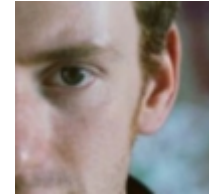


2010-09-01 09:39:00

A new school year

A few reminders:

The Head Girl Siobhan Calderwood and I will be holding a short Prefect meeting in the forward Prefects compartment at 1:00.



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

Remember, students may choose to have their owls fly ahead to Hogwarts, but all familiars must be restrained if you choose to bring them on the train. In particular, owls must be caged, to protect the upholstery. Cage covers are available from the conductor to encourage your owl to sleep during the trip. Do not forget to bring water and food for your familiars for the trip. The train does not provide owl or cat treats.

There must be no running up and down the corridors of the train.

Please make sure your trunks are firmly wedged in, if you use the overhead luggage compartments (we did have one student who suffered a broken toe on the return trip last year, when a precariously balanced trunk toppled over when the train stopped suddenly).

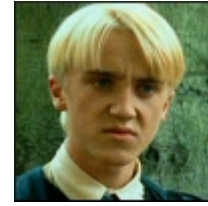
Prefects, please ensure that all students have changed into their student robes by an hour before arrival, which will be approximately 6:00 pm.

Be on time! The train will be leaving King's Cross at 11:00 am sharp.

[2010-09-01 11:29:00](#)

Longbottom:

You're on notice. I saw your little act at the train station, and so did Blaise, Teddy, and Bode.




You offend him and you offend me, got that? You've done a bang-up job hiding your true colours until now, but I saw them come out today when you thought no one but your mates were around. I bet you all had a good laugh together later, didn't you? Laughing not just at a Professor, but at a Hero of the Protectorate, no less. Milli was right, you really are a blood traitor.

 **[alt_draco](#)**

Better do a better job of watching your step, if you know what I mean.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-01 17:42:41](#)**
(no subject)

What'd Longbottom do this time?

(And is your uncle still asleep?)




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-01 17:43:41](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, he is.

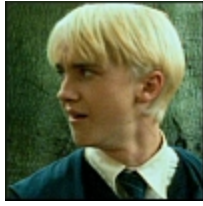
Longbottom was taking the mickey out of him...my Uncle, I mean. Professor Lestrangle.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-01 17:46:05](#)**
(no subject)

What? How?

Why? I mean, he's thick enough to take the piss out of a Professor, but...he's also so thick he might not have even known he was doing it, right?




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-01 17:49:24](#)
(no subject)

Just because someone looks and acts thick doesn't mean they are.

Especially when their parents are criminals who've managed to convince everyone that they're dead until only recently.

As for what he did, well, he was imitating him. How he...you know, walks.



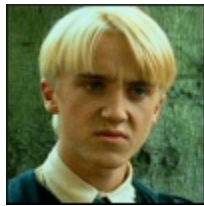
 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-01 18:01:24](#)
(no subject)


But that's...well, that's just not on.

You think he's been pretending to be an idiot all this time? I suppose that would explain a lot.

And he *did* write back to Sirius Black a couple times. With real questions, I mean, not just to tell him to bugger off like a sensible person would have done.

Still, that's foul. I reckon he'd have to be a blood-traitor to mock a hero like that.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-01 18:03:52](#)
(no subject)

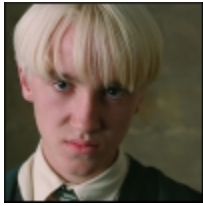
There's no doubt in my mind anymore that he's a blood-traitor.


And if he's mocking someone like my Uncle, then you know he's got to be mocking all of us.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-01 18:01:47](#)
(no subject)


The fact that he did it where you could see means that he's exceptionally thick, though. Not just exceptionally, but alarmingly! I can only presume that Professor Lestrange was probably nearby when it happened?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-01 18:05:26](#)
(no subject)

He was helping Harry with his things at the time, so he didn't really notice, no. Though I suppose he'll read about it later, when he wakes up.

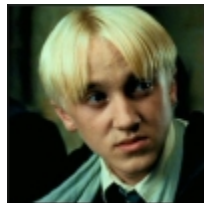



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-01 18:11:49](#)
(no subject)

I certainly hope that he doesn't think that the rest of Hogwarts will give him such a callous welcome. Perhaps we can do something special for him later?

I know! A re-enactment of the day he saved the Lord Protector's life, all those years ago. Were I blond I would cast myself in the role of your Mother, but as it is I'm quite content to play your Aunt. Hydra would work well for your Mother, though, were we to dress her up a bit.


Who would you like to be cast as, Draco?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-01 18:13:24](#)
(no subject)


Thanks, Daphne, but I don't really fancy being in a play right now. I don't think my Uncle would fancy us doing a play all about his experiences, either.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-01 18:17:26](#)
(no subject)

I suppose that's understandable. I will definitely stop by his table tonight to welcome him to Hogwarts, though.

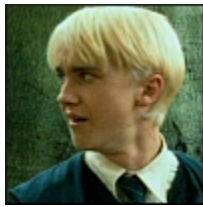



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-01 18:40:57](#)
(no subject)

Huh?

What are you talking about, Malfoy?


I wasn't taking the mickey out of anybody!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-01 18:43:04](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I just knew you were going to show up and feign innocence. I've got you figured out now, Longbottom.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-01 18:44:59](#)
(no subject)

You're saying I was imitating his limp? But I wasn't! I wouldn't do anything like that.

I didn't even see the Professor. He was there at the station?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-01 18:46:21](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I have absolutely no idea what he's talking about.

Blimey, what a way to start out the new school year.




 **alt_draco** at [2010-09-01 18:50:21](#)
(no subject)

Oh just give up, would you. "I don't know! I'm thick and harmless!"

Pathetic.

OF COURSE HE WAS AT THE BLOODY STATION. HE'S HARRY'S BODYGUARD. SEE WHAT I MEAN?? NO ONE IN THE ENTIRE PROTECTORATE IS THIS THICK.

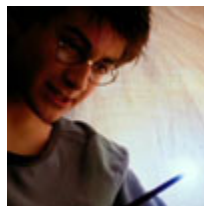



 **alt_neville** at [2010-09-01 18:55:26](#)
(no subject)

Well, I didn't do it. I didn't.

I remember now, I tripped over my trouser cuff right before I got on the train. And Ron and the rest were laughing at me, not anyone else. Surely even you can believe I'm a lot more likely to stumble over my own feet than try to make fun of somebody else. Much less a Hogwarts Professor, who is, as you say, a Hero of the Protectorate.

And I'm not a blood traitor. I don't have any parents, remember? Just my Gran. She's been my legal guardian for over ten years, and I've never known any other.




 **alt_harry** at [2010-09-01 19:08:50](#)
(no subject)

Right, whatever you say Longbottom.

I didn't think you were mean like that. But blood will out I guess.



 **alt_neville** at [2010-09-01 19:11:48](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Oh, no. Not him, too!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-01 19:19:31](#)

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

There's no reasoning with Draco right now.

I do think you ought to say that you're very sorry and didn't mean it to Harry, even if he doesn't buy it right now. Just so the other people reading can see it.

I'll see what I can do later, if I can do anything. Merlin knows why Draco's all touchy -- he seemed pretty okay about it back when the story just came out. Harry seems like he's awful close to Professor LeStrange, maybe that's why, if he thought you were making fun?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-01 19:23:02](#)

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

And don't say anything more about being a blood traitor. Because even if you're saying you're NOT one, people will keep making connections between you and that.

And that would be bad.

The sooner people stop talking about it altogether the better, and if you try and deny it any more than you already have, it'll just drag on.

I'm sorry, though, Longbottom. And I know you didn't mean it.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-01 19:24:33](#)

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


If you can pull it off, making a public apology to Professor LeStrange before anyone asks you to might be good too.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-01 19:26:54](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Good idea, and I've done it. Thanks.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-01 19:55:33](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I bet you anything it's because Lucius Malfoy told Harry he had to be more of a prat.

I mean he didn't SAY that. But he MEANT it. I'm pretty certain.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-01 20:09:06](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


~~Harry's just too thick to pick up on~~

~~Of course he wouldn't ever say~~

~~How would you even begin to know~~

I'd bet having your own personal bodyguard can give you a bit of a stuffed head too. Is that why he was being so weird with Ron?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-01 20:12:13](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Probably.

He didn't exactly tell me, you know. But he came back and said something about setting a better example, and he's been out of sorts. Anyway, I don't think he has a stuffed head, I think he just doesn't know what he's supposed to do really, and nobody can really tell him.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-01 20:26:58](#)


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

Draco is one thing, but Harry's the son of our Lord, and even if he just hints at that sort of thing could really mean bad things for Neville. Unless that's his idea of setting a better example and it's what he intended to do all along, which isn't his style at all. At least it didn't used to be his style.

Well, if anything, people will be more scared of him now than they used to be, so if that's his goal, he's accomplished it.

He might listen to you.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-01 19:26:28](#)

(no subject)

I'm so very sorry, but it's all a misunderstanding, honest. I didn't see Professor Lestrangle, and I never would have tried to insult him in any way.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-09-01 19:34:27](#)

(no subject)

Yes, well, someone in your position needs to be exhibit exemplary behaviour at all times, Longbottom. Your professors--and particularly one with such a record of distinguished service to the Protectorate as Professor Lestrangle--will not tolerate any cheeky attitude on your part.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-01 19:47:26](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Humungous Big Head Boy attitude is far, far worse.

Chin up, Neville. Don't let the tossers get you down.

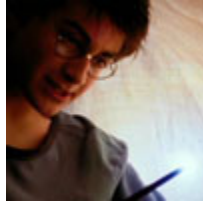


 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-01 19:48:41](#)

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

But keep your wand handy.

Just in case.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-01 19:54:32](#)

(no subject)

You regret it now. But it just isnt on. Really Neville.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-01 23:23:06](#)

(no subject)

Don't be daft.

I don't care what you say to me, but you can leave off Neville right now.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-09-01 18:33:25](#)

(no subject)

Is that really true, Longbottom was taking the mickey because Professor LeStrange has a limp?

Odd sort of thing to do.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-01 18:35:22](#)

(no subject)

Are you calling me a liar, Smith? I don't typically care what Longbottom is up to enough to lie about it, do I?




 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-09-01 18:43:54](#)**
(no subject)

Steady on, Malfoy. No one's calling you a liar. But we didn't see it, did we? I'm just asking. And wondering why Longbottom would take a notion to do something like that.

Does he have anything against Professor Lestrangle? I mean, a reason not to like him. We've not even met him yet, most of us.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-01 18:51:30](#)**
(no subject)

There's a reason, but it's not my place to say what it is.

I wrote this so that Longbottom knows that I'm on to him. You either believe me or you don't, and I really don't care enough to convince you. All that matters is that I know what I saw and other people know, too.




 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-09-01 18:53:07](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it's just that if he did something like that, I reckon he's not just thick. Or a blood-traitor. I reckon he's got to be a nutter as well.

Oh, hang on a moment! It's to do with his dad being wanted, isn't it? You don't have to say if it's classified or anything. But that's what it is, I bet.




 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2010-09-01 19:17:38](#)**
(no subject)

The Prefects certainly need to know if any student behaves disrespectfully toward any Professor.

Thanks for bringing this incident to our attention.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-01 19:18:13](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I DIDN'T DO WHAT HE'S SAYING I DID.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-01 19:19:07](#)

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

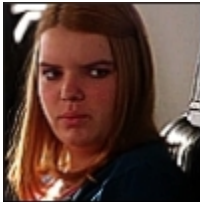
Good one, Perce. Way to start out the new school year as a Big Head Boy Arse.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-01 23:24:41](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You wrote this because you're an arse and a bully.



 [alt_millicent](#) at [2010-09-01 19:47:47](#)

(no subject)

not if youre a blood traitor. it isnt.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-01 21:13:00](#)

(no subject)

That's right, Milli said he was a blood traitor ages ago, didn't you Milli? You're such a clever girl!



 [alt_millicent](#) at [2010-09-01 21:28:33](#)

(no subject)

ha ha daff.

want to sit by me at the feast



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-09-01 21:45:18](#)**
(no subject)

Of course you can sit by me, Milli.

2010-09-01 12:50:00

Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle

Hydra,

Don't waste your time with firsties. Come and sit with us. Lav, Parvati and I are in the third car. Parvati wants to hear all about tea with the Lord Protector, I bet it's fantastic. And I want to know about your summer holiday. I'd ask Draco but he and Harry are - well, they've got your uncle in their compartment with them.



 [alt_padma](#)



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2010-09-01 17:23:09**

(no subject)


Oh.

I could probably sit with you for a time, it is a long ride after all.

Just because my Uncle is there doesn't mean you can't go talk to them, though.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-09-01 17:25:54**

(no subject)

It looked like he was asleep. Draco saw me walk by, pointed to your uncle and then put his finger to his lips. He was smirking, too.



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2010-09-01 17:28:30**

(no subject)

Before Daddy left last night he said that he and a bunch of my Uncle's mates were going to take him out for one last raz.

I think I know what that means.

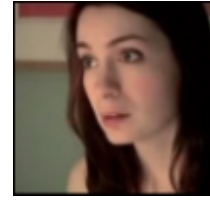
So yes, he should probably be left to sleep for a while.

From,
Hydra

2010-09-01 15:33:00

ORDER ONLY

Molly, did you see what that Malfoy boy has said? It isn't even his first day and I just don't know what I'm going to do and this was such a mistake. They need to be here with me, and this is all wrong, and it's only going to get worse, and I feel like the worst mum in the entire world and my poor sweet Evelyn is going to be thrown in the middle of all this, and I don't know if I can bear it.



 **alt_alice**




 **alt_frank** at **2010-09-01 19:38:28**

(no subject)

should have known that little rat bastard malfoy'd lead the charge.



 **alt_alice** at **2010-09-01 19:38:56**

(no subject)

You're not helping, Frank.



 **alt_frank** at **2010-09-01 19:40:45**

(no subject)

sorry.

sorry.

I know.

I hate that I can't do anything right now. is all.

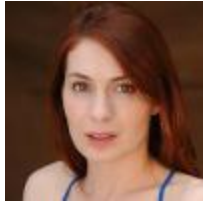



 **alt_frank** at **2010-09-01 19:43:07**

(no subject)

and you're not the worst mum.

where are you?




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-01 19:43:38](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I *feel* like it.


In the garden.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-01 19:44:00](#)**
(no subject)

be there in a mo



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-01 20:44:20](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, my.

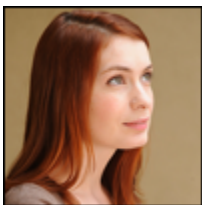
Oh, I'm so sorry, Frank and Alice.


I just finished up my cup of tea with Augusta, and then Apparated home, and then I saw this. Augusta left before I opened my journal, so I don't know her reaction.

She did say she's talked a lot to both the children this summer about how to conduct themselves...keep their heads down, don't jostle the cauldron, that sort of thing. I think she prepared them as well as anyone can, but it looks like from this that there will be some who will give them a difficult time no matter what.

You are doing the best for them that you can. They know it, and we know it, and Augusta knows it, too. And if it really becomes dangerous or unbearable for them, they do have the portkey.

I will be seeing you shortly, and we can talk further then.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-01 21:10:53](#)**
(no subject)

Please, lets.

I know he's strong, they both are, but it hurts me so badly just thinking about it.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-01 20:47:19](#)**
(no subject)

Young Malfoy's a pillock, I guess.


Chip off the old block, I'd say.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-01 20:48:10](#)**
(no subject)


Well, I must say, Percy's being rather a pillock, too.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-01 20:49:03](#)**
(no subject)


True. But in his case you hope people will think the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. It'll make you and Dad look better, much as I hate to say it.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-01 20:49:22](#)**
(no subject)


Ugh, but I do believe you're right.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-01 21:13:47](#)**
(no subject)

too right, man.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2010-09-01 21:53:33](#)
(no subject)

He'll be all right, Alice. He's a strong boy, with a good circle of friends around him. He's in a bit of a difficult situation no doubt, and Evelyn too, but they both know the truth and that's the best support you could have given them. He's a Gryffindor - he'll make it through whatever challenges he faces, and he'll protect his sister too.

Besides, these things may seem serious now, but you know how children are. Arguments and fallings out are a part of daily life at Hogwarts, as I'm sure you remember. This episode just sounds like some little misunderstanding that will blow over in no time.

I know it's difficult to be at such a distance, but between you and Frank and Augusta, Neville has been very well equipped to deal with all life throws at him. He'll be absolutely fine. I won't say 'don't worry', as I know that's simply absurd, but I hope you will perhaps worry a little less.



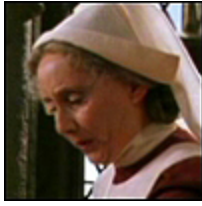
 [alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-02 01:32:11](#)
(no subject)


Thank you, Remus, darling. You always have a way of putting things in perspective.

I suppose I was expecting something like this to happen, so I got myself worked up over all of it.

You're right. He is strong. And he does have good friends. Not only that, but he'll know they are the best kind of friends, because they've stayed by him when it isn't popular to do so. And Evelyn has been sorted right with her brother, who will be able to keep an eye on her and be there for her when she needs it the most.

I just wish I could spare them both every hurt in the world, but I can't. And it's hard.




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-01 23:31:58](#)**
(no subject)

Alice, I know this isn't the way a mother thinks of these things, but it's so important for your children to be here. They are doing good by setting an example even when the effect doesn't show.

I don't mean to say that they should be put in danger or even that it's right to make them suffer if it becomes too terrible for them to be going on with, but, well. If we all withdraw from this society, we leave it to Him, don't we?


And, of course, as we can't easily or quickly get out through the wards, we'd bring the hounds down on the Sanctuary if any number of us up and disappeared off the map, children or adults. Fidelius or no, sooner or later, He'd find a way through.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-02 01:36:00](#)**
(no subject)

I don't suppose I've thought of it that way, that the school is a better place for having them in it. I suppose it goes the same for his group of friends, too. But that does make sense, and it provides a bit of comfort. And it is very sweet of you to say.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-09-02 02:21:45](#)**
(no subject)

Steady on, Allie. For what it's worth, as I've said, your lad has his head on straight and he's not likely to lose it over nothing.


And he knows he's got people behind him, and how to get a message to you, if he needs it. That alone ought to give you comfort.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-02 02:38:19](#)**
(no subject)


It does. I only wish he could know how many people were looking out for him and thinking good thoughts for him tonight.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-02 02:57:05](#)**
(no subject)


...And now I've gone all teary again. Blast.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:27:01](#)**
(no subject)

Oh. Well, in that case, did you hear the one about the Auror who wore plaid trousers?



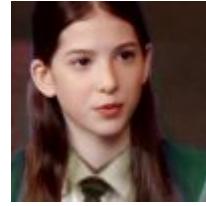
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:34:00](#)**
(no subject)

No, I can't say that I have.

I have seen the trousers in person, though, and they are a thing of beauty.

2010-09-01 19:19:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



I don't know how anyone could think that Neville would need to FAKE tripping over his own feet.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Also, I don't know what I was thinking, packing my journal in my school trunk.

Neville, I'm going to wait until Draco and Harry have calmed down and then point out that you've always been a pillock, if you don't mind. I think it's probably better if Draco thinks of you as stupid and harmless, rather than a blood traitor.

Finally, I want to know what Snake-hating sadist came up with the Slytherin schedule. On Mondays I have Double Transfiguration first thing, then Defence, then Double Potions, then Dark Arts. Two hours of Carrow first thing on Monday AND I'm barely going to have time to go to the loo AND I finish the day with Alecto Carrow.

On the bright side we have a lot of classes with Gryffindors this year. Well, maybe it's not so bright; I hate to think of the sort of trouble Draco could make for Neville in Potions class. Although he really likes Potions, he wouldn't normally cause trouble there. Still.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-02 01:24:00**

(no subject)

That sounds like a plan. And I'll see if I can just get Draco talking to see what he was so worked up about. Because I haven't seen him that angry in a while. At least not over the journals.

And your Mondays sound double uck. I mean, ending with Carrow like that after such a long day and all. Maybe we'll have to come up with a "hurrah, I survived Mondays!" reward or something.

At least we get to go to Hogsmeade this year. Which will be brilliant in every possible way. *Tell* me the Strettons signed your form. Because it would be just like them to put it off or forget it or not sign it because they haven't signed Jeremy's.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 01:37:49](#)
(no subject)

A Monday reward would be fabulous! Maybe we should try to let the elves know that Monday is a really bad day to be a Slytherin third year and they should send up extra pudding to our table.

The Strettons said they would owl it. The form, I mean. I hope they do. They were so cross with Jeremy last night -- but if they DON'T owl his and he's stuck at the school, do you really think he'll stay here? He could just leave, he's of age.

They're worried about some friends he made over the summer, I guess. Older friends, people who are out of school. They don't want him going to see them. I think they'll send me my note, though, I haven't done anything.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 01:43:01](#)
(no subject)

I don't like the sound of that.

Fingers crossed that they don't skive off or do like they did with your journal at start of summer just to seem 'fair.'

Let's see what we can get the House-elves to do, and we should designate Mondays as "no homework" days. I mean, we can do our Tuesday work on Sunday if we plan for it, and if we're knackered after a long hard day, it might be nice to just not have to do any studying at all, and just listen to music or play games or go on a nice walk. Unless there's an exam or something.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 01:50:37](#)
(no subject)

That is an excellent idea. I'll be in no shape to do homework after three hours of Carrows anyway.

We have Care of Magical Creatures tomorrow afternoon! I can't wait.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:06:55](#)
(no subject)

Neither can I! Professor Brutka is so wiz-nift, I'll bet he's a fantastic teacher. You need to introduce him to Sebastian, too. And maybe I can tell him I've been learning French!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:11:01](#)
(no subject)

You should tell him in French that you've been learning French.

I should introduce him to Sebastian. And find out if I can just keep feeding him people food or if he needs special rat food. He doesn't seem to mind eating what I eat but maybe rat food would be better for him?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:24:18](#)
(no subject)

Well, he'd know, wouldn't he?

And I totally will.

That's an idea to get Draco talking, too. Because he mentioned being okay with practicing our French, and if he thinks other people can't understand what he's saying, that might help a bit.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:10:26](#)
(no subject)

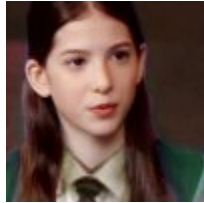
Ugh. Hang on. I'm going up to get more chocolate from our room. Want some?

I still feel a bit off. Even after the loads we ate on the train.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:11:44](#)
(no subject)


Yes to the chocolate. Definitely.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:12:33](#)
(no subject)

Just don't let Daphne see. She'd eat it all, the pig.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:14:16](#)
(no subject)

And then write a play about it and make us all have parts in it.

Honestly.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:17:39](#)
(no subject)


Too right.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:13:34](#)
(no subject)

Why did they let those things on the train? Did they really think Macnair was hiding somewhere on the Hogwarts Express? Or Snape?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:20:08](#)
(no subject)

I don't know. I mean, I guess they were searching? Just in case?

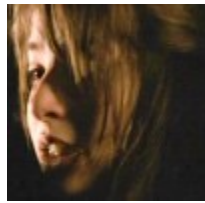
I'm glad I had some with me on the train. Everyone looked just awful after.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:22:04](#)

Private message to Sally-Anne

And even though Harry was being a total idiot, I was worried about him too. I mean, him fainting and all like that. I got all shuddery and sad and well, you know. But it must have been awful for him if they made him do *that*.

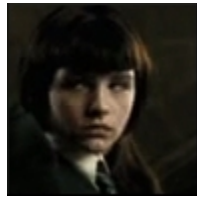


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:28:03](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

Yeah.

I felt utterly awful, worse than -- anything recent, anyway. But I didn't faint. Why do you suppose Harry reacted that way? Do you think he was in a bad frame of mind to begin with, or maybe it's something about living with the Lord Protector?



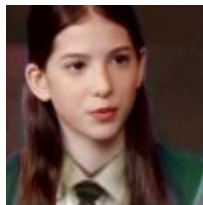
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:31:38](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

I don't know.

Maybe he sort of got all overwhelmed because there's people trying to kill him?

I just can't stop thinking about Pirate. It's awful. I hope the rest of term isn't going to be like this.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:39:45](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

Well, they're not going to be coming onto the school grounds, right? So we just have to be sure to have chocolate when we go into Hogsmeade.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:44:04](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

And there's the sweet shop right there in case we run out!



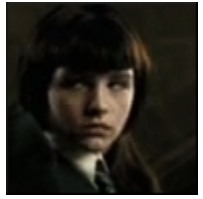
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:40:25](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

I keep thinking about my mum.

I thought about trying to visit this summer. My parents, I mean. Secretly.

If I were a Gryffindor I'd have done it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:49:52](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

I know you want to, but that would have been

well, if you'd been caught, I don't know what I would have done.

But yeah. I'm sorry.

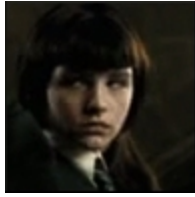



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-02 03:01:47](#)

(no subject)

Well and I'll ask Harry about it too, and see what he has to do, and see if he's less angry. I think that maybe he was just - I don't know, but he didn't seem angry at Neville so much. He's angry at Ron though, I don't know why. But Ron is in less bad a position, isn't he.


Anyway.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 03:08:57](#)
(no subject)

Fine. Good. That works, I guess.



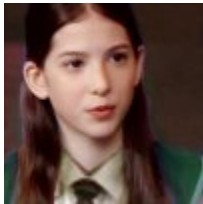
 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 02:23:39](#)
(no subject)

Thanks for that. I think.

No, seriously, you'd be a lot better at calming Malfoy down than I would ever be. I don't mind getting called stupid, so long as they drop that blood-traitor stuff. (And it's even true, I suppose.)

Even if you can't manage that, I'm willing to put up with a lot, so long as they leave Evelyn mostly alone.

I have to admit, it's hard luck that Marvolo came out agreeing with Malfoy, though. And having him be on the outs with Ron doesn't exactly help either.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:26:31](#)
(no subject)

You're not stupid, but you're even more clumsy than Morag. Honestly I don't know how Draco could think you tripped because you were taking the mickey.

And no. I agree about Harry.

What are things like with Finnigan these days? I suppose Thomas still talks to him.



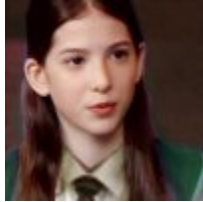
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:28:41](#)
(no subject)

Did you see what Professor LeStrange wrote?

That's pretty good, I think. I mean, it still looks like you meant to make fun, but it sort of doesn't make it

into a big deal, and Draco and Harry'll listen to him.

I still think an apology would be a good move, though.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:37:29](#)
(no subject)

I agree.

Pansy, I was thinking maybe Neville could write to him privately to say that he really did just trip and he feels terrible that Professor Lestrangle would think he was making fun given that he's someone Neville greatly respects and is eager to learn from? If he wrote it privately, it wouldn't restart the fight with Draco saying OH YES YOU WERE MAKING FUN YOU TRIPPED ON PURPOSE YOU PONCE and so on and back and forth. But he could say something right away, tonight. If Professor Lestrangle is on Neville's side that'll help a lot, and he's not a bad sort, you know, in general.

Do you think a private comment is a good idea, or a bad idea?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 02:43:08](#)
(no subject)

Well, I think other people would see he was writing a private comment, and would probably guess that it had an apology in it, which wouldn't really be a bad thing -- I mean, it'd be the sort of thing one ought to do, you can't get angry about that. And since no-one but Professor LeStrange could read what was in it, they couldn't argue with it, like you said.

So yeah.


I mean, it's up to you what you say and all, Neville, and you'd probably say things best your own way anyways. But I don't see how it could hurt.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 02:53:56](#)
(no subject)

I'll do that.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2010-09-02 02:55:09](#)
(no subject)

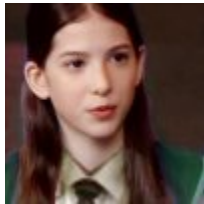
Oh ugh. Amycus Carrow's weighed in with Professor Lestrage. That's all that Neville needs now.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-02 02:56:01](#)
(no subject)

That git.


Carrow, obviously. It's too soon to know whether Lestrage is a git, too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 03:12:03](#)
(no subject)

A lot of the grownups dislike Carrow. So hopefully Professor Lestrage is one of them.

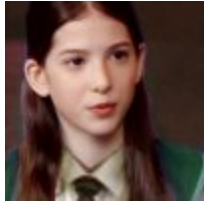


 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 03:27:12](#)
(no subject)

Well, I did it.

I said some things that I really hated saying, too. I hope he buys it. Thanks for your suggestions, but I think I'm absolutely pants at being Slytherin sly.

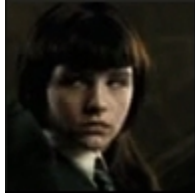
(Gah, I think I need some chocolate myself.)




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 03:41:41](#)
(no subject)

Good for you, Neville.


Go tell Percy you think you need chocolate, Siobhan has some so surely he does too.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 03:42:54](#)
(no subject)

It really does help. The chocolate, I mean.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:09:43](#)
(no subject)

Why are you all concerned about how Malfoy and Marvolo are feeling? Honestly. That's the most

You're going to tell them Nev's a pillock? Tell the truth, already. Malfoy's an evil, stinking git, and Marvolo's a two-faced twat.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 03:13:58](#)
(no subject)

I care about what sort of rumours they are flinging around about Neville where everybody can read them. And I'll do what I can to stop them from doing it, because I don't want him to have a miserable year, and he doesn't deserve it besides.

Today was rotten all round, wasn't it?


Do you have enough chocolate?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:25:19](#)
(no subject)

I'm going to bed. I'm fine.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 03:41:25](#)
(no subject)


Well, no, you're obviously not.

But tomorrow will be better.

And today, you sat with loads of people that were happy to be with you, and wanted to hear all about how incredibly snitch your trip to see the dragons was. Because it did sound totally wiz-nift, and I'm so glad your broom worked brilliantly.

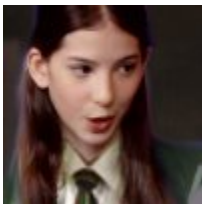
And I'm glad I got to see you again, even though the train ride wasn't the best.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:43:29](#)
(no subject)

Oh, fine. Be all reasonable and nice.


It was good to see you again, too, Fisheye.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 03:15:49](#)
(no subject)

Tell the truth to whom?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:24:34](#)
(no subject)


To them, obviously. All they are is nasty gits, and it's not going to make anything better if everyone pretends to agree with everything they think. How is telling them Neville's an idiot going to make a

difference except to make it even worse?

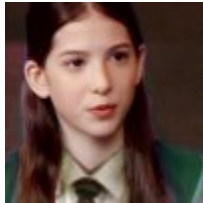
Except, I suppose it'll make it look like you're not really Nev's friends.

Nice.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 03:31:41](#)
(no subject)

I don't mind, honest, Ron. They're trying to help, okay?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 03:40:00](#)
(no subject)

You think I should tell Draco that he's an evil git?

That would definitely improve matters for everyone!

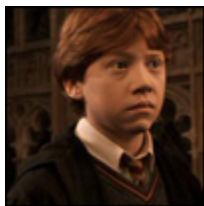
Neville IS clumsy, Ron. That's why he tripped. He DOES have trouble in some of his classes. He's not faking it. That's the truth. And I think Draco's far more likely to believe it if I say it in the most insulting (to Neville) terms possible.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:44:22](#)
(no subject)

Just.

Do you have to sell us out to them?

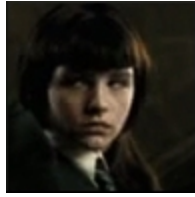



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:46:43](#)
(no subject)

You could just not say anything, y'know?

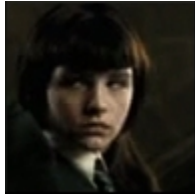
Don't make them think you think they're right.


And we're



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:49:14](#)**
(no subject)

You're not. Neither of you. You're not, and Sally-Anne knows it and I know it too.

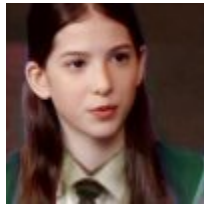


 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:50:50](#)**
(no subject)

And it's a roundabout sort of way, but we're trying to tell them that you're not.

It's just that it won't work to walk right up to them and say it like that.

But honest, that's what we're trying to do.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:52:42](#)**
(no subject)

Ron, you're being utterly unreasonable. Go to bed and I'll talk to you about this again in the morning if you want.

2010-09-01 19:50:00

Welcome to Hogwarts!

And I extend that welcome to myself as well as to all students, both new and returning.



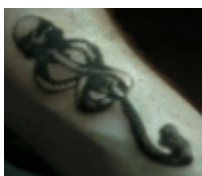
 **alt_rabastan**

I have already overheard a few students speaking about the incident on the train with the Dementors, and I can assure you that unpleasant as they may be, they are considered a necessity at this time. As you were told, it has been determined by the MLE that they are to be stationed near the location of Hogwarts, as their unique properties make them ideal for keeping the escapees from Azkaban at bay. In general, however, the Dementors are unable to distinguish between their targets and innocent bystanders, and as such you are advised to steer clear of them entirely. The MLE has stationed wranglers to keep them from approaching the castle and the village of Hogsmeade.

As Madam Pomfrey said in the opening remarks, chocolate is an ideal antidote for the side-effects that their presence may cause. Bear in mind this is one of the few times you will have adults encouraging you to eat as much chocolate as you can, so take advantage of it, though mind you don't make yourself sick. Most Professors will be carrying supplies of chocolate on them, should you need any.

As for what else occurred on the train, it is in fact true that I have a limp. It's a perfectly normal thing to make fun of and I would have been quite surprised had it *not* happened almost immediately upon my arrival. I assure you that my feelings are not hurt in the least and I think that the matter is harmless enough that it can be, for all concerned parties, safely dropped at this time.

It was a delight to see everyone at the feast, and I particularly enjoyed meeting my new colleagues. Some I have met before, but under quite different circumstances (right, Professor Slughorn?). But still, very good to be back.



 **alt_amycus** at **2010-09-02 02:48:30**
(no subject)

Better to begin as you plan to go on, Razzer.
Longbottom for one will take a yard if you give him an inch, so I'd advise you to light the fire under the


crucible there and turn the temperature up as high as it will go.

I don't give warnings lightly. But you're new here, so thought you might appreciate it.

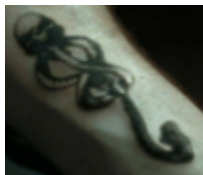
Hoods would find him a tempting morsel, if they got up close. Blood-traitors are mighty tasty to Dementors, they say. Throw them an hors d'oeuvres and they'll prove to be right useful little friends.

Friends with bloody awful fashion sense, I'll admit. But you can't have everything.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 03:09:14](#)
(no subject)


Crucible? Morsels? Let it never be said that you lack mastery of language, Amycus.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2010-09-02 03:22:58](#)
(no subject)

I'm the master of much more than language. You'd do well to remember that.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 03:35:21](#)
(no subject)

Ha, why's that? Plan on giving me an exam later?



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2010-09-02 02:54:23](#)
Private message to Raz

Saw what Draco was stropping about. It seems he's put together that the Longbottom cow was responsible for your leg? I fear that knowledge may be down to me. I brought it up when Hydra was nearby, and you were too razzed to notice. Soz.

So he'll be your student now, eh? Any temptation to enact a little justice?



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2010-09-02 02:58:39](#)**

Re: Private message to Raz

There's the little girl, too. She looks more like her Mum than he does, really.

Of course it's bloody well tempting, but I can't say I see the point in giving him a hard time. As much as Draco seems to think he was doing something sinister, the kid seems...pretty harmless.

I'm supposed to be the grownup here, so. That's what I'll be.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:01:41](#)**

Re: Private message to Raz

Back in a tick, since seeing you call yourself a grownup makes me need a whiskey.

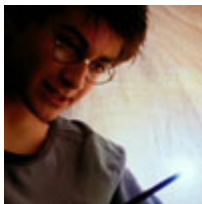


 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:02:21](#)**

Re: Private message to Raz

If it helps, I was hungover for most of the train ride.

And now that you've mentioned whiskey, I feel my blinder coming back. Cheers for that, I think not!




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-09-02 02:59:12](#)**

(no subject)

I'm glad you're here.


And I guess we'll drop it then. Only nobody ought to make fun of you.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 03:04:31](#)
(no subject)

Thank you for defending my honour, you and Draco both, but I am quite well equipped to defend myself. Otherwise I'd not be here, eh?




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-02 03:05:23](#)
Private Message to Rabastan

All right, Raz?

And the boy? What was the Dementors' justification - did you determine anything?




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 03:33:45](#)
Re: Private Message to Rabastan

I talked to Marx, the head wrangler. The raucous activity on the train attracted the Dementors, and being that we were in a barren part of the country, the wranglers had no ready means of distraction.

Believe me, I've already threatened to hex his bollocks off for not thinking of this scenario in advance, but he's putting the blame on someone higher up for not giving him better detail about the route.




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-02 03:36:17](#)
Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Narcissa says Draco reports himself fine and Harry as well. Is that your assessment?

It's too much to hope Our Lord will not require report. Marx, you say?



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 03:50:26](#)
Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Draco is fine, yes, and Harry is more worried about having been seen fainting than he is about the Dementors. Thankfully, there's no lasting damage.

Marx, yes. First name Walter, I believe.



alt_neville at 2010-09-02 03:12:34

Private Messae to Professor Lestrangle

Sir, thank you for making light of things. But I can't sleep until I told you I was not making fun of you in any way. See, the thing is, I'm sort of clumsy and I have big feet, and I just tripped. Ask anybody and they'll tell you. My Gran says I'm about the clumsiest oaf she's ever seen, but it's just because I haven't grown into my height yet.

I really don't want you to think I would ever do what Draco Malfoy suggested I did. The thing is...I hope you don't mind me saying it sir, but I wanted to meet you and learn from you because--

Well, I heard you fought against that woman. I don't even want to say her name, because I think it's so unfair that she has the same name as me. That woman who abandoned me when I was just a little kid. I hate it when people call her my mum because what sort of mum is that? I just wanted you to know that I hate her and so I was excited to meet you because I heard you got some real good licks in on her when you fought her.

I hope you won't think it's wrong for me to say I'm only sorry you didn't get the chance to kill her. Then maybe me and my sister wouldn't be living under a cloud like this, and everyone could see we were really good citizens of the Protectorate. Like they talk about all the time in the YPL.

So you see, I wouldn't have tried to take the mickey out on you. Sir.

Anyway, that's it. That's what I wanted to tell you.



alt_rabastan at 2010-09-02 04:03:34

Re: Private Messae to Professor Lestrangle

Well, then. There's certainly no doubt that you're a Gryffindor.


I'm here to teach all of the students, Mr Longbottom, regardless of where or who they come from. So yes, you will learn.

In fact, I hope that you will learn more than you had even counted on. You and your sister both.

Now, do pardon my bluntness here, but I really have nothing to say about your Mother to you, or about what I experienced during that particular stretch of history, when I wasn't very much older than yourself. And since I'm not Professor Lockhart, I won't be telling any tales about them in class, either.

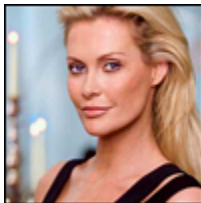
There are many ways to be a good citizen that don't involve wishing for things that never can be, especially when one is young, and life and its many choices still lie before them.



 **[alt_neville](#) at 2010-09-02 12:21:53**

Re: Private Messae to Professor Lestrangle

Understood, sir. Thank you, sir.



 **[alt_narcissa](#) at 2010-09-02 03:22:22**

Private Message to the Razzer

You'll have yourself to blame if your students begin whinging to you about their spots, thanks to stuffing themselves with chocolates.

As for Longbottom, were it me, I'm sure I'd be as tempted as you doubtless are to give him marks that match his taste level. But then it's just as likely that his act will gain you even more of the young ladies' sympathies and you shall find yourself with a hundred new admirers.

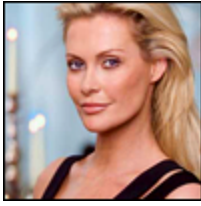


 **[alt_rabastan](#) at 2010-09-02 03:52:16**

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

I'm not here to defend against spots, so if it comes to that I shall simply direct them to the Matron.

I could always use another few hundred admirers, but it does tend to remind one that all the best are already taken!




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 03:57:52](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

If you were more imposing, you could simply frighten them so they daren't complain in the first place.

Unfortunately for you, you're far too approachable. And flattering. Taken, yes, and happily, too.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 04:08:13](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

Entirely too taken. Which leaves me in this perilous situation where I must continuously sample the goods, as it were.

The goods are entirely too under-ripe here, mind. Let that be noted before you go accusing me of anything untoward.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 04:22:51](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

Razzer, my love, I have seen (and heard!) of you doing some rather unsavoury things in your life - as ill-advised, one might say, as being hung over when supposedly on duty over the course of a seven-hour train journey - but I would never suggest anything untoward when it comes to schoolgirls' crushes. I daresay you dealt with that well enough when you were playing full-time - and they were even nearer to you in age than now.

Though there are some seventh-years who might cause you to regret your newfound propriety.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 04:28:55](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

They do look even younger than I expected. Makes me realise that I'm really rather old....

A pox on them! I'll give them all "T"s for this.

Too bad the Sandoval girl is gone.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 04:41:05](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

Oh, you've worse than Sandoval to be going on with: I understand Siobhan Calderwood is Head Girl. Her sister is Letitia, you know - and I cannot see why Revati and Celia are both so impressed with her as a model. If the sister is anything like, you may be in for a year of constant irritation. And repulsion.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 04:44:09](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

Oh.. Letitia Calderwood?

Yes, positively dreadful girl. Repulsive. ~~Except~~ for. I completely agree with you, of course.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 05:17:24](#)

Re: Private Message to the Razzer

You *didn't*. She's barely half your age!

Rabastan Basil Lestrangle, you are impossible.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-02 04:08:09](#)

Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

Just a note to say I hope you found things in reasonable order in your rooms - I think the house elves finally got all the packs of publicity materials out of the back corner cupboards, yes?

I was glad to see you've got much the same view of the student fussing that I do: it's a stage they go through where everything is larger than life, and absolutely the center of the universe. Silly, really.

I will say that making fun of you - or of anyone other than perhaps his mates - seems most unlike Neville Longbottom. Not that they

don't change, or do foolish things, but Neville's tended to hang back quietly rather than draw attention to himself. At YPL events, he's been thoughtful but clearly taking it all in, and aware of the difficulties of his family history. On the other hand, it's exactly those children who - through no fault of their own - come from challenged families who are at the core of the YPL's goals. If we can train them properly, surely the Protectorate will be better off.

At any rate, one more welcome, and do give a shout if there's anything else I can lend a hand with. You won't see me at breakfast much, as I'm up half the night with classes once things get going, but I'm usually around in the afternoon and early evening when not teaching.

-S



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-02 04:20:22](#)

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

Cheers for the welcome!

I've found a few odds and ends up here, but nothing too alarming. I'm more perturbed at the thought of someone genuinely and earnestly purchasing a cloak pin with a built-in "cloak-billowing charm" than I am by the pin itself. And what sort of man has a curling iron?

I don't yet know him, but Mr Longbottom doesn't strike me as one who would go out of his way to make a spectacle of himself. Teenagers do occasionally do mindless things when they believe that no-one is watching, but that's to be expected. Like you, I am certain that with the right guidance, Mr Longbottom and others like him will find their rightful place in the Protectorate.

I'm a little envious of your schedule, I admit. Early mornings will take some getting used to.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-02 04:27:01](#)

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

Oh, goodness. Yes. I'm rather disturbed by the pin as well. (The curling iron, in hindsight, was rather obvious, given his hair.)


As to the schedule, I'd cheerfully trade early mornings for not having to stand on top of a tall tower in the middle of the night in February. It is rather a pity we couldn't just relocate Hogwarts to some slightly more temperate area of Britain now that privacy is no longer the concern it was in my day (and yours.)

Which reminds me I need to move the basic warming charms earlier in the first year curriculum, as otherwise we get nothing done for the fumbling with gloves and hats once we hit mid-October or so.

One of the benefits of being staff, by the way - if you let the house elves know that you appreciate a strong hot tea (or your other morning beverage of choice), and the time, they're quite prompt. A lifesaver, the mornings I do have to be up and about early for some reason.

At any rate, enjoy your first night back here: I'm off to ready one or two last things for tomorrow, and then see exactly how much they've all forgotten in the morning.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2010-09-02 04:35:38**

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

There are more temperate areas of Britain? Mind, I haven't experienced a brisk Scottish winter in quite some time, but New London is no Ibiza. I haven't experienced Ibiza's climate in quite some time either either, alas.

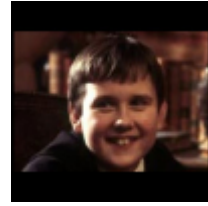
Oh, will the elves bring me a pint first thing in the morning, then? Only of course I'm not serious. Certainly not. I'll only request a pint at night.

Cheers, I still have quite a bit of work to get through before I turn in, but I'm looking forward to it. Now, do be sure to have a brilliant first day back tomorrow.

2010-09-01 19:55:00


Gryffindor!

Welcome to our House, Evelyn!



 [alt_neville](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2010-09-02 01:10:57**

Private Message to Augusta Longbottom

The Hat didn't take nearly as long with her as it took with me. It shouted out 'Gryffindor!' right away.

I guess you probably saw in the journals what Draco Malfoy was saying, and you were right about people giving us a hard time. I don't mind so much for myself as I do for her. There were even some people who booed when she was sorted into Gryffindor, and she heard them, and her face, well...that was a really bad moment there.

But you would have been proud of her, honest. I sure was. She got up off the stool holding her chin up just the way you told her to, and she walked down to the Gryffindor table just as if everyone was cheering madly for her. I know she was talking with one of the other girls on the train who got sorted into Gryffindor, too, so I'm hoping she has a friend already.

She's going to need friends.

Please make sure that everyone in the family knows, won't you? Uncle Algie and Aunt Enid, too? I know Aunt Enid sort of hoped she'd be in Hufflepuff, but I'm sure she's still happy for her.

(There were Dementors on the train, by the way. They're every bit as bad as I've heard people say they are. And boy, are they ever scary looking! Don't know why they were there, except maybe to guard the Lord Protector's son.)

I'm trying to figure out what I should say to Professor Lestrangle, or how I can get close enough to him to say something privately before classes tomorrow. One of my friends suggested it might be good to sort of go up to him and apologise. Especially if one or two other

people see me do it, and before anyone tells me to do it. But all the professors are up there at the staff table, and I can hardly walk up there in front of everybody. That would maybe get me more attention than I think would do Evelyn or me any good.

