be much more important than sitting by the road writing in here.


I did catch up this morning with the Patil situation and of course Alice's report, here. Love, I think it's marvellous how you're crafting Moddey Dhoo into an oasis of sanity in what seems to be an increasingly insane country. I don't know what to say except that John's plans with Davidson to get more people out of the camps can't start soon enough, if you ask me. But still, that's really just a sticking plaster on the problem, isn't it?

If I weren't more concerned with my own situation at the moment (and I don't think any of you would disagree with me that my priority should be here for now), I'd be tempted to provide a little Grim Truth to people - try to give them some perspective on what's happened. Trouble is, I think the truth of this incident is already pretty grim on its own, and I'm terribly concerned that if I were to post, two things would happen. First, they'd simply turn it round and blame me for the murder. And second ... well, second, he'll simply be forced to do something as like to kill him as anyone else around him.

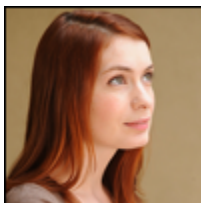
I don't know.


Anyway, I'll definitely scribble a note to say 'All's well' if it is, and I'll try to update you even if it isn't. But don't sit up waiting tonight, right? I'll be fine.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-30 14:21:29](#)**  
(no subject)

ah, the good old days.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-30 14:31:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Certainly not!

It reminds me, though -- we should talk to Arabella about adjusting our safety drills this month now we're all more scattered about.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2010-04-30 14:34:50](#)**  
(no subject)

right. good idea.

and we'll have to do it again once John and Luce leave too, sort out how we'll handle the nursery. but it'll be easier with Jacinda helping any road, because she's got a wand on her.

when is lunch? you got me thinking on food, and now I'm hungry.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2010-04-30 14:35:49](#)**  
(no subject)

You can always pop in the kitchens and help Laura get lunch started, I'm sure there'll be odds and ends enough to tie you over.

**2010-04-30 15:21:00**

*Barty*

Barty, I've only just realised that the *Brasserie* is still on limited hours owing to the travel restrictions.



 **alt\_narcissa**

There's a new spot I heard of from Mrs Warrington - it's near Russell Square Gardens. *Katyenka*, it's called. They set both English and Russian teas and I'm told they serve in private rooms.

Shall we try it?



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2010-04-30 19:51:34**  
(no subject)

That's fine. I know the area, but don't take that as an alarming sign in itself. Four o'clock, then?

Oh, and Narcissa. I've been trying to send Lucius an owl, but we seem to have run short again. I tried to catch him yesterday after his weekly with the Minister, but he'd already gone. Fudge's undersecretary, Miss Robins, who was just on the point of rushing off, offered to carry them along to him as she was going for lunch in the same neighbourhood. Perhaps I should have taken her up on it, but I was reluctant to turn these over to just anyone.

If you have your hands full already, tell me, and I'll try once more for a bird.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2010-04-30 19:58:30**  
(no subject)

Well. It's not that I should like to refuse to play courier for you, Barty, but how large a packet have you to pass along? I had no plan to go home directly our tea concluded, as I've a planning session for the Daughters of the Protectorate initiation ceremony following the end of the Hogwarts' term.

So if it's not terribly large or heavy, I could carry it along, but

otherwise, you'd do as well to take it over to the St James' house and leave it with Crispin.




 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-30 20:00:49](#)**  
(no subject)

It's a regular-sized scroll case. I should have said.

I'll bring it along, and you can decide for yourself. I didn't realise Lucius would be in town tonight.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-04-30 20:11:08](#)**  
(no subject)

You've still got them? Good.

I've had Crispin looking for them for the last two hours. I was just at the point of sending him to the Ministry himself to get them from you, vetted or no.


I'll re-direct him to the tea room; I shan't have time to rendez-vous with Narcissa before showing the review file to Sedgwick and Shaw and I am very nearly late for Court as-is.



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-04-30 20:13:58](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm glad you caught this, then. Send Crispin along.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2010-05-01 03:26:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you again for the parchment-work, Barty. Crispin arrived in the latter half of court, though luckily not too late for my purposes. And the documentation certainly made my task easier afterward as well - with Shaw, at least. Sedgwick remains a thorn, but one I expect to draw out soon enough.

Good choices, if I may say, to send along. Are these Mafalda's selections or Bella's?

Truly, though, it is a pity you had not entrusted them to Miss Robins yesterday. I should have liked the chance to review them at more than a passing glance before working them into the conversation. For the future, I can attest that Miss Robins in her support to the Minister has had occasion to view scrolls of higher confidentiality than these.