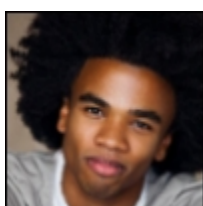
Anyway, she's in Gryffindor and she'll be okay. I'm relieved she's in my House so I can keep a closer eye on her.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2010-09-02 01:15:19](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

We're so pleased. Another Longbottom to corrupt.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2010-09-02 01:17:16](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

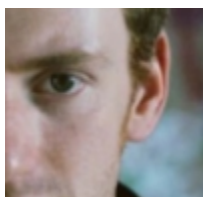
Hey congratulations to your sister. Tell her that if anyone gives her any trouble she can come to Gred and Forge or me and we'll chuck 'em in the lake for the giant squid.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-09-02 01:17:48](#)**

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

I'm not so sure that's a good idea. But thanks for the thought all the same!



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2010-09-02 01:19:24](#)**

(no subject)

I trust she will bring honour to our House.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-09-02 01:19:33](#)**

(no subject)


Of course she will!



 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-09-02 01:20:34](#)
(no subject)

As long as she conducts herself with decorum and circumspection.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-02 01:21:44](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Prat.

We shouldn't have given his precious badge back to him so soon.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 01:39:05](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

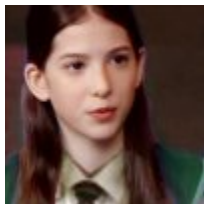
And since when have Gryffindors ever been full of decorum? Or circumspection?


Ever?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 01:40:46](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


This is an excellent point!



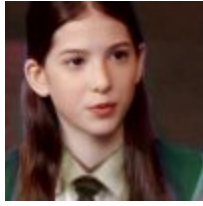
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 02:15:26](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Did you really make it say 'humongous bighead'? Because if you didn't you should have.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-02 11:51:28](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

We did. It took him quite awhile to notice it, too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 01:39:46](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

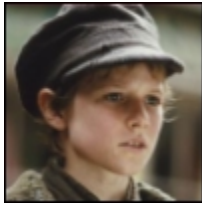
Ugh. Is he TRYING to be worse than Sandoval?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 14:03:30](#)

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

You think he has to try?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-02 01:24:46](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I reckon you'll rest a bit easier knowing she's in your own House.

Congratulations to her, and I hope she likes it here at Hogwarts.

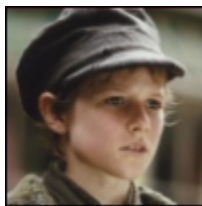
Hope Master doesn't give her too hard a time. And be sure to remind her what I told you about him, that she should never ever look him straight in the eyes.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 01:25:31](#)

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

Thanks. I'll be sure to do that.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-02 01:33:40](#)


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

Oh, and another thing...I was sitting at the Headmistress' feet during the Sorting. (She usually doesn't make me do that, but I guess she likes to sort of make a point of treating me like a Mudblood during the Feasts and all.) Anyway, I happened to be glancing her way right when the Hat shouted out your sister's House. And I could tell...she was really pleased. She got that little twitch in the corners of her mouth like she was trying to hide it, but I could tell. Her shoulders slumped a little, as if she was relieved. And that's a good thing, if she's pleased. You know

the Headmistress used to be the Head of Gryffindor, too.

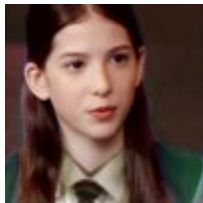
Anyway, for what it's worth, I thought you might like to know that.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 01:34:48](#)

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

Thanks, Terry.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 01:42:09](#)

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

Did you notice what she looked like when other people were Sorted into Gryffindor? Was she especially hoping Evelyn would be?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-02 02:09:07](#)

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

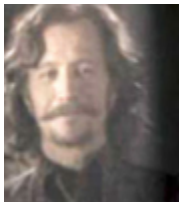
I think she was hoping for it, actually, yeah. It's sort of hard to explain, but...maybe it was the way she leaned forward a little. And put her goblet down. She was really interested in that Sorting in particular.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2010-09-02 01:45:30](#)

ORDER ONLY

go go gryffindor!




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-02 02:00:30](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Quite right, too.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-02 02:12:31](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Hear, hear.

Try not to gloat too much when Alice is about, though.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-02 02:33:32](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Too late for that, I'm afraid.

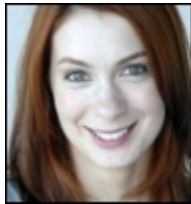
Well, it's a bit of good news, and we could all use some, that's for certain!




 [alt_frank](#) at [2010-09-02 02:53:30](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

oi! I haven't been gloating!



 [alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-02 02:55:31](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Oh, you haven't been gloating at all, my love. You've just been singing bits of "The Ballad of Godric" on and off all night, that's all. And it's a pure coincidence that you've brought out the

afghan that has your house colours on it to cover the bed tonight.

Shall I go on?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 02:58:54](#)

(no subject)

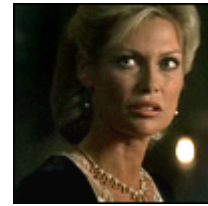
Best thing that happened all day. And that's the truth.

2010-09-01 21:56:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Is everything all right, dear?


Not with that horrid Longbottom boy and the Razzler; your uncle will sort him.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

We heard about the Dementors.




 [alt_draco](#) at **2010-09-02 02:34:19**
(no subject)

Oh, yes, they got onto the train somehow. Or at least one of them did. It scared a lot of people, but the Razzler woke up and did one of those patronus spells.

Harry didn't react so well, though. I didn't feel so well myself, but I didn't pass out like he did.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2010-09-02 02:52:06**
(no subject)

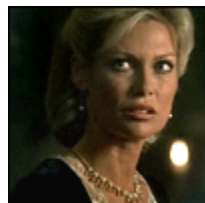
He passed out?


What did the Razzler say about that? Has Madam Pomfrey seen to him?



 [alt_draco](#) at **2010-09-02 03:22:39**
(no subject)

Razzler talked to Harry alone later, and told him that it could happen to anyone. But for some reason I felt like he didn't seem very surprised that it was Harry it happened to.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2010-09-02 03:24:48**
(no subject)

Well, no, it's not so terribly surprising, I suppose.

You said Razzler woke up. Was he ... dearest, was he ill, on the train? Before the Dementors boarded, I mean.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 03:43:57](#)
(no subject)

Son, your father is sending you a parcel with Valerian. Believe it or not, he suggested sending you chocolate! Miracles do happen, it seems - though given the choice, I'd rather have you safe from those Dementors and still 'deprived' of your sweets.

Do take care of yourself, my boy.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-02 04:25:38](#)
(no subject)

I'm actually already a little off on chocolate, but it does help, so it'll be good to have on hand. Especially if Harry needs it.

Oh, and if you're asking if the Razzler was hungover - yes, he was. Hydra said Uncle Rodolphus and some other friends took him out last night, for one last hurrah.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 04:33:58](#)
(no subject)

I thought as much.

Let's not tell your father that, dear. About the blinder, that is. Not that he wouldn't understand (he may know, for all I know), but ... well. It might make him cross, unnecessarily so.

[2010-09-01 22:30:00](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo



 **[alt_padma](#)**

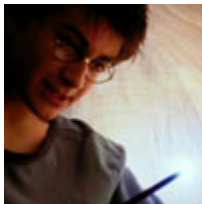
Harry,

Is it true you fainted? That's awful! I'm sorry those Dementors made you sick. We felt pretty cold and all of a sudden I started thinking about Sanji, and missing him a good deal, but nothing like fainting.

There has to be a better way to protect us all, hasn't there? I mean, isn't that part of why Professor Lestrangle is here?

I suppose if they really don't ever come near to us, then we'll be all right.

Anyway, I just wanted to say it's really horrible that they made you so ill. I hope it doesn't happen ever again.



 **[alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-02 02:49:50](#)**

(no subject)

Yes its true. I'm not ashamed of it at all. Anybody would faint. That's what ~~Razz~~ Professor Lestrangle says anyway.



 **[alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-02 02:55:35](#)**


(no subject)

Oh, I don't think it's anything to be ashamed about! Some people faint at the sight of blood, too, and some can't even touch the spiders in Potions and all, even when they're dead. It's just one of those things.

It's only sometimes when people faint they can hit their heads and stuff. But you're okay, right?

It's just terrible that those Dementors had to come on the train and make everyone feel off. If they'd caught that Snape fellow it wouldn't have happened, or Macnair either.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-02 02:57:48](#)
(no subject)

Yeah I'm all right. Granger is looking after me.

I feel bad that I made everyone else deal with the Dementors. Nobody likes them. Father neither.

Anyway it's funny how Weasley hates spiders. I'd hate to think I'm like him about something.

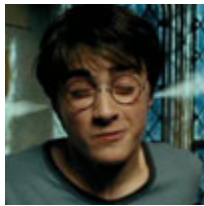



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-02 03:01:01](#)
(no subject)

Come off it, you're nothing like!

Weasley's a pillock and an idiot, and most likely a blood-traitor, I'll bet. And those giant spiders are one thing, but the little ones in class aren't anything to be afraid of. Not like a Dementor.

I'm glad you're okay, though.

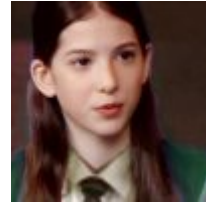


 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-02 03:02:29](#)
(no subject)

Me, too!

2010-09-01 22:46:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good




 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Come to think of it, if someone WERE going to pretend to be a pillock while secretly being incredibly powerful and devious, they'd SURELY wind up in Slytherin. (And if they wanted everyone to quietly overlook them they'd try to get the Hat to put them in Hufflepuff, not Gryffindor!)


If Draco's thinking about it I wonder if he knows someone who IS doing this? You don't suppose Vince or Greg is a whole lot cleverer than they let on, do you? Or Milli. Now THAT would be startling.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 03:51:26](#)
(no subject)

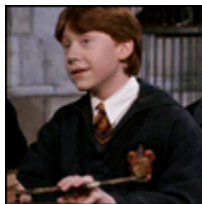
I think you should lay off the chocolate. It's making you daft.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 03:56:07](#)
(no subject)

I dunno, Vince and Greg are supposed to be brill at Dark Arts.

Milli is a total waste of space, though.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 04:06:31](#)
(no subject)

Well. It's no surprise they're brill at being Great. Big. Gallunking. Evil. Gits.


But if Millicent Bulstrode is really an evil genius in disguise, I'm Malfoy's long-lost twin.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 04:20:21](#)
(no subject)


Wouldn't that be hilarious? I mean, if Draco had a long-lost twin and you were it. We should tell that idea to Daphne and let her turn it into a comic opera.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 04:23:50](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, well. I better turn out to be the older twin.
I'm far better looking.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 04:16:14](#)
(no subject)


How long does it take before you start feeling better?

I think I am now.

Only

Well as long as I don't think about stuff.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 04:18:55](#)
(no subject)

Well, then, don't think.

Shouldn't be too hard for you, tunabrain.

Hah.

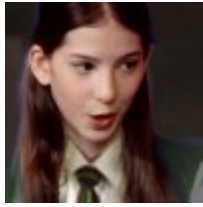


 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 04:19:47](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, okay.

Bed now.

See you tomorrow, Fisheye.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 04:19:21](#)
(no subject)

Did you EAT some CHOCOLATE, Ron?

I really would not think it would be difficult to convince YOU to eat ANYTHING.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 04:21:00](#)
(no subject)

Of course, I did. Percy passed it around and told us we all had to eat it or he'd dock points.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 04:22:56](#)
(no subject)

Percy had to threaten to DOCK POINTS to get you to EAT CHOCOLATE?

Who ARE you? WHERE IS RON WEASLEY?!????!?!?!?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 04:22:13](#)
(no subject)

Not that he had to tell me twice to eat chocs.

And it was the good stuff, too.


At least they got us real chocolate since they sent those horrible things to creep us out.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-02 04:23:25](#)**
(no subject)

Oh all right, I feel better then. Maybe it really is you.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-09-02 13:48:08](#)**
(no subject)

It did help.

Yesterday was a rather awful day. Well, except for Evelyn getting sorted into Gryffindor.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:59:18](#)**
(no subject)

You might be right about that.

[2010-09-01 22:50:00](#)

Yes.

Yes, I fainted.

Stop asking me about it.

Professor Lestrage says it could happen to anyone. Especially if they are very magical. So.



 **[alt_harry](#)**

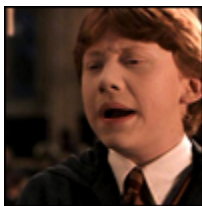



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2010-09-02 02:56:25](#)**
I Solemnly Swear that I am up to No Good

It was horrid.

I mean he collapsed like something had hit him or something. I saw some bad things, I mean I remembered when I found out about my father, and also some of the punishments from my first year. But I don't know what Harry saw. Unless - I mean, I really can't think what it could have been. But it must have been so terrible, his eyes rolled back in his head and he whispered something and he just fell right over, and the Razzar told me I had to feed him chocolate. Which I am.

The Razzar isn't a bad sort by the way. I mean he's nicer than he could be. He still doesn't treat me like a human being but he treats me like a good dog. You know. I mean he isn't cruel. So I don't think any of you will have trouble in classes, and Terry, I think maybe he'd be okay if you had to go to him ever.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-02 03:36:32](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To NO Good

Oh, boo bloody hoo.

I fainted. But it was only because I'm so magical. It could happen to anybody--if they're as special as me.

Of course, no one is.

And don't pester me with questions about it because I can't be bothered talking to little people.

Anyway, I probably need some more chocolate because I'm feeling

*peaky again. I'll just go see if my personal servant Professor
Lestrangle has some for me. So. Tra la.*

[2010-09-01 23:37:00](#)

Private message to Pansy Parkinson

Are you all right, Little Bit?

Run through your chocolate already?



 **[alt_lucius](#)**



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-02 04:00:30](#)**

(no subject)

No worries, Lucius, I've still got quite a bit left.

I thought ahead and had some with me on the train, which was a good thing, because then I could pass it round.

Everyone has been in a simply rotten mood all night. It's simply *exhausting*. I mean, crabby firsties are the absolute worst.

But I'll be fine. Now that I know what to expect, and how long it takes to go away and all.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-09-02 04:12:25](#)**


(no subject)

Very well. Don't stint yourself - but don't make yourself ill on the sweets, hm?

And if you should run low in your supply, let me know.

Though ... perhaps you ought to be judicious in your generosity. Speaking of which, have you given thought to our talk of the summer? It seems your ... friends ... are off to a rollicking start to their new year.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 04:28:38](#)
(no subject)

I shall.

And I have.

Although if by rollicking, you mean being their usual clumsy selves, than you're right. I mean, Sally-Anne knows him better than I do, we're just in study group really, but Longbottom should be a Hufflepuff, he's so mild mannered. So it's a shame he got blasted like that at the start of school, but it's important he knows his place and to watch his step, especially with parents like his.

It really was pitiful, though, how down-in-the-mouth he got when people were claiming he was making fun of Professor LeStrange.

2010-09-02 06:41:00

Private Message to Mum and Dad



 [alt_ernie](#)

Hullo!

Sorry I didn't write last night. Things were a bit mad. You've probably heard already, but there were Dementors on the train. We're both alright. It was horrible when they came past our compartment on the train, we all felt awful, remembering every bad thing in our lives, like we'd never be happy again.

But then they went away, and we had some chocolate when we got to school and we all felt a bit better after that. Pip was a bit scared, but we all were, and he was pretty brave about it. He said he hopes the rest of school isn't this exciting, which was really funny!

Anyway, he was Sorted into HUFFLEPUFF!! The hat thought about it for a minute or two, but then it said HUFFLEPUFF and we all cheered like mad!

We were all feeling a bit funny last night, after the train, so we all sort of stayed together in the Common Room, but Pip got chatting with a few of the other new firsties, and they all seem like decent types, so I reckon he'll be alright.

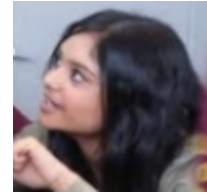
I hope you're all alright at home too, and Laurie's not missing us too much. Have the babies come yet??!!

Love
Ernie

2010-09-02 08:45:00

This year's timetable

is utterly mad. I thought last year's was bad enough but - well, I suppose with the electives in, we were bound to have less free time.

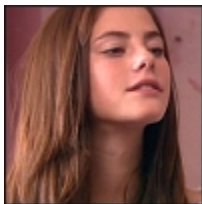


 [alt_padma](#)

Finnigan, I'm trying to figure out if Wednesday is still best for History Club. I think probably it's no worse than any other. We've got to be up anyway, right, for Astronomy. So perhaps we ought to go ahead now and say Wednesdays.

But I heard from Electra Bobolis that they're considering moving Young Interrogators to Wednesdays. Have you heard anything about that? Anyway, if it's true we'll have to change up, but I hope not. I'd rather not have to shift everything round.

Oh. And you can tell that Weasel you dorm with that I saw him at breakfast. Parvati and Lav did too, from down the table. It's not funny, and it's in horrid taste. I'd tell him myself but we've no lessons with you lot today. I don't fancy he's clever enough to be taking Arithmancy.




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-02 13:39:31](#)

(no subject)

I found his antics to be entirely classless, but nevertheless unsurprising.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-02 13:44:01](#)

(no subject)

I know, he's so insensitive! But then again, he *is* a Weasley. 'Weasley' and 'boorish' practically go hand-in-hand. It's disgusting.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-02 14:03:50](#)

(no subject)


Watch what you say about the Head Boy, eh?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-02 14:08:29](#)
(no subject)

I said 'practically' - and at least the Head Boy doesn't go about making fun of people.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-02 14:10:26](#)
(no subject)

True enough.

I'll see you in Dark Arts, eh? Or Arithmancy -- no, hold on, I have that with Slytherin, not Ravenclaw. I think. Well, Dark Arts anyway.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-09-02 14:48:07](#)
(no subject)

No, he doesn't.

And he'll do his best to ensure that his siblings don't from now on, either.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 14:57:08](#)
I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

I don't suppose that carries over to actually supporting them when other people are the ones making fun, does it?

Honestly, though, Ron, this one is entirely on you.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 17:37:07](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

How is it on me?

I tried being friends with him. If Marvolo wants to make a meal out of making me look stupid, I'm not going to just roll over and take it.

I can't believe all of you.



 **alt_pansy** at [2010-09-02 19:36:39](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

I mean your behaviour this morning is all on you. I can look at what Neville did and honestly say that he didn't mean to make fun, but you meant to, and that's different.

I understand why you'd want to do it, and I know why you're angry. And really, Harry's treated you quite poorly, so I understand why you're feeling the way you are.

So I'm not arguing about that.

I'm just pointing out that making fun of the Lord Protector's son might not be a smart move right now, even if you are mad and don't want to be friends with Harry any more.

Especially after Longbottom got blasted for seeming to make fun of Professor LeStrange just yesterday. It just isn't helping anything right now for any of us. You must see that what you do doesn't effect just you.

And now that you have gone ahead and done it, you have to take responsibility for what people will say about you, and what they'll say about Longbottom, and Sally-Anne and me for that matter. It's like my hexing Padma. It was a stupid thing to do, I had to serve loads of detention, and it was because I let my temper get the best of me, and I had to listen to a load of people calling me an idiot after, and worse besides.



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-02 19:55:55](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

It's not like that's the reason they call me stuff. Or that they all started today. Or if I hadn't said that stuff, they'd like me.

Whatever.

I'm not sorry.



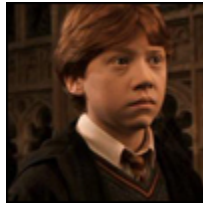
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 20:23:20](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

You don't have to be. It just might be better next time to do something else instead of being so public about it, is all.

And you're right. If you hadn't said anything, it's not like people would have started liking you that didn't before. But doing what you did certainly didn't help anyone, least of all you. I mean, did it make you feel better? Did it accomplish anything? You still sound really angry and miserable to me.

Look. What do you want right now? Because if you want to go off on your own and cool down and have me stop bugging you about it for awhile, I'll do that. If a long walk and chocolate would make you feel better, I'm always up for that. But you can stop that nonsense about me not being your friend right now. Okay?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 20:26:55](#)

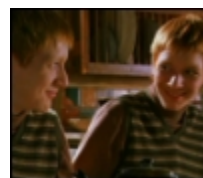
Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Of course it felt good.

Really bloody terrific.

What feels rotten is all you lot saying, 'That wasn't nice' and 'That wasn't smart.' Whatever.

So, yeah, if you're my friend and you can't say, 'Marvolo Stinks,' then it's probably best if you go away for a while and let this all go by.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-02 20:55:34](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

The two of us can meet you by the lake before dinner and we'll all chuck rocks at the Giant Squid, if that would help. You can pretend you're chucking them at Marvolo. The squid won't mind.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 20:59:43](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Yeah, okay.

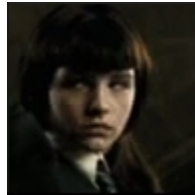
That'd be good, actually.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-02 21:25:02](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Fine. We'll see you there.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 21:02:11](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

~~Are you even reading what I'm writing at all?~~

Okay then.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 21:18:13](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

We're going down the lake in a bit.

You could come along.

If you wanted.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 21:23:16](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Yeah.

I do.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-02 13:53:34](#)**
(no subject)

Speaking of the History club, when do you want to get together for our project?


I've been doing loads of work on it, I'd like to show you what all I've done to organise the files I got from the Department of Mysteries.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-02 14:11:52](#)**
(no subject)

Good question! Maybe Saturday? I don't think we've any lessons together this year. Unless you're doing Arithmancy or Runes. I heard you're not in Dark Arts, is that true? There aren't many Slytherins who didn't go for it.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-02 14:40:00](#)**
(no subject)

I'm in Arithmancy.

But yeah, I thought I'd go for Ancient Runes instead. And my House certainly has a fine tradition of work in the Dark Arts, I just don't want to go for my OWLS in it, is all, and Professor Carrow was very explicit that she only wanted people that were really committed to it.

But yeah, Saturday would work just fine.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-02 14:03:18](#)**
(no subject)


I don't talk to the Weasel I dorm with, not if I have any choice about it.

His performance this morning pretty well shows why.

I think Wednesday is as good as any other day. It's a shame we can't


go to History Club instead of History of Magic classes with that useless ghost.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-02 14:08:57](#)
(no subject)

Too right.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-02 15:27:41](#)
(no subject)

It's mental. First Longbottom taking the mickey of a Professor, right behind his back, in front of everyone, and now Weasley taking the mickey of the Lord Protector's son! I know Gryffindors are meant to be bold and that, but there's a difference between boldness and stupidity. What's going on in that Tower?! (Not you, Seamus. Everyone knows you're a good sort.)


I haven't heard anything yet about Young Interrogators, but I hope it doesn't clash with History Club. I definitely want to keep up both this year.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-02 15:33:07](#)
(no subject)

If they do clash we'll move History Club. Padma's in both, too.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-02 21:58:17](#)
(no subject)

Here's something we can discuss in history club: the now historical FACT that Weasley is the biggest idiot who ever lived. Harry's been trying to put him off gently for ages but he just wouldn't get the hint, and now he's so desperate for Harry's attentions that he's decided to imitate his chum Longbottom's ways.

But this all on top of the fact that he was questioned by the MLE this summer for more of less harassing Harry during the YPL trip


and...well, I don't even know why he's even allowed to stay at this school anymore.



 **alt_padma** at [2010-09-02 22:07:29](#)
(no subject)

I know, right? What a squib.



 **alt_seamus** at [2010-09-03 01:39:22](#)
(no subject)

I'd really rather talk about real wizards in History club, not useless prats like Weasley.

2010-09-02 09:08:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Ron. ARE YOU MAD? I thought better of you than this.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I didn't faint but I cried when the Dementors came, are you going to make fun of me, next?

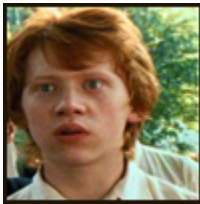



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 14:46:09](#)

(no subject)

I'll talk to him.

I dunno if it'll help much.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 14:55:06](#)

(no subject)

Oi.

You, too?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 15:24:49](#)

(no subject)

Yes, you prat. Me, too. The blood traitor who nobody should befriend if they know what's good for them.

It's going to be bad enough for me this year. Do you think I want to see you burn every single bridge you've got, too?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-02 15:25:27](#)

(no subject)

And I've been made fun of enough at this school. I don't like to see you doing it to someone else.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 17:31:35](#)
(no subject)

It's not the same.


At. All.

Sheesh, Nev. Have some spine.

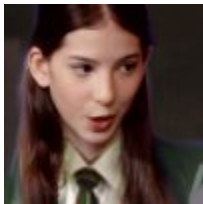
Fight back, already.

Or, anyway, don't rag me out when I do.



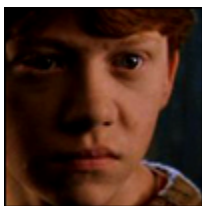
 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 14:54:50](#)
(no subject)


Whose side are you on, anyway?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 15:05:29](#)
(no subject)

Oh you've caught me out, I'm on Draco's side and Harry's side and that's why I never talk to you ever, you prat.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 15:05:07](#)
(no subject)

I mean we all felt awful when those Dementors came on the train, but we didn't make a huge production out of it. I mean, you'd have thought they tried to give him the kiss or summat, wouldn't you? The way they all went on about him.

Cripes. What a ponce.

And you know? If it really was as horrible as all that, then he bloody well deserved it.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-02 15:07:26](#)
(no subject)

Harry did not faint ON PURPOSE.

He NEVER tries to draw attention to himself. EVER.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 15:16:10](#)
(no subject)

I didn't say he did it on purpose. And you don't even know. You weren't there.

It was probably just because he spent all summer eating bonbons and having elves and Granger do everything for him.

And he sure changed his mind about that yesterday when he told me off in front of everybody. How was that not calling attention to himself? You think I want to sit with someone like you, Weasley? Where'd you get that idea?


Nice.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-02 20:08:31](#)
(no subject)


Oh come off it.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 20:29:02](#)
(no subject)

Don't you start.



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-02 15:05:39](#)
(no subject)

And if you feel so sorry for him.

Well.


Just say it: you're his friend not mine.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2010-09-02 15:40:21](#)
(no subject)

OH YOU ARE SUCH AN ARSE. I don't know why I
EVEN BOTHER.



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-02 17:29:59](#)
(no subject)

Great.

[2010-09-02 10:03:00](#)

Private message to Ron Weasley



Yesterday was a difficult day because of the Dementors on the train. I know that. ~~But I am~~

Ron, let me start again. I am perfectly well aware that you and I haven't gotten on all that well in the last couple of years. I am also entirely aware that you and the twins have made a big joke of the fact that I've been made Head Boy this year, and you're not inclined to take anything I tell you seriously.

 [alt_percy](#)

So do me AND yourself a big favour, Ron. Pretend for a moment that I'm Bill telling you this. You've always gotten on better with him, so maybe you'd listen to him before you'd listen to me. He was Head Boy, too, and he would tell you exactly what I'm going to tell you now.

Ron, this is absolute madness. You cannot go around mocking the Lord Protector's son. I don't care if he hurt your feelings--well, I take that back. I actually do care. Because I've had to put up with the same thing, believe me. Our family is widely known to be poor and our loyalties somewhat suspect. I put up with little smirks all summer whenever I gave people my name at my internship. If Marvolo snubbed you on the train, that's rotten, but don't you understand that your behaviour is not conducive to convincing him to rethink that and decide to be your friend after all?

If he can't or won't be your friend, don't make him your enemy. He could be an extremely dangerous enemy. And I'm not talking about dangerous to you only, but dangerous to our entire family.


I'm not going to lecture you in public about this or try to dock points over it or anything of that ilk. This is much too serious for that. Ron, this could affect your whole life if you continue down this treacherous path.

Write to Bill if you don't believe me. In fact, I'm going to ask him to send you an owl today.

I'm willing to discuss this with you if you like, and I promise I'll listen to any grievances you may have to air. But I urge you to spend not as much energy on defending yourself as on thinking, really thinking about what you need to do to repair the damage. Fault or blame isn't

the point here at all. Not for Marvolo, and not for you, either. The point is getting along with people and not hurting yourself in the process.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 17:35:13](#)
(no subject)

You know who the Hat put in the wrong House?

Not Gin.

You.

You go kiss up to Marvolo and Malfoy, why don't you.

And stop pretending this isn't about what's good for you.

2010-09-02 10:39:00

Order Only: Private Message to Alice Longbottom



 [alt_sirius](#)

Feeling any better this morning?

Wish I were. Nothing to do with Terrie, mind. I've been watching her place since yesterday. I think I will send her an owl, just to see what she does with it.

Now that I have an owl to send, that is.

See. One found me this morning. And I --

It's the Parkinson girl. I'm not sure where she got the notion that I'm not dead. I don't want Molly or Poppy to see, in case Ron Weasley caught wind of something at home. (I know he and Miss Parkinson are mates, improbable as that sounds, so it's possible if he overheard Molly and Arthur, he might have said something to Pansy.) And Poppy ... well, she'd start shrieking about it being an elaborate trap of Malfoy's or something.

Which I don't think is the idea at all. I'm quite sure that if she were acting on Malfoy's orders she wouldn't have said she thinks Reg is still alive - and with me, no less.


Circe, the safest thing is not to answer at all. I know that.

But there's something disingenuous about that, I suppose. Something that smacks of not playing fair - like ... if she's found the courage to write, she ought to get an answer. And I hate the thought of her pining after Reg, even if there's something vaguely discomfiting about their connection. I mean, I don't know any more than she does, do I? But someone ought to at least tell her to get on, let him go. And, I suppose it's an opportunity to tell the truth, so far as I do know it.

I dunno. I guess it's nothing that has to be answered today, or even tomorrow. I'll use this owl to write to Terrie so I can gauge her reaction and whether it's safe to make contact. Let this sit for a while.

But ... what do you think?



 **alt_alice** at [2010-09-02 20:10:56](#)
(no subject)

Oh my.


There are an awful lot of things to sort through, for certain. First of all, whether she's just acting on rumour or hope, or if she knows something more solid. I don't suppose she gave any specifics about what she knows and how, did she? I mean, there are rumours enough going round, and that might be where she got the idea from, but if Lucius Malfoy does know something we don't and that's where she got it from, that's worrisome.

And second, I'm sorry to hear she is having trouble moving on from Regulus's death, but it's not surprising -- his body was never found, so there was little resolution on the matter, and I can see how she'd make the connection.

I don't think your cover is worth her peace of mind. It really is the most valuable thing you have going for you right now, and the longer you are able to hold onto it, the better. The letter to Terrie Spinnet is different of course, because that door has already been opened.

I don't suppose you've gotten any other letters? I can honestly say I'm surprised that someone else hasn't tried it out on a whim until now. I'd also check any owls you receive for tracking charms, just in case.



 **alt_sirius** at [2010-09-02 20:54:33](#)
(no subject)


No, no specifics. And the owl's clean, I did check it over.

I don't get the impression she really *expects* an answer. It just seems cruel to leave her hanging. I'm not used to how little girls think, though - is it as cruel as I think it is?

As for other letters ... well, there were a few, right after the announcement went round that I was dead. Some of them were only good for burning, if you follow me. And yes, I've left them unanswered - though I guess they had their reply when the owls came back empty-clawed.

But this one feels different. (For one thing, she's nicked my records and claims them as her own.) I dunno. I guess I'm just trying to convince myself there's a good reason to answer. And you're right. There really is none.




 **alt_alice** at **[2010-09-02 21:43:20](#)**
(no subject)

How very mercenary of her!

I wouldn't call it cruel. You're not doing it to be mean, or needlessly leading her on. She'll take the lack of an answer as an answer of sorts, and that's not going to hurt her any more than her own imagination can supply.



 **alt_alice** at **[2010-09-02 21:10:00](#)**
(no subject)

And I am feeling better. Loads.

Frank's been working up a "welcome to Gryffindor" letter for Evelyn, and he couldn't be prouder. And things seem to be going back to normal, at least for the time being, which is a relief.

2010-09-02 12:40:00

I SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I AM UP TO NO GOOD


It's good to know who your friends aren't.



 [alt_ron](#)

Carry on.




 [alt_neville](#) at **2010-09-02 17:59:07**
(no subject)

We're being better friends to you than you're being to yourself.

And that's the last thing I'm gonna say on the subject.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2010-09-02 18:40:07**
(no subject)

Well, when you come to your senses and decide it's time to grovel, come and see me. I'll give you all the tips you need.

I'm real good at groveling.

2010-09-02 12:59:00

Private message to Ron Weasley

I got an owl from Percy. Never mind what he said. I'm curious to know what you have to say.


So why don't you tell me all about it.

If you like.



 [alt_bill](#)




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 18:27:32](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I can guess what he said.

Doesn't matter.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-02 18:44:23](#)
(no subject)

No, it doesn't. As I said, I'm interested in what you have to say.

Take your time. Maybe just think about it for a day or two, then say whatever you like. I'll keep whatever it is between just the two of us, all right?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-02 21:26:28](#)
(no subject)

Have you ever had a mate who turned around and stabbed you in the back in front of everyone?

'Cause that's what happened.

And everyone's said 'You should've known he wouldn't really be your friend.' It was really stupid to think he would, 'cause it turns out he's worse than any of the rest of them.



 **alt_bill** at [2010-09-03 14:11:12](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Yeah, I have. It's happened to me twice.

Once it was a girl I liked, sixth year. Phoebe I'm-not-going-to-tell-you-her-last-name. I was chatting her up after classes and then we got assigned a project together in Potions. She was really pretty, and I was hoping, you know.

Then one day, I was out in the courtyard, and I realised she just around the other side of the pillar that I was sitting beside. And she was talking to another boy and flirting with him. I guess the guy wondered about me, the way she was coming on to him, and so he asked her about it. And she sniggered and said, 'Bill Weasley? Why would I ever go out with a tosser like him?'

I could feel my face turning red as fire. I stalked out from behind the pillar and glared at her, and she looked just sick when she saw me.

I got another partner in Potions and I never spoke to her again. I could never see her again without thinking of it.

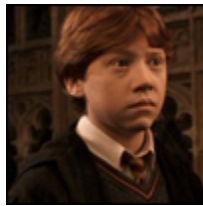
The other one's a little different. It was a bloke I got friendly with the first year I worked at the Ministry. We started going to the Leaky Cauldron after work to play darts and just talk. I liked spending time with him, because I was new to London and didn't know many people, and he was the one person near my age in my department. And then...he started giving me the brush off, saying he had to work late, that he had to get home. I didn't pick up the clues for almost a month, and then one day I overheard him telling someone that no, he didn't know me all that well, and that we weren't actually friends. It was like getting punched in the gut. At that point, I took the hint, and I left him alone. And yeah, that one hurt a lot, too.


It wasn't until four months later that I found out why he did it. He got arrested. He'd been involved in the black market. He knew he was being watched and he knew he was being followed. And I think...I'm pretty sure...that he cut off our friendship because he was trying to protect me. To make it clear that I wasn't involved in any way, too.

He's now serving a ten year prison sentence in Azkaban.

I guess my point, Ron, is that sometimes you don't always know why people do the things that they do. Or you can jump to the wrong conclusions. That's what Draco Malfoy did yesterday about your friend Neville, wasn't it? Sometimes people may treat you like shite simply because they're shites, yeah, I'll grant you that.

But in some cases, that may not be the entire story.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-03 15:40:15](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah, well.

Thing is, what he did was in front of a whole load of people, which was really

It's like your first one, except for the part where it's not anything like that. I mean, it's just that if he doesn't want to be mates, okay, but don't say you do and then do that in front a whole pile of people. That girl was just talking to one bloke; she didn't tell you off in front of everyone.

I guess Mum'll be happy, anywiz. I got in kind of a load of trouble for being his friend.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-03 16:43:32](#)**
(no subject)

I'm very sorry, Ron. Having it happen in front of a load of other people makes the rejection just that much more awful. It feels more...personal.

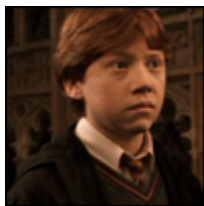
Maybe he just hasn't had much experience with friendships. Real friendships like you and I have, I mean. Maybe he does it because he lives in a fishbowl all the time, and so he often expects that people he doesn't know very well only are trying to get close to him because they want something. I'm not saying you're like that at all, you understand. But he doesn't know that. And I'm not saying it's right, either.


Sometimes understanding doesn't make it feel any less rotten.

And sometimes you can't understand it at all.

And I don't think Mum will be 'happy' about this, honest. She'd vastly prefer to have your friendships be good ones, rather than give you a load of grief, trust me.

What do you want to happen with him, at this point? Are you hoping he'll change his mind, or have you given up on him entirely? Maybe there's still a way you can be at least respectful acquaintances, instead of wand-drawing antagonists. While still keeping your own self-respect, you know.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-03 20:24:49](#)
(no subject)

What do I want to have happen?

It's not like I get to say, is it? He's the one decided it. And I'm not an idiot--no matter what

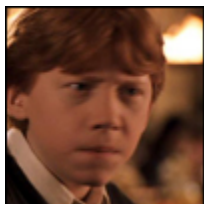
Malfoy says.


Thing is. He did this last year, too. And then sent that Granger to tell me he didn't mean it, he just can't be friends 'cause his real friends wouldn't like it, but I shouldn't get mad. Like you're any kind of friends at all if you're too spineless to say. And then later he changed his mind and wanted to be mates again. And he's the one asked me to sit with him on the train.

Then this.

So, yeah. What do I want to happen? Nothing. I'm done with it.

He can go stuff himself for all I care.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-03 20:29:08](#)
(no subject)

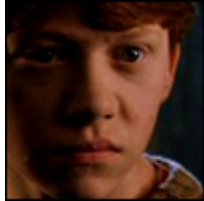
He knows plenty about being mates. He's mates with Malfoy.


So fine.

It's just

first year, when I got to know him, he was different.

Now he's not.



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-03 20:34:54](#)
(no subject)

Respectful acquaintances?

I don't think so. I don't have any respect for somebody who does that.

I don't think you would either

except for who he is

which is just

yeah

no

2010-09-02 16:02:00

not a good start

I thought I would be happy when the first day of classes was over but now that it is I rather wish that it wasn't.

A lot of people are so angry, and I know they have a good reason to be, but anger doesn't usually get very much done, I don't think.

People don't seem very happy in general, even though so far there's nothing bad happening this year, like a sickness or a creature sneaking around the castle.

There are those prisoners from Azkaban still at large, but they shouldn't be able to come here because of the Dementors, and they probably don't even have wands anymore, either.

So no, there's nothing that bad happening when you look at it that way.

Maybe it's because the Dementors aren't very far away.

It was really awful on the train, I kept remembering things I wanted to forget.

I had nightmares all night last night, I kept waking up and thinking I was back with in

a place that I don't want to ever go back to.

Cressida was cross because she said I was making noises, and it kept her awake.

I'm not much looking forward to sleep later tonight.

Does anyone know of the Matron will give out dreamless sleep potions, if you have a very good reason for needing one?



 [alt_hydra](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-02 22:19:40**

(no subject)

I know what you mean.


I slept awful last night.

Madame Pomphrey is real nice, you know. I mean, she's a really good listener. And I'd bet she'd give you one for tonight, just so you can get a good night's sleep. That always makes me feel better.

Knowing you, you certainly aren't running low on chocs, maybe you ate too many and got a sour stomach on top of it all?

I'm sorry you haven't been feeling well, though.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-02 22:33:53](#)
(no subject)

Having one for tonight would be good, but what about tomorrow night?
Because I know think I was walking in my sleep, too. I used to do that sometimes, when I was younger.
I do have lots of chocs, but you can't eat them while you sleep.


From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 22:40:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, unless you can walk AND eat in your sleep, that is.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-02 22:42:14](#)
Private Message to Hydra LeStrange

She doesn't just give out potions, you know.

Last year, she taught me how to do this breathing thing whenever things got really bad and my chest got all tight because I'd get real worked up and all, and it really helped out a lot. So she might have other things that you can do to sleep well that aren't just taking loads of potions. Because that wouldn't be good to do every night at all, you're right.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-02 22:45:50](#)
Re: Private Message to Hydra LeStrange

Will she make me tell her what I was dreaming about?
Or where I sleep-walked to?
Because I don't want to talk to her about those

things.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-03 02:47:17](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra LeStrange

She won't make you tell anything you don't want to. Promise.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 22:45:29](#)

(no subject)

Go to Matron and get a potion for tonight, Hydra dear. And tomorrow you'll have a jolly time and shan't have any more bad dreams.

And if you should do, you can let me know and your Auntie Narcissa will send you a lovely set of tea for your tea box, including some soothing tisanes for bedtime. How would that be?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-02 22:48:19](#)

(no subject)

Tea would be lovely.
I don't know if it would be easy to get, but the sort of tea the Lord Protector served was ever so nice.
I think it was called Da Hong Pao?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-02 22:55:18](#)


(no subject)

Well

Da Hong Pao is delicious, sweetheart, but it is rather for special occasions. And I rather think it would not help you to sleep in the slightest.

There are brews designed to aid sleep, however, such as chamomile and lavender, and other herbal infusions. I'll send up some of that, shall I?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-02 23:00:59](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it won't?
It always made me feel pleasant and relaxed when I drank it before, but maybe it was a special blend. I like chamomile very much, too.

Thank you for thinking of me, Auntie.


From,
Hydra



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-03 14:17:10](#)
(no subject)

Did you sleep better last night, Hydra?

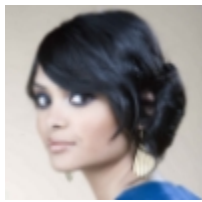



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-04 00:11:31](#)
(no subject)

Yes, but I don't think I can have another potion tonight.

From,

Hydra




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-04 00:16:20](#)
(no subject)

Do you think you need one?

I think everyone felt better today, in our lessons, anyway.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-04 00:18:08](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, I guess I'll find out later.
Did you have a good day of lessons today, Padma?

From,
Hydra

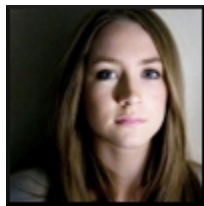



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-04 00:53:25](#)
(no subject)

Yes, we had our first lesson with your uncle, Professor Lestrangle. It was well snitch.

And Potions, of course. Professor Slughorn's lessons are always good. The only bad thing about our timetable this year is that we have a load of lessons with Gryffindors and Hufflepuffs and almost nothing with the Slytherins.

How were your lessons?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-04 14:25:57](#)
(no subject)

They were good, but not so very different from last year's so far.

The material and how difficult it is, I mean.

But the professors might be making sure we didn't forget anything first before they move on.

From,
Hydra

[2010-09-02 20:42:00](#)

Well, classes are off to a good start



 [alt_seamus](#)

My day was busy, but good. I had Dark Arts today which was brilliant, Miss Professor Carrow is completely different in Dark Arts than in Muggle Studies. Really in her element. I think nearly everyone in the class had already read the book so we plunged right into a discussion about ethics and your frame of mind, and then learned two hexes, pretty simple ones. She said we're going to pair up with people we LIKE when we practice because the hardest part, with Dark Arts, is being able to draw on them when you need them.

She used the cruciatus curse as an example a lot, even though we won't be learning that for ages yet as it's quite advanced. She said, imagine that you're working in MLE. And imagine that a prisoner is brought to you, and you're told that this person needs to be punished. You've never met them before in your life; how do you summon up what you need from inside if you are told to cast the cruciatus on them? The cruciatus is an extreme example, that's why she used it, but most dark spells won't work unless you WANT them to work, and that's harder if you don't have an emotional connexion to that person. Or if it's the wrong sort of emotional connexion.


Our homework is to research ways in which dark spells can be cast accidentally. Padma put me on to a good source, she heard about it last year in Future Interrogators. It's a book all about some famous Wizengamot cases, including several murders where people tried to claim they didn't MEAN to cast the killing curse, or at least not at the person they hit it with. Like there was a man who did get off who killed his wife and said he was AIMING for an intruder, and the intruder disappeared away.

Miss Professor Carrow also told us we're going to have to practice what we're learning, and that means getting hexed and jinxed and even cursed, and that comes with the class. She says she's going to assign us partners, and she may deliberately pair us with friends because that's precisely the sort of emotional connexion we need to learn to overcome. If we can hex our mates, then strangers should be easy, right?

What did other people think?

Arithmancy was good, too. And my other classes. I barely had time to breathe, though, and I should probably quit writing in my journal and start working on homework.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-03 02:19:19](#)**
(no subject)

I thought it was brill. And we did wind up together in Arithmancy - at least this section. I have it again on Tuesday but I don't know if you're in that section or not.

Draco told me that his mum said she used to practise her Defence Against the Dark Arts and her Charms and all on her cousin, so I think what Miss Professor Carrow was saying made a great deal of sense. Also, mates won't take things all out of context and get offended if you hex them when they get to do it right back.


(Oh, and he was fooling about discussing Weasley at History Club. But I bet we *could* talk about the Heroes of the Protectorate and all the people they stopped, like the Prewett brothers.)



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-03 02:23:37](#)**
(no subject)


Do you suppose there's any chance we could get Professor Lestrangle to talk to the History Club? Because THAT would be stupe.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-03 02:52:44](#)**
(no subject)


It would be utterly stupe. But I dunno. Draco says his uncle doesn't really like to talk about all that. I guess that happens sometimes.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-03 03:25:45](#)**
(no subject)

Well, if Draco says he doesn't like to talk about it we probably shouldn't ask him. I expect he'd know. Draco, I mean.



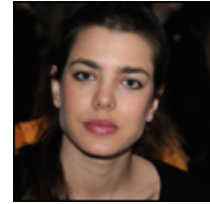
 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2010-09-03 14:55:39](#)**
(no subject)

I've been doing an independent study with Miss Professor Carrow in Dark Arts, you know. One book I found particularly helpful was *Intention and Conviction*. It may be a little over your head at this point in your studies, but do add it to your book list. You might try it next year. I found it most helpful.

[2010-09-03 15:35:00](#)

XXXVI.

It's really odd now that Orion and Honoria have gone off to school, and I'm still here in New London. So different from last year! Now I'm pretty much at the bottom of my cohort. Or I feel that way. I've got so much to learn. And sometimes it seems I'll never get there.



 [alt_lana](#)


Oh, I'm not hopeless, I guess. And it's not like I don't understand what we're meant to do. It's just that I'm so slow and not at all as certain as I thought I'd be.

Anywiz, Mr Crouch said it's mostly a matter of drilling, and he said that's what training's for. And then he hexed me halfway across the sparring dungeon. Ha! Luckily, Ms Forney gave us a list of the best bruise salves and headache powders for this sort of thing, and she taught us some good basic triage spells to use on ourselves, so I'm not faring too badly.

I've lost a load of weight, though. I hadn't really noticed, but they weighed us today, and I've lost a stone without trying to at all. It's a good thing I don't have to wear any of my dress robes soon. I tried on the ones from my presentation, and they just hung off me. Not in a good way, either.

I plan to stuff myself tonight, though. Yaxley, have you decided whether you're able to come along for dinner? We're meeting at Bubble and Squeak at half-seven, but if you can't make that, just come along to Highgate. It's going to be awesome. I hear Burdett-Coutts has got the Dead Ringers playing tonight. I've never heard them, but Pennifold says Curtis has an awesome voice that's only got better since he came back a ghost. I can't wait. So. We'll see you one place or the other, right?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-03 23:19:09](#)

(no subject)

If you've lost that much, you must be skin and bones. I thought you were well thin enough before. I mean, it's not like you needed to drop a stone or two like Green. I guess it's not too surprising, if you think about it. I mean, I've seen photographs of the Auror squads and of course we

met a few of them. And they all look well fit.

But if you're really going to keep the weight off I'm sure Mum can take them in for you.

Things here are going all right, so far, anyway. We thought we might have to switch History Club round, but Orion told me that Young Interrogators will be meeting on Mondays, so there's no trouble after all.

And Professor Lestrangle is really impressive. We had our first Defence lesson today and he talked about dark creatures and so on. And Arithmancy is going to be every bit as nift as I hoped, I think.

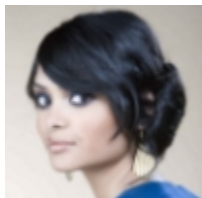


 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2010-09-04 18:49:24](#)**

(no subject)

Oh, I'm doing fine. The weight's not important: it's just because I'm working hard at it all. I really do want to do well, and I've never had to try so hard at anything before. I didn't realise it, but we were all just very soft, living at school. It's been such a change to start training properly!

I'm glad your lessons seem promising. I'm sorry not to have had Professor Lestrangle. I'm certain he'll be ever so ~~much better~~ different than Professor Lockhart. And watch out for Professor Vector: she likes to surprise you with little tests whenever she thinks the group is getting overconfident. Or when she suspects you're paying more mind to other things than her lessons! Especially just before Quidditch matches. Don't say I didn't warn you!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-04 19:01:39](#)**


(no subject)

Oh, I'd expect that of Professor Vector, she's ever so sharp that way. It's no different to House meetings, really. Just when you think she's not watching, that's when she'll call on you.

And I asked Haruman about losing weight like that, and he said that once it turns to muscle you'll be twice as fit, so that'll be nift.

Was the concert loads of fun? I guess our little music parties here don't really compare to going out nights and dressing up and all. I suppose there are lots of older people there, as well. Did you meet anyone exciting?



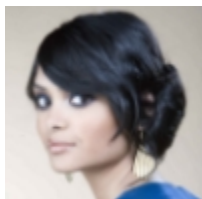
 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2010-09-04 20:32:14](#)**
(no subject)


Well. Do you know Melania Featherstone? She flies for the Wanderers, but she was in town and turned up last evening with Dymphna Calhoun. You know, the actress. I guess they're mates.

Anyway, they brought a flock of photographers with them. Burdett-Coutts must've been chuffed about the publicity.

Cilla Hewett was there, too, but I didn't see her husband. I guess the Pride had a match. Or that's what Pennifold said. Pity. Mendick Hewett's well fit. Did you see he was on the cover of Whirl sometime in July, I think. There must've been ten pages of pictures--all his greatest plays, plus pictures of him out and about at the clubs or at ribbon cuttings and visits to kids at St Mungo's.

But last night was mostly just a great lot of people getting out after the working week, you know. Just people like us. But it was dead amazing music and really great to wander around Highgate. It's like a city for ghosts, you know. And they were out in force, dancing with us and showing us around the avenues and into the crypts. You just didn't want to go in the places where they were offering drinks or food.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-04 22:36:20](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I've heard of them, certainly. I think Mrs Hewett comes in Mum's shop sometimes.

It's so strange, really, to think of people like that - like just other people you could dance next to or whatever. Like how so many people are saying they 'know' Cal Crockford, now that he's playing professionally. I suppose we'll do the same once we've left and we're all doing amazing and important things, too. Sort of makes me wish I were already done with school.

Except that we're not done learning yet.




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-03 23:51:29](#)

(no subject)

It sounds as if you're enjoying yourself very much, Miss Sandoval.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-04 18:41:26](#)

(no subject)

We had a very good time last evening, thank you.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-04 00:12:08](#)

(no subject)

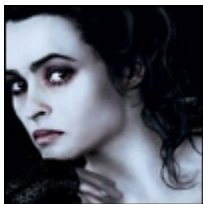
You're not hopeless, no.

In fact, I'd say that what you have in your favour is a brain and a solid sense of your own deficiencies.

Some of your cohort strike me as lacking in one or both of those areas.

I suspect you could do with less socialising at the weekends, but at least you have more sense than McLaggen. If he turns up hung over this Monday morning, he's out.

Highgate Cemetery, is it? I trust we'll hear no complaints tonight. I'm on duty.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-04 00:24:35](#)

Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

Is this the first time that they've been spoken to about their socialising?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-04 02:18:24](#)

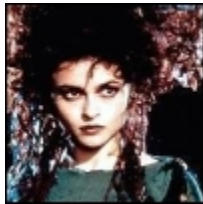
Re: Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

For Sandoval, yes. So far as I'm aware. There was nothing disciplinary in Forney's notes when I took over the programme this week. I have them next week, as well.

McLaggen's another story. Arrogant. Confident on absolutely no grounds whatsoever. Convinced the females in the group are starry-eyed at his (supposed) magnificence.

I made certain he lost face as often as I could arrange it. Not that it seemed to make much impression. I'd say there's little hope for his making anything more than a low-end camp enforcer.

And even for that, you need to turn up sober on Monday mornings.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-04 04:21:50](#)

Re: Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

McLaggen's a lost cause. It's Sandoval I'm interested in. She's in the programme with my backing; she interned with me and everyone knows it. You know as well, Barty, how few of these hopefuls I attach my name to. And how am I paid in return? "Not faring too badly" is not what I'm looking for. Nor are updates about Bubble and Squeak, singing ghosts, or cemetery dance-orgies.

If she's not standing out as the very best, and if she's not giving more than her all, then she's taken my association and flushed it down the loo.

Don't say a word, Barty, but I'll be dropping by for sparring next week. No special preparations, nothing beyond what's already planned. I'm sure that Miss Sandoval will find it simply "awesome."



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-04 18:40:20](#)

Re: Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

Of course, you're welcome to come; I won't breathe a word of warning.

I think you'll be more gratified with what you see than with what you've read. Sandoval's got definite potential. But a lesson from you at this juncture may be the best thing that could happen to her. Sharpen her up a bit.

Her peers, too. They could all stand to have the fear of Echidna lit in them.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-04 18:42:42](#)

(no subject)

Thank you for saying so, Mr Crouch.

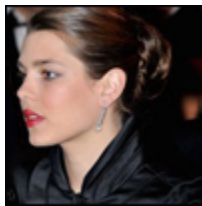
I hope to earn your respect.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-04 18:52:05](#)

(no subject)

My advice to you, then, is that you sharpen up and redouble your efforts.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-04 19:35:10](#)

(no subject)

Oh.

Of course, I mean to work harder each day than the previous. And I've been practicing that wand flick you suggested, but I keep catching it on my sleeve. Perhaps there's still something I'm doing wrong. Holding it incorrectly. Or a spell to keep my sleeve from interfering? I've been trying to think more consciously about reducing all unnecessary movement. Just aim and cast. Aim and cast.

[2010-09-04 00:28:00](#)

Back on schedule



 [alt_sinistra](#)

The tricky thing for me about the summer is I get rather more diurnal than my usual habits. Oddly enough, it's been rather nice to slip back into my usual late night schedule. Not having to try and make conversation at breakfast when I'm half-asleep and so is everyone else is a bonus, really.

First things first: I've had a few questions about plans for the YPL afternoons this year: have no fear, we have some interesting things planned. There will be a public announcement of dates in the nearer future - first meeting probably toward the end of September, but we are still arranging the best dates for presentations.

On the rest of it:


There's always one day in the week which is utterly exhausting: this year, that would be Thursday. Three lectures, plus the practicals (two on the Wednesday night, one on the Thursday.) I suspect I will be particularly looking forward to a bit of spare time by Saturday.

My classes seem to be settling in nicely, though the OWL classes have had their traditional dismay at the amount of material we're going to be reviewing very quickly, and the number of accurate star charts they must be able to label without notes by the end of December. My 7th year NEWT students, however, are a joy as they generally are (and I expect much the same of the 6th years when we meet on Tuesday). This year's crop of first years has some promising members: I've had several excellent questions in class already.

Finally, as I did last spring, students are welcome to drop by my office in the early evening, before I head up for the astronomy practicals, if there are any questions about assignments. It's by far the easiest time to find me. I've a range of herbal tisanes, and there's a fair chance of biscuits.

Tomorrow, I intend to take advantage of not having assignments due yet to catch up on a little reading, and then maybe a stroll down to Hogsmeade for supper, assuming it doesn't rain.




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-04 15:19:13](#)**
(no subject)

It was lovely to catch up with you, Aurora, before the rush overtook us. I hope we'll be able to find a regular time for a quiet tea in the busyness of our weeks here.

I'm especially glad to hear your perspective on this batch of first years: it's an antidote to the view I'm given here in the hospital wing. Of course, I see only those suffering painful transitions to their new place and routine.

Enjoy the day!



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2010-09-04 15:47:59](#)**
(no subject)

Lovely to chat with you too, as always. As for a regular time - my Tuesdays are actually quite open in the afternoons, if that works for you as well. (Barring a deluge of work I need to correct, of course, but I think that's manageable.)

As to the first years - well, I do get to see them in more encouraging settings. And, of course, some of them take to school like brooms to air, and others of them need coaxing. But I am always pleased when there are signs of independent thought.

2010-09-04 10:09:00

(no subject)



 [alt_narcissa](#)

The first few days without our son always seem such an odd mix of quiet and hectic. Quiet because of course, he and his friends are not banging about the Manor. Especially this year, when we were all in closer quarters than we are used to keeping, the fact that he is not at table for meals is quite noticeable. But these days are hectic, too, in that the moment he leaves for school, my husband and I both seem to pick up our busy obligations right where we left them. And this year, again, having been on holiday means we have a backlog to put to rights.

At least our social engagements for the season are taking shape. Weddings, betrothals, anniversaries - so many of them: at least one a week between now and Christmas! More than we can possibly accept. I thought our calendar was already growing full with the invitations we received over the summer. If anything, the last week has resulted in half again as many opportunities. But it's always so hard to determine what one can and cannot attend. Such is my task this morning.

For example: Mr Collins, thank you, I'm sure, for the kind invitation to the textiles exhibit at your showroom. I'm sure the tapestries are particularly impressive. Unfortunately, we have tickets to the New London Philharmonic on the night of the opening. I'm afraid we shall have to decline.

Speaking of openings and tickets, Barty, I wonder if you'd be interested in an item that came across my desk yesterday afternoon. Ganymede Bobolis sent an owl regarding an intriguing little opening. There's an acquaintance of his, name of Cooper, who has secured permission from Selma Hawkins to install something he's calling 'transfigurative sculptures' in several public gardens around New London. The completed project is meant to be viewed by means of a walking tour (or slow broom ride) through Osterley Park, Richmond, Kew and Wimbledon. For the opening, there's to be a gala on Wimbledon Common. Ganymede plans to write it up for the *Londinarium*, to give it a good start. But I think it might be a jolly time if several of us planned on meeting and taking it in together.

I've already spoken to Pandora and she and Ari are keen to come. I

plan to ask the Mulcibers and the Averys (Ursula, Enid, if you're reading this, consider yourselves asked). Perhaps you (and Athena?) might wish to join us as well? I know how you enjoy a ramble through New London's landmarks. It promises to be quite a lovely stroll, if nothing else. I'm quite sure it will not conflict with Athena's performance in *Tristan und Isolde* at month's end, which we plan to attend without fail.

Oh, and speaking of Pandora - Natalie manifested her magic, she says! Not a false alarm this time; she quite clearly floated out of her nurse's arms to greet her Papa, only last evening. So of course Pandora is all a-flutter and wants to hold a small celebration. Nothing formal, thank goodness. Just an afternoon get-together, so she says. But I think she wants Natalie's siblings to be able to attend. I suppose that means a Tuesday; Lucius and Ari can take their tea at Kenwood for once, with the families, and it shan't upset their routine overmuch.

Well, enough procrastinating. I suppose I really must get back to filling out reply cards and managing the calendar.

Mother: Yes, I think we will be round for tea - or at least, I shall be. Lucius mentioned something at the Elysian this afternoon with Gaude. I shall need the break after answering all these owls!



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-04 15:41:59](#)
(no subject)

Narcissa.

I've read MLE's report on the Hawkins installation-clearances, site inspections, and security planning were necessary for the spaces abutting certain of the Protector's private properties--I admit I'm intrigued by the concept. Dynamic forms. Transfigural morphology. Could be a load of nonsense, but I rather think Hawkins knows what she's about.

So, yes, I'll make up one of the party, and I'll ask Athena about her schedule. I'm to meet her for lunch in a bit. Thank you for thinking of us.

Speaking of today's luncheon. Have you tried Serengeti? Athena's heard raves about it and she's keen to go, but Pandya came back saying it's one of those places where the concept outshines the food. The best he could say of it was that it must have its waitstaff on a

strict physical regimen: 'if the wildebeest had been as fit as the server', he said, 'it wouldn't have found itself chopped into lumps in my stew'.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-04 16:58:15](#)

(no subject)

Good.

As to the restaurant: No, I've not been, but perhaps Wednesday might afford a chance. Though I heard much the same about it from Diana. She said she could think of at least 11 places she would like to try before the year's out (which is lucky, as our lunch selections were growing sadly predictable), but that Serengeti by all reports offers as much a spectacle as it does a meal.

Enjoy your lunch.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-05 12:59:06](#)

(no subject)

Thank you.

The lunch was reasonably good, though I agree: there are at least 11 new places worth trying before this one. Pandya was right, though: the safari kit our server wore did heighten her assets. It's a pity Draco's gone back to school: he would have appreciated Serengeti.

2010-09-04 11:32:00

Fantasy Quidditch!

Fleet and Bobolis were taking names in the common room last night, to play fantasy Quidditch. As the league's starting up, I thought I'd get in on it.




 [alt_zacharias](#)

I couldn't get Broadmoor or Pummel, but I've got Finbar Quigley, and Cal Crockford, as he's started playing reserve Beater for Ballycastle as well. Oh, and one of the Drumgooles - Siobhan, I think, for Keeper. And two of Wigtown's chasers: Gunther Willett and Melania Featherstone. I didn't get Moran, though. Anyone know who did? But I've got Mullet from Kenmare. And for seeker I've got Singh.

Who else is playing this year? I was late to it last time and didn't get any good players at all, they were rubbish all season.

(Oh, and that basilisk skin in CoMC? Wicked. Professor Brutka's well impressive, isn't he?)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-09-04 17:45:45**
(no subject)

We've got a league going here in Gryffindor, too. I got lucky and took Pummel first round. And Carrig Drumgoole, second round. They're the best I've got, but I think it'll be a decent team.


(Oh, and yeah. I mean, I knew it was huge ~~from what H~~, but that's RIDICULOUS!! Can you imagine seeing it alive?! Made the Boomslang look tiny beside it, and that one was taller than me.)



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2010-09-04 17:46:39**
(no subject)

That's not so bad. Last year I might as well have just taken the Cannons whole lineup, for all the good my players did.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-04 17:50:10](#)**
(no subject)

Heh.

Well, I love the Cannons, but I wouldn't want too many of 'em on my fantasy roster. If y'know what I mean. I ended up with Dimbleby, but one Chaser in three can't do too much harm. Won't help much, either, obviously. But, yeah.




 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-09-04 17:57:34](#)**
(no subject)

You support the Cannons? Bloody hell, Weasley, you're not half bonkers like everyone says!

Anyway, I probably should do some of that homework. Dunno why I thought Divination would be an easy class, just because everyone said.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-04 18:17:54](#)**
(no subject)

Course I support the Cannons! Always have done, and I'm not quitting them just because they're down on their luck. Any team can have a bad run.

Be careful what you say bad about 'em, too, around Bones. She's Cannon-loyal, too.

Yeah. I haven't looked at that stuff yet. I mean, I've been drawing what my tea looks like after breakfast like we're supposed to, but I figured I'd just, y'know, look through the book for all the stuff that can happen to you and write out whatever it says for those kind of shapes. Except mine just mostly look like a lump of leaves all bunched together. Did you get anything good?



 **alt_zacharias** at **2010-09-04 18:33:28**
(no subject)

Bones has a reason to support them, doesn't she? It's understandable. But if her dad got hired away (not likely, but you know, it's possible), then she'd give over to whatever side he started working for. At least, I think so. I didn't think anyone would like the Cannons without a dead good reason. That's just how people are, innit?

I've been looking through the book, yeah. I dunno if Professor Carpenter reads these, though, so if I were you I wouldn't say too much here. But yeah, I've just had a cuppa and I'm pretty sure I had a linden leaf. That's a protection, I think. Protection from evil? Attack? I dunno, I'd have to look it up.

2010-09-06 12:23:00

Attention: Students

Most cases of the collywobbles may be avoided with the simple precaution of eating only enough to assuage hunger.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Stuffing yourselves--whether with meat and veg or with pudding--leads to stomach ache.

Adopt this simple habit for better digestive health: chew each bite 50 times before swallowing.

If you would all act on this advice, we might collectively enjoy the added benefit of quieter meal times.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2010-09-06 18:00:51**

Order Only

The first week and weekend were as busy as ever with the usual cases of homesickness manifesting as tummy ache, tears, bed-wetting and night terrors.

Add to that those who arrive here suffering sniffles and flu, plus several who presented with intestinal parasites. (All of those come from families in the midlands.--I do wonder if there is something wrong with the waste systems leaving some of the camps playing foul with people's well water.)


There are always odd cases that arrive with the new crop of firsties. This year, I have two: one turned up the first evening to ask if I couldn't refresh the sleeping spell on a small blanket he'd brought from home, which proved to be a very powerful behavioural modification spell. I took a small clipping from the item and have asked Professor Acton to assess its nature.

The second case turned up this weekend: this student came in suffering Collywobbles, which one expects to see at the start of term, especially in the young ones who have no idea how to govern themselves at table. But this student, poor thing, was in such a state, and said 'This always happens just before the fits begin.' 'The fits?' I asked, and was handed a thick sheaf of parchment, documenting a long family history of Mulligrums, which do, indeed, very often begin

with intestinal gripes. I remember the parents quite well, and sad to say, the disease runs in both families. I suppose they were drawn to one another by their shared experience. One fears for their offspring, though, and it's concerning to think how disruptive this might be for the school. But we shall see. I was able to allay most of the immediate symptoms and will, obviously, keep a close eye on the child.

Dear, oh, dear. It seems a year since I left the Sanctuary. Isn't it spring yet?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-08 02:56:33](#)

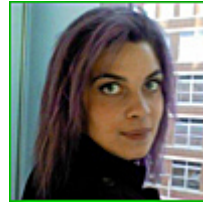
Re: Order Only

We miss you too, Poppy dearest. Stephen altered that teething salve as you directed, and Saunders Morys and Jacinda both were quite relieved at how quickly it worked.

He absolutely thinks the world of you, you know.

[2010-09-06 19:22:00](#)

Order Only: Private Message to Remus Lupin




Scrubbing bogs is just as exciting as ever.
If you were wondering.

 **[alt_nymphadora](#)**

xx
N



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2010-09-06 22:28:09](#)**
(no subject)

I was, actually. I've been sitting here pondering that very question. So thank you for the update. Now that matter's been settled, I shall have a cup of tea and go back to checking the books.

Stay safe. Please. Even if it's not exciting.

RJL



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2010-09-06 22:39:45](#)**
(no subject)

The only risk right now is that I might stick my head down the bowl and end it all. And I promise not to do that, so don't start fretting. I'm certainly not going out with my head stuck down a toilet!


I'm sticking to the job for now. No risks, no danger. The only thing they could catch me for at the moment is writing in this journal, and his high and mighty majesty the Lord Protector, may he die a thousand deaths, ordered us to do that, so even that's probably fairly safe.

Still, I suppose I shouldn't risk them taking my journal, so I'd better stop writing. I'm just so BORED!

You'll have to come up with some fabulous way to entertain me when I get home back later. Hm, I wonder...

xx
N



 **alt_lupin** at [2010-09-06 22:50:33](#)
(no subject)

There are more options than just risk or boredom. You don't have to pick one or the other, you can find some comfortable midpoint somewhere between the two. Although perhaps not while cleaning toilets.

Fabulous entertainment, hm? Well I have a few good books lying about the place, and I imagine I might be able to rustle up a mug of cocoa. Is that what you had in mind?

RJL



 **alt_nymphadora** at [2010-09-06 22:58:07](#)
(no subject)


NO IT IS NOT!!

I'll just have to show you later, when I get back. I suppose I might be able to involve the books.

Perhaps even cocoa too. I have a few hours to come up with something creative.

xx
N



 **alt_lupin** at [2010-09-06 23:00:08](#)
(no subject)

Intriguing. You know, I've always admired your creative streak.

See you later.

RJL

2010-09-07 11:45:00

Tuesdays

My timetable for Tuesdays is so much better than Mondays. Like whoa and then some!



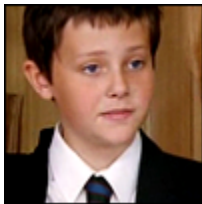
 [alt_ron](#)


I mean, there's Divination to begin with and that's going to be rough right after breakfast, what with the incense and the squashy poofs and how dark the room is all the time, but after that we've got double Herbology to wake up, then lunch and Defence and double CoMC.

I got up to my elbows repotting stuff, but that's okay. Professor Sprout let us go when we'd finished so we could wash up before lunch.

And we're actually getting to do stuff in Defence. I can't wait to see what today will be.

So, yeah. Tuesdays are snitch.




 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-09-08 02:42:37](#)
(no subject)

Our Tuesdays are busy, but interesting. Well, except for History of Magic, that's never interesting.


I say, has everyone stopped being cross at you yet?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-08 02:53:43](#)
(no subject)

Well, the ones who were cross aren't cross anymore. The others are what they are.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-08 02:48:33](#)
(no subject)

Aren't Professor Brutka and Professor LeStrange ace?

I can't think why you'd want to take Divination, though. You never struck me as having much patience for that sort of thing.

Who else is in your class?




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:57:46](#)**
(no subject)

Creatures and Defence are snitch and a half.

I took Divination cause everyone says it's easy. But it's not as interesting as Runes looks to be. Actually, I think it's going to be as tough to stay awake in Divination as in History. For different reasons, but still.

Oh, and it's just who you'd think in Divination. Lav and Parvati, y'know, and the rest of us who just wanted something to not have to fuss with too much.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-08 04:07:18](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I'd imagine all that incense and staring at crystal balls and things could make you pretty sleepy. Let me know if you or anyone else sees anything really freaky or scary while you're in class, though, because that'd be snitch. And you never know! You might have the Inner Eye or whatever.

Runes is pretty interesting so far, though.

Doesn't your brother Bill work a lot with that sort of thing?

2010-09-07 12:20:00

Private Message to Shivani Johns

Vani-

Are you very busy with work this afternoon? I'm

I need

Could you come to St Mungo's? I need somewhere to go when they let me out, ~~and I think I'll need hel~~. Could I come to yours? I'd ask Yaxley, but I don't want her father seeing me ~~like~~.

I don't want Mama to find out either. You know she'd go spare and want me to quit the programme.



 [alt_lana](#)

2010-09-07 13:50:00

Order Only: Date Night



alt_sirius

Right, well.

I sent an owl off to Terrie on Thursday, telling her to expect me in three or four days. I arrived in two and I've been watching her since then - going to and from that camp she works in, whether she's had any visitors or if anyone's Apparating in or out. I'm fair confident she's not told anyone that I've made contact.

So with that precaution, I'm meeting her tonight. (Yes, I'll be careful.) Just letting you lot know in case.

With any luck, we'll have a source within the camps very soon.



alt_poppy at **2010-09-07 18:41:18**

(no subject)

Bless.

Here's wishing you all success. (And hoping against hope you'll take as good care as you ought.)



alt_bill at **2010-09-08 02:17:25**

(no subject)

'Date night'?

I'll keep my fingers crossed. You keep yours firmly on your wand.

Not that wand.




alt_molly at **2010-09-08 02:18:31**

(no subject)

Bill!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:21:22](#)**
(no subject)

What? Do you disagree with my advice?




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:21:42](#)**
(no subject)

No, but--

Bill, *really*.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:23:26](#)**
(no subject)

hah!

good one man.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:28:30](#)**
(no subject)

Really, Frank. Don't encourage them. Either one of them!

(Have Alice and Arabella had time to give some thought to my proposal, by the way? I'm available to come to Moddey Dhoo as early as Thursday to help with the harvest, if it will work for you. And if I wouldn't be more of a hindrance than a help?)

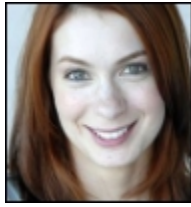



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:32:46](#)**
(no subject)

you have to admit, he did set that up rather nicely. and knowing sirius, he's always asking for it one way or the other.

don't think you could ever be a bother, molly, and we could certainly use an extra hand around here more often than not.

I'll tell Al to get her journal out, hang on




 **alt_alice at 2010-09-08 02:35:16**
(no subject)

Yes, yes, please come! Thursday would be lovely. Goodness if we aren't up to our ears in work around here, which is why I've been so horribly neglectful about getting back to you.

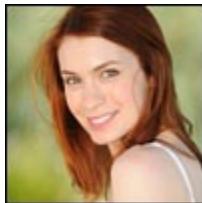
But I cannot wait to have you here!




 **alt_molly at 2010-09-08 02:40:26**
(no subject)

Wonderful! I have an assortment of knitted jumpers and such that I'll bring with me, as well as a few things I've managed to snag on the barter network. And do let me know if there is anything else you need that I can bring?


Expect me around noon or so at the apparition point.



 **alt_alice at 2010-09-08 02:55:11**
(no subject)

More jars please! Alec broke a few while practising his *accio* charm a few weeks ago, and we've got a heavier crop this year than usual, so we'll need every jar we have and more. We could also use more paraffin and lids, too, if you can spare it. We've got several things to take back with you, including a whole crop of potions Stephen has worked up for you to distribute.

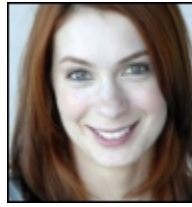



 **alt_molly at 2010-09-08 02:56:10**
(no subject)

More jars I can certainly do. I'll bring both pint and quart size.

(And for goodness sakes, I certainly hope

you've suggested that Alec should summon pillows instead when practising *accio!*)




 **[alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-08 03:03:21](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, you can believe we had that particular talking-to, and here's hoping he's learned his lesson.


We've managed to repair almost all of them, but I fear they won't be as good for canning any more, and you mustn't take risks with that sort of thing!



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-08 19:57:15](#)**
(no subject)

Well, love, what happened? Any news?




 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-08 20:14:21](#)**
(no subject)

Nosey Parker.

Like I'd tell you with those tossers listening in.

Merlin, you lot didn't half write a novel in here last night!



 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-08 20:23:01](#)**
Private Message to Alice Longbottom

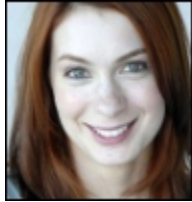
Honestly, it went fine. Well. I say fine, it was a touch awkward here and there, bound to be. But yeah. It was good to catch up.


And I think she's keen to help out. Afraid, of course, who wouldn't be? But she's willing to assume a little risk, within reason. I think she still blames herself for losing Gary, and him for losing Alicia, and above all Voldemort for making it all happen.

I'm not sure she can be - well, not trusted, certainly that, but -

relied upon? Does that make sense? It's not as if we're simply asking her to run an errand round the corner shops. She says she's naught to lose, but then next sentence she's defending her choices and the things she's done to crawl her way back up to the position she's attained. I'm worried that when it comes down to it, at the critical moment, she'll choose her safety and security over the risk.

I dunno. It's early days, still. She might come through at that.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2010-09-08 20:30:02**

Re: Private Message to Alice Longbottom

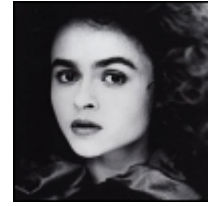
Well, it's good to know. We've been in the business of risking our lives for a cause for so long, sometimes it's hard to realise that not everyone is going to feel the same. And you're right, she may change, but there's nothing wrong with sorting out where she stands.

And I do think she's worth cultivating too, as long as we don't fill her in on too much of what we're all about right away -- at least until we're really sure. As long as you're her primary contact, that should be easy enough.

I know you think of her as a friend, and I'm glad you could see her again under less hurried circumstances.

[2010-09-07 20:07:00](#)

XXII



 [alt_bellatrix](#)

Today's observation and sparring session was effective, I think, if, as ever, somewhat of a let-down. I remember my own training programme all too well, of course. It took place in the real world, with no instruction beyond what we were willing to teach ourselves and each other, and what we took from the bounty of His teachings. There was no relief from our battle at the end of the day - no celebrations, no "awesome" music, no dancing with ghostly rock-stars. Indeed, there was no end to the day at all. We were fighting for pride and for purity, against an entire system that was bent on protecting muggles first, and wizards last. That we were able to topple it only shows how corrupt and malignant that system was, rotting from within like a stunted tree. To strike it down all of us would have gladly died - gladly! - and to be sure, some did. Those who survived were prepared to protect what we had helped Him to create, and we have done so ever since.

Sometimes, I wonder if a quaint little programme can really teach any of that. Perhaps something far more brutal is in order...something where survival is at stake. Not just your own, but the survival of everything and everyone you hold dear.

I am not sure that the current crop of hopefuls would last in such an environs. Certainly not McLaggen, who is certain to wash out within the coming weeks. Willet shows a shred of promise, if only because he is so very desperate to escape a fate at the Prophet. Desperation certainly helps, though not for very long.

What does not help is a history of having sought out and won my approval. Not unless you have the skill and savvy to show for it. When I attach my name to someone, say a certain Head Girl with aspirations of being an Auror, then I have, in essence, allowed that individual to function as an extension of myself. Any and all extensions of me are enjoying the privilege of my association, and with that privilege comes responsibility. Let me be direct: if you're one of mine, you go above and beyond the call. Anything less is unacceptable. And if my association to you becomes tarnished...then I will remove it, as forcibly as I see fit.

But I'm sure that we all understand that now, don't we?




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2010-09-08 02:20:19](#)
(no subject)

Of course we worked hard, and have the scars to show for it, too. But you are probably due a celebration more than any other, darling.

The full burden of the sacrifice (as well as the full measure of credit!) always weighs most heavily on the first generation to usher in such a change.

Now, what's this about a Head Girl? I take it that you refer to Miss Sandoval?



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 02:28:26](#)
(no subject)

I celebrate when the time is appropriate - you know that. But to celebrate just because you're not hopeless? Just because you're not faring too badly? Such an attitude is positively laughable.

Of course I refer to Miss Sandoval. Her cohort are not much better, mind, but they have not sought out my association, which makes them of less concern.



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2010-09-08 02:30:52](#)
(no subject)

Hm. Is it possible she was expecting to flounder from day one, and is merely happy to be standing?

As for the celebrations, it's all the thing in New London. There's nothing to be done about the fact that the young people have more opportunities for revels than we do. And we're not barred from partaking of them either, you know.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 02:35:52](#)
(no subject)

No one who seeks me out expects to flounder - they had better not! Or woe betide...




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2010-09-08 02:40:35](#)
(no subject)

I take it that you didn't leave her standing?

Darling, I don't think that any offense was ever intended. I am sure that Miss Sandoval is mortified to know that she has caused you such displeasure.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-08 02:33:15](#)
(no subject)

Quite right, Rodolphus - all those of us who made sacrifices did so precisely for the benefit of all, so that the generations to follow may enjoy our successes.


Vigilance is required, of course, on all our parts, however. And those who have aspired to join MLE's elite have an obligation to practise that vigilance with the utmost rigour.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 02:46:28](#)
(no subject)

Which only effectively compounds my point, Lucius: there is a time and a place, and for Miss Sandoval and the others, now is not it.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-08 02:55:38](#)
(no subject)


And I do not disagree, Bella, but doubtless you have shown her the error of her thinking. The Aurors' training programme is difficult enough without deliberately decreasing one's stamina by over-indulging in frivolity on the off hours.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 02:57:15](#)
(no subject)

Let us hope it's difficult enough. I think today, at least, showed them just how difficult it will be.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-08 03:16:57](#)
(no subject)

Indeed. I've often wondered whether it would not be an instructive exercise to bring the council into the ring - and would remind some of our veterans that they need to remain in trim. Saturday when Avery and I were at the Elysian, I saw Rowle and it reminded me that it's been ages since I've seen him on the course there. In the smoking room, in the library, in the dining room and tea room - yes. But practising his spellwork? No.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 03:52:19](#)
(no subject)

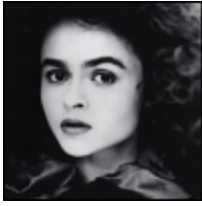
You know I wouldn't object to it. And if socialising can be part and parcel, it may make Rowle and his ilk more amenable to the idea.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-08 02:28:30](#)
(no subject)

Oh, young people always tend to overdo it those first few months out of school. All that lovely adult privilege at one's wand tip, it's bound to turn their heads.


I do hope your assertion does not extend to anyone of your association, Bella dear, or we might none of us be able to live up to your standards.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 02:47:32](#)
(no subject)


If it extended to you, Cissy, be assured that you would know by now.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-08 02:59:47](#)
(no subject)

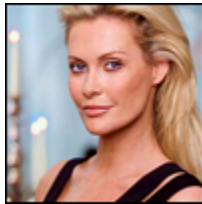
Dear. I can't make out whether that means you think I fit the biscuit or whether I am beyond redemption.




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-08 03:03:48](#)
(no subject)

Very droll.

Beyond redemption, of course. And yet curiously still animate.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-08 03:07:28](#)
(no subject)

Well, I suppose I shall simply consider myself lucky that there are occasions when sentimentality will stay your wand.

Rare though they might be.




 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-08 02:38:01](#)
(no subject)

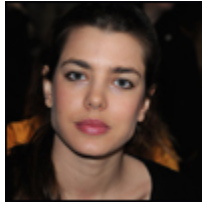
I haven't given up, and I won't. I know I disappointed you today--and before today. I'm very sorry.


My skills are only what they are, but I will take Mr Crouch's advice and redouble my work. I intend to be an Auror of the finest calibre, and I will be. I promise that.



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:49:42](#)**
(no subject)

Don't be sorry. Be better.



 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2010-09-08 02:51:26](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

I will.

2010-09-07 21:58:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: An idea



 [alt_terry](#)

I've been thinking...

The Headmistress had me shelve a lot of her advanced Transfiguration books at her place in London. I guess since she isn't teaching any more, she thought she might as well get the books in her collection out of the way if there's also a copy in the library. Anyway, it was my first chance to see some of those really advanced textbooks up close. Master always kept the most advanced Transfiguration textbooks that he uses locked up so I couldn't ever look at them.

She has a whole load of books on the Animagus transformation. Which makes sense, of course, since she's an Animagus herself. It was while I was paging through one of those books that I discovered something I'd never realised before.

You can actually learn to become an Animagus.

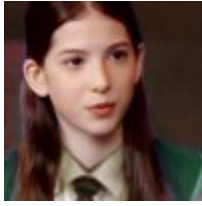
Did you know that? I guess I really never thought about it, but I just supposed it was sort of like being a metamorphmagus, an ability that you're born with. And if you're not born with it, you're out of luck.

But if I could actually learn to become an Animagus....

I could escape, couldn't I? And if Master ever got custody of me again, he couldn't keep me. I mean, if I could figure out how to turn into the right sort of animal. Not something big and noticeable like, um, a tiger or anything, but something that's ordinary, that people wouldn't maybe notice. Something that could outrun him, or maybe even fly away! And I could get away and hide, and he'd never ever be able to find me!

Most of the Headmistress's more advanced books about it are in Latin, I'm afraid, but I'm hoping there's something here at Hogwarts I can use, either in her collection or maybe in the library. Would it be in the Restricted Section? I hope not. I mean, she does send me to get books from the Restricted Section pretty often, but Madam Pince would know.

Anyway, what do you think?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-08 04:19:53](#)
(no subject)

I'd always heard you don't exactly get to PICK what animal you learn to be. So you might study, and then turn into a tiger or a crocodile or something else really noticeable.

But it's a good idea. If you can figure it out. It's also supposed to be really hard.

I'd love to learn how to do an animagus transformation. The Headmistress is an animagus? Really? Have you ever seen her transform?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-08 13:30:40](#)
(no subject)


Yeah, she is. I'm not surprised if you've never heard about it from Master, since he hates her, but she can turn into a tortiseshell cat.

She doesn't do it too often. Mostly when she's upset about something, I've noticed. Maybe things don't bother her so much if she's an animal.

I wonder what kind of animal I'd turn into? If I could figure out how to do it.


I like to go away and hide a lot. Maybe a mole or something like that.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-08 15:50:26](#)
(no subject)

Moles and rats and squirrels and mice would all be easy prey for a school owl, but only if they caught you. They're all small and good at hiding, they can squeeze into tiny spaces and they're pretty fast when they need to be.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-08 13:38:37](#)
(no subject)

Wow, that's brilliant, Terry. I don't have any ideas, because I don't know much about it. But if you could do it, yeah, that would be amazing!

Dunno what sort of animal I would be. Maybe a sloth. Not that I like to hang upside down or anything! But I guess I'm sort of slow and clumsy.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-08 13:55:27](#)
(no subject)

What if it turns out you turn into a Bundimun or something that can't move anywhere? Or just something really small and, y'know, something that's easy to hurt? Like a rabbit or something.


Carrow's not an animagus is he? Think what he'd turn into!



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-08 14:07:40](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, if you turned into a rabbit, it'd be real easy to be caught by one of the school owls. That'd be dangerous.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-08 14:12:57](#)
(no subject)

Well yeah, a lot would depend on what kind of animal I'd be. And if it turns out not to be anything useful, at least I would have tried.

No, Master's not an Animagus. It's scary to think what sort of animal he'd be. Maybe a rabid wolverine or something like that.

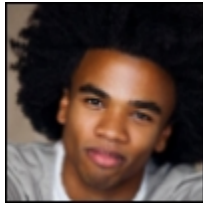
He's bad enough as a human.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-08 14:27:01](#)**
(no subject)

Well, yeah. I guess it can't hurt trying.

And if anyone could help you do it, it'd be the twins. I mean, they can figure out any kind of magic they set their minds to. It would sure be a slap to the school, though, if you could do this without ever being allowed to take a single lesson here. I mean, what are they about, pretending we all need to spend all day sat in lessons, listening to Carpenter and Binns and Carrow going on and on?




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2010-09-08 15:39:22](#)**
(no subject)

Actually it can hurt. To try I mean. It can be awful dangerous. People have killed themselves trying to do it because they get it wrong and they get stuck between human and animal and they can't live. That's why the

Ministry regulates it so much.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-09-08 15:40:15](#)**
(no subject)

Whoa.

Are you sure you really want to try it then, Terry?

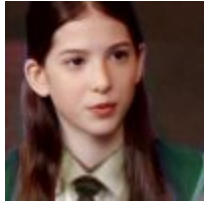


 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2010-09-08 15:42:52](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I guess I want to start out my learning everything I can about it. You have to start somewhere, don't you?

Maybe there are some preliminary steps I can figure out, and that'll give me a clue as to whether I'm any good at it.

Hermione, do you know any books in the library that would be good to try?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-08 15:47:00](#)
(no subject)

I've heard a story about someone who tried to do a transformation and turned into a fish and couldn't change back, and died because they weren't anywhere near water.

Admittedly, I think the point of the story was that Ravenclaws are clever but not necessarily about the right things, so take it for what it's worth.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-08 16:16:47](#)
(no subject)

Wow. Good point. Hadn't thought of that.

Guess if I figure it out, the first time I try transforming right at the lake shore.

Just in case.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-08 15:46:04](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Ron. We're rather touched by your faith in our prowess. Pity that Professor Carrow doesn't agree.

But maybe we can undertake a little independent study on the subject this year. Who knows? We might end up helping our Professor while impressing Professor Carrow at the same time. Wouldn't that be ironic?

We'll start with nicking Percy's Transfiguration book. The prat's so busy with his Big Head Boy duties that he probably doesn't have time to study Transfiguration anyway.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-08 14:01:40](#)
(no subject)

We're all for it, Professor. There isn't anything about the transformation in our Transfiguration textbook for this year. But we'll try to pinch Percy's textbook and see if it's mentioned in the 7th year text.

And you've been an animal, actually. Remember? Maybe that will make learning the transformation easier.




 [alt_lee](#) at [2010-09-08 14:10:44](#)
(no subject)

Hey I think it's brilliant too.

If you manage to pull it off you'd better be dead sure not get caught doing it though. Animaguses are supposed to register with the Ministry. No idea what they'd do to a muggleborn animagus but I bet it wouldn't be good.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-08 14:21:46](#)
(no subject)

If you could check the 7th year textbook, I'd appreciate it.

Wow, I hadn't even thought of that! I hope you're right, but I don't have very clear memories of that week.

Except for one thing...I was happy. Isn't that odd? I was really happy being a dog. Well, being your dog. I got enough food to eat, and a warm place to sleep beside the fire without worrying that Master was going to be creeping up on me in my cupboard in the middle of the night and seizing me out of a sound sleep and--well, never mind. And people laughed at me because I was so ugly, yeah, but they treated me nice and petted me and...

Wow, it feels really weird to say it. But that week was just about the first time I ever got treated kindly.

I really liked it.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-08 19:17:50](#)
(no subject)

That's the ~~saddest~~ thing I think I've ever

Maybe Fred and George are right. Maybe it would be easier for you because you've already lived it.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-09 00:21:39](#)
(no subject)

Hope so.

[2010-09-08 15:47:00](#)

That's our first week over

except for Astronomy.

Remember, History Club begins tonight! Parkinson and I have been working on a project that I think everyone will find really interesting. We've been looking at the history of the regulation of time travel. I think, given how well this has worked out, we might ask if others don't want to research other laws, like how Animagi came to be, or the history of Parseltongue or things like that.




 **[alt_padma](#)**

Anyway, so far, I like Dark Arts and Arithmancy best of the new lessons, and Potions, Defence and Transfiguration are still at the top of the regular ones. I mean, I like Charms too, and Astronomy is okay but I like the night-time part better than the lectures (and that'll be tonight).

And Ravenclaw Corner is still nift, I mean, with Sandoval and the Bobolises and the Dameses and all. Oh, and Sandoval, I don't know if your brother told you but there are a few others who've started coming by more often. Davies, for example, and Cox. And there are some newer ones, like Gray and Martinez. But mostly it's the same chums from last year. Dunstan may start coming with me sometimes, and Moon, but only when Karoline isn't there to tease him. I guess that's the bad thing about having an older sister or brother at school with one!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-08 20:10:51](#)**

Private Message to Lana Sandoval

Are you okay? You're not in trouble with the Auror programme or anything?




 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2010-09-08 22:10:23](#)**

Re: Private Message to Lana Sandoval

Of course, I'm okay. But I need to work harder. It's very challenging, and Mrs Lestrangle has put her reputation behind me, which means she believes I can be the very best of the best in my generation.

But I'm not best yet. And there are skills I'm struggling with. So I just need to really set my wand to it and work harder. That's all.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-08 21:22:55](#)**
(no subject)

I can't wait to share what we've been up to all summer! I've been going over my notes all afternoon.

And yeah, that would be pretty wiz-nift too, to have other people trace back through other laws or history of spells or potions or something.


I know you're really involved in Young Interrogators, and I thought since we have so many case notes, it might be fun to do a mock trial thing about time travel? Maybe? I don't know if your other group would be up for it, but if we've done all this work, it might as well be spread out a little, you know?



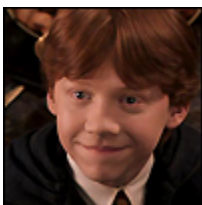
 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-08 21:30:17](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah - I've sort of been thinking along the same lines. Well done, Parkinson! I'll just mention it to Professor Vector at Monday's Future Interrogators' meeting.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-08 21:32:43](#)**
(no subject)

Excellent!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-08 22:12:25](#)**
(no subject)

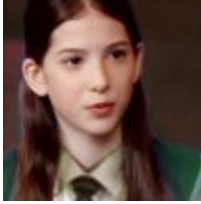
I'm coming to hear what you've found out. Time magic is really nift.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-08 22:27:46](#)
(no subject)

It so is!

Especially when it goes really, really wrong. I mean, it's all tragic and weird and just *cool*.



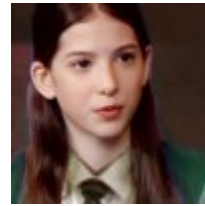
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:23:16](#)
(no subject)

It was really interesting. I'm glad I came!

2010-09-08 20:15:00

Defence today

So Defence today was rather exciting. Professor LeStrange had arranged for us to each face a boggart. I suppose I shouldn't say more than that because he'll want to explain how it works to all the other houses in turn, I should think. But it was dead interesting.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-09-09 01:18:57**


I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Pansy, did you get a good look at Draco's boggart?

It looked like Professor Carrow. It was, wasn't it? I wasn't just imagining things.

Harry's -- ugh. Thank goodness Professor LeStrange had chocolate in his desk.

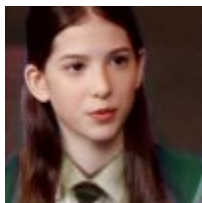


 [alt_terry](#) at **2010-09-09 01:38:14**

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

It looked like Master? Or his sister?

What's a boggart anyway?



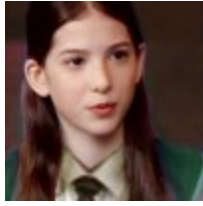
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-09-09 01:42:20**

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

Like Mr Professor Carrow, not Miss.

A boggart -- it's a dark creature that transforms into whatever you fear the most. If you faced off with a boggart I wouldn't be surprised at all if it turned into Carrow, but this was Draco.

I guess they really meant it about



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 01:43:20](#)

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

Oh and just in case you ever run into one, the way you defeat it is to force it to transform into something funny and then laugh at it.

Of course, we all KNEW going in that we were about to encounter a boggart which is totally different from running into your greatest fear in a dark corridor some night. We were prepared.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 01:45:18](#)

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

I couldn't do it when it was my turn at all. Make it funny. Even when I was prepared.

I'm not sure I particularly liked this lesson.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 01:45:32](#)

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

Blimey. How could you force Professor Carrow into being something funny?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 01:46:05](#)

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

Oh, we can think of a few things.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 01:48:37](#)

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

Wait a minute.

You said it's something that turns into what you're afraid of the most. What, like a creature?

Or . . . or like it's whatever scares you more than anything?