 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2010-05-01 03:39:39](#)  
(no subject)

Bellatrix made the choices. I'll be briefing the pair tomorrow before they leave. Any final instructions you wish me to pass along?

Duly noted regarding the Minister's Miss Robins. I might have gone ahead and allowed her to take them, except that there was something rather breathless and a bit too eager about her offer; it set me on guard. I apologise if I misread her, but I prefer to err on the side of discretion.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2010-05-01 03:48:27](#)  
(no subject)

No special instruction. I'm sure you are familiar with the kind of thing they are likely to encounter.

As for Miss Robins, I cannot say if you misread or not. I can imagine she is not at liberty to take a long absence for her luncheons, and sounded eager as a result. But to my knowledge, her *discretion* has never been in question throughout her tenure both in Dolores' and now Cornelius' administrations.

It is, however, always reassuring to note that you also prize highly the benefit of the utmost discretion - both within your office and venturing outside of it.





 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2010-05-01 03:51:57](#)**  
(no subject)

About that, you may rest assured.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-05-01 03:56:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Having met the young lady, I am forced to concur with my husband. Her dedication is without question.

But it was good of you to apprise me so fully of your assessment of our errant charge. And for your support, insofar as you're able to give it, you have my thanks, as well.

**2010-04-30 17:10:00**

*Well, some things have got better*

and at least we're moving forward. I do think it's helping, really. Haruman's still being amazing and heroic and taking charge of everything. I'm so proud of him! And I think Dad was better today, too. Not as cross with everyone.



 [\*\*alt\\_padma\*\*](#)

So, Haruman went and talked to Mr Ashton-Scripps and his funeral home is going to help, on account of how Sanji's body really wasn't the kind of sight Haruman wanted Mum or Aunt Sirvati or Dadi or anyone else to have to manage it. They're, er, prepanng

(oops, sorry about that blot)

They're preparing him today in a new set of robes Mum made for him, and we'll have the cremation tomorrow. That way we can observe seven mourning days instead of ten, and Parvati and I can still come back next Sunday and not miss any more school. (And Mum and Dad and Haruman will continue into the week after.)

But some people from the WWN and the Ministry told us that there are so many people wanting to pay respects they're not sure what to do with it all. I guess the coverage on the WWN, because of Dad, has sort of, well, it's got everyone interested. So they're asking if they could have public hours tomorrow before the cremation. Well, the cremation is at sunset, anyway, so I guess it's always possible people could come before then. They want that at the funeral home, but Dad says no way.

So there's still some arguing. But not as much.

I'm really sorry I didn't get back to everyone who commented yesterday. There were so many of you - I think almost everyone at Hogwarts must have left some kind of note - and please don't take this the wrong way, but I really didn't feel like writing 'thanks' over and over and over. I tried. I must have opened up my journal about fifty times, looking at what everyone wrote. I even picked up my quill a load of times, but I just couldn't bring myself to write anything.

Lavender, Parvati and me really, really wish you could be here too! But your mum sent flowers and she said she's coming to the ceremony, she's even going to wear the traditional robes Mum made for her

three years ago, remember? And Finni Seamus, Mr Rosier sent over a big basket of fruit from Sainsbury's, including two pomegranates. That was awfully kind of him. Draco, your mother had some things delivered today, too - including Sainsbury's curry with basmati and hot naan for lunch. It was so good! (Better than Cousin Nindira's curry, she always puts in too much mustard oil.) And there were a lot of people to feed, so it was good we had extra. Oh, and Johns, your parents came and they're helping to prepare the site and your brother offered to be one of the bearers.

So, anyway, Parvati and I are hanging in there, and we're doing okay, I guess. Mum's still sort of...numb, I guess. Dadi had to make her eat. And there's still all kinds of family and friends around.

I guess everyone's really wondering what's happening with the search for his killer. Well, the Aurors don't have a lot to tell us. Eventually Dad let them examine Sanji more completely for clues, but they couldn't find anything new. They searched the funeral home all day Wednesday and they said it looked like the person Apparated in and out. He did touch things, so they had a Diviner come yesterday to see if she could pick up any traces, but all she could get was that the person was 'broken,' whatever that means.

They're not giving up, though - that's what Auror Zuckerman says. She says they have places to look still. But she told us not to say too much because the ones they're looking for will just pick up and move somewhere else and it could be months before they catch anyone then.

But I hope they do find who did it. Hydra, I agree with you: someone *should* pay.



**alt\_lavender** at **2010-05-03 21:15:04**  
(no subject)


I'm glad that Mummy at least could be there to support your mum.