Whatever it is?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 01:51:16](#)

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

It's whatever scares you the most.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 01:52:57](#)

Private message to Sally-Anne

That was your dad, wasn't it?

I mean, I know you don't get on, but I didn't know that he was your thing you were most

scared of.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 01:56:15](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

Well you didn't get to hear what he was saying, I knew by the time it was my turn I wanted to get it over with as fast as I possibly could and I wanted my funny thing to keep him from

talking.

He was saying I wasn't his daughter. That I was a mudblood.

We don't always get on and

Yeah anyway. I'm sorry about yours. I couldn't think of a way to make it funny either.

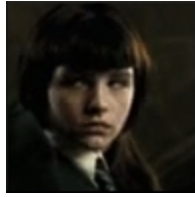


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 01:58:58](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

oh. yeah, I didn't hear that bit.

that would be pretty awful to hear.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 02:01:36](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

and yeah.

I'm sorry too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:04:40](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

None of it was your fault, Pansy.

No matter what the boggart said.

NONE of it was your fault.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 02:26:15](#)

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

~~It was just saying what I was thinking.~~

It's fine.

Thanks, though.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:03:43](#)


Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

At least it WAS someone saying something, I know what scares me but I didn't know how a boggart would turn into it, you know?

Being sent to a mudblood camp scares me.

It could've been the Headmistress snapping my wand and expelling me, though, I don't know what I'd have done then. I figured hiccoughs would work on anyone who was saying something.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 02:06:18](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

You could have made her pick her nose with the snapped bits.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:11:10](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne

I'll have to remember that if it ever comes up.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 01:54:40](#)

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

Bloody hell.

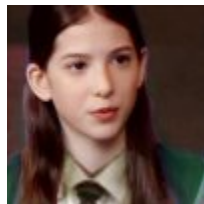


 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 01:57:28](#)

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

I can't do that.

Do you think he's going to have the Gryffindors do the same lesson on Friday?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 01:58:23](#)

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

Well, you can think it through first and make it change really fast. ~~My bog~~ You turn it into something funny, when you do the spell.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 02:01:44](#)


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

It's....it's more than just that it's personal.

It's just that--well, I can't take that class. I can't face a boggart in front of other people.

I've got to get out of it somehow.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-09 02:07:38](#)

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

I would have thought your boggart would be Master, too. I know you hate Transfiguration.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 02:09:33](#)

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

It's not. I don't think it is. And if I'm right....

I can't do it. Don't ask me why.

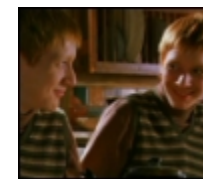


 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-09 02:11:49](#)

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

...

All right.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 02:21:50](#)

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

No need to panic, Nev. If you have to skive off, that's our specialty, no questions asked.

What time's your next DADA class?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 02:23:18](#)

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

Uh, 10:00 in the morning on Friday.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 02:23:45](#)

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

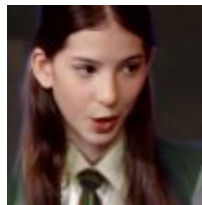
Perfect. Come see us that morning. We'll give you a potion that should have you spewing up your breakfast within fifteen minutes. You can nip off to the hospital wing and hang out there.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 02:30:30](#)

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

eww.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:29:48](#)

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

I'm telling you, a headache would work just as well. It's not as if Madam Pomfrey gives you veritaserum to make SURE you REALLY have one.

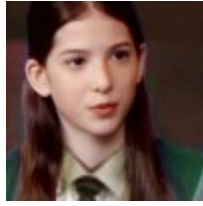


 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-09 02:35:18](#)

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

No. I'll do it. I've got to make absolutely sure that Madam Pomfrey doesn't sent me back to class.

Trust me on this.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:12:46](#)

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

Skive off. How much attention do your prefects pay if you say you're sick? Just say you have a headache and go up to bed for an hour or two.

Or have someone hex you. Greg got hexed by some older boy in Ravenclaw yesterday, probably because he deserved it, and he was up in the hospital wing for two hours.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2010-09-09 01:52:43](#)

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

It sort of reads your mind to find out what that is I guess. At least that's what I figured they did when we faced them our third year.

Why? What do you think it would turn into for you?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 01:57:08](#)

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

Well, that's sort of a personal question, isn't it?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:01:24](#)

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

Draco changed his clothes. Into ladies' clothes. Something really fancy. I think the dress might be something he's seen his mum wear.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-09 02:06:24](#)

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

He--

it--

Merlin. Draco made a boggart turn into Master? And then put it into a dress!?!

Oh, I would have given anything to have been able to see that!

As long as HE didn't know, I mean.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 02:10:33](#)

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


Well, the boggart was already there, Draco didn't make it. But it changed into Carrow when it was trying to really frighten Draco.

And Draco made it funny by putting it in a dress.

A really pretty dress. Covered in beads and lace and nift things and it was sort of shimmery so it changed colour when Carrow moved.

I wish I could've taken a picture. I'd have it framed and keep it forever!

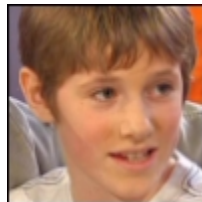



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-09 02:37:02](#)

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

Oh, he's sure to hear about it. The way that gossip spreads at this school?

Malfoy better watch his step in Transfiguration this term.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-09 02:46:07](#)

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

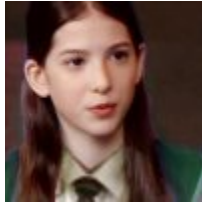
But I've got to admit...that mental picture is something I'm gonna keep to pull out whenever I need it.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-09 01:39:09](#)

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

What happened? Harry won't tell me anything, just says to mind my own business.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 01:44:44](#)

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

When it was Harry's turn to face the boggart, it turned into a Dementor.

He --

Well, it was kind of like what happened on the train, only Professor LeStrange reacted a lot faster, he got in front of Harry so the boggart transformed again and then after we'd laughed it away he gave us all chocolate. Because even though it wasn't a REAL Dementor -- it basically was.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-09 01:27:19](#)

(no subject)

I thought it was an awfully personal experience, myself. I'm glad that Professor LeStrange warned us it would be, because then I knew I should do my best to turn my eyes away when other students went up to the wardrobe. It was hard not to look sometimes, but I wish I hadn't - some of them were just ghastly!

[2010-09-08 21:17:00](#)

Defence

Oi, so is it true boggarts turn into walking skeletons that ooze greenish bits all over the floor or was my cousin having me on that time?



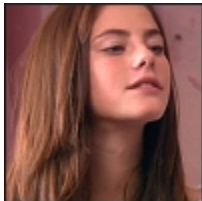
 **[alt_seamus](#)**



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 02:28:29](#)**

(no subject)

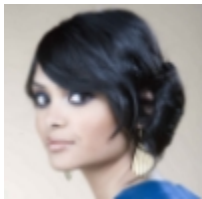
Not as a general rule, no.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 02:35:02](#)**

(no subject)

Is your cousin seven years old? Because in that case: maybe.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-09 02:39:25](#)**

(no subject)

It does whatever you're afraid of. So if that's what he's afraid of, then yeah.

I'm not sure I'm looking forward to Friday's lesson.



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2010-09-09 02:42:48](#)**

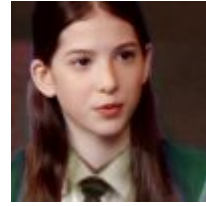
(no subject)

I agree with you Patil. Unpleasant reminders need to remain buried deep in the back of our minds where they belong.

2010-09-08 22:07:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Ron I know you don't like Draco, but if you twit Draco about his boggart being Carrow I'm going to be utterly furious with you.




 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Carrow in a dress is funny and I'm not saying you shouldn't laugh at it (Terry's right, everyone will be talking about it) so long as you check over your shoulder for the Carrows first (and probably your stupid brother, too, Percy I mean) but it is not funny that Draco's afraid of Carrow.

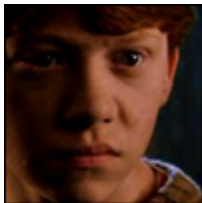
It really, truly, isn't.


Also, if you go after Draco for it he'll hex you into next week.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 11:26:04](#)
(no subject)

Nice.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 11:27:18](#)
(no subject)

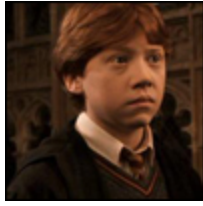
Did he tell you what he was planning to do last night?


Maybe it was your idea.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 13:51:24](#)
(no subject)

Sounds like it's time to chuck more stones at the squid.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:07:43](#)**
(no subject)

I'd rather chuck Malfoy at the squid.


It'd chuck him back, though.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 14:57:14](#)**
(no subject)

No, he didn't tell me what he was planning. In case you hadn't noticed, Draco doesn't actually talk to me all that much, and he's certainly not going to tell me if he's planning to hex someone.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:06:38](#)**
(no subject)

Then how come you're always taking his side?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:11:30](#)**
(no subject)


I'm not.

I'm just saying

He's got his own reasons for being afraid of Carrow and they're not funny.

And he could've done a lot worse to you than make you faint, you know.

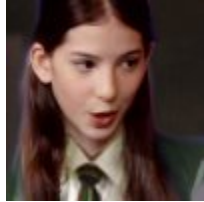


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:15:26](#)**
(no subject)

Who said anything about Malfoy and Carrow?
Not bloody me.

And, yeah, he could've done it when I was a little closer to the edge.

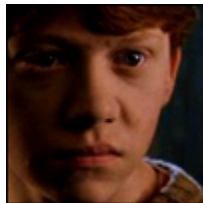
Then you'd be sorry.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 15:21:52](#)
(no subject)

Even Draco wouldn't get away with
MURDERING YOU, Ron. For Merlin's sake.

But he knows loads of hexes and some of them are painful, not just embarrassing, and if he could hex you with the fainting spell and Professor Sinistra didn't see, he could've gotten you with the boils one just as easily.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:23:52](#)
(no subject)


Tell your boyfriend I can take anything he
throws at me. But he'll get as good as he gives.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 15:26:22](#)
(no subject)

OH. You are IMPOSSIBLE.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:44:37](#)
(no subject)

Back at you.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 16:11:36](#)
(no subject)

Maybe the giant squid will take to chucking
rocks the other way.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 15:27:27](#)

Private message to Pansy Parkinson

Stop me before I hex him into next week.

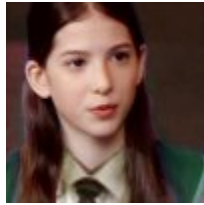


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 19:38:55](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

I know he can get a bit much, but you and me both know that if you push, he'll just push back, and he's not going to listen to anyone when he's in a bad mood.

Not that it can't get really frustrating, mind. Because it can.

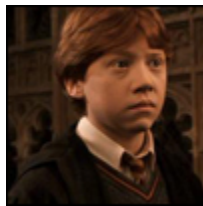


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 15:22:45](#)

(no subject)

And you hadn't said anything about Draco and Carrow and I was hoping you'd KEEP it that way.

After that day when you imitated Harry at breakfast, I didn't think I could just trust you to have some bloody common sense.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:15:43](#)

(no subject)

Or maybe you wouldn't.

2010-09-08 22:27:00

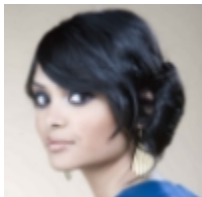
Blimey.


Anyone seen Monday's *In the Soup*? Ordinarily I don't bother with things like that but someone left a copy in our Common Room. And I was looking for the scores from the weekend.



 [alt_zacharias](#)

Is it true what it says about the owner of the Wanderers? Now there's a boggart for you! I wonder what's to happen to the club? I've got two players from there, I hope they don't go under because their owner's - well, because he's gone and cheated.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-09-09 02:41:01**
(no subject)

No one takes it in Ravenclaw.

Why, what does it say? What did he do?



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2010-09-09 02:52:42**
(no subject)


Well, I'm not sure I ought to say here, since I guess he's got a couple kids in Slytherin.

Maybe I oughtn't to have said anything anyway, only now I'm looking for whether other people are talking about it. My aunt is. And there's a Mrs Hendershot who seems to think it's the worst kind of betrayal of blood purity.

But it's not as if he's a blood-traitor or anything. He's just had an affair. I mean, not that that's a good thing, of course. But it's not as if he'd gone and supported Sirius Black or anything.

Oh, and now I've seen in this morning's *Prophet* there's to be an inquiry about how the magazine found out about it all. Wonder why?




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:04:08](#)**
(no subject)

Well, no, you probably shouldn't.

Elsinore has holed herself up in her room and is refusing to come out, and this is certainly not helping.

Is that all, though? Just an affair? I mean, affairs happen. So I'm sure it'll blow over sooner or later, and it won't affect your precious make-believe Quidditch or whatever.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:12:28](#)**
(no subject)

Well, maybe for you they just happen! It's not an everyday occurrence for most people!

I've just gone to the library and there's a copy here. It's utterly lurid!

Oh, and I bet the inquiry is because Mrs Urquhart said she found out from an acquaintance who works at the Ministry. So I bet MLE or something were looking into Mr Urquhart for something, and maybe that's how they found out he was messing about.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:18:11](#)**
(no subject)

You know what I mean. Like Smith said. He's not a criminal.

It's just very embarrassing for his *family* is all.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:23:04](#)**
(no subject)

I dunno. If the Ministry knew he was cheating on his wife, then he must be some other kind of criminal.

But I don't know anyone who's parents have done anything like that. Had an affair, I mean.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:24:36](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it's not like people would shout it from the rooftops if they had.




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:19:46](#)**
(no subject)

Bloody hell, what do you suppose he was up to?
Other than snogging his office assistant.

Was it his office assistant?

Towler's saying the girl he had his affair with was a half-blood, that's part of what makes it so shocking since the Urquharts are supposed to be very careful about blood purity. But I don't know where he's getting his information.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-09 03:24:52](#)**
(no subject)

No, she worked at Harrod's or something. I don't know how they met, the article doesn't say much about that.

Oh, but it does say they recently started using the Private Messages to arrange meetings! That's pretty thick.

I mean, I wouldn't know anything about having an affair, but you'd have to be sort of thick to go about it where everyone can see it. Right?

It doesn't say whether she's a half-blood or not.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 03:16:19](#)
(no subject)

Blimey, you said he cheated and I thought you meant at Quidditch!

But you mean he cheated on his wife, right?

I know someone around here subscribes to In the Soup but I can't remember who it is.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-09-09 03:18:53](#)
(no subject)

I know - I almost thought so too at first! It was the headline and everything.

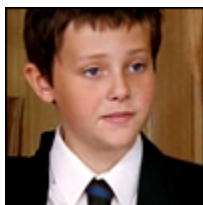
But no, he was just cheating on his wife. With some witch who works at Harrod's or something.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 03:20:27](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it was a shop girl. NOT his office assistant.


That'll teach me to listen to anything Towler says.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-09-09 03:19:42](#)
(no subject)

That's what I thought too!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 11:33:59](#)
(no subject)

How's it got anything to do with the club, though?

I mean, it's not like the players were part of it.

2010-09-08 22:46:00

Ginny?

Care for a stroll around the lake and a chat sometime tomorrow?



 **alt_dean**



 **alt_ginny** at **2010-09-09 03:08:12**
(no subject)

Sure Dean. Lets grab a quick bite at lunch and go before the hour is over with.

[2010-09-09 07:07:00](#)

Astronomy

I'm up early enough to have written Mother, Father, and Queenie an owl, and do some reading, too. I'd like to get to breakfast before there's nothing but porridge left - yech! I expect I'll be exhausted by this afternoon, since we were up late last night with Professor Sinistra, but it really can't be helped.



 **[alt_daphne](#)**

News about what happens with the boggarts much have reached the Gryffindors, only I thought they were supposed to be brave and bold? Ron Weasley fainted while star-gazing last night, and for no good reason that I can see! Well, a shooting star did streak across the eastern sky at that particular moment, but that's no excuse to clutch your chest, gasp "Oh my heavens!" and crumble to the ground in a heap. To be perfectly honest it was quite amusing. Especially when Blaise yelled out "Do hurry, Professor Sinistra! Weasley's got the vapours!" I think he really might have had them, too! Upon rousing, I half-expected him to bat his eyelashes and call for smelling salts. Or maybe one of those lacy fans, charmed with a rivitalising spell.

Anyway, it only goes to show that karma, that thing Padma and Parvati talk about sometimes, probably really exists. For some people, at least!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-09 13:25:08](#)**

(no subject)

I never realised he had such a problem with heights.

Must be getting used to the towers here, after scratching in the dirt all summer.




 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 13:30:10](#)**

(no subject)


Well, he was quite overcome by something! Or perhaps *someone*. That's what was so amusing, he fainted like a girl might if she got close enough to touch her favourite actor or singer.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 19:36:06](#)
(no subject)


Or, you know, like someone who's been hexed.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-09 21:07:32](#)
Private message to Pansy

Concerned? You didn't seem much when he was having a go at Harry.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 21:32:25](#)
Re: Private message to Pansy

He got what was coming, and has behaved like a right berk to Harry. And I've let him know what I thought about it, too.


I just had enough of Patil and Daphne pretending like he'd actually fainted. It was just a bit much.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 15:08:23](#)
(no subject)

I don't know what Weasley's problem was, but it was dead funny to see.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:13:32](#)
(no subject)

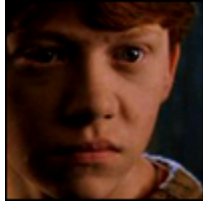
Nice.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 15:16:25](#)
(no subject)

Well you sure enjoyed putting on a fainting show last week, Weasley. At breakfast that day.

Maybe someone wanted an encore performance.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:36:33](#)
(no subject)

Go bludger yourself, Finnigan.

We all know who it was that did it.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 15:39:17](#)
(no subject)

I certainly didn't see anyone hex you.

So congratulations on excellent discreet wandwork to whoever it was, I suppose.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:12:51](#)
(no subject)

Oh, go fan yourself, Greengrass. I didn't faint. I was hexed.

You'd think after two years here, you could tell the difference.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 15:32:53](#)
(no subject)

So you say.

But Finnigan's right, you did put on that show a week ago. Figured enough time had passed, did you?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:37:13](#)
(no subject)

No one asked you, Patil.


And I've got the hex mark to prove it. Had to show it to Madam Pomfrey, didn't I?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 15:40:47](#)
(no subject)

I hope it was someplace good and embarrassing, then. I'm sure you deserved it.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 15:43:31](#)
(no subject)

Nice.

Keep your mind in your own pants, would you?




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 15:44:42](#)
Private message to Padma and Daphne

After slagging Marvolo at breakfast that day?
Bloody well right he deserved it!

Was it Marvolo who got him back, do you know? Or Malfoy?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 15:47:14](#)
Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

My bet's on Malfoy. Marvolo's been more reasonable about Weasley lately, but Malfoy's more likely to take action. You know?



alt_seamus at 2010-09-09 15:53:40

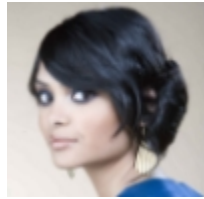
Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

Yeah, you're probably right.

Good on Malfoy, then.

It's humiliating sharing a house with Weasley. Longbottom's not so bad, I don't think he REALLY meant to make fun of Professor Lestrangle. He's just a berk, clumsy and not very bright, he'd really have fit better in Hufflepuff than Gryffindor, you know?

But WEASLEY, ugh. He's the worst sort of Gryffindor. If he could have every person of worth furious with him at once he'd call that a good day, I reckon.



alt_padma at 2010-09-09 15:56:16

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

Yeah, I don't know how you manage it.

Speaking of sharing dorms, did you see that message Thomas sent to Weasley's sister? Are they snogging or what?



alt_seamus at 2010-09-09 16:01:40

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

I don't know. Maybe? It's hard to get more than a dozen words out of Dean most of the time.



alt_padma at 2010-09-09 16:09:06

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

Ych. Imagine trying to snog a Weasley. I almost gave Thomas credit for cleaning up his act, but not if that's what he's spending his time doing.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-09 17:27:11](#)

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

Whatever they're up to, it looks like they've had their first row!

Oh, and I can tell you both with authority that it was definitely Draco who hexed Weasley. Weasley might've thought he'd forgotten what he was saying about Harry, but trust a Slytherin to never forget! It was really quite brilliant.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 17:31:53](#)

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

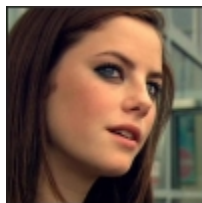
I knew it was Draco! He's ever so good at that sort of thing. He would have won AK that time if Jones hadn't startled at her own shadow so often.

Did you see Weaslette said Thomas told her off for something?

I bet it was those messages she sent over the summer - you know, about a week before we came back? Wish I'd known what they were about. But she wrote to the Headmistress and Professor Slughorn and Mr Malfoy and Mr Peakes. Two professors and two Governors.

You don't suppose it was a complaint about Slytherin house? That'd be daft. But maybe it had something to do with her stupid brother being in trouble all the time - defending him or something like that.

Though I suppose to look at the way they talk to one another, there's no love lost there. Still. What else *could* it have been?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-09-09 17:35:45](#)

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

I just think it's terribly forward for someone in her position to write all those adults when they surely have more important things and people to be attending to. But trust a Weasley

to have more nerve than sense.

Wasn't she writing to Hydra, too? That's probably the nerviest thing of all!



 **alt_padma** at **2010-09-09 17:37:35**

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

Yes, she's well brazen, that's for sure.

Seamus, did Thomas answer you? What'd he say?



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-09-09 19:24:45**

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

Well, they're both insisting they weren't snogging.

Probably means they were.

Dean says about the same as Ginny. I think he tried to give her some advice and she didn't much like it. I think it DID have something to do with all those letters she sent through the journals, and I don't even KNOW what to make of those. Lucius Malfoy? Really? I wouldn't write to Mr Malfoy unless it were REALLY IMPORTANT and he's friends with my fa foster-father.

I'm thinking it probably was NOT really important.



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-09-09 19:27:39**

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

I don't know what she was thinking with those messages.

Everyone in that family likes attention, one way or another. That's probably all it was.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-09 19:25:44](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

If I wanted to hack someone off and then hope they'd forget it in a week...I'd go for a Hufflepuff.

Not a Ravenclaw, not a Gryffindor, but ESPECIALLY not a Slytherin.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 21:09:25](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma and Daphne

That's because you're clever! I do doubt that Weasley will take this lying down, though. Fortunately, Draco has loads of people watching his back for him.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-09-09 17:30:37](#)**

(no subject)

You'd think after two years here, you could mind your manners enough to not get hexed.

2010-09-09 09:29:00

Wireless and Wizengamot

WWN met on Monday and I know several at Hogwarts will take note that they did decide, over a few objecting voices, to add a second broadcast on a trial basis. The second frequency will operate for twenty hours per week for the next three months, beginning October. Programming to be determined.



 [alt_lucius](#)


Our reclamation project has progressed as well, with three sites undergoing plans for extensive remodel for sport (including a new Quidditch pitch and possibly an addition to the league) and additional industry.

Tuesday, as promised, Ari and Pandora had several friends round to commemorate their youngest child's magic manifesting. Quite a pleasant affair, though Malcolm sullenly pointed out his brother was unable to attend as he is at school - to which Pandora replied by producing a letter Ptolemy sent to congratulate his baby sister.

We had no sooner returned, however, when we were inundated with requests for statements regarding this Urquhart matter. Narcissa knows Gertrude rather better than I know Seyton, though of course we have been acquainted many years. For the record, we are of the opinion that such matters are best kept private. We can only imagine the family's distress at the manner in which their personal business has been made a speculative topic across the country. The apparent corruption of the journals for such an insignificant purpose, however, is of more concern. The *Prophet* have called for an inquiry as to how this information - not apropos to any criminal act or investigation - came to be public knowledge. Confident the Ministry will determine to public satisfaction the source of this abuse of the private message function. It can in no way atone for the invasion into the Urquhart's personal affairs but it may in some fashion assure that no similar breach of confidentiality occurs in future.


It shall be one of many topics in my meeting with the Minister, as well as allocation of additional resources in the hunts for Macnair and Snape. Understand that the recent reports from the Blackburn sighting have provided new evidence and encouragement in the pursuit.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:24:07](#)**
(no subject)

The inquiry is already underway, Lucius; I couldn't agree with you more that this was completely unacceptable.




 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:38:24](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Dominic, for confirming that for us.

I don't have to tell you that Gertrude has been beside herself since that article appeared on Monday. No less than a dozen Daughters of the Protectorate have been nosing in with some type of advice for her or other. Tragic.

I hope this gives her some peace of mind.




 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:46:16](#)**
(no subject)

This sort of scandal is always difficult for the innocent party; all the more when it's public.

I assure you, the responsible party will be found and dealt with.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2010-09-09 16:10:39](#)**
(no subject)


Mr Crispin sent me a note today to let me know that my suggestions for youth programming had been forwarded to the WWN committee. I do appreciate the fact that the committee has indicated their willingness to solicit public input on this issue.

A new Quidditch pitch; that's quite exciting! I know that there have been persistent rumors circulating at Hogwarts about efforts to revive the Norfolk team franchise.

I am glad to hear that the Ministry is extending all efforts to locate


the source of these despicable leaks, but of course would expect no less.



 **alt_lucius** at [2010-09-09 19:18:34](#)
(no subject)

Indeed, the exact mix is still in discussion, but the point was made that certain programmes targetting children might provide additional instruction and guidance outside their village classrooms. It is up to the WWN, of course, however.



 **alt_pansy** at [2010-09-09 22:30:45](#)
(no subject)


That's ace about the WWN, Lucius!

Will they have any meetings with students, do you think? So we can talk about what we'd like? Because that would be utterly nift.

And I have all *sorts* of ideas.

I'm sure they have plenty of good ones too, though.




 **alt_lucius** at [2010-09-10 14:19:52](#)
(no subject)

Meetings are unlikely, but you might write the director and tell him your ideas. I'll have Crispin send you his information.

I rather suspect that by 'children's' programming they mean a younger group than you students. But, given the popularity of these impromptu street concerts that have been cropping up in New London, the WWN cannot deny the purchasing power of seventeen-to twenty-two-year-old wizards and witches. A thirteen-and-one-half-year-old's thoughts cannot be so far out of line to that.

(Though it seems impossible you or Draco can be over thirteen. When did that happen? I forbid it.)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 15:39:54](#)
(no subject)

I shall!

As far as growing older, I really can't do much about that, barring breaking some rather serious

laws!

2010-09-09 10:15:00

Babies!

I got a message on the journals from dad early this morning, Pip did you see it too??

Mum's had the twins!!!


Everything's fine, they're both healthy and that, and mum's okay.

Welcome to the family, Sebastian and Viola Macmillan!!!




 [alt_ernie](#)



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 14:36:19](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations, MacMillan!



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-09 14:49:32](#)
(no subject)


Cheers, Padma!



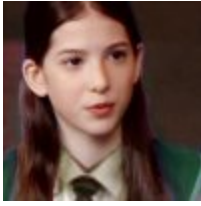
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 14:58:54](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations, Macmillan. Twins are awfully nift.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-09 15:08:32](#)
(no subject)

Thanks Perks! I reckon twins probably just sick up twice as much, but I'm not there to clean it up so I guess it's nift for me!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-09 15:19:13](#)
(no subject)

Oh, they do. And they also wake up twice as much as need to eat twice as much as need their nappies changed twice as much.

Is your mum going to get a mudblood to help her out a bit and give her a chance to sleep sometimes? There are mudblood girls who are quite good with babies, really. Mrs Stretton's mudblood is ever so good with her twins. (Did you know my foster mother has twins, too? But they're not babies anymore.)




 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-09 15:30:19](#)
(no subject)

Oh yeah, I forgot your foster mum had twins, you said in the journals before I think.


Well, we should be getting some help in once we move into the big house, which we can now that the babies have been born. We're quite near the camps in Kent, so I suppose they'll get someone from there, but I don't know. It's up to the Ministry, isn't it, that sort of thing. I hope we get someone nice.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 15:07:37](#)
(no subject)


Brilliant, Macmillan! Congratulations twice!



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-09 15:10:05](#)
(no subject)

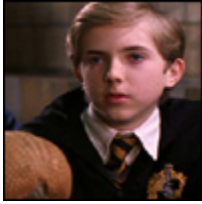
Cheers cheers!!




 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-09 15:09:08](#)
(no subject)

A boy and a girl? That's nift!

Did they know what kind they were getting? Ahead of time, I mean.




 **alt_ernie** at [2010-09-09 15:25:48](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, they did that charm a while ago and it said a boy and a girl. After us boys, they were both really excited about one being a girl! I guess your mum and dad were the same when your sister was born.

Thanks Weasley.



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-09 15:30:14](#)
(no subject)


Yeah, I think both Mum and Dad were chuffed when they got Ginny. Except it meant they had to get a load of girl clothes for her when they had boy clothes for all ages packed away from all of us.

Guess she's lucky that way.

Gotta tell you, though. Girls are totally different from us. Baby ones, especially. She'll have your Mum and Dad totally google-eyed, and she'll never get in half as much trouble as you do.

Just sayin.




 **alt_ernie** at [2010-09-09 15:36:34](#)
(no subject)

I don't think mum and dad kept much of our old stuff, so Seb and Vi will both have new stuff. There are one or two blankets and things, but most of it went off for charity. I think they send old clothes to the camps for the muggles and the mudbloods when we don't need them any more, because they don't have much in the camps.


I reckon you're right about girls too. Mum and dad were both cooing over baby stuff when I was home over the hols, and they kept looking at little pink bonnets and stuff and making these faces. I'll watch out for her, defo!!



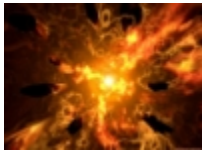
 [alt_hannah](#) at [2010-09-09 15:27:24](#)
(no subject)

Oooo, congratulations, Ernie! I love the names!



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-09 15:31:12](#)
(no subject)


Cheers Hannah!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 15:58:10](#)
(no subject)

The arrival of twins is always an occasion worthy of celebration!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-09 16:03:25](#)
(no subject)


I expect Mrs Macmillan is glad she's not going to get YOUR style of celebration in her house!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-09 19:10:10](#)
(no subject)


We'd be happy to give Macmillan tips to liven things up.



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2010-09-09 19:48:58](#)**
(no subject)


No ta, my mum would skin me alive if I caused half the trouble you two cause!



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-09 17:40:37](#)**
(no subject)

Well done on you, Macmillan. Or on your Mother, more precisely.



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2010-09-09 17:59:43](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks Malfoy.

2010-09-09 10:28:00

Order Only

Dad, I can't meet for lunch today.

Sorry.



 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_arthur](#) at **2010-09-09 15:33:20**

(no subject)

You posted that 'Order Only,' son. Is something wrong?



 [alt_bill](#) at **2010-09-09 15:34:42**

(no subject)

Um...they think something might be, but they're wrong. At least not with me.

Anyway, I want you to steer clear from here until I get them off my arse.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2010-09-09 15:36:11**

(no subject)

For heaven's sake, Bill! I was about to leave for Moddey Dhoo, but should I stay? What's going on? Are you in trouble?



 [alt_bill](#) at **2010-09-09 15:40:05**

(no subject)

Nothing's wrong, Mum.


Well, except that I've learned that Massopust really has it in for me.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:40:55](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not going anywhere until you explain what's going on!




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:42:16](#)**
(no subject)

Massopust? What's his problem?

You do have your portkey with you, don't you?




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:46:51](#)**
(no subject)

It's this gossip rag article, the one that blew the lid off that owner of the Wigtown Wanderers' affair.

It seems that certain little tidbits got out because someone from this office decided to talk out of turn about the content of certain individuals' rather juicy Private Messages.


Massopust is insinuating that it's me. It wasn't, trust me.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:54:50](#)**
(no subject)

And yeah, I've got my portkey. I never go anywhere without it.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:43:06](#)**
(no subject)

What's wrong, Bill?

Whatever it is, mate, keep a steady hand on your wand.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:48:08](#)**
(no subject)

I just replied to Dad.


There's a leak in this office about the Private Messages. I simply need to convince them that it isn't me.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:49:24](#)**
(no subject)


So those 'Private Messages' aren't as private as the Ministry pretended they were, are they?



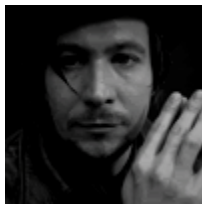
 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:50:07](#)**
(no subject)


Not much of a surprise, I must say.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:53:53](#)**
(no subject)

No, it's not.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-09-09 15:59:18](#)**
(no subject)

Well, they never said they were, Molly - I mean, we all noted straight from the off that the Ministry could still see anything written.

We're certain the Order lock still over-rides that, even when using the Private Message, so we're safe using it, but anyone who assumes that writing 'Private' means the likes of Selwyn and Crouch aren't reading it anyway is a fool, if you ask me.




 **alt_sirius** at [2010-09-09 15:50:33](#)
(no subject)

Is it possible they're using this to

Never mind, I don't want Molly to do her nut.

It ought to be simple, right? You've nothing to do with the Private Messages, you said at last report.



 **alt_bill** at [2010-09-09 15:53:19](#)
(no subject)

No, I don't. And my work logs will make that clear. Even charming my wand won't show anything different.

Mum, it'll be all right, I promise. Massopust's a poncy git, but he'll come up empty trying to pin anything on me about this.

2010-09-09 12:01:00


Private message to Dean Thomas

Alright, mate? I just saw that post from Ginny Weasley. What's she so cross about?



 **alt_seamus**



 **alt_dean** at **2010-09-09 17:16:29**

(no subject)

I had to put her in her place. I don't want to betray her privacy, but she did something this summer that could not be tolerated. Especially if she wants to be my friend. I see her as a sister, but I can't be expected to overlook all her little tricks, even if her family chooses to do so.

2010-09-09 12:40:00

DEAN THOMAS!!!

I'm so upset with you. You are so lucky I didn't ...

How could you say those things. Not be my friend if I don't...

If I see your face again today, I really will...




 [alt_ginny](#)

Friends don't speak such things about each other. I am not headstrong. And he shouldn't have told you about that. That was a breach of my privacy. How could you be so mean. And you were avoiding me? For him? I've known you longer...

Fine! I will show you what honour and loyalty mean. Don't let me see your face again today.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-09-09 17:08:43**

(no subject)

You all right then, Gin?




 [alt_ginny](#) at **2010-09-09 17:11:59**

(no subject)

No I am not. But I can't really say much. Other than Dean Thomas, thought to put me in my place. I thought I knew him better than that. I'm so peeved, I could hex him.




 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-09-09 17:14:34**

(no subject)

We're on our way out to the lake. The twins and me.

Want to come with?




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2010-09-09 17:19:25](#)
(no subject)

I think I rather stay where I am. I don't want to do something that would seem out of place. And if I pass him in the hall I shall do just that.

No its best if I stay put.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 17:20:13](#)
(no subject)

Dear oh dear. Breaking up so soon, Weaslette?

Not much for giving a bloke a chance, are you? You know, you might not want to be so quick to toss him aside. At the rate you and Ron are going, a half-blood may be the best you can get.




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2010-09-09 17:25:17](#)
(no subject)

Please, don't push me. Or make me laugh. He is only like a brother to me. I could never see him like that. Ew.

What is wrong with that picture. Its enough to make a person go mental.


And I could never be with someone that could be so bold as to tell me what to do because he thinks I did something wrong. What does he know?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-09 17:26:46](#)
(no subject)


Oh? What did you do wrong then? or what did he *think* you did?



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2010-09-09 17:29:17](#)
(no subject)


Not to be rude, but I don't think that's anyone's concern.
Not even his. And it wasn't wrong.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 17:26:35](#)
(no subject)

Bludger off, Patil.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-09 17:36:39](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry that you and your friend had an argument.


From,
Hydra



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2010-09-09 17:43:02](#)
(no subject)

Thank you for your concern.



 [alt_dean](#) at [2010-09-09 17:50:21](#)
(no subject)

Come now Ginny, the reason I asked you to walk with me is so this incident could remain completely private. But in your fury, you have nearly aired your misdeeds for the entire protectorate to read and comment.


Be reasonable and take the advice given to you. You know what they think. You have a chance to change it, and I am even willing to lend you Bast to do so. But if you will not take action, I will have no choice but to cut you off completely.

You don't want to end up like Ron, with no friends that matter or

have the slightest bit of influence. Don't follow his example and burn bridges.

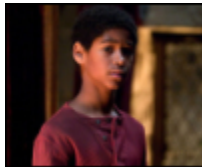
Let me know when you come to your senses.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-09 18:06:35](#)**
(no subject)

The people who matter are the people you can trust, Thomas. You'll find that out sometime. But do go on running after people who only keep you round if they think they can use you.

If Gin's got sense enough to tell you off, you can just leave her out of it.




 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2010-09-09 18:15:32](#)**
(no subject)

Weasley,

I've got better things to do than to argue with you. My concern is for her to correct her ways before she has too many blemishes against her character.


You on the other hand there is no hope for, I won't waste my time or my ink.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-09 18:07:44](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You're the one who's burned all his bridges with the people who'd have had your back, mate.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-09 20:16:44](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

If he thinks those people he spends time with are his friends, he's got another thing coming to him.

And if he thinks your friends don't matter, well, he really doesn't know anything by half.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-09 20:33:42](#)

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

Yeah, you're right about that. About friends.

Why's Sally Anne so cross at me?

I'm not the one who hexed somebody.

In the dark. At the top of the bleedin' Astronomy Tower where I could've got killed.

But she keeps taking up for Malfoy.

What gives?

I mean, really.

Really. What gives?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-09 21:30:26](#)

Private Message to Ron

I think she's afraid of what really and truly crossing Harry could do to you.

I know I am.

When those Aurors did what they did to you? I never want that to happen again. And that was when you were trying to be Harry's *friend*.

I even begged Padma Patil to stop when she was *joking* about you being black luck to Harry after, and that certainly wasn't fun to do.

And it's not like Harry *himself* is the one you have to worry about, it's all of the Aurors and our Lord Protector and I could go on and on about what *might* go wrong.

So I think she's scared for you, about how dangerous it could be.

And one reason is because she's halfblooded. So she's used to thinking about the worst thing that could happen, and worrying about it.

You know what her Boggart was? Her dad saying that she wasn't his daughter. Which would make her a mudblood, like Hermione and Terry. And she worries all the time about taking the wrong step and ending up with her wand snapped and expelled from school because that's something that could actually happen to her. So she takes things a lot more serious, is all, and she can get angry sometimes when other people don't see it the same way.

So she wants you to be careful. Because she cares about you.

And I care about you too, you know.



 [alt_pansy at 2010-09-09 22:33:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

It's not just that, of course, but I think that it's a big part of why she's been so snappish at you this week.

2010-09-09 13:54:00

Order Only: I've been cleared

I just got out of my meeting with Selwyn. It started out very tense--I don't know what Massopust told him, but I doubt it was good--but the logs proved I don't have anything to do with the Private Messaging function on the journals at all. When that became clear, Selwyn eyed Massopust in a way that made me glad he wasn't looking at me that way. Perhaps he's irritated that Massopust wasted his time by hauling me in.




 **alt_bill**

Selwyn actually shook my hand afterward, saying, 'glad to have you on the team, let's do lunch sometime next week.' It was all I could do not to laugh at the way Massopust was glaring at me over his shoulder.

I've dodged the hex. You can breathe freely now, Mum.




 **alt_molly** at **2010-09-09 19:01:53**
(no subject)

Well, thank goodness for that!

You're quite, quite sure you're safe, Bill?



 **alt_bill** at **2010-09-09 19:03:33**
(no subject)

I think Massopust would have looked loads happier if they were on the brink of arresting me. Don't know why he's got it in for me, but it became painfully clear today that I'm not his favourite employee. No idea why.

Don't worry, I'll be careful. Continue to be careful.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-09 19:04:42](#)**
(no subject)

All right, then. I'll head out. I'm just a couple hours behind the time I told Alice and Arabella to expect me.

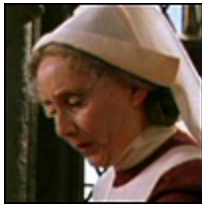
I'm sure you and your father will let me know immediately if anything changes.




 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2010-09-09 19:07:14](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe you just show him up too much. He was always a lazy sod, if he's the same Massopust I'm thinking of. You're the bright, rising employee, and he's obviously going nowhere. He got passed over for the last promotion he wanted, didn't he? I think I remember you telling me that.

Jealous supervisors can be the worst. Do be careful, my friend.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-09 19:50:45](#)**
(no subject)

I'm relieved to hear it, Bill. And if you've earned Selwyn's notice in the process, that represents a considerable gain in exchange for the day's anxiety. It goes without saying that I trust you will take as good care going forwards as you have done.

Well done.

2010-09-09 14:09:00

Attention Ministry Staff (Protectorate Affairs Division)



 **alt_selwyn**

It is clear that someone who was entrusted with sensitive information and access has gossiped about it. This is absolutely unacceptable; we hold a position of great trust in the Protectorate, and that one of us has betrayed this trust is something I personally take extremely seriously.

We are undertaking a review of all logs to find the culprit. This will take some time, however, so I would like to invite the guilty party (or parties) to come to me privately to admit your wrongdoing. (Alternately, if you are aware of such gossip and know who has been spreading it, you may also come to me privately. If you have only a suspicion rather than strong evidence, this will be useful when we review the logs, as we will know where to start.) We will begin the audit of the logs in one hour.

If you wait for us to uncover your malfeasance in the audit, things will go very badly for you indeed. If you admit your unprofessional behaviour immediately, we will show far greater leniency.




 **alt_lucius** at **2010-09-09 19:25:40**

Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

Any leads? Cornelius, I'm sure you know, was beside himself this morning.

I assume your offer of leniency is relative.



 **alt_selwyn** at **2010-09-09 19:29:50**

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

Anything short of a life sentence in Azkaban is lenient when you've crossed this many people in one day, I'd say.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-09 19:48:21](#)

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

No doubt. Well, if nothing else it will convince the public that their privacy is protected, but they must still use common sense in choosing their topics.

Seyton is an ass if he thought he was using discretion, at any rate.

Are you on for duelling next week? Elysian?



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2010-09-09 20:04:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn


Indeed, I'll be there with wand at the ready. And Seyton is ten kinds of ass, surely his wife would have wondered soon enough why he was writing so many private messages to a shop clerk at Harrod's.

Still, how wretched for her to have it all dragged out so publicly.

I have the culprit. It was Theo Higgs, a clerk. He was in Ned's class at Hogwarts -- same House, too. You'd think a Slytherin would have more sense.

I'm waiting for the full promised hour, and then I'll make an example of him. He's sweating in one of the inner offices right now.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2010-09-09 20:27:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

By the by, I meant to mention, it wasn't just Higgs we caught -- two others turned themselves in as well.

The first had gossiped about some entirely unrelated matter. It was quite a bit less sensitive, as it happens, but still utterly unacceptable. I cruciated her along with Higgs but for a shorter time and a bit less fanfare, and I'm planning to demote her but not fire her outright.

The second, oh my. She HADN'T gossiped, so far as I could tell, merely had an attack of conscience about -- frankly, I'm not sure.

She seemed to be terrified that possibly she'd talked in her sleep. She'll get no punishment, but I sent her off to St Mungo's for a once-over, I told her to ask the Healers for some dreamless sleep potion, and she'll be transferred to a less sensitive position, since it seems the stress of this one doesn't agree with her. I don't see much of a future for her at the Ministry, but time will tell.

As for Higgs, I think he made an excellent example to demonstrate why that girl was right to be worried. I expect the pubs near the Ministry will see some extra patronage tonight; I made sure everyone heard.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-09 20:47:21](#)

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

Then he must be Bartholomew's boy. Pity - though not, one might conclude, rather surprising.

I don't think he and Ned were great friends, anyway. The family are all rather over-dramatic.

As to your other conquests: It is not surprising that his was not the only transgression. Better to discover who understand the true value of secrecy and who cannot.

So Massopust's suspicions were unfounded? Cornelius seemed to set store by them this morning.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2010-09-09 23:41:56](#)

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

Massopust's suspicions were frankly rather puzzling. Weasley doesn't even have access to the private messages, as Massopust knows perfectly well considering he was the one who made the list of who should have access! He should have realised from the outset the man could have had nothing to do with this. Questioning him was a complete waste of time.

I've set Massopust the task of overseeing the audits personally. A tedious task that should help him remember in the future which individuals he should be keeping an eye on. Which might

well include Weasley under other circumstances, but not this time.



alt_crouch_jr at 2010-09-09 19:47:15

Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

By leniency, I assume you mean that the culprits will not be set before Our Lord in full court to suffer retribution for damaging the public's trust in His good gift of Private Messaging.

My offer stands if there's anything you need from our department. Down to and including an extra wand for enforcing justice.



alt_selwyn at 2010-09-09 20:01:11

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

Naturally. As I said to Lucius when he asked the same question, anything short of a life sentence in Azkaban is leniency, don't you agree?

I seem to have the culprit in hand; one Mr Theodolphus Higgs. He swears he didn't take the story to the gossip rag, only mentioned it to a friend; I think he's probably telling the truth as far as that goes, though we might want to check with the editor. She shan't like to name her source, but perhaps she'll confirm or deny it was Higgs? I hate to bring heavy pressures to bear on the tabloids, they're extremely good at scaring up certain sorts of useful information.

Amusingly, we caught one other fish we hadn't even been setting the line for. I'll wait till the end of the hour before I make an example of Higgs -- who knows what else might turn up?



alt_crouch_jr at 2010-09-09 20:13:21

Re: Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

I'll pay a call on Corbyn at the Soup offices tomorrow. She and I have occasionally exchanged information in the past, so I'll begin with a soft approach. Unless you learn enough from Higgs to make that stop unnecessary.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:07:26](#)


Order Only

BUGGER BUGGER BUGGER

THEY'RE USING CRUCIATUS

EVERYONE CAN HEAR IT



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2010-09-09 20:08:22](#)

Re: Order Only

My--

Where? Where are you?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:10:08](#)

Re: Order Only

I'm in my bleeding office. Where I can hear the screams coming through the bleeding walls.

I shouldn't wonder if Selwyn charmed him with 'Sonus' so everyone can hear!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2010-09-09 20:11:11](#)

Re: Order Only

Do you know who it is, Bill?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:12:25](#)


Re: Order Only

No.

Shite, there's another one. There are at least two people screaming now. I think the sound is coming from the conference rooms.

I have to go. Myrna just ducked into my office, white-faced. She's crying.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:14:25](#)

Re: Order Only

I got rid of Myrna.

Now one of the voices has stopped, but the other's still screaming.

Shite, Dad, I can't handle this. I'm shaking all over.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-09 20:15:53](#)

Re: Order Only

You're meant to be shaken, Bill.

Hold it together, man.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:19:27](#)

Re: Order Only

Bloody hell.

I'm so not going to be looking forward to that lunch with Selwyn next week. If he's the one who's actually holding the bloody wand.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-09 20:26:54](#)


Re: Order Only

Did you forget what that man is, Bill?

He may not be as snide as Malfoy or as venomous as Crouch, but he's still one of them.

Watch yourself.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:30:25](#)

Re: Order Only

I will.

People like him. Because he prides himself on being a good manager, and he's pleasant, and he has pictures of his kids in his office.

Guess that makes him more effective in what he does.

Merlin.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2010-09-09 20:31:19](#)

Re: Order Only

Come to the Burrow tonight, son, instead of going home to your flat. Molly's not here, and I think we both could use the company.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:31:45](#)

Re: Order Only

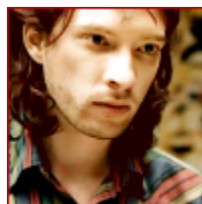
I could use a really stiff drink, too.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2010-09-09 20:31:55](#)

Re: Order Only

We can take care of that, too.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:27:08](#)

Re: Order Only


Someone just stuck their head in and said one of them is Theodolphus Higgs, but haven't confirmed that yet. I don't know him well, but he's worked here in the department for a

couple years.

The screaming's stopped. For the moment.

I'm still sweating all over.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-09-09 20:40:27](#)

Re: Order Only

Chocolate, if you have any. Works as well for this sort of scare as it does when there've been Dementors about.

Or chamomile tea.

Any tea, in a pinch, but not too much if it's a full black blend you'd take for breakfast. What you want is something to settle your stomach and nerves, not anything that would wind you up further.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-09 20:45:28](#)

Re: Order Only

For a wonder, I actually have a Chocolate Frog in my desk. Ron sent it for my birthday. Thanks. It helped a bit with the shakes.

I've shut the door and managed to calm myself down a bit. I do have some tea and I'll get that brewed.

Nobody's getting a bloody thing done here this afternoon anyway.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2010-09-09 20:16:19](#)

Re: Order Only

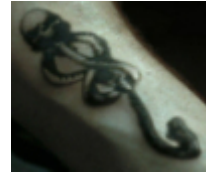
Calm and steady, son.

It's...it's difficult. I know.

2010-09-09 15:55:00

(no subject)

Traps are all unpacked, and most of the notes are encoded and transcribed.



Clearly attention needs to turn to a little pigeon plucking.

 [alt_amycus](#)

Or perhaps peacock chick plucking.

The pure must not be mocked.

2010-09-09 17:10:00

(no subject)



 [alt_narcissa](#)

This business with the Urquharts is most distressing. Poor Gertrude. And so rude of the *Soup* to drag it out in the open that way. Of course, the Daughters of the Protectorate will not turn out one of our own, though Seyton may find it more difficult to order tea. That's nothing to do with the rumours that the girl is a half-blood, of course, and everything to do with the importance of maintaining one's marriage. Which, as anyone must realise, is nearly impossible to do when the details of one's marriage are made fodder for discussion in every canteen and break room in the nation.

Just this afternoon, some of Revati's people were gossiping about it themselves! I'm afraid I was rather sharp with them about it.

The rest of the visit went well. Though Revati, again, I must stress that if you insist on hiring your first choice of model for the spread, then you'll at least take my advice and procure a female photographer or you are like to regret both decisions and have little to show for them in the bargain. The other models I think will do nicely. And the designs are, of course, exquisite. Celia, you'll be quite as pleased as I am, I'm sure. The December issue ought to fly off the shelves.

Tomorrow evening we've an engagement with the Boles and the Yaxleys; Saturday of course will be the Scroops' girl's wedding and Sunday we've an invitation to Buckingham - so it shall be quite a busy weekend.

To that end: Mr Collins, I did read your message. I greatly appreciate your offer of flexibility should I wish to tour what I am certain is an excellent facility. It's my husband, however, who makes decisions regarding our investments so I'm sure you can understand that it's quite useless to enlist my cooperation towards your enterprise. I suggest you direct further inquiries to his attention or his clerk's.

And Hydra, dear: I trust the tea has been helping? No more nightmares?




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-09 22:19:21](#)
(no subject)

You seem to be having a time of it with this Mr Collins. I'll have a look into his background, shall I? Your time is entirely too valuable to be having to concern yourself with a nuisance of his sort.

Bad business about Urquhart, and there's blame owing in several quarters, it would seem--not least in his own. His lapse in judgement boggles the mind: if it hadn't been *The Soup* it would have been one of the others, sniffing out that trail of Private Messages to a perfume wench. One or two might have passed as his negotiating a gift for his wife. Dozens between the same two parties waves the red cloak before the tabloid bull. The business at the Ministry merely sped its path into print: it was going to come out with or without that.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-10 00:34:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Gertrude claimed he had an answer for that, when I spoke to her, if you believe it! She says he told her that he had taken an interest because the girl's uncle was a school chum and he was merely 'helping' her in her career. The excuse is nearly as flimsy as the frock she was wearing in the article, I have to say - but you know some women will cling to any shred of story if it allows them to avoid facing the truth. Still, it's somewhat unbelievable that the entire escapade came to her as the surprise and shock that it clearly has been.

Regarding Mr Collins: As I've told Lucius, he really is quite harmless. I vaguely recall him from Hogwarts and he was just as hapless then. His persistence now is, in its way, somewhat laudable, if tiresome. You've no need to concern yourself by imagining some nefarious motive behind his ceaseless private messages.

2010-09-10 09:16:00


(no subject)

Nev, you all right, mate? You make it to the Hospital Wing?



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2010-09-10 14:33:30**

(no subject)

Yeah.

No.

Madam Pomfrey's ordered me to bed.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2010-09-10 14:34:30**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Fred and George, thanks. I owe you.

I'm sorry I sicked up on your book bag, though, George. I didn't expect the potion to work that fast.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2010-09-10 14:34:55**

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

That's what 'scourgify' is for.




 [alt_neville](#) at **2010-09-10 14:36:18**

(no subject)

I mean, yeah, I made it to the Hospital Wing. And yeah, I'm all right, except....

'scuse me....



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-10 15:30:26](#)**
(no subject)

Well.

That was something. Defence, I mean.


I got caught writing to you, so I had to go first. (Going back tonight for a detention, too, but no worries.)

It was pretty much what I expected. I mean, yeah. Giant acromantula with nasty, sticky web stuff hanging off its y'know and super hugomonstrous hairy legs and giant jaws dripping poisonous drool

DEAD HORRIBLE

But then I got its legs off and it rolled all over the place. Nearly bashed into Brown. That was the funniest bit.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-10 18:04:03](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Just wait, next time she runs up against a boggart, Lav's will turn into an enormous legless hairy spider.

Any other interesting ones?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-10 18:51:05](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I know, right? Then again, if that takes over her biggest fear, her biggest fear was probably really lame.

Finding out she has split ends?

Or, horrors, A spot on her chin?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 19:00:42](#)

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

It would totally be a spot on her chin.

And then she'd make it funny by turning it into a spot on someone ELSE'S chin!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 20:37:54](#)

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

Ha. You're not far off.

Lav's boggart turns into a mirror with her face showing, only it's been hexed all out of shape. Like a bat bogey hex only really, really worse.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 23:17:04](#)

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

What did she do to get rid of it?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 23:24:28](#)

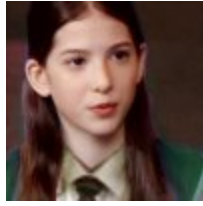
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oh.

She turned the face into Luna's--and it had the daftest expression on. I don't think even Luna can look that daft really.

It was sort of funny.

Except for the part where it was really mean.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 23:29:18](#)

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

Oh, ugh. Poor Luna. My foster parents don't like me much, but at least my foster siblings aren't nasty to me. Even Jeremy is, well, probably nicer to me than you are to Ginny.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 23:30:13](#)

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

Not that you're awful to Ginny. Much.

Jeremy's probably nicer to me because I'm not REALLY his sister so if he treated me the way you lot treat Ginny I'd probably run away in despair or something.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 20:43:13](#)

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

Well, Parvati's was pretty horrible. It was a mummy with the wrapping coming unwound from its face, which must've been her brother's.

The one who died, y'know? She was so upset, she had a really hard time changing it, and then all she could do was have it trip on its bandages and fall over. And then the head came off and she started screaming again, so Professor Lestrangle told Bundy to step up.

And the boggart popped and turned into Bundy's cousin, Gemma, with her Prefect badge really huge, holding out a wand in front of her and snapping it. She looked really mean, too.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 21:31:02](#)

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

That does sound pretty horrid.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 21:59:36](#)

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

I mean, it's good we learn what to do against a boggart, right? But it was pretty awful.

Did you hear Professor Brutka yesterday? Said the boggart population is on the rise. Said he hadn't had nearly so much trouble getting them for Professor Lestrangle to use as he would've if he'd still been in France. I asked him how boggarts, y'know, reproduce. But he wanted to get started on the lesson, so he didn't answer.

Speaking of. That was dead interesting what he said about serpents and Parseltongue and how rare it is for anyone to have a serpent as a familiar. How powerful you have to be. Like the Lord Protector. And how his magic binds his snake to him.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 22:18:35](#)

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

yeah.

The snake bit was pretty nift. I like how Professor Brutka explains things. I'd never thought about how a snake isn't really made to be a familiar, like how it isn't its natural state, and what you have to do so you can control it.

But I did know that snake familiars can be used for some really ace stuff.

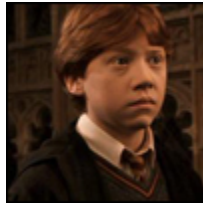
Salazar Slytherin came up with hexes and things that you can only do properly when you have a snake wrapped around your wand arm, or that you can only say right if you can speak Parseltongue. They had some descriptions of the hexes he created in the book I have about him, and it seems just sort of really snitch that only a few witches and wizards that ever lived could actually do that sort of magic.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 23:19:22](#)

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

I like snakes. But after that lesson I'm not sure I'd want one as a familiar, they're an awful lot of work. Whereas rats are actually bred to be familiars. As long as I feed Sebastian he sticks around and keeps me company, you know?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 23:37:47](#)

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

Yeah. And it'd be bad if you lived with someone who had a snake familiar. Bad for Sebastian, anywiz.

The big ones eat so much. I didn't know that. I mean, when he told us the Lord Protector's snake could eat a Centaur if it wanted to bother, that's just

that means it could eat a wizard if it wanted to.

And that's

yeah



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 23:44:18](#)

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

...eww.

Totally not helping me think happy thoughts,

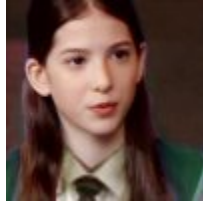
Ron.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 23:49:27](#)

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

I am going to gain a *stone* if I have to keep eating chocolate at the rate I've been going through it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 23:53:28](#)

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

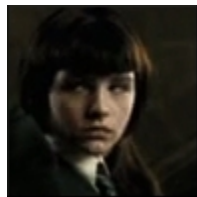
Nagini -- the Lord Protector's snake -- is ENORMOUS. Or so I've heard from Harry.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 23:20:25](#)

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

Although the spells you can only cast when you have a snake wrapped around your wand arm are DEAD NIFT.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 22:20:14](#)

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

But I don't think I'd ever be able to do what I'd need to. Against a boggart, I mean. I was pretty awful at it.

So I guess I should just hope I never run into one ever again. Or if I do, it's with you, so you can just make it into a legless spider.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 23:11:39](#)


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

What was yours, anyway.

I mean, if you don't want to say, you don't have to, but

It was really horrible, then?



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-10 23:21:25](#)

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

I mean, I've been thinking about it
boggarts, I mean.

And I think there are sort of two different kinds. There're ones that are really scary--stuff like, y'know, GIANT HAIRY HORRIBLE SPIDERS

er

or mummies or skeletons or evil clowns or manticores, y'know--

and then there're boggarts that are really so horrible the person can't make them funny no matter what they try--like your dead baby brother or yourself gone mad or someone you really like who turns around and they're all of a sudden a vampire or have their eyes gouged out or something else horrible you'd never expect. Those kind of boggarts aren't just dead scary, they make people really sad. Like Parvati. I keep thinking about how she looked

and how she sounded

it was really horrible

I think she had to go to Madam Pomfrey's afterwards.

So, yeah.

I guess yours was one of the second kind?

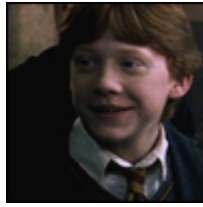



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2010-09-10 23:31:18](#)

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

Yes. Hers was one of the second kind.

I'd say Bundy's was too, actually. Did she come up with anything?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 23:40:04](#)

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

Oh, yeah.

Yeah, she did!

She made the Prefect badge open up and poke her cousin and she exploded like a giant balloon and went flying around with the air swooshing out of her.

Everyone laughed.

I don't think anyone likes Gemma Bundy very much. I mean, she is kind of a witch, innit?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-11 00:05:40](#)

Private message to Ron

So I actually kind of think you should know what Pansy's was. She doesn't want to talk about it anymore but I don't think she minds you knowing.

It was a dead girl who looked just like her, saying 'it was all your fault' over and over again.

She didn't even try to cast the spell, just stood there until Professor Lestrangle got Vince out in front of her.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 03:26:33](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Cor--

No wonder she doesn't want to talk about it. So it's about Regulus Black again. That's bad.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 23:43:03](#)

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

I couldn't make it funny. Because there is nothing funny about it. At all. Ever.

Ugh.

I just don't want to think about it any more.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 03:27:20](#)

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

I'm sorry.

We'll think up other things to think about, yeah? Fisheye.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-10 15:33:56](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Too bad you missed out. I mean, I reckon we know what it would've been for you--and I'd've liked to see you Riddikulus him.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 18:06:39](#)

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

Did you see what Carrow's saying in his journal? About plucking peacock chicks?

THAT'S him talking about Draco. Do you have any idea what he'd do to Neville for making him ridiculous?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-10 18:32:03](#)

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

Maybe you missed it, but Neville told me his boggart isn't Master.

Blimey, if it's something that scares him more than Master, he must be terrified of it. Don't blame him for skipping the lesson.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-10 18:33:52](#)


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

That's--

It's--

Look, that's not why I skipped it.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-10 18:34:29](#)

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

Oh?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-10 18:35:09](#)

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

It's that I can't let other people see it.

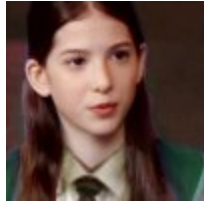
That would be a disaster.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 18:35:07](#)

Private Message to Sally-Anne

He's been calming down and I might actually have gotten through a bit with him about how serious all this is. I know you're still rubbed raw, but could you back off for just a little and give him some room?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 18:41:51](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

I wasn't

I didn't mean

Fine.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-10 18:45:40](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

I mean, point taken, totally.

But he won't listen if he thinks it's just you being critical.

Which is silly, because everything you've said about what he's done or might do has been perfectly reasonable, but this is Ron we're talking about. You know?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-10 18:54:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

All I was trying to say REALLY was that it was a good idea that Neville didn't go, if his boggart would've turned into Carrow and he'd made him funny, because of how angry Carrow was at Draco and he ALREADY hates Neville.

I wasn't trying to

Oh never mind.

Neville says Carrow isn't his boggart, anyway. He'd see something else. I bet it's someone he's not supposed to have ever seen, where it would be suspicious if they turned up. Though he could always say he'd seen pictures.



 [alt_pansy at 2010-09-10 18:57:43](#)

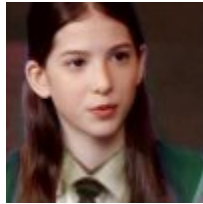
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Oh! I hadn't thought of that. Like his mum and dad, you mean?

Do you really think he's seen them before?

Huh.

And I know you weren't, it's just you never know what he'll get stroppy about sometimes, and I'd just got him un-stroppy. But he seems fine so it's probably just me over-thinking everything.



 [alt_sally_anne at 2010-09-10 19:18:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

The first thing that occurred to me is that his boggart would be his mum dying -- he's supposed to WANT that, not fear it, so.

Especially in front of Professor Lestrangle, that would be bad. Even if he only knows his mum from the wanted posters.




 [alt_pansy at 2010-09-10 19:23:13](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Well, that *would* get him into trouble, I guess.

And even if he'd only ever seen her in wanted posters, people might think otherwise.



 [alt_alice at 2010-09-10 19:14:08](#)

ORDER ONLY

Poppy, what's happened? Is Neville all right? Was he hexed?



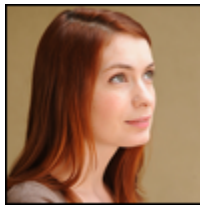
 [alt_poppy at 2010-09-10 19:39:52](#)


Re: ORDER ONLY

No, not a hex.

I'd wager it wasn't entirely natural, either, but that's just a hunch based on how entirely unperturbed he seemed for someone violently vomiting up the contents of his gut. And that not long after what I would judge to have been an extraordinarily large breakfast.

Whatever it was has passed, however, and I'm merely keeping him to observe that all is truly well.



 [alt_alice at 2010-09-10 19:44:32](#)


Re: ORDER ONLY

Goodness.

Please do.

Thank you, Poppy.



 [alt_poppy at 2010-09-11 03:29:38](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

He's fine, Alice. I let him have supper here and waited until he'd had a chance to digest it.

Whatever it was seems to have left his system.

I offered to let him sleep here, but he said he'd rather go back to his dormitory.

2010-09-10 09:24:00

Order Only: Private Message to R J Lupin

Just passing along a message. I was talking with Terrie last night and she said she'd heard about how you got sacked from Hogwarts, at the end of Harry's first year. And she said that she sort of figured when you disappeared that you'd joined 'my organisation'.



 [alt_sirius](#)

Of course, I told her I couldn't tell her the names of anyone else in 'my organisation' (and really, I can't seem to get anyone round here to understand that I'm certainly not in charge of the Order!).


She gave me that smile - you know, the one where the tips of her teeth show and she looks about half an inch away from throwing a hex - and she said, 'Right, but you were best mates, and no one ever believed that sniping act you pulled in the journals. So where else would he go? You and Alice thought up some way to hide him. And I know, you can't tell me if you're working with Alice, either. But it makes sense, you have to admit. Anyway, if you are, and you happen to talk to them, however it is you talk to them, tell them well done. And I miss them.'

I changed the subject, but I'm passing that along.

She's off at work now. I guess now I know how you feel watching our Dora go off to the Ministry for her shifts ... only I don't think there's anyone at the Ministry aiming to molest Dora on a regular basis. Merlin, I'd like to punch that Birchmore bloke - and that was before she and I - er, reconnected.

Anyway. Looks as if I'll be round here for a bit, but I could probably come down for the full moon. If you liked, that is.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2010-09-10 15:08:04**
(no subject)

I don't know that I did anything much to be congratulated on, just skipping out on the mess that followed after everything with ~~Walden~~ Macnair, but it's kind of her to think of me. I suppose it'd be terribly unwise to confirm anything by passing a message back, but whether she knows it or not, I'm glad she's.. all right doesn't seem accurate, given the circumstances she's found herself in, but I'm glad

she's hanging in there. And I'm glad she knows there's a real reason to have hope for the future.

I am you glad you've found her, you know. For you, as well as for her.

If there are any wandering hands at the Ministry, I rather doubt Dora would tell me. She and Alice already think I'm overreacting about all this. They don't seem to understand, it's not that I don't trust her to take care of herself, or that I think she can't handle the risk of working clandestinely, and it's certainly not because she's a woman. I just know how much risk we're all in, and how quickly it can all go wrong.


If she gets into trouble, I'd rather it be when I'm there with her to throw myself in front of the hex. You know?

Dora thinks I'm just being old fashioned about it, but it's not that at all. I'd do the same for you if you were in trouble. Or Alice, or even Harry and he probably still thinks I was in on Macnair's plot to kill him. ~~That's just what you do for people you~~

Anyway, yes, suffice to say I'm always very relieved when she arrives back home safe and sound, as I'm sure you are when Terrie's day reaches an end.

We meant what we said before, you're always welcome. Any time. But full moons especially. A little company does make it that much easier to endure. And we'd both be very glad to see you.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-10 22:56:40](#)
(no subject)

I think she just meant that anytime the Death Eaters don't get what they want - whether it's smuggling a muggleborn child out of the camps or keeping you out of the werewolf enclaves - it's a good job.

We've been talking about what sort of information she could provide that wouldn't put her at any greater risk. That's really the only thing holding her back, you know. Her mum's still alive, which I didn't know before this week. And she's terrified of losing the ground she's regained. Though from the sound of it, Birchmore's hardly the kind of boss who'll help her gain more than she's got now. I've left off, for the time being, saying anything about how


many have less than she; Merlin knows she sees it every day. I just hope she'll see that the relatively small amount of risk she'd be undertaking could mean huge benefits to the rest of us.

As for finding her, well, yeah, it's a decent place to stay, now the nights are getting cooler. It's rather good to kip the same place more than a couple nights running, too. And not begging for scraps from local pubs. But don't think it means we're planning to build a summer house or anything.

I do know what you mean, though. I'd take a curse for you, too, or Alice. Circe, I'd take one for Frank and he's never quite forgiven me for offering myself to Allie as a backup if anything ever happened to him. Reckon I owe you a few, anyway. But from what I've seen, Dora's got more than enough of the Black stubbornness to want to do things herself. And you should let her; she's all right. You can't fool me, though: You were always old-fashioned.

So, full moon, then. Have to make sure leaving for London doesn't set Terrie off to thinking I'm doing a bunk, but that shouldn't be an issue. If we're still on by that time. Never can tell.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2010-09-12 18:11:36](#)
(no subject)

It's understandable, I think, that she doesn't want to take unnecessary risks with what little she has, especially if she has family relying on her as well as herself to think of. We may be at risk ourselves, but at least we have our freedom. Terrie has only what her masters allow her. I don't envy her in the slightest.

If wishing to protect those you love from harm makes one old fashioned, I shall resign myself to it, and happily so. It seems Dora's more than modern enough that we balance out between us in the end anyway.

Don't write Terrie off so easily, Padfoot. I have it on good authority that these things tend to catch you when you least expect them. You never know, she might just be the one.

See you soon.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-12 22:53:34](#)
(no subject)

You think Dora's your one, then? I mean, I'm not blind, I know she fancies you quite a bit, but - I suppose I didn't realise it was deep as all that.

Full moon, yeah. See you then.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2010-09-12 23:05:26](#)
(no subject)

Well now. I didn't say that. I just meant you never know what might happen. Don't write off the possibility.

2010-09-10 10:41:00

The Privacy of Private Messages

This week, an unfortunate news story broke in one of the less reputable newspapers; it rapidly became clear that the information had come from private messages, and was leaked by an individual at the Ministry who had been entrusted with access.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

This violation of privacy is utterly unacceptable. The individual responsible, Theodolphus Higgs, was identified, punished, and sacked. Those at the Ministry who have access to the private messages are expected to treat this as a sacred trust; they have this access so that they can keep an eye out for criminal activity. They are not to use their position of privilege to nose into others' private lives or to indulge idle curiosity; they are *most certainly* not permitted to gossip.

I believe that I have made things sufficiently clear that this will not happen again. The Ministry takes the privacy of loyal subjects *extremely* seriously.

My sincerest apologies to the entire Urquhart family.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2010-09-10 15:55:35**

Private message to Gertrude Urquhart

Madam, if anyone was truly an innocent victim in all this, it was you. I deeply regret that you are forced to deal with all this in the glare of the public eye.

I hope you'll take some comfort in knowing that I personally cruciated Higgs for his misconduct; moreover, I have placed on him a hex that will force him to start every conversation for the foreseeable future by explaining that he should not be trusted with sensitive information.

If there's anything else my office can do for you or your family, please feel free to let me know.

2010-09-10 13:39:00

Private message to Evelyn Longbottom

Madam Pomfrey said you stopped by and she sent you on your way without seeing me. Sorry I worried you. I'm all right, honest. Well, I spent most of the morning spewing...that wasn't much fun. But I slept some--that's why she wouldn't let you in to see me--and now I feel loads better. Don't know if she'll let me out before dinner, but I'm hoping to get back to classes tomorrow.



 **alt_neville**

I also want to hear about how your Transfiguration class went. I'm sorry he's so, well, the way he is. I reckon you're not surprised by it anyway. And don't worry what Gran will say about your marks in that class. She's not expecting either of us to get anything but 'T.' Not because she thinks we're not clever--especially you. But because she understands all about him.

[2010-09-10 14:10:00](#)

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Father,

Did you see what Professor Carrow wrote? About plucking peacock chicks?




 [alt_draco](#)

I am fairly certain he's talking about me.

Advise on how to proceed would be appreciated.

Draco



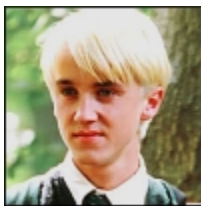
 [alt_lucius](#) at **[2010-09-10 20:39:14](#)**

(no subject)

I hadn't taken particular note until now. Certainly not to connect it to you, son. Why? What have you - never mind, no, don't tell me. I don't need to know. Possibly better I don't have the details.

Carrow. Well, something to note is how much he is smiling at you - the more he smiles, the more malevolent are his intentions. However, he is not above bribery, if you should wish to tempt him with some morsel of Dark Arts text or find another means of apology. Probably, however, the best option is to simply keep your head down in his lessons and avoid him for a few days. Knowing Carrow he's sure to perceive some new slight before too long and he'll forget all about whatever has made him cross with you. Or not forget, precisely, but pale it in comparison.

Peacock? Truly. Interesting.



 [alt_draco](#) at **[2010-09-11 17:50:06](#)**


(no subject)

Let's just say that what I did was entirely unintentional. And that it happened in Defence class.

Nothing's happened so far, so I suppose I will just try to stay out of his way.

Peacock, I know. What is he on about?



 **alt_lucius** at **2010-09-11 21:00:15**
(no subject)

One of Carrow's less endearing forms of madness is a fondness for endlessly extending his metaphors.

He thinks to strike back at you by insulting me. Lucky for us he has no idea that you are not so easily moved.

2010-09-10 14:40:00

Order Only: Canning at Moddey Dhoo



 [alt_molly](#)

I've been too busy since getting here yesterday to look at my journal. Perhaps it's a good thing. I'm afraid I would have had grey hairs by the end of the day over Bill's scare, watching my clock in the dining room! Bill, I'm so sorry you had to go through that. I hope you took Arthur up on his suggestion and spent the evening with him.

My hair's a frizzy mess from working in the kitchen all morning. Victor's had the stove running full blast as we've been boiling the jars and sealing them full with tomatoes, peppers and the very last of the squash. And eggplant. I know there was more than one child rather hoping that the jars full of eggplant would explode, but they've all survived the boiling water bath unscathed, so Victor will be able to make moussaka this winter. We did lose one can of tomatoes. I'm still picking bits of tomato pulp out of my cleavage.

Katherine and Ian proudly showed off the bee hives to me this morning. They have really established themselves well, so much so that there is a respectable amount of honey for the children now, and there's even enough beeswax to spare some of it for candlemaking. I brought a few candledip molds and string for wicks, so we'll probably attempt some candlemaking tomorrow. I've gotten rather knacky at candlemaking in the last year. They're quite in demand on the barter network. Stephen also finds the wax and honey useful in some of his potions.


The lavender plants I brought have also established themselves well. Really, the gardens have done so well this year! Everyone will be sick of turnips and potatoes and cabbage by February, no doubt, but nobody should go hungry this year. And there's enough to pass on a respectable part of the crop to Sherwood, which will certainly ease their minds, too.

The memorial garden actually looks like a garden now, with proper flower beds and established shrubs, rather than just carvings in the dirt. I haven't had a proper chance to look it over yet, but I do plan to spend some time in there this week. Bill, the children showed me the stone carved with Aloysius Archer's name. Colin said they have a place in mind to place it at the foot of the phoenix statue, where the rest of the names for Order members are, but they're waiting for you

to come to lay it for him. I brought one of my lily plants to place near the stone for James and Lily Potter. It's a variety called "Splendour Victorious.' It seemed appropriate. Alice told me they'll also be setting the stones for Gideon and Fabian while I'm here this week. I was deeply touched that she thought to wait for a time when I'm here. The trees in the garden are small, and it'll be years before they bloom. But they've taken root well and are obviously thriving. Alice says that Colin particularly likes to spend time out by Dennis' tree.

Victor tells me the next batch of cans is ready, so I must get back to work.




 **alt_bill** at **2010-09-11 00:21:27**
(no subject)

Yes, I stayed with Dad all night. Good thing, too. I'm afraid I would have splinched myself if I'd tried to apparate home. We, uh, dipped rather deep into the Firewhiskey last night.

Well, I paid my dues this morning. Dad had me do the shed chores before heading into work. I'd forgotten how much goat muck stinks.


I'll come out to lay that plaque sometime in the next month.



 **alt_molly** at **2010-09-11 00:22:14**
(no subject)

Are you all right, dear? Really?




 **alt_bill** at **2010-09-11 00:24:35**
(no subject)

I feel a bit foolish, really. It was stupid to let myself get so pissed last night. And I'm not particularly proud of myself for how much I let Selwyn's...interrogation techniques get under my skin.

I've been thinking about Archer all day.


Merlin, I just hope I would be as brave. If I'm ever faced with a hopeless situation like he was.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-09-11 00:25:31](#)
(no subject)

You have your portkey.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-11 00:27:34](#)
(no subject)

God, yes. I don't intend to ever let it out of my sight.

But...it might not be enough. I mean, I don't think I could live with myself if I got myself backed into a corner and ported away to safety, but I left you and Dad and the rest of the family hopelessly compromised.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-09-11 00:28:44](#)
(no subject)

Let's not even think of it.

I know you're so careful, dear.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-11 00:32:43](#)
(no subject)

Well, I am. But...Merlin, Mum. I faced Selwyn across that table. I know what he can do. And when I heard Higgs screaming his guts out less than a half hour later....


I just thought

~~If it had been~~

I know what I've signed myself up for. And I'm willing to do it. But...the danger just got a little closer than I like to think


about, yesterday. That's all.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-11 00:48:13](#)**
(no subject)

I'd like that, mate.
you should.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-11 13:22:08](#)**
(no subject)

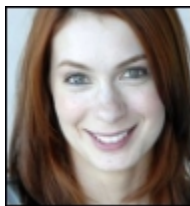
I will.


Would the Sanctuary care for a visitor in a couple weeks time?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-11 19:57:43](#)**
(no subject)

that'd work just fine.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-11 19:58:15](#)**
(no subject)

We'd love to have you visit, Bill.

2010-09-10 19:40:00

The weekend

I do wish that second years could take Care of Magical Creatures. It seems most unfair to have to wait until third year. Professor Brutka seems quite nice. I took my sketch pad out to the lake at lunch today because I wanted to see if I could add some sketches of the giant squid. He was there (Professor Brutka, I mean, not the giant squid), wading along the shore with his robes hiked up around his knees. I wonder if he was looking for grindylow eggs or something. There are supposed to be some in the lake. He very politely asked if I would mind if he looked through my sketchbook and said some very nice things about some of the pictures. I think he was a little surprised at my drawing of the crogglecraes. Well, I do have to admit that I probably did make their eyes too big. It's so hard to make them proportional. Particularly the northern ones.




 [alt_luna](#)

Classes are falling into a routine. It feels much the same as last year, except...there are little things. Now that I'm a half-blood, I mean. Like the pamphlets left on my bedside table. It seems that the Ministry of Magic thinks it's important that I learn all about hygiene now. Which is odd. Portia or Celia have never complained before or said or anything to make me think that I'm emitting peculiar smells. Perhaps they've merely been polite.

And I never knew before that half-bloods had to queue behind purebloods when reserving books from the library. Portia had to explain it when Madam Pince became rather sniffy with me. Portia says at least our laundry gets done as often, and we get to eat the same food. So we should be grateful for that. But the elves won't polish our shoes as often.

I imagine there will be other little things like that. I suppose I'll get used to it. I rather like shoes with scuffed toes anyway. They look more homey, somehow.



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2010-09-11 03:32:06**
(no subject)

Oh Luna,

Have you completely lost it today? Why would you think you have an odor. We've stayed with each other so much

that I know for a fact you do not have a problem keeping clean. Do not think twice on the fact that those pamphlets are on your bedside table.

Its all nonsense. You were fine before your status changed. You are fine now. Pay no attention to those who would have you think other wise.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-11 13:49:36](#)**

Private message to Luna

I used ministry pamphlets to make origami animals with. Though actually some of the information in them was new to me -- but I didn't grow up in fostering and my family was very poor, so there was a lot we didn't have.

It's not an official rule about the queue in the library, it's just Madam Pince. If I'm with Pansy and there's a big group she'll pretend not to notice though she always does Pansy's books first.

And I've never had any problems with getting my shoes polished. The elves are really good to me, they leave me warm milk when I'm up too late. My shoes still look new, but they were a gift from Harry and that might be the magic on them.

2010-09-10 23:03:00

Oi Ravenclaws


Did you lot really make a pact not to tell anyone what your boggarts were? Or boggart really, I assume there was just one for all of you, same as with us.



 [alt_seamus](#)

You're too clever by half, you are.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 04:06:32](#)
(no subject)


Yes, we did. And yes, we are.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-09-11 15:05:51](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, we thought...well, some people's weren't too bad, but with all the fuss over other people's, we figured it'd be best if we kept it to ourselves.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:06:07](#)
Oi, Finnigan!

So, your boggart. That was meant to be a muggle?

Or a really short troll?



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:34:39](#)
Re: Oi, Finnigan!

What's it to you, Weasley?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:39:05](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Just wanted to know why you were so scared of it.

Looked more stupid and filthy than scary to me. I mean, what was it going to do with that tin of--what were they, peas?--throw it at you?

I mean, I admit, it was pretty funny when you turned it into a cream pie and had the thing squash it into his own face.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:41:45](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

It was holding a bomb, not a tin of peas. Bombs blow up. They can kill a lot of people at once. Even wizards.

Even a filthy, stupid muggle can murder hundreds of people at once with a big enough bomb.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:45:13](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Wouldn't you just petrificus 'em? Before they make the thing explode? Or transfigure all the bombs into cream pies?

Seems sorta daft for wizards to be scared of that.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:49:41](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Coming from someone who's screamed like a giddy girl over a spider on a window ledge, that's pretty funny.

Even a muggle can hide, or sneak up on you. And there are a LOT of muggles in Ireland and we haven't been able to catch them all to put them in camps. You might be killing the one you see with a bomb, but there's another behind you.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:55:18](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

How hard are you trying?

We have loads more of them here and they didn't have any trouble putting them in camps. Maybe some of your wizards aren't trying very hard? Or you're not very good wizards.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:58:13](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Yeah, you have loads more of them here. ASLEEP. We've got no sleepers in Ireland; they're ALL awake.

Makes things a bit different, innit?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:59:19](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Why'nt you put them to sleep, then?



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 16:16:50](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

We did.


It didn't work everywhere in England, you know. If a muggle had a wizard neighbor, for instance, it didn't work. If they had something magical in their house, which some muggles do, it didn't work, and there were lots of other things that could make it go wrong, which is WHY there are CAMPS instead of just lots of sleeping muggles plus the ones we need in service.

It didn't work in Ireland AT ALL.

So there are loads of muggles loose. And we have to take

care of them the hard way. And you can SHUT YOUR GOB about how maybe we aren't TRYING.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:47:28](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

That what you scream about at night, then?

Muggles blowing up tins of peas?




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:50:22](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Shut it, Weasley.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-11 15:55:42](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Or what?



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:58:41](#)

Re: Oi, Finnigan!

Keep flapping your gob and you'll find out, eh?




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 15:42:44](#)

Private message to Padma

He's such an ASS.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 15:55:58](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

He's a complete idiot. Just ignore him.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 16:13:14](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

I'm going to hex him.

Where is he right now? Have you seen him? Is he out by the lake with Parkinson again?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 20:49:16](#)

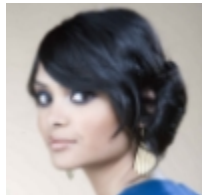
Re: Private message to Padma

Well, that was *before* I saw what he was saying about how you're not trying hard enough.

Doesn't he know what would happen to your family if the muggles took over again?

Lakshmi, Weasley's not just rude and thick, he's *utterly* horrid.

I haven't seen him all day, either, but let's think of how to get him. I bet Cox would have some ideas. Or Draco and Teddy.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 20:50:49](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

OOH, you know what? Director Selwyn said he'd put a hex on Higgs, didn't he, the kind that would make him say to everyone what kind of person he is? I wonder if we could find how to do that.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 21:13:35](#)


Re: Private message to Padma

And that's a brilliant idea for a hex.

I read this morning that what Higgs has to say is, 'I'm a blabbermouth who can't be trusted! Don't tell me anything you don't want the world to know!'

What do you think Weasley should have to say, if I can work out how to make him say it?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 21:26:12](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

How about 'I'm a dirty great selfish moron with no sense of what it is to be a proper wizard.'



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 21:30:50](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Not bad but everyone knows that already; maybe we should have him tell everyone something a little bit new? Like 'I wish I'd been born a squib because then I'd be just like those muggles I love so much!'



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 21:39:36](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Well, honestly, Seamus...don't get cross, but he's not actually saying he loves muggles (though mudbloods, you might have a point). He was saying you're a tosser if you can't keep muggles in line.

But how about 'I'm rubbish when it comes to any concept of why muggles are dangerous and had to be controlled.'



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 21:46:59](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

I suppose you have a point.

It can't be too long, though. Maybe just, 'I'm an eejit'?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 21:48:11](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

'And my mum is fat.'

Or how about 'I'd rather have a row than make a friend.'



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 21:50:05](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Would he even mind admitting that? That he'd rather row than have friends, I mean.

Draco suggested I wait until Weasley thinks I've forgotten. So I've got a few days.

I still have to look up the hex.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 22:23:17](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Found it. It was in one of the books Mr Rosier bought me this summer.

Want to meet after dinner?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-11 22:24:12](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Sure.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 21:10:50](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

I don't think he's clever enough to know what would happen, or decent enough to care.

He'd probably LOVE to have the muggles take over again, here AND there, and to force all the wizards to hide who we are and pretend they're better than us. He'd probably think that was just GRAND.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 17:13:34](#)

Private message to Seamus

Please tell me that you and Padma are discussing the best ways to hex off Weasley's hands and/or mouth.

I can't believe the thing he fears the most is SPIDERS. He ought to fear a lot more than that, with the way he presents himself.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 17:16:17](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

Padma thinks I should just ignore him.

Right now I don't know where he is, but he's got to sleep some time. And eat.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 17:37:13](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

It's true that he would likely get some sort of perverse pleasure in it if you came after him now.

Wait it out and get him when he thinks you've forgotten all about.

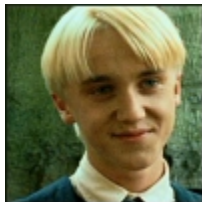


 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 18:37:34](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

That's good advice.

If I can keep my temper long enough to convince him I've forgotten.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 18:55:00](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

So it's true what they say about the Irish and tempers, then? When I'm hacked off I usually find Teddy or Greg and see if they're up for some work on dark spells. That usually helps.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 19:16:54](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

Mr Rosier blames it on me being a Gryffindor. He says I have a lion's temperment and need to learn when to stalk instead of roar.

Anyway, I didn't find Weasley earlier. So I can take my time and plan. The trouble is I want him to KNOW why he was hexed. What you did on the astronomy tower was brilliant, everyone knew what it was for even if no one knew for certain who'd done it. (I mean, I still don't know for SURE it was you, but it seems like the sort of thing you'd come up with.)

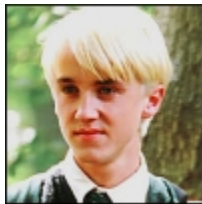


 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-11 19:20:47](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

And I mean that in the best way possible, just to be clear.

Weasley swooning on the Astronomy tower was beautifully done.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 19:27:57](#)

Re: Private message to Seamus

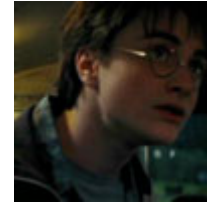
In that case, whoever did it probably appreciates that you think so.

That's true about lions, now that I think on it - they're not always about roaring. Unless they're named Weasley, of course.

2010-09-11 12:12:00

Snakes

We were doing a lot about snakes in Care of Magical Creatures. So I asked Father about Nagini more. He told me about her. She's a very large snake so she eats a lot. When I was little she used to wrap around me. But Father told me she would never hurt me, and she never did.



 [alt_harry](#)


I haven't been very kind to Snake. I mean, Snake hasn't been very kind to me either. I never write about him. He's my familiar, but he doesn't like to talk to me because my Parseltounge is so bad. Then this summer I didn't want to be around him so I just let Nagini take care of him.

I tried to talk with him again. He said he missed me. I didn't think he liked me at all. But he said he was sorry he was so mean about Parseltounge. He said Nagini told him about me. I am not sure what that means.

But now he talks to me a little. Even though I don't like speaking Parseltounge it is getting easier.

So I am working with my snake. So that I can be more like Father. Because everything Professor Brutka said is true. I mean Father really is powerful. And Nagini is powerful.



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2010-09-11 17:53:24**
(no subject)


I met Nagini when I had tea with your Father. She was a very impressive creature. Parseltongue is really difficult, but I bet you are getting better at it if you can understand Snake so

well.

I wish I could talk with Tevis but rabbits don't speak any languages.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-11 21:18:26](#)
(no subject)

I agree with Hydra, Harry, that is really impressive -- I mean it must be very difficult to learn, but it'd be so worth it to learn.

Hey, Hydra, what're you up to this afternoon? Sally-Anne and me were going to listen to some music and revise a little, if you want.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-11 21:43:16](#)
(no subject)

Oh I could do with some time to revise, if you don't mind my being there.

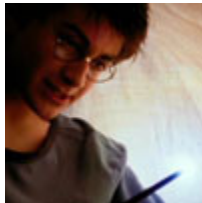
From,


Hydra



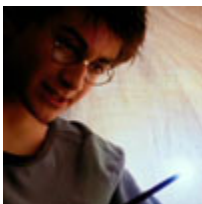
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-11 21:56:41](#)
(no subject)


Ace. And of course we wouldn't mind!



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 21:51:17](#)
(no subject)

Well thank you.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 21:47:27](#)
(no subject)

She can be right scary sometimes. But you get to know her. I suppose he never really brought her round the nursery.

I am getting better. Father made me study a lot this summer, or I tried to study more anyway. He said that I should have figured things out. Last year.

It's too bad rabbits don't speak languages. I bet Tevis would have something better to say than Snake.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-11 22:03:39](#)
(no subject)

Maybe Tevis would have something better to say but I don't think I'll ever know, which might be all right, as it makes it rather fun to wonder about.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-11 22:05:07](#)
Private message to Harry Marvolo

Harry, this might be an odd question but I'm wondering something about your Father, and I hope it's all right if I ask you.
Has he ever said anything to you about me?

From,
Hydra




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 22:07:02](#)
Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

No its all right.

No he hasn't. Except maybe to ask about my friends. He always asks about my friends Draco and Pansy and Hydra and Padma. Because he met you but he didnt meet anybody else and he forgets them I think.

I said everyone was doing well.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-11 22:16:23](#)
Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Oh, that's good.
I thought I might have done something to make him cross, but he would probably say something

if I had.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2010-09-11 22:23:04**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Yes he probably would.

He didnt say anything to you about me, when you had tea with him, did he?



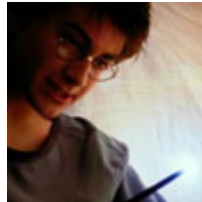
 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2010-09-11 22:36:41**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Sometimes you came up, like when he asked me if I thought Draco did a good job of looking out for you, and then he said that he hoped I would help to do that, too.

He did ask me, though, what you did down there, in that place where the basalisk lived.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2010-09-11 23:30:04**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

What did you tell him?



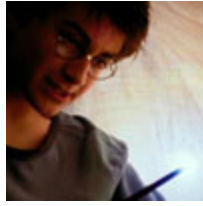
 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2010-09-12 00:40:09**


Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

There really wasn't anything I could tell him because I wasn't awake for that part.

From,

Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-12 00:55:22](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Thats good.

Some people would have made something up.
To please him, you know. I suppose I should
have known you wouldnt.

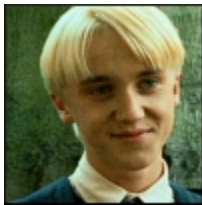


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2010-09-12 04:05:54](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

No, I wouldn't.
It wouldn't be right and
He's like Mummy, and he might know if I was
making something up.

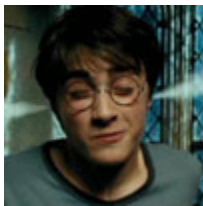
From,
Hydra



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 19:13:40](#)

(no subject)

Oh, good. Now that you're communicating better with
snake do you suppose you might tell him to not slither
over my feet in the middle of the night?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 21:48:02](#)

(no subject)

What makes you think I didn't tell him TO do that??

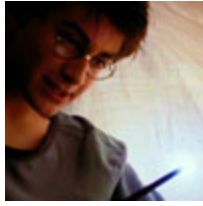


 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 22:01:44](#)

(no subject)

Because no one, least of all you, wants to be woken
up by my mumbling about devil's snare in my sleep.

Hey, did you see who owled the Ra...I mean,
Professor Lestrangle? At breakfast this morning?




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 22:05:33](#)
(no subject)

Oh. You're right I didn't tell him to do it. I'll try to ask him not to. But even if we are getting along better he still won't tell me his name. So I don't see why he'd listen.

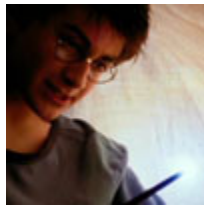
No who?




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 22:22:18](#)
(no subject)

Maybe his name's just "Snake," but he's embarrassed to admit it, hah.

Melinda - you know, the chip-shop girl from our holiday.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 22:23:30](#)
(no subject)

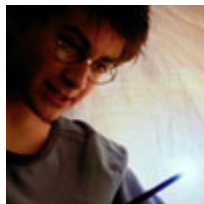
Really??


EWWWWWWWW.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 22:24:12](#)
(no subject)

So he really WAS trying to cozy up to her!!!




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 22:24:35](#)
(no subject)

I bet that they were kissing behind our backs.

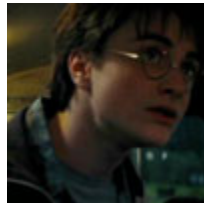
GROSS.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-11 22:40:43](#)
(no subject)

She wasn't even very pretty!