And I saw in Tibs' journal that he was going to come over and see Haruman as soon as he could. ~~I think he's bringing Old Og.~~ I'm not sure Tibs' ideas of how to comfort people are exactly Proper, but I guess it's different for boys. And, well, Tibs is Tibs.

You've heard about everything that's gone on around here, I guess?

It's been completely mental.



 **alt\_padma** at [2010-05-03 22:46:38](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I saw. I can't believe Marvolo listened to Weasley over Malfoy, that's daft. I'm so cross with them for taking such a stupid risk!

It's been a little difficult keeping up, since we're only being allowed a few hours a day to do what we like. But there was even a notice in the papers about how the Lord Protector's son defied Certain Death by going in the Forest! It was nift. I'll clip it and bring it back for everyone to see. There's a picture - it's just an old one, of Marvolo and the Lord Protector from last summer - but still.


But Haruman went to the funeral ground today to collect the ashes, so we're going out later to sink them in the pond. And then we've still got six days of bathing twice a day and no meat in our food and no washing our hair (which is the WORST feeling) and family all over the place, and trying not to cry. It's weird, though, because you just can't not be sad just by trying. So there's some good moments, and then it comes back and we have to go do something so that we don't cry more.

I really miss him, Lavender, which is odd, I never thought about how the house would be without him banging about.

Oh! The puppy, though - he's adorable. It almost feels guilty to watch him play. We really want to keep him, but Dad hasn't said it's okay yet. I guess he thinks that the MLE might need him back at some point, if it'll help identify Sanji's murderer. Even if we did keep him, we can't name him until next week, when the mourning is officially over. But he's very sweet. Dad won't let us take him out on walks alone, though. It's understandable, I guess, no one's been sending their kids to the park without someone there to watch out for them.

We miss you and Belinda and everyone.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2010-05-03 23:48:42](#)**  
(no subject)

As much as I think Weasley's a pest most of the time, I haven't exactly got room to criticise at the moment...doing reckless but brave things is pretty much the definition of Gryffindor.

Which is why we all need Ravenclaws to tell us to be sensible and scold us for all the daft things we do!

I'm glad Professor MacNair isn't our Head of House this year, though. He'd go spare!

I miss you and Parvati too. And I keep thinking of all the silly things we used to do with Sanji when we were little kids.

Remember that time when we convinced Sanji that the moon was really a giant hobnob, and Merlin lived up there and sucked on it, and that was why the moon had phases?

**2010-04-30 21:32:00**

*Thanks, Clearwater*

I appreciate your switching patrolling schedules with me tonight.



 [\*\*alt\\_percy\*\*](#)




 [\*\*alt\\_penelope\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-05-01 02:40:13\*\*](#)  
(no subject)

Ta, Weasley.


Did that do the charm? Is she feeling less anxious?



 [\*\*alt\\_percy\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-05-01 02:44:03\*\*](#)  
(no subject)

I think so. We had a good talk, anyway, while playing a game or two in the Common Room. Although I think she's getting a bit testy about me 'hanging over her shoulder all the time.'




 [\*\*alt\\_penelope\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-05-01 02:45:54\*\*](#)  
(no subject)

Probably because you're being far too obvious about it, Weasley.

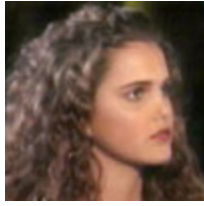
Are we on for patrol on Sunday? Sandoval posted the rota but I don't have my notes here, for some reason. I think I left them in the library.




 [\*\*alt\\_percy\*\*](#) at [\*\*2010-05-01 02:51:57\*\*](#)  
(no subject)

Along with your dictionary, no doubt, so you can't look up and correct your misspellings.

The Ravenclaw in you is slipping.




 [alt\\_penelope](#) at [2010-05-01 02:57:12](#)  
(no subject)

Sod off. You know my father's been an absolute *bore* this year about my OWLs. OWL, OWL, OWL. I'm sick of them. When these exams are over I'll be the happiest witch in Britain.

Anyway. Are we on for Sunday or not? I'll go check the library first-thing tomorrow, but this way I'll know now, which would be *helpful*. Something you're not being much of at the moment.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2010-05-01 03:04:28](#)  
(no subject)

Well, it was *meant* to be light-hearted teasing, if you will. In hopes of making you smile. I like ~~seeing you sm~~ I'm sorry if it didn't quite turn out that way, but tone of voice isn't easily conveyed through the journals, is it? Cheer up, OWLs will be over before you know it.

Yes, we're definitely on for Sunday.