I only know about it because I saw Professor Acton looking over his shoulder and asking who "Melinda" was. She looked awfully worried at first, but then he said it was just a letter from a friend he made "on holiday" and she seemed really relieved.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-11 23:31:06](#)
(no subject)


D'you think SHE'S sweet on him too? That's all we need, Acton sweet on Professor LeStrange.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-12 00:41:22](#)
(no subject)

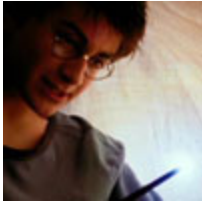
I don't know, but I wouldn't be surprised if it's true.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-12 00:25:02](#)
(no subject)

I guess I never thought of snakes as having feelings. Cats or dogs, sure, you can tell when they're happy or upset. But snakes never struck me as really caring about people, except when people come and disturb them.

I thought about taking Care of Magical Creatures, but decided against. Even though I hear Professor Brutka's well nift. Is it really all that snitch?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-12 00:53:50](#)
(no subject)

Well maybe that's because most people can't talk to them. Snake has feelings. I think Nagini does too. But if Nagini was a person she'd be a Slytherin. Like a real Slytherin. It's funny but I don't think all snakes are like that.

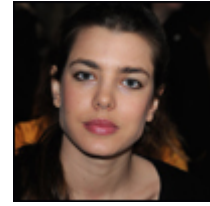
Professor Brutka's really nice. Nicer than Professor Carpenter or any of the others. Definitely nicer than McGonagall.

[2010-09-11 14:44:00](#)

XXXVII.

Montague.

Willett, Singh, and I have been at it for two hours. Don't bother coming along now: we've done. It's nothing to me if you don't want to improve your standing, but I'd have thought that after this week's rankings you wouldn't be skiving off any of the time we're able get in the sparring rota. However. So you know: there's a slot that's opened tonight--one of the MLE teams got sent out and gave over their time--so we've taken it, and if I were you, I'd be here in training kit at 9:00pm. Singh says you can come along for supper at hers afterwards if you can still Apparate over there when we've done.



 [alt_lana](#)

Honorio.


Mama shared your owl. Good on you for starting a study group for Charms. I can only hope that your marks will improve as a result; they were, frankly, lamentable last term. Remember that Orion would be more than pleased to set you some extra practical exercises, as I'm certain Professor Acton herself would do if only you would ask for a bit of remedial assistance.

Yaxley.

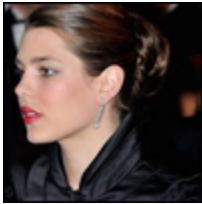
You're absolutely right about Higgs. The nasty git. He's always been one to spread wretched stories behind people's backs. I suppose he'll end up writing for one of the gossip rags, don't you? I can't imagine any other trade would have him. But the damage he's done this time is appalling. Did I tell you Willett's got a cousin flies for the Wanderers? He says the team's in disarray what with all the rumours Urquhart will have to sell them or decimate the side in order to cut expenses. And then they went and lost to the Cannons last night! Can you believe it? If that isn't a sign things are a mess, I don't what is! Willett says they're to have a meeting with management over the weekend and that they expect to have themselves sorted. They'd best as they've got to square off against the Harpies next.


Oh, and no worries about going along with Pennifold tonight. It's nothing exclusive there.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-12 00:26:24](#)**
(no subject)

Have things gone better this week?



 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2010-09-12 19:45:38](#)**
(no subject)

Ha. Since Tuesday, you mean?


Yes. That was just the sort of waking up I needed to realise a few things.

I need to take this programme head on and not shy away from its challenges. I don't know why I worried I might be unready. Of course, there's no preparation better than a Hogwarts education, and it's not as though I slouched my way through seven years there. I may be the youngest in my cohort, but it's not about age or even about physical size. It's about mettle. And it's about doing my very best in Our Lord's service.

When you think about it that way, there's really nothing else that matters, is there?

I'm behind in reading what other people have written. Is your term off on the right footing?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:48:54](#)**
(no subject)

Well, more or less, I suppose. We did boggarts in Defence last week and it wasn't much fun at all, but I guess it's good to know what to do with things we're afraid of and how to make them seem less important.

And the Corner's going well. I dunno if your brother told you but a few more people have started coming by some afternoons, like Davies and Cox. Martinez and Gray came twice last week, too, and I've never seen them round the Corner before. Oh! Loads of people came to History Club last week. I like Arithmancy already, and

Dark Arts is completely stupe.

So, aside from the usual people being well naff, it's going all right.

2010-09-11 22:12:00

Fine! Fine!

Dean,

I have thought about it, and have decided you are right. But I am definitely not happy about this. This also doesn't mean I am talking to you yet.

I have taken your advice, please meet me before breakfast in the common room. Then you can send them out yourself.



 [alt_ginny](#)

2010-09-12 10:06:00

(no subject)

Our heartiest congratulations to the Scroops and Marks families, on the union of their daughter and son!



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Phyllida's robes were a masterpiece; I'm so glad she went with Hyperion. His everyday wear has been disappointing recently but weddings are his strength. I was particularly impressed by the self-bustling train: so useful in any situation where people are liable to tread on one's hem unintentionally! And the corsetry was so tasteful it was barely to be noticed. Rudyard is quite a lucky man. I'm sure they'll produce fine, healthy children for the Protectorate - long may it prosper.

I believe the bride was secretly thanking her stars for planning the wedding day when her own brother could not attend, owing to starting at Hogwarts. Considering the disruption at her betrothal, I'm sure her father was just as pleased. Though there must be a certain dark sense of humour to working in the Aurors for long: Joseph seemed oddly disappointed that no-one had thought to bring Filibuster's Fireworks for a repeat performance with the wedding cake.

He had some cutting things to say about the trainees, as well. I wonder whether any of them will ever meet the approval of the programme - it seems they are nothing but soft, over-privileged, cowardly scrubbs, from all I hear. (Or is that simply 'Auror' for 'They'll do', just as I've learned 'I'm fine' is how an Auror says he (or she) is anything but!)

Oh - speaking of the trainees, Barty, you know Claudius' eldest girl, Sarah, is great friends with Miss Sandoval. It seems, if I understood her at supper on Friday, that there may be an attachment forming within the department. But has Claudius told you anything of Sarah's debut project? It sounds fascinating, and sure to be an event of interest to all of MLE as well. (By the way, do let me know whether Athena intends to join us at Kew for the exhibition opening as well. We've decided to sponsor a table if we are assured of at least ten to fill it.)

Given your review of Serengeti, and Diana's of course, I have decided not to test its appeal right away. There is a new place that looks

promising, however, at least based on the conversations I heard yesterday. It's called *Au Naturel*, but is not, as could be imagined, as lascivious as the name sounds. I hear they specialise in salads, fruits and other fresh raw ingredients. Given the penchant for so many places to use short cuts and transfigured elements, I gather the restaurant may have a wait-list before long. The executive chef, I'm told, travelled extensively in southeast Asia before the wards.

Lucius spent a good deal of time being pulled into speculation about France and now Germany as well. Everyone wanted to know whether the rumours were true that France as passed new provisions on mudbloods in public gatherings. Naturally, my husband cannot confirm these stories without first speaking to the Ministry.

Thankfully, one topic of gossip that seems to have dissipated somewhat is poor Gertrude's predicament regarding her husband. I spoke to her last evening and she is bearing up well. There was some chatter over whether she would accept him back or go so far as to demand the Unbonding, but the balance of opinion was that she has the right to make such a momentous decision free from public interference.

Draco, your father tells me your note to him earlier this week was related to school work. I do hope you are approaching your studies this year with just as much industry as in the past. It's always wise to remember that so much of magical prowess, particularly in Defence, is based on instinct and reflex. Once muscle memory is established, the rest is simply giving over to what feels right. Your uncle, I'm sure, will tell you much the same.

Well, it's nearing time to make ready. We are expected at Buckingham this afternoon, so I think it's time to close for now.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2010-09-13 02:36:26](#)**
(no subject)

Narcissa.

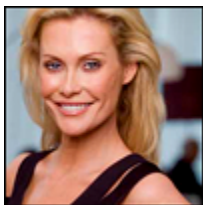
It's disturbing you've deciphered Auror code to such an extent. I've made note that it's time we changed it. As for the trainees, some of them will do, others may not, and none of them can afford to grow complacent. What they've lacked so far is a clear leader in the cohort, but that always takes care of itself in time.


I don't believe I'll try my luck at Au Naturel any time soon--now that you've praised it so publicly. They ought to pay you a fee for advertising them in such glowing terms. Or was that a clever ploy to send the crowds away from whatever restaurant you'll be lunching at this week?

Athena's decided she can make the Kew opening. It conflicted with something she felt compelled to accept, but they were willing to reschedule. So there it is. Count us in at your table. And what's this about Yaxley's daughter? Something to do with photography, I think he said. She's not gone over to one of the gossip sheets, has she? Is that why it would interest MLE? If I'm pulling the wrong end of the cord, enlighten me.

I still have a dozen case files to process and an early morning tomorrow, but I took Pennifold's advice and walked home along the Embankment. He's been raving about the pasties at the last of the kiosks by Westminster bridge. I'll concede that as pasties go, they were respectable. And the sunset over the river was spectacular, so I owe him thanks for the recommendation.

He's not bad at his work, Pennifold. His only real fault is that he's susceptible to certain distractions. If that's what you were alluding to, you're not wrong--I've put him on warning that he is in no way to pursue his interest while he's on the clock. No matter how opportunity presents itself.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-13 02:55:47](#)
(no subject)

Indeed, I am an excellent cryptographer, did you not realise?

But in truth, I've seen my sister purport too often to wellness when in reality she is only shaking off some injury in order to remain in the field. Such dedication is altogether common among you, I know, but it does make it clear that you are all liars of the first rate.

As to the restaurant, you've caught me out. But it's not my praise at all that will cause the queue to increase, for I am only repeating others' reports. Until I've tasted the fare myself, how can I say for certain whether it is worth the wait? It only remains to decide when to sample the place - and that, I assure you, is a detail I shall keep

close.

But regarding Sarah Yaxley, no, I'm afraid you've got the broom by its twigs, as it were. She is indeed a photographer, but the tabloids are as far from her brief as issuing Apparation licences is from yours. She has been undertaking a photo-documentary of muggle workers: Their field conditions, working methods, discipline, basic living duties, &c. It promises to be quite a remarkable portrayal of how the camps manage them. She was telling us at supper about an episode her team witnessed, some sort of dispute between two muggles. The overseers stepped in and I suppose it turned awfully grisly. But then could it be otherwise? In any event, she's using the Boniface method, so it ought to be quite vivid and as I say, most entertaining.

And as to Ned: He has your diligent example to teach him the proper attitude to his work hours, I'm sure. I think there must be some condition among clerks inducing them to take liberties; Lucius mentioned Friday that Crispin had taken lunch out, and rather longer than usual, which is not his wont. He and Ned do lunch together occasionally; I don't suppose they decided to splash out for some reason?

Well, whatever it was I'm sure it's of no consequence.

Oh, and I'm so glad you and Athena will both be there. We have had another of our invitations returned in the positive, so we will in fact be twelve that day. I think it's shaping up nicely.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-13 03:38:54](#)
(no subject)

Liars and cryptographers grow from the same stock, I've been told.

I can't shed any light re. Pennifold's lunch on Friday, except to note that he went early and was back at the Ministry and checking his diary with mine by noon, so I doubt he could provide an alibi for Crispin. (If Crispin was counting on that as his cover, he has a thing or two to learn. Certainly, he should take care to satisfy his current employer as he'd be poorly suited to a life of crime.)




 **alt_lucius** at **2010-09-13 04:05:56**
(no subject)

It's nothing like that; in point of fact I did not ask for an alibi. And as clerks go he does satisfy me much more often than he fails to do so. It is, however, rare for him to take lunch out at all, unless he is meeting someone.

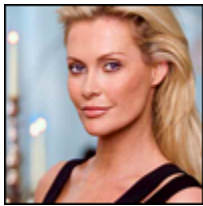
I suspect he may have formed another 'attachment' of his own. Provided it does not trend the way his last such affair did, there should be no impediment to continued and customary exemplary service. (If anything, it sounds as if Ned is taking good note.)




 **alt_lucius** at **2010-09-13 04:10:05**
Private Message to Narcissa

No further communication from Collins, thus far? He usually writes you every third day or so, but I've not seen anything since your last brush-off.

Do you suppose invoking me has finally routed him?

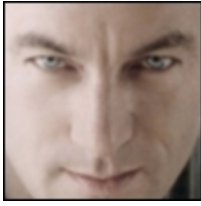


 **alt_narcissa** at **2010-09-13 04:20:34**
Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Nothing yet. Wands crossed.

And if it did frighten him into silence, that was certainly the goal. Few men who imagine themselves a temptation - though *how* William could ever consider himself a temptation! - care to be referred to the husbands of their would-be conquests!

What did you think of Eudora's proposal? Mafalda clearly thought it perfection but I'm not at all certain I have the ... inclination they desire.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-13 04:28:40](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

I can well imagine then you must be sending several inquiries daily to Crispin, to keep the pests at bay.

The pilot programme you mean? Nonsense, I think they make a shrewd observation. And I think you can do anything you put your mind to, my love.

The real question is do you have the time? Or do you wish to take it on? You've already so much more than was ever my intention for you to manage. Certainly they would understand should you decide some other public face would be more effective. Isobel Sandoval, perhaps? Or Aleta Featherstone? I'm sure either would be honoured to serve.



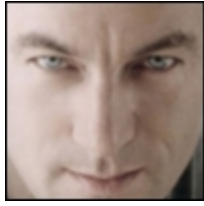
 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-13 04:44:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Oh, most are too cowardly to even try - which is a great pity, even if it's only for the satisfaction of turning them all down. For the pluck alone I have to give Collins credit. Not too much credit, of course: Anyone else would have given up for a nuisance long ago. Still, at times I do miss the odd honest attempt, instead of empty flattery.

As for you Ooh, you *do* know how to make up my mind for me, curse you, Scip. I'd rather attend a tea party with lethifolds than give Isobel Sandoval an opportunity like that. Imagine what foreign nonsense she would impose! And Aleta may be good enough company at the WI or DP luncheons, but putting her in charge of that programme would fairly guarantee its failure. I see it falls to me again to ensure that the job is done right.

Don't trouble about the other things, dearest. I know if you had your way I'd be far removed from the duties of a first lady of sorts, and I admit it does put me in the public eye at times when I'd rather stay home with a good book, but as it is I'd not trade it for the world. Well. Perhaps for Paris. But I know you're working on that.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-13 05:11:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Paris, Vienna, perhaps even Monte Carlo in time. How can I deny you? It's the price for marrying the most beautiful witch in England. It's the same reason I can assure you that their flattery is never *empty*. Still everything, Rio, you know that.

But I would never make up your mind *for* you, my dear. I know you far better than to try. I'm merely pointing out that there are alternatives, if you can bear the consequences. If you cannot, then you should tell Mafalda and your Eudora that you'll do the task. Properly, of course.

In any case, I'm for bed. You ought to turn in soon, as well, love.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-13 05:12:58](#)

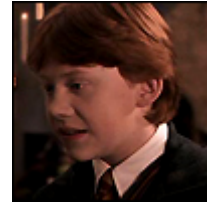
Re: Private Message to Narcissa

I know. But it's good to see you say it.

And I have already retired. Sleep well, love. I shall see you at breakfast.

2010-09-12 13:05:00

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan



 [alt_ron](#)

Hey, Fi Seamus.

I wanted to say sorry for being rude about your boggart. I've been thinking about it, and it's true we're not mates, and you've made it really clear you don't like me, but that doesn't make what I did yesterday right, either.

I was cheesed off because you're always rubbishing me to Patil and Malfoy and Zabini

and because you always act like you'd rather be anything but a Gryffindor, like we've got dragon pox or something

and you asking Patil about Ravenclaw making a pact for the boggart lesson just made me

I was hacked off you wouldn't have wanted to do that with us

and I didn't want you to start in on what mine was, I guess, so I just started in on you about yours

But that's not quidditch, innit. So I'm sorry. I shouldn't've done that.

I wanted to tell you, but I couldn't find you after supper and Dean and Neville were there when you turned up for bed. Don't know where you are today, either.

I'll say sorry in a regular message if that's what you want

but I figured you might not want me to start talking about it again in front of everyone

even to say sorry


so, yeah.

I am

sorry


and



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:43:42](#)**
(no subject)

I'd have made the pact if anyone had suggested it, you git, and I'd have kept it, too. I didn't THINK of it, and I reckon neither did you or you'd have said something at the time, or at least before you told everyone about my boggart which I'll point out I DID NOT SAY ANYTHING about your giant spider until you brought up my boggart even though we DIDN'T have a pact.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:44:23](#)**
(no subject)

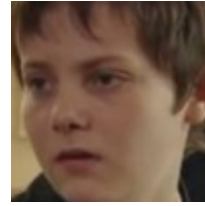
And how dare you suggest I'm ashamed to be a Gryffindor.

I'm not ashamed that I'm a Gryffindor. I'm ashamed that YOU are.

[2010-09-12 20:32:00](#)

Tea Leaves


Does anyone know if the thing that looks like a spider is supposed to mean patience or creativity when it's combined with a ... well, a sort of a flame shape? Is that industry?



 **[alt_michael](#)**

I thought it was maybe poison, but Dunstan says it's inheritance.

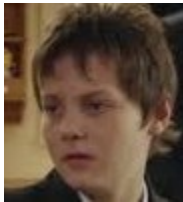


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:02:33](#)**

(no subject)

You sure the flame thinger isn't flag-shaped? I had something sort of like that, and I think the book says it's a warning sign. Like something pretty bad might be going to happen.

I know Professor Carpenter said to always look first for the positive associations, right? Only I couldn't find any for the sort of flag thing I got in my cup this morning.



 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:08:09](#)**

(no subject)


I guess it could be a pennant. That would be teamwork, right? Which makes sense, if you think about it.

But it's supposed to be for something coming, not something past, so maybe it means my Quidditch team will win next week's match.

And yeah, I know she says that, but that's not the usual thing. My mum goes to a diviner all the time and she's always telling her to beware red-haired men or things like that. (Not meaning you, Weasley.)

If I'd had a grim in my cup like Marvolo, for example, I'd be well concerned. Professor just thought it was a giraffe.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:27:39](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. I didn't see the page about pennants. You're right, it could be that. Did it have one point or two on the flapping bit?

And, yeah. I always thought the point of reading tea leaves was knowing what sort of bad stuff you should be looking out for. To avoid it, y'know?

I don't know about Marvolo having a grim, though. Probably thought she wasn't paying enough attention to him.




 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:35:25](#)**
(no subject)

I think a grim makes a lot of sense, if you're Marvolo. I mean, Pref Macnair's after him and all.

If you're looking for things to watch out for, that is. In your case, you might want to watch out for people thinking you've got it in for him. I've noticed people can be well touchy when it comes to Marvolo.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-13 02:03:56](#)**
(no subject)

I really thought it looked more like a donkey than a giraffe. It COULD'VE been a Grim, though.



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-09-13 02:05:45](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe it was and maybe it wasn't, Finnigan, but that's no reason for Weasley to say Marvolo was just making it up for attention.

No one's that desperate for attention in Divination, for Merlin's sake.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-13 02:07:07](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I completely agree.

I mostly don't read what Weasley writes, since it's all rubbish.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-13 02:12:25](#)
(no subject)

Too right.

Even when he tries to apologise it's rubbish.


He's so well naff.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-09-13 01:57:04](#)
(no subject)


A Grim's nothing to flick your wand at, Weasley. Any true wizard would know that and not make light of it.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-13 02:28:12](#)
(no subject)


But it wasn't a grim, was it? Professor Carpenter said it was a giraffe. Any true wizard would listen to the teacher, wouldn't he?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-09-13 16:22:28](#)
(no subject)


A real wizard would THINK about what he saw. I dont remember you ever thinking.



 **alt_padma** at [2010-09-13 16:30:08](#)
(no subject)


I don't believe Weasley knows how to think.
Only how to put his foot in his mouth.



 **alt_padma** at [2010-09-13 02:13:02](#)
(no subject)

Corner. Remember what we talked about?




 **alt_michael** at [2010-09-13 02:14:03](#)
(no subject)

Wot? Oh.

Yeah.

Sorry. I just thought - it was homework. It's not like I'm going to be chums or anything.



 **alt_padma** at [2010-09-13 02:15:35](#)
Private Message to Michael Corner

You asked him last week if it was safe to talk to him again.

Don't think I didn't see it or know what you were trying to do.


Weasley's got no future at all, so don't think you can cozy up and it won't be noticed.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:45:35](#)**
(no subject)

Spider and a flame shape, I'd think that would be inspiration. Like BURNING creativity, you know?



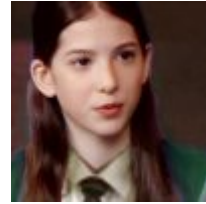
 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2010-09-13 01:50:56](#)**
(no subject)

Nice one, Finnigan.

2010-09-12 21:17:00

Private message to Pansy Parkinson

I feel like I've been doing homework for so long my brain is about to start dripping out my ears.




 **alt_sally_anne**

I'm done with Transfiguration, Defence, Potions, and Dark Arts. I'm almost done with Runes for Tuesday. I haven't even started Charms, or Care of Magical Creatures. Or History, actually, but I don't think I'm even going to bother, it's not as if Binns even remembers my name. If there's one thing I agree on with Patil, it's that History Club is a better way to learn history than Binns' class.

Say, I noticed that in Mrs Malfoy's diary entries she's mentioned a Mr Collins who keeps sending her owls. He sounds like a textiles merchant, which got me wondering over the summer -- the Strettons don't know him, and they know most of the people in the business. Do you know him?



 **alt_pansy** at **2010-09-13 03:19:19**
(no subject)

Blah. I need another few inches on my Potions essay to really round it out well -- but my hand and my brain are no longer working at all, so I'd better hold off til tomorrow morning. Otherwise I'll honestly end it by

writing,

'And that's all I've got to say about that, so there. Happy?' And I'm pretty sure Professor Slughorn wouldn't take that well.

From what I know, Mr Collins is someone that used to be sweet on Aunt Narcissa, and so he probably isn't anyone of consequence, just a hanger-on who tries to be one.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2010-09-13 03:45:41**
(no subject)

If you're out of things to say you can always say the thing you started out saying but in different words. 'I believe I have shown that fried billywigs can be

substituted for powdered asphodel, but it's not ideal,' or whatever.

I've finished Charms and I've gotten a start on CoMC but I think I'm going to bed. It would be nice not to have to do homework after Miserable Monday is over but I think I'll have to start earlier next weekend.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-13 03:56:50](#)

(no subject)

Agreed. But the music study thing went fairly well, I thought. Should we invite Hydra next time too? I think she enjoyed herself, and she keeps so quiet, it's not like it'd be any trouble.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-13 03:59:06](#)

(no subject)

Oh, by all means invite her. I like Hydra.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-13 04:04:33](#)

(no subject)

Well, good, because I do too.

[2010-09-13 16:25:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

This afternoon in Transfiguration we were talking about transfigurations that are considered impossible. I said that we should add "Transfiguring Ron Weasley into a genius" to the list. Professor Carrow gave Ravenclaw five points!




 **[alt_padma](#)**

I've told Linus and Belinda and Morag. Su Li will probably notice that it's Parvati but she won't say anything, not to Weasley at any rate.

Parvati told Lav so she'll sit with us tomorrow. And I mentioned it to Malfoy and Smith. Malfoy knows better than to warn Parkinson and Perks, too.

I think we're in good stead to go.




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-14 00:40:22](#)**
(no subject)

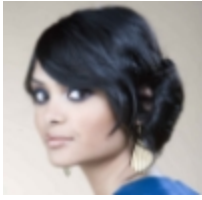
Perfect. Katrina might notice but she won't say anything. Weasley certainly isn't clever enough to catch on and I really don't think either Neville or Dean will notice the trade.


The Weasley twins might notice but they sit down at the other end of the table.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-14 03:05:05](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah, twins do tend to be able to tell about other twins, but I've noticed that even they don't like to sit too near him. We should be fine. I'm more worried about getting changed and to our first lessons on time, but it's worth a tardy if that's what it takes.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-14 13:37:32](#)**
(no subject)


IS IT STILL WORKING?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-14 14:00:58](#)**
(no subject)

YES AND ITS BLOODY BRILLIANT.




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-14 14:02:19](#)**
(no subject)

We're in Divination now, he just had to say it again because someone new came in (sorry about making you both late for class, but it was perfect having you do it, Weasley never suspected a thing. He was keeping an eye on me at breakfast so he knows I didn't do it though naturally he thinks I probably had SOMETHING to do with it).

And the line is perfect, much better than just 'I'm a git.'

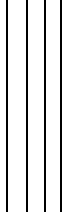


 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-14 14:12:20](#)**
(no subject)

I wish I had a lesson with him, just one, so I could see it.

But perhaps it'll last for days and days, like the one Mr Selwyn put on Higgs. It's supposed to. If it's still working at lunchtime, d'you suppose he'll have to tell everyone in the whole Great Hall? He might not have time to shove his face full of food.

(And does he eat like that all the time? Disgusting! I don't



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-14 16:44:13](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, every meal he eats like he's never seen food before.

[2010-09-13 22:02:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Dean Thomas



 [alt_terry](#)

Dean Thomas wrote a note and left it in the spot where we were exchanged them last year. I wasn't sure it was a good idea, but I left him a short note in answer, saying that I get all about having to have a public face and a private face. But it was getting to the point that his public face made it really hard to believe in his private one, and it's not something I can make a mistake about.

He answered me, saying:

This summer I know I have been a prat, and I am sorry to have disappointed so many. Please tell them I am willing to explain everything to you all in private.

My happiness hinges upon Mr Peake's satisfaction. And in that respect I am not sorry for my actions. I am sorry for disappointing you. I am also saddened by the fact that I have burned bridges, but it had to be done, and there was no way to communicate this in advance. I would like to re-establish those relationships in private, in time.

I will not be forced back into the camps. Therefore I will exhibit extreme loyalty for the protectorate. Do you know that Mr Crouch and Mrs Lestranger were at my party last month, and I am sure they were testing me. My public face must be fool proof.

Please relay the message that I am willing to explain all when you trust that it is safe to do so.

I don't know what I think. I don't know what you all will think, either, but I'm taking him at his word enough to pass it on. Guess this has to do with you the most, Ron, but anyway, that's what he said. Maybe he doesn't dare talk directly with you in your dorm room with Seamus Finnegan there.

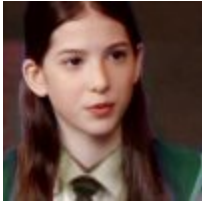


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 03:48:39](#)

(no subject)

"you all," what did he mean by that?


What does he know about this, and about who else you're talking to? Does he know who we are, exactly?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 04:23:54](#)
(no subject)

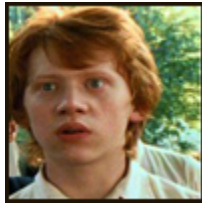
I wondered this, too.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-14 11:54:34](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I didn't even think of that.

Well, I reckon it isn't news to anyone that I'm friendly with the Weasleys. Fred and George first, but he probably figures I might talk with Ron, too. I've never told him or even hinted about this group, I promise. Maybe he means Hermione, too, because he knows we're friends.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-14 12:17:10](#)
(no subject)

What?!!!

He acts like he knows all about us!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 04:31:20](#)
(no subject)

It's not that he has a public face and a private face, it's what he does with the public one, like bringing MLE down on Ron this summer! He didn't HAVE to do that. He could've just kept his mouth shut!

If it were just acting like a prat to Ron it would be one thing. But Thomas endangered Ron and I'm not sure he realises that or cares. Or maybe he thinks that the sort of danger a pureblood can get into just doesn't count because it's not the camps (though they've sent purebloods there -- that man who sheltered escapees, for instance. During that camp breakout when Sarah Fawcett's mum was killed. If they hadn't, he'd have gone to Azkaban and I really can't imagine that would be much better, it's guarded by Dementors.)

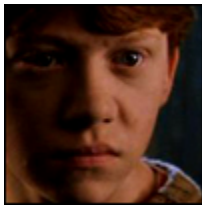



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 04:32:54](#)
(no subject)

And another thing.

Some people really aren't good at public faces. They say something enough times and they start to believe

it.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-14 12:03:29](#)
(no subject)

I don't see how he could mean me unless you've told him something, Boot.

The heck?

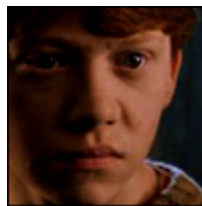
This had better mean Granger, but I don't see what he wants to say to her in private.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-14 12:56:57](#)
(no subject)

No. I absolutely did not.

But remember, he was taken from the camps partly because of your Dad. And everyone knows that Fred and George look out for me, that's no secret.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-14 13:23:17](#)
(no subject)


Too right my dad helped get him out of the camps!

But I don't see how that connects me to you. That makes no sense at all.

Look. I've got other probl

I can't write any more right now, but we're not done here.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-14 12:06:14](#)
(no subject)

Do you know what he could do to us if you've told about us?

Mr I've got to be extremely loyal to the Protectorate? You know what would make him look really loyal???




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 12:56:35](#)
(no subject)

Maybe it does mean just the twins and Hermione.

Because that does make sense.

But yeah. I agree, that would be a potential motive. And like Sally-Anne says, sometimes people are really bad at public faces.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-14 13:01:32](#)
(no subject)

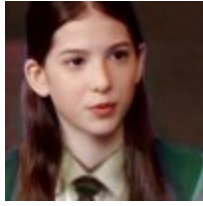
Anything that he'd do would fall on me first. Before it would get to you. I'll point out that I'm the one most at risk here. I'm the one who's exchanged notes with him...although I didn't sign my name.

He knows nothing about this lock, nothing about the wands, and he doesn't know that we have a way to talk privately. He doesn't have any idea I've exchanged so much as a word with Sally-Anne or Pansy, either.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-14 13:02:56](#)
(no subject)

Lay off him, Ron. If the Professor says he hasn't told, he hasn't. That's not something he'd make a mistake about.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 14:00:26](#)**
(no subject)

I don't believe Terry would have told.

But I do believe Thomas might have spied.

Could he have SEEN something?



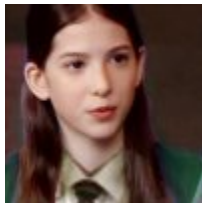
 **[alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-14 14:11:34](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I didn't tell.

There's no saying that he means you, specifically.

Considering the way that we cooperated enough last year to save his neck last year in Master's class, along with Hermione, I reckon he has an idea that Hermione and I have some friends here. Fred and George for sure, but maybe he didn't mean you at all.

As for him seeing anything...I don't know, but I can't think what it could be. Hermione and I have protective charms all along the corridor leading to our secret classroom to alert us if anyone ever comes there when we're in there working.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 17:27:40](#)**
(no subject)

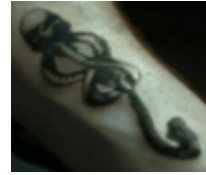
Alright, let's just say he assumes you're in contact with the Weasley twins or even Ron. Why would he think it's easier for YOU to tell them anything than for HIM to? He shares a House with the entire Weasley family and he shares a dorm room with Ron and he's close to Ginny.

Does he just not care at all about your safety, Terry? Because it's really risky for you to pass messages, or would be if it weren't for the lock!

2010-09-13 22:20:00

Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

I saw a bat once that got trapped between two panes of class a in doubleehung window. It stretcheeddd its wings out and struggled and struggled but it couldnt get out. It was so amusing I lektp the window closed so it was trapped there for



 [alt_amycus](#)

anyway

it took a day or a half to die. or was it four/?

though you should know.

BURned it afterwards



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at **2010-09-14 15:34:06**
(no subject)

I certainly hope that I am not to understand that as a threat, Amycus. I would hate to have to inform Our Lord that your anti-social tendencies have grown more acute.

2010-09-13 22:24:00

Private message to Draco Malfoy

You think that he's your best friend. but he
wonn't be for long.

I will be rearranging the seating chart tomorrow.
Time to break up the dream team.



 **alt_amycus**

2010-09-13 22:26:00

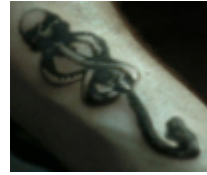
Private Message to Tidbit

Your mine. You will always be mine.

Been saving things for you to alaclean up
when you come back to me.

(Jusssstinne has toooo)

we've been apart for awhile, so I figure the familiar routine
will be most comforting.



 [alt_amycus](#)

[2010-09-14 09:19:00](#)

Ron doesn't have his journal for now

I took it. Seemed like the smart thing to do.



 [alt_neville](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **[2010-09-14 14:27:00](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

He's not...entirely reasonable right now. I sure hope people leave him alone today. But they probably won't, worse luck. I'm sure there will be lots who think it's funny.

Whoever hexed him like that, that was really foul.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2010-09-14 14:38:52](#)**

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

I just heard. Well, sort of. Some people were laughing about it before Charms started, but they stopped once they saw me looking. So I don't know everything, but I know enough.

It's really, really awful.

Is there something we can do between classes to help? Would walking and talking with him the entire time stop him from having to say it?

I don't want him going to the Great Hall again if he doesn't have to if it hasn't worn off by lunch or dinner. Maybe we could get food and go outside?



 [alt_neville](#) at **[2010-09-14 14:47:02](#)**

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

It's horrible. I was with him the first time he blurted it out. His ears turned so red that I thought they'd burst into flame and he looked just horrified enough to die.

And once people hear of it, you can bet they'll be coming up and speaking to him, just to hear him repeat it.

I'm trying to convince him to let me bring him his lunch out by the lake, but he's being stubborn and saying he'll eat in the Great Hall with everybody else.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 14:53:07](#)

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

Fine, then.

I'm sitting next to you today.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 14:54:32](#)

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

Maybe if we keep talking the entire time, he won't be interrupted by other people, and he won't have to say it more than the once?

It's worth a try.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-14 14:32:01](#)

(no subject)

Why would you take his journal away, Longbottom? Was he writing in class? (And wouldn't Professor Carpenter have taken it if he were?)

Or are you just in the habit of confiscating the Lord Protector's gifts to His loyal subjects?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 14:40:20](#)

(no subject)

I'm sure the Protectorate can get along perfectly fine without one day's journal entries from one of its loyal subjects. If it's better for that subject to take a break to allow his temper to cool a little.

If I let him keep it, you'd be screeching about him using impolite language.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 14:41:38](#)


I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

As if she doesn't know already what's happened.

This stinks to high heaven of Finnegan and Patil.

And good one, Neville.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 14:51:39](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

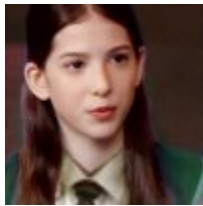
But how did they do it? Seamus didn't sit near us during breakfast. I've wondered if he'd hexed Ron in his sleep, but Ron was just fine when we were getting ready this morning, before we went down to the Great Hall. But it must have been done during breakfast.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 14:55:58](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

I honestly don't have a clue, unless it was something he ate, or he was hexed under the table or something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 16:59:41](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

I agree, this is exactly the sort of thing they'd do.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 14:52:22](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

You know perfectly well why he doesn't have it, you prat.



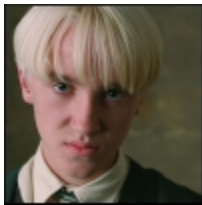
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-14 15:12:03](#)


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

Padma Patil is a smug faced cow. Ugh.

She makes it really, really hard to do all the things I'm supposed to, because she's involved in *all* of them.

And I thought she'd grown up a little this term, but I guess not. Ugh. Double-ugh.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-14 17:34:17](#)

(no subject)

Going to help him skive off lessons, too?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 18:23:31](#)

(no subject)

Hardly. Any help I'd give him wouldn't do his marks any good.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2010-09-14 20:25:13](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

What's happened, Neville?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 20:27:58](#)

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

Someone put a hex on him so that whenever someone speaks to him, he's compelled to answer a certain way. It's...it's really humiliating.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-14 20:30:50](#)

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

What are they making him say, Neville? Maybe we can figure out a way to undo the hex.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 20:30:43](#)

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

Someone hexed Ron so that he has to say 'my parents couldn't buy me brains if they wanted to' to everyone who speaks to him.

It's wretched. I think it was probably Patil and Finnigan. And they've spread the word so a lot of people are going out of their way to speak to him. So in Care of Magical Creatures today Draco asked him if he knew what time it was and Ron said, 'My parents couldn't buy me brains if they wanted to, get bent Malfoy.'

Brutka didn't think it was very funny, at least, he forbid anyone to speak to Ron once he realised how it worked, he said it was a distraction from the lesson.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-14 20:32:24](#)

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

Ouch.

All right. If you see him, tell him to meet us in the Common Room before dinner. We'll see what we can do.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-14 20:34:30](#)

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

Bloody hell, those prats.

Patil may suffer another scourge of lice.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 20:35:12](#)

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

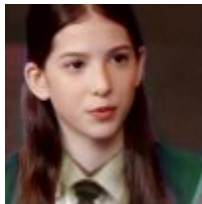
I don't know if that'd be a good idea. They'd just blame him and that'd make everything worse.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-14 20:35:34](#)

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

We'll think of something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-14 20:47:10](#)

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

Is there some way we could do something dreadful to Patil and persuade her that it was Finnigan who did it? Even if she thought he did it accidentally. Or at least arrange to place the blame on someone who isn't Ron (or me or Pansy or Neville). Someone who deserves it.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-14 20:36:29](#)

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

And good on Brutka.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-09-14 20:37:40](#)

(no subject)

Oh, dear.

Is...is Ron all right, Neville?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-14 20:39:25](#)


(no subject)

Um, yes, I guess so, Mrs Weasley.

Someone, um, hexed him. So he sort of...insults

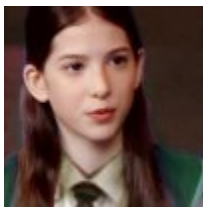
himself if anyone speaks to him. But it's nothing more serious than that.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-14 20:40:43](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, my. I see.

Well, in that case...perhaps it is for the best that he's not writing anything today. That was clever of you, dear. Thank you for looking out for him.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-14 20:45:08](#)**
Private message to Mrs Weasley

Just so you know, ma'am, the hex is making him say something about his family, so he's sort of insulting you as well.

I thought you should know, in case he gets in trouble by the end of the day for punching hexing someone. Please don't send him a Howler.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-14 21:31:19](#)**
Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley

Oh my.

How dreadful.

Of course--of course I won't send him a Howler! Ron shouldn't have to worry about that on top of everything else. Well, not that I'm giving him a free pass to take a poke at his classmates, mind! But I won't send a Howler, even if he does.

Thank you for saying something, dear.

2010-09-14 17:12:00

(no subject)

I think it's simply horrid to make fun of someone's *family* because of something as *crass* as money. I thought one of the purposes of the YPL was to show that every citizen deserved respect, and could contribute in a meaningful way to our Protectorate.

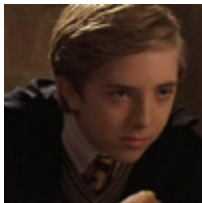


 [alt_pansy](#)

All of you that thought it'd be funny to come up to Ron and ask him a question just to force him to say something embarrassing are bullying gits, and you should be absolutely ashamed of yourselves for taking advantage for a laugh.

And to whoever made him say that *nonsense* all day long? Director Selwyn used that hex as a very serious punishment, and I don't think it was right for you to use it for a silly prank.

I'm sorry, Ron, you probably don't want it spread about any more that it already has. But it isn't on at all.



 [alt_ernie](#) at **2010-09-14 22:04:05**

(no subject)

I think it's more horrible to make fun of someone for being frightened that something awful will happen to their friends or family.

If Weasley can't take it, he shouldn't dish it out.




 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-14 22:08:03**

(no subject)

There's a difference between teasing someone once on the journals and apologising for it after, and forcing someone to say something humiliating for an entire day.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-14 22:13:49](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not saying he's utterly innocent here. He shouldn't have made fun of Finnegan's boggart like that.


But I'm not looking forward to the rest of term if this is the sort of pranks people are pulling just a few weeks in.



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2010-09-14 22:17:10](#)**
(no subject)

I reckon you've got the good sense not to go around insulting the Lord Protector's son or making fun of other people's boggarts, so you'll be safe enough from pranks, Parkinson. Just tell your boyfriend to stop being so daft in future and maybe his year will improve too.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-14 22:22:14](#)**
(no subject)

A person who repeatedly runs his mouth off without any thought as to what the consequences could be shouldn't be surprised when his mouth gets the better of him.


Maybe he'll learn something for once, though I doubt it.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-09-14 22:26:31](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure everyone's so very ashamed of *bullying* someone who keeps harassing everyone else! Honestly, Pansy, it's a bit early to be putting in your bid for Head Girl, so save the lecture.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-15 02:15:37](#)
(no subject)

Honestly, Parkinson, you act like he was forced to say something that would get him into serious trouble with MLE or something. It may have been a bit embarrassing, telling people he's witless, but it wasn't all that horrible. And anyway, it's not even like he was saying anything untrue! Or are you as ashamed as he is that his family have no money? I mean, they certainly could move into a big, fancy castle like MacMillan's family have done, they've got enough kids. They don't have to live in a tumbledown shack. So they must like it, mustn't they? So I don't see what there is to be ashamed about. Shiva says that beggars are blessed by Rama, anyway.

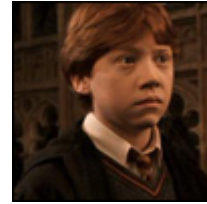
Though I'm not sure what Shiva says about village idiots. But if your boyfriend hadn't gone and been one to so many people, maybe so many people wouldn't have enjoyed what happened so much.

2010-09-14 20:52:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Thanks, Nev.


You, too, Fisheye.



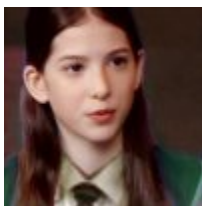
 [alt_ron](#)

And I thought Tuesdays were going to be good days.
Glad this one's over.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-15 02:23:37**
(no subject)


I'm glad too, tunalips.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-09-15 02:40:57**
(no subject)

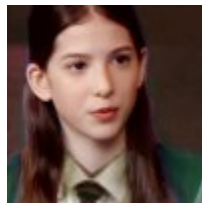
Were the twins able to do anything?



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-09-15 13:44:07**
(no subject)

You'll see. Soon enough.

I thought about not going to Transfiguration, but they'd just love that, wouldn't they?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-09-16 00:15:00**
(no subject)

Well, THAT didn't go as planned. Their fix, I mean.


Ugh.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-09-16 01:14:18](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Sorry about that, Ron.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-16 01:18:25](#)
(no subject)

Trust Master to make it even worse.

Never mind, Ron. You should still count yourself lucky.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-16 02:34:33](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, well. It's over.

And Carrow didn't kill me tonight, so yeah.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-16 02:59:09](#)
(no subject)

Don't joke about it.

He has, you know.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-16 02:33:10](#)
(no subject)

Not really your fault. You tried to help, but who knew it'd still be on today?

Carrow about did his nut, though, when I couldn't say it out loud. Made me say it again and again and again. I thought he was going to hex me for not obeying him.

So, yeah.

Made me scrub the floor of his classroom with a bottle brush tonight, and he took my wand first and threatened to snap it if I didn't get the stains out all the way. I don't know what his upper

years are doing, but I think somebody slaughtered something in there today. Only it was sort of oily, not just bloody. I mean, I've got chicken blood of stuff before, and goat. This was worse. Smelled foul, too. But then, stuff in there always smells like it's rotten.

[2010-09-14 21:10:00](#)

Order Only: A Day for the Books

Well, if I don't ever repeat today's task it will be too soon. All day since morning, I've been charming a tapeworm out of an unfortunate young lad. I tried dosing him with an anti-parasitic draught only to have him come out immediately in hives; his throat was closing with the reaction before I was able to counter-dose him. So we've spent many a dreary hour today behind a privacy screen, coaxing forty feet of worm to back itself out of the boy's intestines.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Fortunately medi-magic includes therapeutic techniques for cases like this, though there is no quick or easy solution, as it would make matters very much worse were the creature to go to bits inside. First it must be charmed into relaxing its grip on the intestinal wall, and then it must be urged segment by segment to slither free of the body.

How, you might ask, in our most blessed Protectorate did a young wizard come to play host to such a thing? It seems his mother decided the family needed to reduce a bit, so she bought a 'dietary supplement' from a travelling apothecary, who promised that a spoonful of his 'patented,' foul-smelling sludge added to their porridge each morning would set them all on a path to a fitter future.

And now I must settle myself down to the task of writing this young man's mother a helpful note, advising her that she and her husband ought to seek a healer's assistance at their earliest convenience. Paracelsus knows what I'd really like to tell her.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **[2010-09-15 03:02:26](#)**

(no subject)


Er. Charming.

Laszlo's not selling anything like it, are we?

(Speaking of which, I got an owl from Aleks, which I'll bring with me when I come, Moony. All's well; he's found a supply of Serpentina's Sleeping Draught. Is that still regulated on this side or have they lifted the restrictions on its sale? It can be tricky to bring through, as I know it was banned in Poland after that murder case fifteen years

back, but I suppose we could hope Narcissa Malfoy puts a bit too much in her nightly tisane, eh?)




 **alt_poppy** at [2010-09-15 03:17:53](#)
(no subject)

I believe it's regulated, but surely a payment of the right magnitude in the right quarters would ease whatever restrictions might otherwise hamper import.

I could imagine a tragic scenario in which the dosage instructions might suffer some distortion in translation, increasing the likelihood of Mrs Malfoy's taking a draught potent enough to do for an erumpent.

Do let me know if you require assistance Englishing the labels.




 **alt_sirius** at [2010-09-15 03:24:38](#)
(no subject)

What? Contributing to the perpetration of a medical fraud? Why do I recall you saying that the sort of manipulation you're suggesting constituted a violation of your oaths as a Healer?

Anyway, the regulation and bribe scenario is rather what I was afraid you'd say. Depending on the size of the bribe, it may not be worth even trying to import it.




 **alt_poppy** at [2010-09-15 03:29:53](#)
(no subject)

Can a weary witch not indulge a momentary fantasy?

Call it a moment of weakness, then, and carry on.




 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-15 03:31:54](#)**
(no subject)

I can't believe I get to say this:

Poppy Pomfrey!

Well, all's not lost. I suppose it depends on what Moony can find out about whether it's worth the expense or not.




 **[alt_poppy](#) at [2010-09-16 03:22:03](#)**
(no subject)

Enjoyed that, did you?

I've done a bit of poking about, and while that particular sleeping draught is, indeed, restricted, there are other similar items with no import barriers or dispensary regulations at all. And. Unlike Serpentina's, all of the others--a whole line of them with various potencies and applications--come from a single supplier in Luxembourg. Apparently someone knows someone, if you take my meaning.

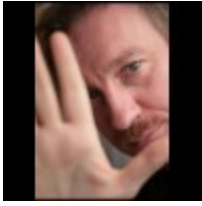
Blast. I've misplaced my notes about it, but I can get you the name if you'd care to pursue it.




 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-17 02:48:10](#)**
(no subject)

I think I know the label you're talking about, actually. Fox and Fokker's? Or is it the other one, er - now you've got me forgetting it.

Well, I'm down at Moony's in a day or two. That is, I'll be there early next week. So we can figure out what might be worth trying to get.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2010-09-15 09:34:49](#)**
(no subject)

It sounds like a marvellous money spinner, but no, we're not currently trying to infect our customers with parasites!

I believe Poppy's right and it is regulated, in which case it may not be worth paying a bribe to bring it in. Selling regulated products would likely just bring more Ministry attention than we really want to our activities.

And as tempting as it might be to dream of the untimely demise of your relatives, there's always a chance that some poor innocent might fall foul of the draught's unfortunate side effect, which would not be an outcome any of us would wish for, I suspect. Unless we could supply it exclusively to the Lord Protector's Court, in which case it might prove a quick and easy solution to everyone's problems.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-09-16 00:20:30](#)**
(no subject)

Ever the voice of reason, Moony.

Oh, all right, then. no imported poisonous sleeping potions.


But you still want shrivelfigs, I presume? And from the sound of it as much fresh fruit and veg as Aleks can lay his hands on - I've told him that's always in demand.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-09-16 03:01:29](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, my, how *ghastly*. The poor boy. I trust you've rid him of it by now.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-16 03:08:29](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yes, indeed.

But yesterday was not a pleasant one.

Are you all right, Molly? You're home from the Sanctuary, then?

2010-09-15 19:15:00

Private message to Padma Patil



 **alt_seamus**


So apparently Weasley's brothers tried to help him out -- they couldn't lift the hex but they made it so he whispered. What was REALLY brilliant though was that we had Transfiguration today, and Mr Professor Carrow had heard about the hex and wanted to hear Weasley say the line about his lack of brain.

He gave Weasley detention for whispering in class.

I think I hurt myself trying not to laugh. (I mean, it was Transfiguration class, I don't want to do anything that would make Mr Professor Carrow cross. Including laugh.)

It wore off sometime today but maybe he's learned his lesson for a bit. You should've seen his face when he realised this morning he was still hexed, I think he just about wanted to throw himself out Gryffindor tower.



 **alt_padma** at **2010-09-16 00:37:39**
(no subject)

That's well funny! Does Mr Professor Carrow never laugh when he's teaching the Gryffindors? Because he does with us Ravenclaws, sometimes.

I heard Corner was the first person to try to talk to Weasley after it wore off and Weasley went berserk, shouting and carrying on as if someone had tried to burn him at the stake like the muggles used to do. Of course, it wouldn't have happened if Corner'd just got a move on and shown some spirit yesterday. He wants to join in, you can see it, but he's just so afraid of anyone calling him out for being well sour. But it's not sour at all, is it, to put someone in his place when he needs a reminder that some people have real problems and real things to be afraid about, not just hairy spiders or that.

Moon and Su Li say to watch out for retaliation, but did you notice Parkinson at History Club? She seemed well normal, completely apart from her little miss prefect act in her journal yesterday. I think she didn't mind half so much as the rest of that crew. I still don't

understand why she bothers, but then, I guess she figures Perks and Weasley are good pets to have.



 **alt_seamus** at **[2010-09-16 01:25:29](#)**

(no subject)

She did seem normal at History Club but she's a Slytherin, it could just be an act to make sure we let our guard down. She sat at our TABLE with Weasley at lunch, or tried -- someone ran her off after a few minutes, either Percy or one of the prefects.

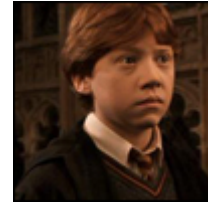
I'm watching my back, though, there's no question Weasley thinks I had something to do with it, even though he knows I didn't cast the hex itself.

2010-09-16 11:18:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

All right, then.

How do I get them back? Who's got a brilliant idea?



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-09-16 16:24:57**

(no subject)

At least this afternoon will be better: just double Creatures to go. And Brutka was decent to me Tuesday.

Double transfiguration, though. That was a nightmare. And Divination? Carpenter tried to make out that my tea leaves were all pointing towards rising fortune, not 'looming difficulties' like the book said.

I mean, which d'you think's more likely? For me.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-16 20:05:29**

(no subject)

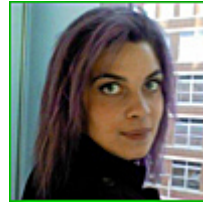
Haha, well, at least Professor Carpenter was trying to be nice.

There's nothing wrong with that.

I think Professor Brutka and Professor LeStrange are just so brilliant even though the boggart class wasn't fun, and I'm so glad we have them this year!

2010-09-16 18:43:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius Black



Wotcher, Sirius.

I heard a rumour that you're planning a visit down this way at the next moon.

D'you fancy coming by a day or two early?

I've got this idea, and I think you might be able to help me convince Remus that it's a good one.

 **alt_nymphadora**

Ta. Hope all's well with you and your new lady.



 **alt_sirius** at **2010-09-17 02:26:58**

(no subject)

Cheers, Dora.

If you're looking to convince him of something he'll hate, before the full moon is not the best time. He gets tetchy. You've probably noticed.

But - well, sure. I suppose I could stretch my legs ahead of schedule. Especially when you put it like that: 'my new lady.' That's about enough to give me a case of collywobbles as bad as any of Poppy's first years.

Anyway, it's difficult to stay pretty well cooped up at hers, so south sounds good.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2010-09-17 18:13:01**

(no subject)

You blokes and your commitment phobia. It won't drop off from lack of use just 'cause you're only with the one woman, you know.

He won't hate it. He'll just think it's too dangerous. He'll say things like 'you're being far too reckless, Dora' and 'I'm not saying it's a bad idea. It's just too risky'. Between the two of us, though, I reckon we can talk him round. Assuming you don't think it's totally daft and all, of course.

| See you in a few days, then.

2010-09-16 22:19:00

Settling into the new school year

Now that we have all had the opportunity to unpack our trunks and have a couple of weeks of classes under our belts, it is a good idea to take stock and remember a few simple things that will make all of our school years more successful.



 [altermity](#)
 [alt_percy](#)

First years, you should have all found your classrooms by now, and hopefully have adjusted to the rhythms of life here at Hogwarts. If there is any question you may have about school procedures, remember that your Prefects are here to help! No doubt you have had to absorb a blizzard of new information, but never fear: you'll feel like an old hand in no time at all, if you don't already.

Both the first years making new friends and the older students re-greeting old ones should do their best to keep in mind one important fact: we may come from different backgrounds (blood status, economic class, etcetera), with our own unique advantages and disadvantages, but we are all Hogwarts students together. Even students from the humblest beginnings receive a superb education here at Hogwarts, thanks to the open-minded beneficence of Our Lord Protector. Some of you may be rubbing elbows for the very first time with other students who at first blush may not seem to be 'your sort.' Hard work counts at Hogwarts, however, and if you apply yourself, I promise you that you will have the opportunity to rise to your proper level. Perhaps even a level of leadership. Do your best to remain open-minded toward people who hail from different backgrounds than yourself. If you do, the friendships you will make may surprise you, and turn out to be the best thing about your years here.

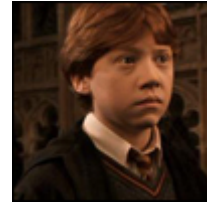
First years, remember that your Professors and Prefects are ready and eager to help you settle in. Do not hesitate to see Madam Pomfrey, too, should you have difficulty with sleep issues, or merely if you wish to have a confidential chat. You should have all received information about the Young Protectors League by now. Watch for further information from Professor Sinistra about upcoming meetings.

Remember to keep up with your revising! Your Prefects can give you advice about time management, if you find the level of work overwhelming. They do have calendars to hand out for students, who may find them useful for keeping track of deadlines on essays and other homework assignments.

We're off to a good start for the year. Please see me or the Head Girl should you have any questions.

2010-09-17 09:42:00

Private Message to Mum and Dad, er, to Molly and Arthur Weasley



 [alt_ron](#)

Hiya.

I think you maybe know about me getting hexed Tuesday

I'm all right now, though

but I don't know if you've heard what the hex made me say

did Percy tell you? or Ginny? They're not really saying much to me right now. Well, Ginny said I shouldn't go and do anything to get them back, but I mean, she didn't tell me if she wrote you anything about it.

It was

I feel really bad about it, Mum. I mean, I don't exactly like being poor, but I don't anyway want to be like those snooty people--y'know, like Greengrass and Malfoy and Zabini and and Marvolo--who think it's so important how big your house is and how many you have and where you buy your clothes and how much they're worth and all. Or like McMillan and Smith and Brown and the Patils, who want to be just like them. And I know Pere

I just

It was really horrible to have to say that over and over again. I mean, I wouldn't've cared about saying I'm an eejit, cause that's just mean and y'know, whatever. I mean, I'd've been cheesed off still about them hexing me, but it wouldn't've been ~~But making me say my parents~~

I guess I just wanted you to know I'm sorry or

I dunno

that I feel bad about it


and

yeah

just that, I guess.

Ron



 **alt_arthur** at [2010-09-17 17:32:17](#)
(no subject)

Son,

Thank you for writing to your mum and me about this. We are grateful that you have demonstrated your trust in us by writing to us this way. I don't blame you in the least for being distressed, although I sincerely hope I can put your mind more at ease about what happened.

We did have a pretty good idea of what happened from a private message to your mum from your friend Sally-Anne Perks. I am very sorry that you had to go through this and that you are struggling due to these malicious attempts to cause you pain.

Please understand that your mum and I do not hold this against you. Whoever hexed you undoubtedly wanted to cause you great embarrassment, perhaps even straining your family ties because they tried to force you to feel shame for your family. But they only succeed, son, if you buy into what they forced you to say, if you agree with them.

To be blunt, I don't mean to deny that perhaps our family is rather worse off, economically, than those of many of your classmates (although you would probably be surprised to learn how many of your friends' parents actually do have difficulty making ends meet). I do deny that that is a cause for shame. Relative poverty can be certainly wearying, inconvenient and exceedingly stressful. No one likes feeling pinched in the pocket. It does NOT mean, however, that you cannot hold your head up just as high as anyone else you know. You matter as much as any Draco Malfoy or Padma Patil at Hogwarts, and don't let anyone convince you otherwise. Pots of galleons will not add years to your life, make up the deficits of a cruel or malicious character, or win you friends--or at least not the sort of friends really worth having, the ones who will stick with you through thick or thin, through every up and down of the currency exchange rate at Gringotts.

That being said, I do not blame you one iota for being upset. The hex under which you suffered is related to one of the three spells which were once called 'Unforgiveables,' the one called 'Imperio.' This is the spell which the caster uses to force the victim to do whatever he or she likes. And I mean whatever it may be, whether it is to injure themselves or hurt another person, even to the point of death. For generations, this spell was regarded by all right-thinking witches and wizards with horror. There is indeed something deeply distressing to be forced to do something against one's own inclination and character.


But one thing has always been understood about Imperio, as well as the less far reaching hexes of the same class to which Imperio is related (including this one): the person who had the spell cast upon them is never at fault or responsible for what he or she does while under the spell. It was even a valid legal defence in our courts (although, admittedly, now that Imperio is more widespread, even advocated by some within our own government, this legal defence has often proved less successful than it was in the past).

Your mum and I hold to the old school of thought, son. Any spell that compels you to do something contrary to your nature, that you certainly do not wish to do, is wrong. And you are not responsible, so there is no need for you to apologise to us. The ones who hexed you should be apologising to you. Do not reward those who did this to you by buying into what they are trying to force you to believe. You are a fine upstanding young man, whatever your family's bank balance. You have a family who loves you, true friends, and a bright future ahead of you. We are proud of you, just as we are proud of all of our children. Hold on to that, son, if you ever find yourself doubting.

I hope that this eases your mind somewhat. Thank you again for writing to us.

Love,
Dad



 **alt_ron** at **2010-09-18 00:35:16**
(no subject)

Thanks, Dad.

And yeah, that hex was really awful because there

wasn't any way to not say those things.

Isn't there anyway to break a spell like that? Or or something that helps you not do what they're trying to force you to do?

I mean, Fred and George put some other spell on that meant I could only whisper the words, but that didn't stop it.

I dunno. It's just that they like this kind of hex. You remember the one on my birthday.

I need to know if there's not something I can do if they do it again.



 **alt_molly** at [2010-09-17 18:36:11](#)

(no subject)

Ronald, dear,

Your father has already written just about everything I would tell you myself. I only want to add that I know it can be extremely painful when you are having difficulties with fellow students at school. I went through a period in my fourth year at Hogwarts where I unfortunately got into a grudge war with several other people, which led to a tit-for-tat exchange of hexes that went on for several months. I gave as good as I got, but the end result was a great deal of trouble, humiliation and hurt feelings for everyone involved. Not to mention detentions! Between the four of us, we cost our respective houses over three hundred points that year.


I'm not sure I can pass along any particular wisdom from that experience other than yes, I know it hurts, and now I avoid grudge matches like dragon pox. I know how tempting it is to escalate the battle, but from my own experience, I've concluded that in the end, nobody wins.

I've made some cinnamon shortbread this morning, and I'll be sending a package to you via owl. I also managed to get my hands on six back issues of *Quidditch Today* which will also be included. I hope they will help you get your mind off things.

Do keep your chin up, dear. Write back if you need to talk things out some more. We always love to hear from you, no matter what's on your mind.

All my love,
Mum



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-18 00:36:36](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Mum.

You really did that when you were at school?

That's wizard! I bet you got in some good hexes against them, too!

2010-09-17 10:32:00

Honoria?

I've been thinking... Its a shame that we don't get on better. But I suppose that is my fault. I think its time we improve upon one another. Anyway how would you like to revise with me? Charms and potions are some of my best classes. I love to revise for Charms. Do let me know if you would like to. We could revise for all our subjects together if you wish.



 [alt_ginny](#)

2010-09-17 15:35:00

Private Message to Professor Aurora Sinistra



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Professor,

You've no doubt heard from Madam Millingham-Kennilworthy and of course Director Hopkirk regarding the programme they wish to institute to complement the Young Protectors' League. I understand that Master Glaucus Gibbon has agreed to lead up the counterpart on behalf of the Brothers of Purity and I am certain he will have similar questions if perhaps a clearer plan in mind than I have at present.

I write, therefore, to consult your opinion on how best to implement the expectations of the Daughters of the Protectorate while in no way proposing activities that would conflict with planned YPL events. For example, I should think Madam Catchlove would be pleased to provide a tutorial on household charms if her seminar may be arranged on a day when the girls are not otherwise occupied.

But more importantly, I rely on your suggestions for candidates. You have the opportunity to observe the young ladies not only in their lessons but through the various excursions and programmes you have led over the last two years. I met with Eudora earlier this week and we agree that perhaps four to six girls in their third year and anywhere from two to four girls in their second year would be more than enough to begin a pilot programme. Of course, it goes without saying that your recommendations should be of girls who, while half-blooded, show great promise and potential to thrive not only within this programme, but as they are evaluated by the Department of Purity Control to enter into society on their own as full citizens of the Protectorate.

I look forward to working with you over the coming months.

Yours most sincerely,

Narcissa Black Malfoy



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-18 14:37:33](#)

(no subject)

Mrs Malfoy -

I am delighted to help you - and this project - any way I can. I have indeed heard some of the plans from Madam Millingham-Kennilworthy and Director Hopkirk.

I do suspect Madam Catchlove would be glad to offer something of the kind (she and I were at Hogwarts at the same time, so if you'd prefer a personal letter of request, I'd be glad to send a note to her as well.)

I've just finished confirming plans for the YPL events for this year: there are no schedule changes from the tentative dates listed on the calendar distributed to the Board over the summer. If you'd like an additional copy, I'd be glad to send one along. In general, Saturdays seem to be preferable, and any date which does not include a YPL meeting or Hogsmeade weekend should avoid significant conflicts.

In terms of suggestions, let me think on that for a day or so. I'd like to review my own notes, and also in a few cases to have a word with their head of house or another teacher to confirm my own observations.

As far as other planning: if it would be helpful to you to meet, I'd be glad to do so. Generally, the best time for me is either on a weekend without other Hogwarts commitments, or between about four in the afternoon and eight or nine in the evening during the week (as, of course, I teach those evenings.)

I do look forward to working with you, and I'm very glad that you're willing to lend your presence and effort to supporting promising half-bloods.

A. Sinistra



[alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-19 15:47:24](#)
(no subject)

Mrs Malfoy -

I've had the chance to look through my notes and have those conversations.

Of the third year girls, I'd recommend the following:

- Sally-Anne Perks (Slytherin)
- Katrina Bundy (Gryffindor)
- Megan Jones (Hufflepuff)
- Su Li (Ravenclaw)

Sally-Anne is reliably in the top few of her class, in almost all subjects, and she has been persistently helpful and agreeable in YPL settings. I think she could particularly benefit from this program, especially in terms of making the best social connections. The other three girls suffer by comparison as far as academic work, but are all prime candidates and able to benefit a great deal from such a program.

Other possibilities include Mandy Brocklehurst (Ravenclaw), Hannah Abbott (Hufflepuff), Sarah Fawcett (Ravenclaw), and Eloise Midgen (Hufflepuff). All are good girls, but they seem a little less likely to benefit from the opportunity than the four above: I have less of a sense that they would take the opportunity and flourish.

If I had to pick two, I would probably suggest Hannah Abbott and Eloise Midgen, as the other two are (as you might expect) extremely diligent about their schoolwork, and often spend much of their weekend reviewing material.

Given the Hufflepuff sense of loyalty and community (my own house, so I know it well), it might also be particularly hard for one of them to be left out of the activity while the other half-blood girls in the house participate. Likewise, that loyalty and commitment might be particularly useful if harnessed properly.

Of the second year girls, Isolde Inglebee, in Hufflepuff, is beginning to particularly show promising signs of leadership and influence in her house. Juliana Bradley (Griffindor), Portia Rubens (Ravenclaw), and Adelheid Zimmerman (Hufflepuff) are all possible candidates, as

well, though they stand out less in class and YPL meetings.

There is also the question of Luna Lovegood. She obviously had a very difficult year last year, and she is having some difficulty fitting in with her foster family. (She does not complain overmuch, but I've overheard some comments that make it clear.)

While I am not sure she is a good fit for this program, I wonder if, in your conversations with others, you might keep an ear open for someone who could mentor her individually. She is quite brilliant, and able to make intuitive leaps when she focuses on a task, but suffers both from distraction and from a very irregular upbringing. I would very much like to direct that attention in ways that serve our realm, rather than waste the very real potential.



 **alt_narcissa** at **2010-09-19 19:03:18**
(no subject)

Thank you so much for your assistance and direction. This list will do nicely.

I shall send owls to the girls' guardians confirming their selection for the programme and requesting permission to enroll them. Upon receipt of their acceptance on the girls' behalf, we may inform them of the opportunity that awaits.

I've compared my calendar with my husband's copy from his Board materials and also consulted with Master Gibbon. We agree that it would be best, whenever possible, to schedule activities for our groups on the same day, so as to keep them running in parallel. That will likely change moving forward, of course, but we have scheduled the first meetings on the 16th of October. This ought to give us more than enough time to confirm their enrollment.

Madam Catchlove will be able to begin her lessons after the Christmas holidays. If I am to appear in person, I am afraid I shall not have another opportunity to visit with the girls before the holidays myself (our calendar really is very full this season), unless we decide to include an evening or possibly a Sunday afternoon. I thought perhaps as a treat, if they do particularly well during the year, a supervised trip to *Sorçère* in Hogsmeade might be arranged between the end of exams and their return home, though I know that's ages away. But Madame Puddifoot's is another option for lessons in proper etiquette at tea and so on, and that might be

arranged in conjunction with a Hogsmeade day. I understand that the second-year girls would require an escort and permission from their guardians - though I cannot foresee that as a problem.

Regarding Miss Lovegood, I am glad you mention her with such clear perception of her potential as well as her peculiarity. I agree that Miss Lovegood would likely be made to feel more uncomfortable as a participant in the pilot programme. However, you need not fear for her foster-mother's ability to provide mentorship. Mrs Brown is an acquaintance of mine; we have served together on numerous committees in the Witches' Institute, the Daughters of the Protectorate and the St Mungo's Auxiliary for many years. I know she has made every effort to provide for her new charge with diligence and sensitivity. If Miss Lovegood believes herself abused in her situation, I can assure you it could not be further from the truth. I believe her years with her 'irregular' upbringing, as you call it, have damaged her to the point where she may simply refuse to accept the advice and guidance of a witch who surely has only her best interest at heart.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-19 20:12:12](#)

(no subject)

All of those plans seem quite reasonable. As you say, the second year students would require permission and escort, and the Headmistress's permission, but the last should be simple, given your involvement. (If it were during term time, it might be a little more challenging: it is so difficult for children that age when one of their number gets a treat that others don't, especially when the children are half bloods, and their pureblood friends do not have the same opportunity.)

Sunday afternoon sessions would, perhaps, be easier to arrange than a weeknight evening if you are looking for additional dates: our most diligent students (as these girls all are) do not care for disruption of their study plans, especially if a professor may assign a larger than expected assignment, as sometimes happens. The weekend is a much easier time for them to work around, especially with the advance notice you'd provide.

On the matter of Miss Lovegood - I hasten to add that she has not complained, and she has been quite clear that Mrs Brown has made her welcome. The problem is more a matter of inclination:

Lavender Brown, while growing into a lovely young lady who I am sure will follow her mother into excellent committee work, does not have Luna's more curious bent. I do not think the two would have picked each other to spend time with, were it not for the circumstances, and that, of course, takes some getting used to. (And I suspect moreso for someone who had been an only child.)

I admit some sympathy for Luna. I was much my mother's despair for a few years, as I had my nose always in a book (or my eye at a telescope). I was fortunate that several friends of the family took an interest, and helped me learn both the necessary social graces and follow my interests, but there were several quite awkward years in there. While I'm sure Mrs Brown will be most attentive to her needs, I simply wonder if additional mentoring - somehow - might also be of benefit.

That said, you have been most gracious with your time and energy, so that is certainly not your worry. I look forward to working with you through this year as well, and do let me know at any time if I can be of any additional help.

2010-09-17 20:12:00

News from Paris



 **alt_lucius**

Received word that the referendum on muggleborn registration passed through the French Confederation to-day. Over the next sixty days, all mudbloods residing within the country shall be required to submit their wands to be registered. Any mudblood using an unregistered or unmarked wand shall be subject to arrest or fine. Have already sent congratulations to Dideron and Minister Rousseau. This marks a vital step in their campaign to align themselves more closely with the Protectorate - and a necessary one if our borders and countries are to become linked more openly than they have been.

As if to demonstrate this commitment, this month's Muggleborn Labour Committee came to complete agreement regarding the need for a decennial census within the camps. What the Committee could not determine with any consensus was whether or not to grant Carpenter's request for a hundred test subjects. His proposal showed merit, but some fundamental misunderstandings of the challenges facing their adoption as domestics. Although if successful, his method would virtually ensure the obedience of said servants. Nonetheless, until such time as he can prove to the committee's satisfaction that he adequately understand and has prepared for the risks, a one-hundred subject study is far too ambitious. Recommended he revisit the feasibility of conducting a five-person pilot instead, to be reviewed next quarter.

Excellent bit of sparring, however, on Wednesday. Ouroboros has revamped its course, which brought our party back to square one and led to some unintentional humour. I daresay Cadmus had grown entirely too used to the left turning after the third obstacle on the old course; it's now a right followed by a swift vault left onto the balance bridge. He saw it a split-second too late and bounced off the corner - right into my stunning spell (and thence into the water trap). I think the whole episode added perhaps ten seconds to the side's overall time. I very much doubt we can count on the same again, however.

Continue to note with interest how the newest feature of Our Lord's beneficence - Private Messages - has been adopted with both success

and, it would seem, its own etiquette regarding appropriate use. Urquhart's misguided choices aside, it seems there are some topics still sensitive enough to warrant the formality of an owl. Though one wonders, in some cases, why it would be worth the bother. For example, if one addresses a private message, the contents are hidden but the recipients are named plainly for all to see. What then, one wonders, is the logic in using an owl to apologise for sending the first message? Particularly when to do so draws more attention than simply leaving the first message lie, and moreover when the matter had been concluded with no special need for additional communication? Believe the reasoning must either rest in the author's youth and inexperience, in her lack of exposure to any semblance of polite society or perhaps simply owing once more to her determination to prove that her complaint and request had no basis in validity in the first place. It could be a simple side-effect of residing in Gryffindor House - but one is acquainted with some Gryffindors who do have more sense than a transfigured turnip. Few of them, for certain, but it is *possible*. Well. No matter; this is why one has a competent clerk.

Another week-end of social obligation awaits: I believe it's to be an anniversary and a house-warming? Oh, and Narcissa has a shower or two on Sunday, I think, though thankfully I may count on those hours to catch up on manuscripts for Obscurus and new applications for entry into the Protectorate.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-18 02:32:34](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

No further rumblings from the Transfiguration corridor?

I'm sure that your uncle would be happy to help keep Carrow at bay, should you need immediate assistance.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-18 03:08:17](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy


He hasn't done anything physical. He hasn't really even done anything to try to humiliate me in front of everyone, like he often does to other kids. But he does keep...smiling at me. And he's decided to make me work with Milli instead of Harry, for whatever reason, even

though Milli always works with Daphne.

I see you've written to Pansy. I don't know what you said to her, but I hope it's something that will make her use her head, for once. I don't know why she's decided that Weasley is her best mate above all others, or when she came to the conclusion that Harry and I don't matter, but she has. Do you know what she was doing on the day that Weasley was having a go at Harry for fainting? She was consoling Weasley, of all people - mucking about with him by the lake.

Don't tell her I told you any of that. She'll accuse me of telling on her, or something, and I don't even mean to. I just don't know what to do anymore.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-18 03:21:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Keep an eye out then, son, but do not give him reason to think you are concerned. Be respectful, yes, but show no fear. Fear is like blood in the water to a shark. As for your partnering, do what you can to compensate - or convince Miss Greengrass that if your marks suffer due to her former partner, *she* will suffer also.

As for Pansy ... I have quite washed my hands. We spoke extensively over the summer - that night she left the YPL trip to New London and turned up at the St James' house - about what she sees in the riff-raff she has attracted. There is a certain logic to keeping cannon-fodder about, but she has grown entirely too attached to her pets. Unfortunately, I am afraid it means that some lessons she must learn the hard way. She knows that I disapprove yet she refuses to disavow her 'friends,' despite already once experiencing some betrayal at their hands. (I take that to mean she has seen Weasley and Perks growing more involved with one another, perhaps? I confess her account was convoluted so I was unable to ascertain the whole cause of her distress at the time.) She also knows that since she persists in her defence of her associates, their failures reflect on her every bit as much as any success they may be able to accrue. It is on her head, therefore, if they bring her shame.

Rest easy on the subject of my reporting back to her; just remind her, if need be, to be careful invoking the endorsement of the

Malfoys when it comes to upholding her cadre of adherents. And you *may* tell her I told you to protect our name and reputation in that regard, should you see fit.



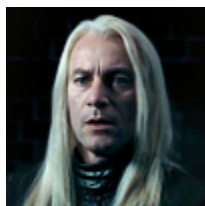
 [alt_draco](#) at 2010-09-18 04:08:06

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

I'm not afraid of him, not really. ~~Not in the way he thinks~~ If he could do something to hurt me then he would have already done it by now.

What do you mean that you've washed your hands of her? Do you mean you've given up?

Why do you think she persists, though? What could she be getting from Weasley and Longbottom that she isn't getting from the rest of the Slytherins? Ugh, it's just like when she wouldn't leave Regulus alone, even though he was a grown-up and had his own life to worry about. It's like she just wakes up on a whim one day and decides that some person is utterly snitch and nothing you can say or do will convince her otherwise.



 [alt_lucius](#) at 2010-09-18 04:24:20

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

I believe you are substantially correct regarding Carrow, son, but do not underestimate him. He may simply be putting you into a false sense of ... well, not security, precisely, but let us say, stability. He knows that I would dearly love to remove him from the school and would not like to hand me the opportunity, but he is unpredictable. Give him no excuse to exercise his jealousy.

I thought I had made myself plain? Clearly not. Perhaps I am too fond of my god-daughter to, ah, *write her off* completely, but on this issue I am quite as much at a loss as you are, son. She claims reason to believe them stalwart companions and yet freely admits that they have kept secrets from her and have used her for her status and prestige, to shield themselves from harm whilst at school. I see the transaction as wholly one-sided and disagree on the benefits she seems to perceive from continued association. Therefore I have determined that she must face the consequences of her decision to stand by them entirely without my support.

I had not known she has acquired Longbottom in her parade of misfits. The dregs of pureblood society, indeed. Disappointing. Exceedingly disappointing. And you're quite correct: No amount of reason will budge her. As I say, she is determined to learn the hard way that they are worth neither her time nor her protection. She will certainly learn that on this matter, at least, my protection toward her is withdrawn. Again, you have my full permission to remind her of that, should she at any time attempt to bring the weight of our name to bear against detractors.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-18 17:36:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Sorry I didn't answer you right away. I thought about this for a long time last night.

If reason won't budge her, what about sentiment? I think that sometimes, she feels like we're not real friends anymore, just two people who share a history in common. And you. I know I feel that way quite a lot, especially since she makes it so utterly clear that she prefers Weasley and Longbottom to everyone else. And Perks, too, but she's not really the problem.

Sometimes I want to just shut her out completely so that she knows just how isolated her choices have left her, but then, why should Weasley get to have her? Plus, with the way that she thinks, isolation will only make it clear to her that she made the right choice to begin with.

Also, I miss her sometimes.

God, why does she have to get so attached to pathetic misfits. And when anyone points out to her that they're misfits, we're just being *horrid bullies*.

This is why reason won't work. But she is sentimental, isn't she? She's a girl, after all.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-09-19 15:56:49](#)**

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Yes, it is a conundrum: Ostracising her would send her running into the arms of her followers, who should be only too happy to welcome her. On the other hand, indulging her attachments makes them seem acceptable.

I am not sure what kind of sentimental appeal might exert more pressure than that I have already applied, but if you have something in mind I do not see how it could make the situation worse.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-09-18 02:34:44](#)**

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

I think you know what I wish to say, Little Bit.

I only hope those you have given your protection know what you offer - and express the proper appreciation.

How is your year thus far otherwise?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-18 05:24:33](#)**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

I can wager a fairly good guess.

In terms of classes, Runes is absolutely brilliant, as is Defence and Care of Magical Creatures, and I've been working very hard in Potions so far, and I'm hoping all that work will pay off with stronger marks this term. I guess up until this summer I didn't quite understand how Professor Slughorn was all that in Potions -- I mean, he was just my Professor, you know? But seeing his laboratory space at the Potioneers and all, I think it'd really be worth it to talk to him more about it. After I've worked a lot harder at it this term, of course.

And I've been making a solid effort at branching out, like you said. I've even been quite civil with Patil, even though she can be *really* annoying at times. And I've been practicing my French off and on with Draco and Daphne, too, which has been nice. ~~Sometimes I wish~~


~~Draco would be a bit less~~

I do see what you mean about how we sometimes have to pay a price for the choice of friends we have. Right now, though, I still think the cost I'm paying is worth my while.

But I do listen to you, and if I ever decide that it isn't, it'll be your advice that helps me sort it out. I'm not going into this blind, you know.

While you were in school, who were your really close friends? Not just people that did things for you that you wanted, but people you genuinely liked, and who you trusted? I'm just curious, with all this talk of my friends and all, who you chose to be friends with and why.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-19 18:05:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

I admit I pay little attention to Miss Patil. Draco seems to find her reasonable company, though. What perturbs you about the girl?

Draco tells me he would spend more time with you as well, were it not for your other acquaintances. It does seem odd that you could give such preferment to relationships that are so one-sided. What benefit do you receive that you could not obtain from those who have been lifelong friends - and who do not bear such obvious handicaps to acceptability? Longbottom, for example? His grandmother may have tried to prevent her son's stains from tarring him but to little avail, as I have heard it. The whole family have been disappointing for generations; I hardly think your associate will reverse their reputations single-handed. You may rightly suspect that he has every reason to be grateful of *your* assistance, for it elevates him at any angle: Lessons, society, &c., but it only lowers you to *his* level.

As for my friends, I am surprised you should ask. Your father, of course, and Mr Baddock, whom you have met, were my roommates and closest confidantes, as you know. Cadmus Mulciber was also in our year and our dormitory and has remained a good friend. In my day it was not general practice to closely befriend students in other Houses, but we did know and get on with a handful of them. Commonality of purpose, intellect,

attitude, status, ability, politics - these are the qualities one ought to seek in friendships among equals. And in none of your associates can I identify such qualifications in excess of their demerits.

Or can they claim higher attributes than one discerns in casual observation? If so, pray enlighten me. Otherwise, you squander your charity. I do believe you must have a low opinion of your own worth if you prefer their gratitude to the reciprocal nature of a true friendship of equals.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-20 05:35:20](#)

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Draco has made it very clear that he cares about my behaviour, and how when it is poor, it reflects badly on him.

I'm not sure he cares quite so much about *me*. When I was in the Infirmary after I had the ulcer, I needed someone to visit me and read through the notes I missed and be my *friend*. And when I went through a really hard time after Regulus killed himself, I needed someone who wouldn't think it was weird that I felt badly about it, even if he did those awful things, and who would be there for me when I got really sad, and make sure I was okay. And first year, when I got in so much trouble because I was being stupid and I was so confused because of Marie, I needed someone who wouldn't wash their hands of me just because I was acting a little funny and needed to get my head back on straight again.

And Draco wasn't that person.

You've been that person, and so has Sally-Anne, and so has Ron.


I'm not asking him to be something he doesn't want to be, and I know that his best friend is Harry. But that's what I get out of the people I call my friends. I know it's a simple view, and I'll probably change what I look for as I grow up a bit. I know how important it is to have friends that I can truly call my equals. And I will try and seek out other people besides them so I won't close myself off to other opportunities that could provide me with so much more. But that's where I am right now. And the real world can get complicated. I mean, Patil and me have a lot in common sometimes, I think, but in terms of our personalities, we just rub

each other raw sometimes. And that's not something you can really control a lot -- when you just plain don't care for someone, and they just plain don't care for you, even if they do have a lot going for them.

And Longbottom? He's friends with Ron, and Sally-Anne tutors him. He hasn't done a thing wrong in over two years at school except for trip at the wrong time. I know his parents were awful, and if I'm to be associated with him through our mutual friends, I'm going to make certain he doesn't embarrass me unnecessarily, and I don't believe he would.

I wish Draco and I could be closer, like we were when we were younger. And if he ever needed my support in any way, he'd have it. It's just pretty obvious to me that the opposite isn't true.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-09-20 19:57:29](#)**
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Surely that's an injustice. Of course he cares. He simply holds you accountable for your actions, while you indicate that your other acquaintances 'accept' your bad behaviour. But I believe that what you interpret as 'caring' for you on their parts derives from not recognising proper conduct in the first place, nor how to advise you to comport yourself appropriately, which does nothing to improve your relationships with those who should be in your cohort.

It might help to recall that he has had good reasons to behave as he has done. Consider as well that he has had his own worries to be going on with, now as well as then, and may not have had as much time to spare to cater to you as you would have wished. Also, speaking as someone who once was one, boys tend not to be highly sensitive to the needs or sentiments of girls their own age. I rather think you give your Weasley too much credit in that regard. Certainly I cannot imagine he has provided much in the way of mature emotional support, let alone insight! Indulgence, perhaps, but that is not the same thing.

It does not surprise me in the least that Draco withdrew from you during the bizarre turn in your first year, nor ought you hold that against him. Regarding Regulus, he expressed his sympathies, but it is understandable that at his age, he did not


wish to dwell on the loss. And surely it was more appropriate for someone like Perks to provide you with your assignments while you were in the hospital wing than to expect Draco to take time to see to you during what turned out to be a minor issue, easily remedied. Moreover, did you ask it of him? I rather think not.

If you compare his friendship to the others', then clearly, the actions they perform to court your favour will inevitably appear more solicitous. But on the whole, it appears to me as if *you* have moved away from *Draco*, not the other way 'round.

You have observed the effect of his being embarrassed and ashamed by you. Have you taken into account *why* you have brought him that shame? Have you followed his line of reasoning or done anything to avoid repeating those actions which earned his contempt? Most importantly, have you *listened* to what he has had to say? Or do you merely ignore it, as you do my advice, in the surety that you and you alone can correctly assess the characters of those about you?

In any event, I have not the time to act as referee between you or to broker your reconciliation. If you truly are interested in maintaining your lifelong connexion, then you will afford his argument its due weight and see the situation from his perspective. Doing that, it is easy to see why he has acted toward you thus.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-18 03:50:26](#)
(no subject)

Is this what you were writing while I was getting ready to go to the Whisps'? Gloating over your duelling victory?

Well, then. Congratulations, my dear husband, for Cadmus' ill luck in hitting a wall. I'm sure it's one for the books.

And although it was their decision, congratulations to us all on the French Confederation's sensible attitude toward law enforcement. I know how hard you worked last summer to make this and other changes come about. And of *that* contribution, I am justly proud.



 **alt_lucius** at [2010-09-18 04:29:59](#)
(no subject)

I wouldn't call it gloating, no. It was quite comical.
Even Cadmus laughed, once his team fished him out
from his ducking.

[2010-09-18 09:20:00](#)

Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

Good morning!

I've got a question for you and I'm hoping you can help me out of a spot. I've found excellent activities for all of our YPL meetings this year barring the first one on October 2nd. And all the options for that date I've been able to find are very second-rate.

I have, however, heard a certain amount of interest from students in learning more from - and about - you. I understand that there may certainly be topics you'd rather not bring up with students, but would there, perhaps, be something you'd be willing to discuss? If so, I'd be most grateful.


The YPL afternoons are usually two to three hours, but if you'd be up for even an hour of that, I can come up with some other activity for the rest of the time. There's generally an especially nice tea afterwards. A combination of a lecture with an activity is ideal, but there are certainly other alternatives.

If you'd like to discuss further - or simply want to get away from the place for a bit this evening - I was planning on walking into Hogsmeade for a meal and a drink, around five o'clock this afternoon, and you'd be welcome to join me. Otherwise, I'm glad to stop by whenever is convenient.

If you're not interested, just let me know (though I'd welcome any ideas on alternatives. Sometimes a fresh eye turns up the best option!)

-S



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2010-09-18 14:48:25](#)**
(no subject)

Ah, this is unexpected indeed. I'm not really good at talking about myself; other people do enough of that for me, I think, to the point where I've become entirely unfit for the job. Is there anything specific you would want me to discuss?




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-18 14:55:32](#)
(no subject)

Honestly, anything likely to amuse the horde of students and get them thinking a little bit about the benefits of the Protectorate would fit the bill.

If you're less comfortable speaking about yourself - which I certainly understand - would you perhaps be able to offer some appropriate stories, say, about the beneficial changes in New London in the last few years, or new opportunities you've observed? We've had speakers from the Ministry and the Aurors and St. Mungo's in the past, but it might be nice to have the perspective of someone who's got a more general view of the new possibilities our Lord Protector's rule has opened up.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-18 15:10:56](#)
(no subject)

I might do better at talking about New London, since I've lived there since before it was "new." I'm not sure that the kids realise just how much we depended on the muggle industry before; a lot of wizard-made goods were so scarce that you'd have to owl all over the country to get what you needed. But if you walk through Covent Garden these days there's a multitude of stalls to choose from, all full of quality wares.

Yes, I could certainly talk about that. Why do I get the feeling that they'll be disappointed, though? I think they'd rather hear about all the theoretical vampires I've slayed.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-18 15:13:48](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure they would, but they must learn to bear up with not learning all the mysteries of the world.

Besides: after the trip with the current third years to New London this summer, I think you might get more interest than previously: I did hear a lot of questions from them about what it was like before. Since I've only ever visited occasionally, I didn't have good examples for them.

Thank you so much! Can I bring you back anything this afternoon as a thank you?




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-18 16:53:24](#)
(no subject)

When Borough Market re-opened I had a stall there of my own, for a few years. Just on weekends, but I peddled these gauntlets and wand-holsters that I made, as a hobby of sorts.

Picked up the leather-work from my grandfather, and learned how to lay in various protective and combative charms from my father and Roddy. I got quite into making them when I was playing Quidditch, you see, because there were stretches of time when there wasn't much to do, beyond flying and drinking. And then I stopped for a while, obviously... but yes, when Borough Market re-opened I thought "why not?" People seemed to like the things well enough, or they were very good at indulging me, at least.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-18 20:48:17](#)
(no subject)

Goodness! That's certainly far better than I can manage: I'm all thumbs at most things involving handcrafts of any kind. (The charms - well, I'm not as up on the protection charms as you must be, nor the combative, but I've a fair hand with a number of others, though I mostly use warming charms and various things to clean up ink spills and splotches these days.)

It seems like a stall like that would be a lovely way to chat and meet people. My mum always enjoys her market trips on the weekend for that, getting to catch up and see what's new.

2010-09-19 10:00:00

YPL plans for the upcoming year



Good morning, Hogwarts!

I'm excited to announce that we've now had confirmations for all of our plans for the YPL this year.

 [alt_sinistra](#)

Our first meeting will be on October 2nd. Professor Lestrage has graciously offered to speak on the changes in New London over the past decade and a half. We will also have a short organizational session, though please see the notes below.

We will also meet on November 13th, December 4th, January 22nd, February 12th, March 12th, and April 23rd.

I am excited to announce that Miss Patil's suggestion of putting on a play was seen quite favorably in our planning: the play performance will be on April 23rd, open to the entire school. Rehearsal for this production will begin when we all return from our winter break in January, and those interested in writing or planning roles should speak to me in the next fortnight for occasional meetings this fall.

Our February meeting will host one of the acting troupes from New London, who have agreed to come and demonstrate various charms and techniques they use in their own performances - everything from charms to create special effects to those that help with quick changes or memorising lines.

A reminder about YPL activities:

- Activities are currently open to all first, second, and third year students, and all are encouraged to attend. All costs are covered by the gracious support of our Lord Protector and the Ministry. First years will receive their YPL pin at our first meeting.


- Older students may apply to assist with planning and events: this carries a small stipend for the school year and a larger one for summer events. This year, I am seeking three or four new assistants: fifth year students are particularly encouraged to apply.

- Third year students are reminded that participation in the YPL is a privilege, and that after this year, only a limited number of spots will be available for students in your year. Places will be determined by

your behavior and interest in the YPL meetings (attendance, volunteering to assist with various tasks, etc.), by your behavior and interest in other appropriate opportunities, and by the recommendation of your teachers. As has been shown by several of our recent graduates and seventh year students, participation in the YPL carries a substantial weight in opening doors to you outside of Hogwarts.

- Any questions, please come see me: there is a schedule on my office if you'd like to sign up for a private conversation, as well as notes of my general availability for questions.



 **alt_padma** at **2010-09-19 23:54:04**
(no subject)


That's super-nift, Professor, about the play and the actors coming beforehand to talk to us about it! I hope Karoline Moon has talked to you about helping to write something. I told her she really ought to, she's ever so talented!

Do you think if we did a play about the fall of the Ministry, Professor Lestrangle might help? As a...a consultant or something? To make sure we get the history right, I mean?

It sounds like this year's going to be the best yet!

Levingworth and Desai heard a rumour, though, and I wonder if you'd tell us whether it's true? That Mrs Malfoy is helping with the YPL this year? Is that why she wrote, Miss?



 **alt_sinistra** at **2010-09-20 01:20:50**
(no subject)

I've spoken briefly with Miss Moon, but I'll post a planning meeting in a week or two for anyone who's interested. In terms of the subject matter, or any specific person's memories, I really urge you all to respect each person's choice in what they share.


While many wonderful things came from that time, it was also a time that holds upsetting memories for many adults - loved ones and friends lost, dreams and life plans changed suddenly, and much more. That means that pushing anyone to share specifics of their

experience really should not be done: that is simply politeness.

The same is true of private messaging: while we can see that comments are made, it is polite not to inquire into the subject unless the parties involved choose to share it.

I will say that I'd been made aware - through various sources prior to the conversation with Mrs Malfoy - of some plans to help support the education and understanding of all members of our community that go beyond the YPL. I don't know all the details - really, only the ones that relate to coordinating schedules and such, and would not dream of speaking out of turn. I'm sure there will be more information in due time for those involved.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-20 04:56:30](#)

(no subject)

That is good news, Patil. A play sounds like it'd be really, really fun, and a good way to get lots of people involved, too.



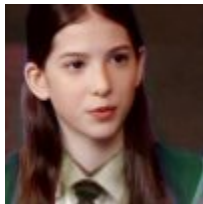
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-20 05:02:02](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I think it'd be something good for us to do.

Especially you, Neville.

No offence meant. I just think it'd be a good idea. And you wouldn't be by yourself if the rest of us help out a little too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-20 12:52:27](#)

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

I think it would be fun to be in a play.

It would be more fun without Patil, though.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-20 14:56:46](#)

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

Well, she's involved with everything. With luck, she'll overextend herself and have to cut out something or another. We can also propose something too, you know.

Like maybe setting up tutoring sessions for first-years, because you're good at it. Or helping out Professor Sinistra with other YPL things.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-20 18:50:07](#)

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

You would think sooner or later she'd run out of noses to stick in things, wouldn't you?

I've been meaning to start up tutoring sessions again, that was actually rather fun. I just need to decide which night I won't be completely overloaded with homework plus it needs to not conflict with any of either of our activities...



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-20 16:13:53](#)

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

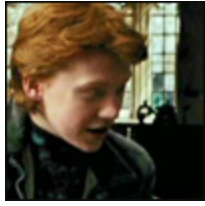
Maybe she'll slip backstage and her understudy can play her part instead.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-20 17:34:04](#)

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

Well, less-annoying twins *are* good for that sort of thing...



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-21 01:23:18](#)**

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

Oh. I hadn't even thought of that. I can't really imagine Parvati learning a bunch of lines, but you're probably right.

And she's not that much less annoying.

D'you really think we need to do this play thing?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-21 03:09:46](#)**

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

We don't *need* to, but that's the point -- it always is a good thing to take a bit of initiative, and it looks even better when you do something nice that's not required, and it'd be fun to do besides.

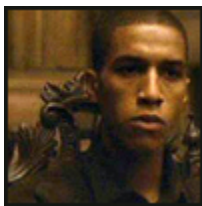


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-21 12:42:33](#)**

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

Yeah, all right. But I'm not acting. Especially if there's any love stuff in the story.

I'll talk to Professor Sinistra today: we've got her lecture before lunch. I'll tell her I'm really interested in helping. I'll get Nev to go up, too. And maybe Bundy. You know, she's turning out to be all right. She had some nift ideas about that basilisk homework.




 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-09-20 00:01:04](#)**

(no subject)


Like I said at that meeting last year when we talked about a play, it depends what sort of play's decided on, but I might be willing to help with writing or directing.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2010-09-20 01:27:01](#)**
(no subject)


Thank you, Mr Zabini. I'll add your name to the list for the planning meeting, and let you know when it's scheduled.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-20 01:51:12](#)**
(no subject)

You might consider writing the female lead with Daphne in mind, or else she'll undoubtedly be most put out.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-20 04:54:59](#)**
(no subject)

True!

She has taken classes before, though, so I'm sure she wouldn't be half bad.




 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-09-20 16:18:10](#)**
(no subject)

Of course, that's just what I mean. If it's the right sort of play, it would obviously have good parts for Daphs and people who can do justice to a well-written role.


No one wants to wind up stuck in some muddy farce.



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2010-09-20 02:57:53](#)**
(no subject)

I would love to be involved in the play. I am really good at acting and doing impersonations. Will you be inviting second years to audition?

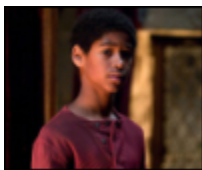



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2010-09-20 03:02:48](#)**
(no subject)

That's one of the things we'll need to discuss at the planning meeting.

For example, do we want the third years (our oldest class actively involved in the YPL program) to take the lead on creating, planning, and acting in the play? Do we want to include older students at all, or should they be our audience? (After all, many of them will be need to focus on preparing for OWLS or NEWTS by that point in the school year.)

I can see a variety of different answers, though I admit I rather like the idea of the third years each year planning it, and including students from other years who are interested in a variety of ways. Some browsing in past books in the library suggests that's not entirely uncommon in our school history, either - there are a number of older references to third or fourth year students doing something of the kind (though perhaps less elaborate than this production has the chance to be, as we have a long planning time and some additional resources.)




 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2010-09-20 03:01:37](#)**
(no subject)

Professor,

I know I don't want to act, and I don't really know much about directing. However, I would like you to know that I would like to be of use to this project, and to the YPL anyway you see fit. If there is any thing that needs to be done, count me in.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2010-09-20 03:03:42](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you so much for volunteering your time! I'm sure we'll need lots of help with all sorts of other tasks - everything from creating our stage and scenery and costumes to helping things run smoothly for the performance. Keep your eyes open for the planning meeting.

2010-09-19 20:03:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Happy birthday, Hermione.

I'm sorry I didn't get to see you all day.

There's something waiting for you, on the table in our studying place. It's another bead that I've carved that you can tie on to your bracelet. Sally-Anne cast the same *do not notice me* spells on it, and I cast a charm on it so that it will turn blue if there are other people near you. It'll turn back to white if you are all alone. Other people might be out of sight, on the other side of a door or corridor, but if they come anywhere within thirty feet of you, the bead will change colour. That way you'll know whether it's safe to take out your wand and use it, and it'll give you a warning when people are approaching so you need you hide it away.

I've put one on my bracelet, too.




 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-20 01:16:36](#)
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Hermione.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-20 16:12:23](#)
(no subject)

Sorry I missed it was your birthday.

Hope it was f you enjoyed it.

2010-09-20 19:08:00

Private message to Aurora Sinistra



 **alt_rabastan**

Madam, I am a cad.

Is that too dramatic of an opening? So it is. Only I've just now noticed that I utterly failed to note the invitation to Hogsmeade that you extended to me a few days ago. I'm not usually caught unawares, but I will admit that being around so many children has taken some getting used to. That is, in some ways I am accustomed to the company of children, it's just that they're usually closer to my own age. I do believe I owe you an apology for my oversight and wish to express that it was just that: an oversight, and not a slight.

Truthfully, I wouldn't have been able to make it that night. I was meeting with the wranglers to discuss security and the Dementors, and then I had a lesson plan to make. I was lucky I was able to bolt down a spot of roast chicken in the Great Hall between the two tasks. If you would care to meet in the village another time, however, I'd be most amenable. I admit I sometimes feel at a loss when it comes to dealing with some of the rivalries and animosity that have erupted in my classroom, especially surrounding the Boggart lessons. Perhaps I look at the past through rosy-tinted goggles, but I can't help but think things were a bit easier when I was that age. Anger was solved quickly, with a quick hex or punch in the nose, and then all was forgotten. Eh, probably it just feels that way now, looking back on it. Any road up, you seem to have a hidden touch with the kids that I could learn a thing or two from. Your advice to Miss Patil about asking after private messages, for example, that was dead impressive. I think you could teach me a thing or three about being a good professor, Professor.

Plus, I could jolly well do with a pint. Let me know if you fancy one in the near future.

-Raz



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-21 02:25:39](#)
(no subject)

Please, don't worry about it! (Though I must say, that's a rather impressive apology.) When you didn't respond on the question, I rather thought you must have something better to occupy your time, as people so often do. (And as you did! Lesson plans are important, but security and the handling of Dementors even more so.)

I would love to have your company in the village whenever is mutually convenient. Weekends do tend to be easiest for me - the weeknight observing schedule does complicate things otherwise. I often go down around four or five in the afternoon on a Saturday when there are no other plans, do a little shopping for trivial things, and then have a long lesiurely meal, and a pint or three. If it wouldn't be presumptuous, I'd be happy to stop by your rooms on my way out, if that would be easy for you.

And I'm sometimes free in the late afternoon for a few hours - so if you do get truly desperate, do feel free to trudge up the stairs and see: if I can get free, I'd be glad to keep you company. Now the YPL plans are set, my time's a little more flexible other than the ongoing piles of parchments to grade.

On our darling students - they do have their ways, don't they? I think it's also different for boys in this age than girls: I do remember my brothers being much more direct, as you describe. I think, sometimes, this journal project has evened the score a bit: the boys now seem as likely to plot and plan as the girls were in my day (and the girls seem to have gotten a little more active at times as well...)


Whatever I can share, I'm glad to - really, it's nothing much more than having done it for long enough to have seen the patterns, and to not take one of them speaking up too personally. I learned a lot by listening to more experienced teachers in my time, too.

Oh - and one question: what do you like to have people call you? I hate to presume.

At any rate, I look forward to our drink, whenever we manage to get together.

S.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2010-09-21 02:44:51](#)**
(no subject)

If my apology was impressive then I must've gone too far, yet again. Better that than not far enough.


Don't worry about being too presumptuous with me. I am notoriously difficult to offend. Call me Raz, I'm used to it. I confess "The Razzer" makes me feel somehow more bestial than human, but I can't seem to shake it and wouldn't think to try at this point. And how shall I address you, Madam?

As for plotting and planning (on the students' ends, not ours), the journals may yet contribute, but I do wonder if the emergence of the Slytherin house has something to do with it. We were of quite low standing in my day, and a friendly Slytherin was too be looked upon as a coiled snake you'd not want to trod upon. Was quite a challenge for a bloke such as myself.

I seem to be free at...rather random times. I like to be about when Harry has quidditch practise, and late at night, too, of course. But even our Lord knows that I can't be at attention at all hours of the day, and so I have a deal with Mr Dawlish to stand in for me when I am absent. I know that sister Bella thinks him useless, but he does have the necessary training, and he's really quite eager to prove himself. But considering all other possible obligations, a Saturday might be best. Sounds like it's best for you, too.

Would this Saturday do?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2010-09-21 03:00:39](#)**
(no subject)

Raz it is, then. As for me - most people call me Sinistra, even Pomona and Poppy, who I've been closest to here the last few years. My parents and siblings call me Auri. I've never much cared for Aurora, and it's a hard name to shorten other ways.

In terms of apologies, you must remember, I don't get the widest range to compare them to. Comes of being largely wedded to one's work with teenagers who have rudimentary manners and who apologise for rather silly things. "I'm sorry for not doing my work." "My classmate's pet ate my homework." "I tried to do my


homework, but the squid soaked my parchment." and so on.

On the journals and the houses - I think you have something there. That's one excellent change, I suppose: I really do think that while the houses have much to offer, they were never meant to be quite as adversarial as they have sometimes become. Nor quite such a straight-jacket. I do think the YPL might eventually help with that, by encouraging more cross-house interactions in a variety of ways, but there are times I rather despair of it working out that well.

As to a drink: Saturday would be lovely, and I will look forward to it. Shall we meet in the front hall, or somewhere else?

-S.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-09-21 03:07:03](#)
(no subject)

Seeing as I'm neither your parent or sibling, I'll call you Sinistra, then.

Rory would be a good diminutive of Aurora.
Though, ah, my family is partial to the Rs.


You'll have to tell me more about your work with the YPL. And also what I ought to prepare for come October. Bloody Erebus, that's coming up soon, isn't it?

(I've been trying to supplant "bloody hell" with "bloody erebus" and "bloody tartarus," for the sake of the young ones, you know)

Brill, I've got Saturday in my books, then. And the front hall should do just fine. See you!

-Raz



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-09-21 14:12:49](#)
(no subject)

Sinistra's fine. I seem to remember someone tried Rory during my school days, and it faded out fast, but if you'd like to give it another try, I'm game.

And yes, your chat is coming up - though really, an hour or so of talking will do nicely. I'm sure they'll ask questions, so the real trick is keeping them on the subject you want to talk about, not the ones *they* want you to talk about, and you've already got experience in that. (And I'll help, of course.)

The YPL - well, I've got some stories that should amuse you from the camping trips, at least. The rest of it often alternates between a certain amount of chaos, and moments of "What on earth did I get myself into?", even with the best of planning.

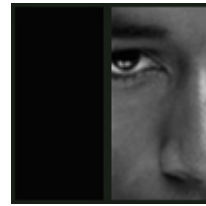
I'll look forward to Saturday. At the moment, trying to drag my brain out of sleep for today's classes.

S.

[2010-09-20 20:55:00](#)

CoMC

Marvolo! Where have you and Malfoy gone off to? Have you finished the homework for Creatures? I've got all the basic stuff written out about basilisks and that business he called the literature review, but I thought maybe you'd let me throw in a quote or two about what you saw. Draco--you, too--you were down there with it. It'd be brilliant to finish out the parchment with something eye-witnesses have said about them. And who better than you?



 **[alt_blaise](#)**



 **[alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-21 03:49:23](#)**

(no subject)

I can't be your eye-witness, mate. I didn't see anything because we I was stuck behind a load of rubble, thanks to our brilliantly deluded former Professor Lockhart. I saw the basalisk's skin, which was enormous, but I didn't see the creature itself. Which is good as I'd probably be dead if I had.




 **[alt_blaise](#) at [2010-09-21 12:19:52](#)**

(no subject)

See, that's eye-witness in my book. Would you say, for instance, based on the shed skin, that its individual scales were as large as your hand? As large as Weasley's head (and twice as clever)? Was it freshly shed, do you think? (When you found it.) When we saw it in lessons, it had got so dry and fragile, but if it was fresh when you first saw it, you should have been able to tell more about the beast that shed it. That's the angle I'm wanting.

I'll see you at breakfast and bother you until you say something I can use. Are you down there already? I don't know how you move so quickly in the mornings. Save some jam for me--and not just that transfigured prune slop. And don't run off until I get a crack at you for this quote.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-21 13:24:12](#)**
(no subject)

It was fresh enough to fool us into thinking it was the real creature at first, all uncoiled along the rocks there.

And yes, I'm down at breakfast. If you want the real jam you had better hurry, as Vince has his eyes (and fingers) on it today.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-09-21 15:25:22](#)**
(no subject)

Sorry I didn't see you at breakfast.

I don't really like to talk about that stuff, you know.

2010-09-20 21:46:00

Private Message to Mrs Brown

Thank you kindly for the gift subscriptions to *Purest Sparkle* and *Half-Blood Homemaking*. My roommates are very interested in them, and in fact Celia assures me that the fashion pages of *Purest Sparkle* are considered very authoritative and fashion forward. Very authoritative of *what* she didn't quite explain, but I suppose she knows what she is talking about, as she is always adamant about what's the best thing to wear.



 [alt_luna](#)

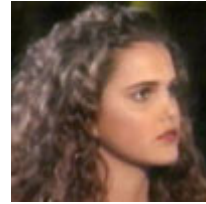
I am afraid that according to the pages of *Purest Sparkle* I am not doing a very good job of presenting the Best Appearance for a Modern Young Witch Today. I suppose that is why you gave me the subscription in the hopes that I could improve.

I like how you are such an optimistic person.

2010-09-20 23:04:00

(no subject)

Davies, if you must have meetings with your Quidditch team in the Common Room, I'd appreciate it if you lot could at least clean your kit first! There's mud all over the best chairs now.



 **alt_penelope**

And Preece, I've told you before that you'll have to keep your toad under control. It's found its way into the 1st-year girls' dormitories again. Ross and Desai are such screamers they woke half the second-years as well. To say nothing of the fact that it completely disrupted my train of thought in my Runes essay. Don't you have a proper terrarium? If not, please see Professor Brutka tomorrow and I'm sure he can get you something suitable.

(Weasley, I have that Runes text you lent me. Give it back at the Prefects' meeting, if that's all right?)



 **alt_percy at 2010-09-21 19:36:55**

(no subject)

The Prefects' meeting would certainly be fine for handing off the book, if I don't meet up with you sooner.

I think Longbottom might have an extra terrarium if Professor Brutka doesn't have a spare. Let me know.

2010-09-21 10:10:00

Private Message to Lucius

I'm sorry that I made you angry the other day, Lucius. You asked me what I got out of my friendship with Sally-Anne and Ron that Draco wasn't providing, and I thought I was just explaining that to you as best as I could. I can see how it might have come off wrong, though.




 [alt_pansy](#)

I did tell you that I knew that I wasn't his top priority. I understand that he is best friends with Harry and not me. I also understand that he has several good reasons for not doing the things that I listed, and I don't blame him for it. And he very well might care for me a good deal. I just haven't seen it lately, is all.

I also wanted to ask about my improper conduct and bad behaviour that you mentioned. I've been working very hard since my first year to be on good behaviour, and other than the time where I hexed Patil last term, which I believe I have worked through and grown from, and the time where I went with Harry, Draco, and Ron into the forest ~~which was hardly due to my choice in friends at all~~, I thought I was being fairly successful at conducting myself in an appropriate way that would make you happy. I've worked at my studies. I've participated actively in History club and YPL, and plan to do more. I've been respectful to my professors, and I've tried very hard to be respectful to you and Aunt Narcissa, and to my mother and Prospero. I worked myself into knots about it last term, and when I wrote you after I got my ulcer, I talked about how one of the reasons I got it was because I was so worried about pleasing you and trying to doing what you wanted. It's not something I take lightly at all, and I very much want you to know that.

I know that it can be frustrating to you that I don't immediately act on your advice about my friends, but I do listen. And I do take it into account when I think about my future. But other than not having friends you approve of, what have I done that is inappropriate or bad? I mean to say that I've been trying very hard, and it isn't working, I'd like to know how I can get better.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-21 20:27:57](#)
(no subject)

I suppose I too may have seemed more short with you than I intended. We have not the advantage of face-to-face communication with its nuance or benefit of expression which may bring with it better understanding.

I do not mean to indicate that you have engaged in anything like the egregious mistakes of your first year. And it is true that you may perceive your associates provide you with a form of support you feel is lacking elsewhere. However, that does not change the fact that your reputation continues to suffer the longer you make yourself their champion. Sometimes I do believe that tying yourself to a Gryffindor so conspicuously has caused a bad influence; you are becoming more stubborn and strong-headed rather than learning better discretion and interpersonal political acumen. My point was that Draco withdrew his support so that you would feel the lack of it, of course. And from his perspective, it was a reasonable tactic, though perhaps he did not anticipate your resourcefulness - or your mulishness - in prioritising your new acquaintances over your oldest ones.

You ask what you have done wrong other than form undesirable attachments. Well, the harsh reality is that those ... friendships ... have tinged your interactions with others and particularly the public face you have presented, such as condemning those who pulled a bit of a prank against Weasley, but failing to condemn him just as publicly when your Weasley mocked Mr Marvolo's reaction to the Dementors. Given what you've told me of your own response to the Azkaban guards, I wonder that you could consider his actions at all defensible. You have obviously discovered that you can use your relative status to give weight to your statements, but consider what statements you choose to make and the messages you send when you choose *not* to speak as well as when you decide to say anything at all. This is one example, in recent enough memory that it comes to mind immediately.

Clearly I cannot comb through your past entries to discover more such instances but if you wish to heal the rift that has grown between you and Draco, then you must accept that it is not all one-sided.

In no way do I wish to cause you more distress, certainly not to bring

about a relapse or exacerbation of your illness. I suppose the only advice I can offer in terms of your condition is that if you have 'worked yourself into knots' with worry over your actions, then it must be the case that you are pondering enterprises which you fear I might not approve. Yes? In which case the answer is comparatively simple, is it not? You have only to take the course that would meet with my favour. It is also worth remembering that such decisions, if taken, would undoubtedly restore Draco's faith in you as well.



 **alt_pansy** at [2010-09-21 21:06:04](#)

(no subject)

Thank you, Lucius.

And I will be careful about what I say and what I don't. I know you couldn't see it, but I did take Ron aside and tell him plainly that his behaviour was inappropriate, and why, and he knew I wasn't happy about it at all. And when someone hexed him for it later, I didn't protest, because it was something he clearly deserved and was fitting for what he pulled.

I just thought it the best way to show him he made a mistake and stop him from doing such things in the future, because he can get defensive and not listen when people call him out on something where everybody can read. But the fact I didn't let other people know that it wasn't on and I wasn't happy about it might make it seem like I was okay with it, so that's something I'll have to think on if it comes up again.

2010-09-21 11:14:00

Birthday greetings

I Solemnly Swear that I am Up to No Good



Well this was not the best birthday I have ever had.

 [alt_hermione](#)

Terry, thank you for the bead and everyone, thank you for the wishes.

I didn't have my journal because Harry took it.

Really, it's because he has to start punishing me for things. And I forgot and I said something to him that was impertinent in front of some older Slytherins. He had warned me that he might take away my journal and I said that was fine. I mean, he asked me if I would rather he do something else. He doesn't think it's fair to punish me for things like talking back when he lets me talk back all the time. It's just I'm not to do it in front of other people. But I didn't think that he was going to take away my journal on my birthday.

And then somehow his Father heard that I had been impertinent and he got a letter and he had to not let me do anything at all, and not talk to anybody, because I was supposed to be in disgrace, and we don't know who told, it must have been one of the Slytherins, I mean they're nasty enough to do that.

But he did sneak me a few biscuits after supper and he wrote me a card saying I was the best Mudblood ever. Which I think was sweet, but I am still angry, mostly with myself, because I couldn't even keep my mouth shut for *two days* so that I could have a real birthday, which is so typical of me I suppose, I know I talk too much, and it's not *nearly* so bad as it could have been, I mean he didn't have to hex me or anything.

But that was why I didn't write.

I hope he never does that again. I told him I'd rather he slapped me instead.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-21 18:07:46](#)
(no subject)

How wretched that someone said something to the Lord Protector.

But odd, too, really. I mean, who writes owls to the Lord Protector? Other than Hydra (and I doubt she's the one who said something) and maybe Professor Lestrangle since part of his job is to be Harry's bodyguard.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-21 18:51:04](#)
(no subject)

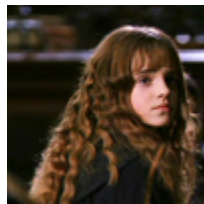
I think it must have been a private message. I mean I think people send him messages a lot more, lately, than they ever sent owls.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-21 19:01:34](#)
(no subject)

Well which Slytherins have sent private messages to the LP in the last week?

It would be useful to know who's a tale-bearer.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-21 19:08:37](#)
(no subject)

I hadn't even thought of that!

There are two of them. Aelis Fletcher and Charles Warrington. I bet it's Warrington though; he's so snide about being a Prefect, and he was there, which I don't think Fletcher was, at least I didn't see her if she was.

What do we know about Warrington? I've never talked to him at all, he doesn't have any reason to be cross with me or with Harry that I know of!!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-21 19:16:18](#)
(no subject)

I think he's a nephew of the Warrington who runs Purity Control. Which oversees muggleborn labour, I think, so that could be why Charles Warrington decided it was his business whether you were being properly meek.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-21 19:20:19](#)
(no subject)

That would explain it.

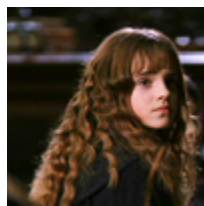
Another person to avoid. I should tell Harry. He'll never work it out on his own, he's even less of a Slytherin than I am.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-21 19:22:27](#)
(no subject)

What do you think he'd be like if he'd stayed in Gryffindor?

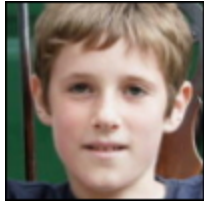
Finnigan would be beside himself with excitement, having the LP's son in the next bed. Harry would probably have had to hex him to stop him being a complete toady.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-21 19:39:55](#)
(no subject)

I have no idea. I bet I wouldn't be able to stand him. Also, I would probably be dead by now.

Finnigan? Just imagine Thomas. I mean I hate speaking ill of him, because he WAS like me for so long and all, but honestly.




 **alt_terry** at [2010-09-21 19:42:32](#)
(no subject)

I agree, it sounds more like the type of thing Warrington would do.

He gives me the creeps. I don't like being anywhere near

him.



 **alt_terry** at [2010-09-21 19:41:12](#)
(no subject)

Well, I certainly wouldn't rather that he slapped you! Once a person starts going down that road it can be difficult to stop.


Anyway, I'm glad you got at least some biscuits on your birthday.



 **alt_hermione** at [2010-09-21 20:05:54](#)
(no subject)

I suppose, only I think I'd rather have that than not being able to speak with anyone or write to anyone. I'd go insane if it were just me and Harry all the time. Even just seeing that other people are out there helps. But if I didn't have a journal, I wouldn't be able to remember that there are other things in the world.



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-21 20:55:23](#)
(no subject)

You shouldn't tell him to smack you, Hermione. That's not

it's not right

and if you tell him it's what you want, he'll think it's all right to hit you.

Look. I mean, I fight with the twins sometimes. Y'know, usually with magic, but my dad would go spare if I ever hit a girl, even someone like Bulstrode who could probably pound me silly. But it's really, definitely, totally not right to hit someone who can't fight back like you can't because if you did, they'd probably kill you.

Um

I mean, my dad always says that hitting isn't right not just because it hurts the other person, but because hitting other people changes you. Once time he even said it's like learning to cast Crucio the way it makes you start to think it's good to treat people awful. And I'd never really thought about it much--hitting, I mean--until now, but I've been thinking all day about what you're saying here. And I think Dad is right: it would be really bad to tell Marvolo to start hitting you. Even just for pretend. Because he might get used to it, and when he does, he'll say, 'Well, she agrees that it's the best sort of punishment to use.' And that's not right.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-09-21 21:00:52](#)
(no subject)

I suppose.

Only I don't know what else he can do. I mean, I don't know if there's any way he can do what they want. He can confine me to my cupboard or he can take away my journal, or perhaps he can make me wear a sign that says I'm a terrible Mudblood (only I don't think he'd want that, for his own reasons really). I suppose he could say he was putting me on restricted meals or something and then sneak me food. But none of that is enough.


Honestly Ron, it's like they're Dementors. Only instead of sucking all the happiness out they want to suck all the goodness out of him. All the decent bits.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-21 22:00:55](#)
(no subject)

Seems like it's working, too.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-21 22:02:19](#)**
(no subject)

But, still.

Don't tell him it's all right with you if he hits you.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2010-09-22 02:29:44](#)**
(no subject)

Dad has a point, we think, judging from the stories we've overheard him telling Mum about the sort of things that goes on in the camps where he works.

2010-09-21 11:37:00

(no subject)



 [alt_narcissa](#)

I hope no-one is feeling any ill after-effects from the party last night. Congratulations again, dear sister, on twenty years of marriage! And Rodolphus, I still say I cannot think of anyone else equal to the challenge. My sister is many things but easy to love is not one of them! Nevertheless, we all persevere, and thank you in particular for taking your post on the front lines.

It was certainly a festive time. I'm going back over this afternoon to help Mother and Pascoal put things back to rights after that incident near the reflecting pool. (Janus and Cornelius, you are both old enough to know better.) And I've a few other topics to cover with her.

Oh, before I forget, Revati: Yes, I can come on the 7th for the shoot, but the photographs must be at *Witch Weekly* by the 20th if they're to be included in the December issue. I think you ought to plan to come in to the offices the whole next week so we can supervise the layout. And verify that the girls will all be available for the runway show in early December, will you?

I'm glad to see that one effect of last year's quarantine has benefitted the Protectorate: I am receiving a higher than usual number of baby shower invitations over the next two months. And two birth announcements this week! Congratulations to the new parents, of course. And I'm sure the whole nation thanks you for your duty to the Protectorate, may it increase and prosper.

Daisy, are we on for lunch on Thursday? Mariposa says she'd not heard from you to confirm. Let me know where to meet if you still want to get together.

And Draco, dear, I'm sending you a parcel. Just a little something to say Mother is thinking of you.




 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2010-09-21 18:06:53](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Narcissa. May the next twenty be as challenging as the first, eh?

Oh, and I recall you asking me about that Sharrow Bay restaurant last night before the reflecting pool incident interrupted us. To answer now, belatedly, it was indeed a fine meal, largely owing to the spectacular view of Ullswater, mind, but the food was quite good, too. Not, perhaps, quite up to par with the best of New London, but they kept the whiskey flowing.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-09-21 21:14:54](#)**
(no subject)

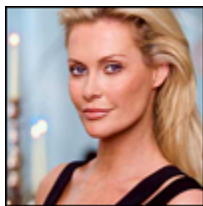
Well, I understand that liberal amounts of whiskey can make any meal much more enjoyable - and improve the taste of the food into the bargain. But I am glad you convinced her to slip away for a day or two, at least. She works far too hard, I think, when there are more than enough others who can be trusted to do the job properly.




 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2010-09-22 01:47:13](#)**
(no subject)

And if you can imagine it, I even enjoyed the break from "the job," as you call it. Though I am paying the price for my time off now. So it goes.

Rodolphus' assessment of the Sharrow Bay is fair enough, though to my mind fruit and veg ought to have been fresher, for that price. The view truly was incomparable, however.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-09-22 01:51:04](#)**
(no subject)

You are allowed to enjoy your husband's company now and then, Bella dear. I know, no-one else has quite your standards, save perhaps Barty or Claudius, but surely a few days off cannot exact so


high a cost?



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-22 01:57:51](#)
(no subject)

If you think my job is easy then you are welcome to try it sometime, Cissy, and see how you fare.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-22 02:17:09](#)
(no subject)

That is not at all what I meant and you know it. Invaluable as you are to the MLE you are not the only competent Auror. And everyone knows you would have dropped everything had there been

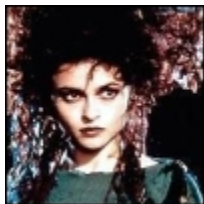
the need.




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2010-09-22 02:00:05](#)
(no subject)

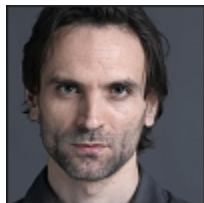
Incomparable when she was able to spare a glance away from her book, she means!

Though it is true that one never knows when an urgent message might be dropped upon our good Aurors. I'm only glad that certain fugitives had the good sense to stay hidden this weekend.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-09-22 02:08:28](#)
(no subject)

At least you admit that it's necessary for me to always be at the ready, even if it does mean taking my eyes off the delectable view now and again.



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2010-09-22 02:10:45](#)
(no subject)


After twenty years I know that "at the ready" is the only way you know how to be, darling Missus. It was a lovely time we had; I'm only sorry that it's already over.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-22 03:19:23](#)
(no subject)


I'm sure Bella would rather have caught the fugitives, regardless of the timing - but I agree with you. They'll show themselves sooner or later. It's only a matter of time.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-22 01:43:58](#)
(no subject)

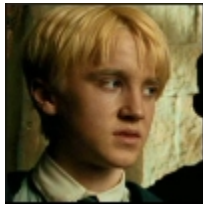
Thank you, Mother. I appreciate your thinking of me when I know that you are busy.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-22 01:52:51](#)
Private Message to Draco Malfoy

It's nothing at all, dear, just something you might like to share round. (I've included a few of your uncle's favourites, as well; it would be polite to save them for him, if you can keep yourself and Hydra from falling on them.)

Your father tells me you've been having a time of it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-22 02:05:34](#)
Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

He likes liquorice wands. I'll pass, thanks.

It's not as bad as he probably made it sound. Only Harry's really busy and I'm trying to help out, as well as keep him in reasonably good spirits so he doesn't have another...episode.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-22 02:24:33](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Of course, we're all quite concerned that Harry suffers no further difficulties, but it wasn't his spirits your father mentioned. It was Professor Carrow. And there was something about mediating between you and Miss Parkinson, though on that score, it sounds as if she has been as foolish as ever.

Are you sure everything is all right?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-22 02:35:22](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

I didn't want to worry you about the business with Carrow. He hasn't done much beyond toying with me, but I'm in his sights and I don't like it. Father has advised me as best he can, though, and I'm not sure that anything else can be done for now.

Pansy is..foolish, yes. I just don't know what to make of it, anymore. And she hasn't done anything terrible, mind - not like she did in first year. But she's definitely not turning out the way most of the other Slytherins are, despite being so close with Father.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-22 02:50:20](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

How gallant of you, son! But of course I'm going to worry about you; I'm your mother. Are you sure there's nothing I can do to help? Perhaps if I sent something to Professor Carrow, it might sweeten his attitude toward you?

Between you and me, Pansy has always been a touch odd. I can forgive much because I know she lost her father so early. It's bound to colour her perceptions. But her mother clearly paid little to no attention to her proper upbringing. What she did in first year was ... not entirely her fault, of course. But she is just the type of inquisitive, attention-starved creature who would fall prey to the kind of trouble she found.

On the other hand, I know she cared for your cousin Regulus, quite a lot, and I expect she still misses him a great deal. ~~As do I~~ So she cannot be beyond hope. Clearly, it's her association with Gryffindors - and subpar ones at that - that has tainted her.

I would have thought your influence could steady her. At least, I hoped so when you two were able to spend time together this summer. I know it does vex your father when she grows headstrong.

She is very close friends with Miss Sally-Anne Perks, isn't she? What do you make of Miss Perks, son?



 [alt_draco](#) at 2010-09-22 03:05:37

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Don't send anything to him, Mother. I don't want him to turn his attentions to you. And I'm not being gallant, either - but if he started...saying things about you in front of me, it might not go so well.

You say she's inquisitive, is that what it's all about? She's too curious. She wants to know everything about everyone, especially if they're ~~a misfi~~ unusual in some way. And I'm not unusual at all.

So if I were try to make her see that she belongs with all of us, in Slytherin, what would I have to do? Bossing her around doesn't work. Maybe I need to give her more attention?

Sally is...she doesn't do anything bad, and she's clever and works hard. She's almost too good at saying the right thing, but at least she's saying the right thing. Too bad she's not saying it to Pansy.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at 2010-09-22 03:16:19

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

All right. I suppose you feel far too grown up to let Mother try to solve your problems for you. Fight your own duels, then - but not literally, in Professor Carrow's case!

I hadn't thought of Pansy in quite that way before, not in so many words. But you may have the right of it.

Perhaps you do need to give her attention, to reassure her that your disapproval was not total. She told your father that these other 'friends' have supplanted affection she feels lacking from you - not that you did anything wrong, I'm sure. If Miss Perks is so scrupulous, however, then I would suggest a two-pronged attack. Restore your affection to Pansy and she may come back, but convince Miss Perks that she could also benefit from your acquaintance and you win her ally to your cause, *n'est-ce pas*? Then she will also counsel her to sensibility.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-22 03:27:29](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Two-pronged? *C'est bon.*

Alright, affection it is, then.

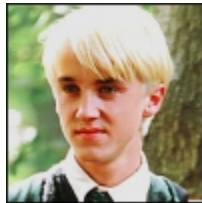
I.. Do I have to kiss her, or something?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-22 03:31:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Of course not, *mon cher!* Merely show her that you care about her, not just her actions.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-22 03:33:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

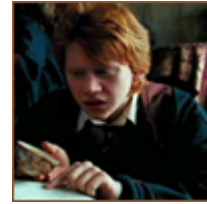
Oh, that's all? That's easy. Thanks, Mother, this helps a lot.

2010-09-22 09:10:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hey, Pansy, Sally Anne.

What are you doing after Potions today? Or, y'know, before Astronomy tonight? Besides eating supper.



 [alt_ron](#)


That switching spell we did today in Transfiguration? It was kind of a mess over at my table. I mean, I got it. Mostly. But I couldn't explain it to Bundy, and she was just a menace. I got spiked twice, and she just missed her own face with one of them. None of them went where they were supposed to go, and the best of it was that most of them didn't shift at all.

We've got double Transfig again tomorrow morning, so it would be really, really nift if she'd got it before then because we won't have Goyle spraying them all over the room to keep Carrow from noticing us. I think it's something she's doing wrong with her wand, but maybe it's how she's setting up the hedgehog by the gourd. Or maybe it was just that the people behind us were making nasty remarks all the time and making her nervous.

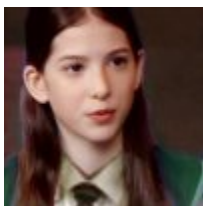
Anywiz, you made it work, right? D'you think you could show Bundy how it's done? If I can get her to meet somewhere this afternoon?

Nev, what about you? I didn't see how you were getting on. I was too busy trying to keep Bundy from putting an eye out--mine.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-22 15:19:35](#)
(no subject)


Yeah, I can meet before Astronomy. I got it mostly right, and Sally-Anne got it better than me even, and practice never hurt. (Well, it might in this case, but we'll be careful.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-22 18:07:26](#)
(no subject)

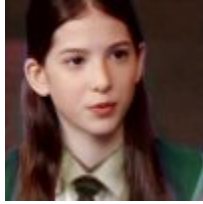
I think I can show it to her. She can't possibly be worse at Transfiguration than Neville. And between dinner and Astronomy should work for me.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-22 19:41:36](#)
(no subject)

Excellent.


Should we open it up to other people that want to practice too? Or just keep it to a few?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-22 23:56:31](#)
(no subject)

Bundy's awfully shy. I kind of think we should keep it small this time, unless there's someone specific you want to include?

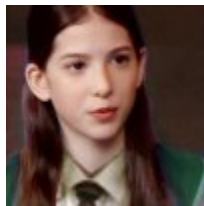


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 00:01:16](#)
(no subject)

Good point.

I was thinking Bones, maybe, and we could see if Morag would be up for something now that I've patched things up with Patil a bit.


But we can keep it just Ron and Bundy and Neville if that's what you think'd be best.



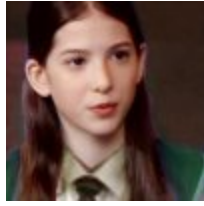
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-23 00:04:34](#)
(no subject)

I think Bones would be fine. I don't trust Maybe we can invite Morag next week.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 00:08:49](#)
(no subject)

Okay, yeah, maybe next week. And she might not want to anyways.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-23 00:09:13](#)

Private message to Pansy

Here's the thing, is Ron coming? Because if not then I don't think it would do any harm to invite Morag. But if he's coming I think it would be asking for trouble right now. And if the point is to teach Bundy to do the switching spell properly...



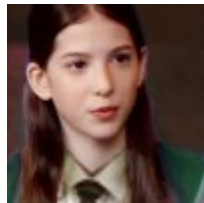
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 00:14:36](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Point.

I do think that she'd behave herself if she were outnumbered, but you're right in that it might be a bit... weird. Which could get in the way.

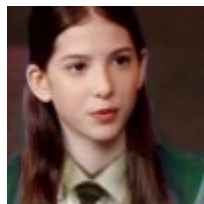
I just think it'd be better to open it up to other houses, you know? And at least we *know* Morag, and when she's not trying to copy Padma, she can be nice enough. Not that I'd trust her with any sensitive information, mind. But it's a start.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-23 00:20:33](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Oh, I agree. Maybe we could start doing a regular tutoring and revision session for whoever wants to come? Like we did last year. Either Wednesday nights or Thursday nights would work alright for that for me, do they look alright to you? Monday nights I'm too worn out. I suppose Tuesdays wouldn't be completely impossible but they wouldn't be my first choice.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-23 00:31:29](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Wait, History Club is Wednesdays. Obviously. Though we could meet after, just like we're doing tonight.

Or we could meet on Thursday, if you think that would make Wednesdays too busy for you.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 00:33:27](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Hah, right! I wouldn't have remembered we had it tonight but then I heard Patil talking about it at dinner. It's always so hard to organise schedules at the start of term.

So yeah, Thursdays'd be better. It didn't take long tonight, but it might if someone else does presentations or something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-23 00:35:50](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Well, so, we could start it up tomorrow night if you want to be sure we're seen being helpful to everyone and not just Gryffindors. Do you want to post the invitation this time?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 00:38:34](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Well, and after Bundy's had a chance to practice just us, she might feel better about doing it in a larger group, too.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 00:39:00](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

I'll post it, yeah.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-23 00:42:28](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Very true. Maybe we could even have her demonstrate. Assuming she gets it this evening!



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-09-23 00:30:18](#)**
(no subject)

I forgot about History club. But we're almost done. I can meet up after.

2010-09-22 10:16:00

Order Only: New London

Well, I'm spending a few days with Moony and - and Dora.



 [alt_sirius](#)

Spent most of yesterday as Padfoot, as you can imagine, mainly watching customers come and go. Dora's got quite a way behind the counter, I must say. Though I think it's wiser for her to pull items from the shelves by means of a summoning charm than going to get them.

She's got an interesting idea, too, about the building across the back courtyard. We talked quite a long time about it last night. I think it has a great deal of potential.

Part of it is very simple. She's been thinking about the half-bloods in her old neighbourhood, and wanting to help them out a bit. So she was thinking, open up the courtyard as a sort of cafe for them. Some of her old biddies can bake little cakes and such, give them a little extra income.

And then I thought of something else.

I noticed that there's a growing number of Muggleborn doing the shopping for their - employers. Remus says lots of the shops round here either refuse to allow them to shop (which is idiotic, for a number of reasons) or they're right shirty with them. As you can imagine, our Mr Ponds and his Laszlo's of London are decent. Well, seems like the word is out. There have been more Muggleborn in recently - or so Dora says.

So here's our idea: We open up a very quiet little operation out the back, where Muggleborn can get themselves a cuppa and a bun or something, and have a sit while they're running their errands. But in the evenings, after the shop's closed, it's a little beer garden or some such for the half-bloods. The evening operation provides a smokescreen for the daytime one, right? And if anyone comes round who oughtn't, everyone can scramble into the abandoned building. It's boarded up on the street side, so there's no access except through the courtyard.


Because I've been thinking, off and on, about that poor girl Hermione told us about, over the summer. The one trying to escape? If

Muggleborn come to associate Laszlo with a safe place to come, well. We might. I dunno. We might be able to help them make their way to Davidson or Turner or out into the country, or even down to the borders so they can slip through the wards. (By the way, has anyone heard from Turner? Did they get anyone out at the equinox yesterday?)

Well, Dora and I think it's a brilliant step. Moony's a bit - well, I can't blame him being cautious, but honestly it's not as if we're going to get through this without taking on some risks.

What do you lot think?




 **alt_frank** at **2010-09-22 15:43:18**
(no subject)

interesting. I think that while it is a bit on the risky side, there's a decent chance it'd be seen as Lazlo's attempt to make an extra dollar rather than being seditious, and that officials might not see much harm and would look the other way if they knew of it -- as long as you kept the numbers low so that anyone that ended up paying closer attention wouldn't suspect muggleborn of getting together for the sake of organising, but just getting an occasional load off and a cuppa.

they know that a little behind the scenes action is sometimes necessary to keep things ticking, and they've tolerated the black market and other more casual bartering arrangements pretty well, so if they see it as just that and nothing more, we'd be told to cut it out if we were caught outright, but like I said, there's a fair chance they'd let us be.




 **alt_sirius** at **2010-09-22 16:14:06**
(no subject)

Well, I get the sense that if they discovered we'd actually been treating the muggleborns like people, they'd be a sight more than annoyed, but the intention is to keep that part of it very quiet. If anyone suspect came in, the door would not be open, so to speak. But as to the half-blood space, that's easy to explain.

More to the point would be whether their 'masters' realise that


they've come home with fewer Sickles in their pockets, having bought tea and cake for themselves - and of course, they'd have to be sensible about how much time they spend taking their ease. But that's up to their common sense, and not really in our control. Though I suppose the staff could drop a warning or two, casually.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2010-09-22 17:38:52](#)**
(no subject)

well, course it would be kept on the quiet side. I'm just trying to think of what the likely response would be if it got out at all, and I really don't think it'd be all that bad.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-23 18:02:16](#)**
(no subject)

Well. I think it sounds marvellous in theory, and if even part of it comes to pass as you envision it would be worthwhile. If only as a way for Dora to keep in contact with the neighbours she's left behind. It's surely true that halfbloods must help one another in this world where no one else can be counted on to treat them fairly. If we can do a bit of good in this regard, it would be wonderful. And as for catering to muggleborns and providing them a place and pretext to gather... obviously, I expect Mr Pond and his assistant will be very careful to prevent anyone's taking a notion that they have either a business plan or a political agenda in that regard.

As ever, my motto is 'Think And Take Care'.

2010-09-22 20:09:00

Private message to Susan Bones


Hey, Bones.

We're getting together after dinner (before Astronomy) to practice Transfiguration a little. And since you came to a few of our study group things last term, I was wondering if you'd be interested in coming along. In the usual room.



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-23 00:40:32**

(no subject)

Okay, we've decided to do a practice session tonight, but we're starting a regular thing on Thursdays. If you're interested.



 [alt_susan](#) at **2010-09-29 01:38:56**

(no subject)

I'm sorry, Parkinson, I really meant to come to the last one but I had to do a Potions detention.

I'll definitely come this week though--assuming I don't get told off for anything else in the next couple of days!

Thanks for inviting me!

2010-09-23 11:59:00

Study group Thursdays

Hello.

I just wanted to let everyone know that me and Sally-Anne are putting together a revising group and tutoring session on Thursday nights starting tonight at seven.




 [alternity](#)
 [alt_pansy](#)

For the first hour, we'll be offering tutoring help to first- and second-years, especially in Potions and Transfiguration. If any other third-years (or older) want to show up and help tutor, we'd appreciate it! Especially if you're good at Charms. We'll be meeting in that classroom that's right before the staircase leading up to the Astronomy tower.

For the second hour, we're going to be revising third-year material. If you're a third-year and you want to just come to revise, you can show up at eight. If you want to help out tutoring, you can come at seven.


It's an open session, so anyone can come that wants.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-09-23 21:15:01**
(no subject)

That sounds good, Parkinson. I think it's about time we start thinking about the years below ours as well as practising for our own exams.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-09-23 21:39:24**
(no subject)

Well, now that we're in third year, it feels like we'd actually be helpful, but we aren't so much older that we've forgotten what it's like to just be starting off with things. So I think it'd work out well for them.

And we'd get to review some, too, which never hurts.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-24 04:29:58](#)
(no subject)

Well, I thought that went rather well.

We'll do it again next week, shall we? Same time and in the same place. Pansy and I will be there, though I can't speak for the other third years who came.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-24 04:33:53](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Merlin's arse, does Patil have NOTHING BETTER TO DO than to stick her nose in absolutely everything?

I suppose she's good at Charms but STILL. Having to be polite to Patil all evening was not on my List of Things I Hoped to Accomplish Today!

She has Interrogators on Monday, I'd suggest we move the study group but I'm absolutely wiped on Monday nights.

Was she at least any good at explaining things? I was busy with the firsties, one of them STUCK herself with the half-transfigured matchstick and I had to sort that out.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-24 12:00:05](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

She was probably showing up to be seen. We'll see, but I'll bet she doesn't make it next week. Or the week after. At least she let us lead the session and didn't try and take it over or anything.

And she wasn't terrible -- there were some first-year Ravenclaws that showed up, so I think she was mostly helping them out, and they looked to be doing fine.

But double ugh. I agree.

[2010-09-23 14:09:00](#)

Hey, Hogwarts!

Is anyone else missing Duelling Club?

I was hoping maybe if a mob of us asked for it, Professor Lestrage would let us do it again.



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 19:26:17](#)

(no subject)

Even though I'm not the best at it, it was loads of fun.

I'd bet Professor Lestrage would be tonnes better at it than Professor Lockhart, for sure. That's a wiz idea,

Ron.

Long as it isn't on Wednesdays or Thursdays!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-23 20:09:04](#)

(no subject)

Oh.

Well, it was just alternate weeks last year. Maybe it could be 1st and 3rd Thursdays and tutoring could be 2nd and 4th. I mean, Duelling's kind of like extra Charms work and all, just, well, a bit more exciting.

But, yeah. I'll come help you out with tutoring. Now I've got a wand that works, y'know, Charms is, well, it's one of those things I just sort of get. I'm pretty good at it. Don't know if I'll be much good explaining techniques or whatever to other people, but I can show how you do stuff.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 21:26:28](#)

(no subject)

Well, we can see when Professor Lestrage would be free to see if we need to rearrange things. I'm pretty sure duelling club would be more exciting than revision any day!

And helping out in Charms would be brill.

It is nice now that we don't have to worry about your wand exploding or something. I bet your professors are a lot more relieved too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-23 21:33:42](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yeah, well, Professor Acton still calls on me loads and then looks disappointed when I can do it just fine. Carrow, too, but it's not so funny when it's him.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 21:50:57](#)

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

You just keep showing her up, then.

Him, well, it wouldn't be a bad idea to mess up a little every now and then, just not on the exams.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-23 22:00:58](#)

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

It is dead funny sometimes!

I guess that might be smart with Carrow. But maybe after we're done shifting hedgehog spines, messing that up can be a right pain.



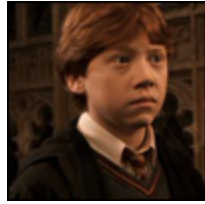
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-23 22:08:19](#)

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

Sally-Anne does that.

Messes up on purpose. Just for Carrow, because he gets mad if she does well.

But yeah, it wouldn't be fun to pick quills out of your hand or something.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-23 23:21:10](#)

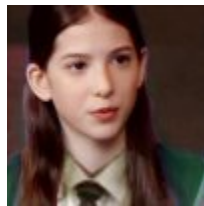
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

That's so completely wrong. I can't even

Gah!

But I guess it works; he doesn't loom over her quite as much as he does Neville or Thomas or Bundy. Mind you, the fact that she's always got Crabbe and Goyle and Bulstrode creating mayhem has got to help, too. I know that's the high point of the lessons we've got with you Slytherins.

(It certainly isn't Zabini and Nott and Malfoy and Marvolo taking the piss about everything Neville does wrong or me.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-24 04:27:36](#)

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

Well the important thing is just that I not get it right immediately. Even if I've read ahead and practiced and know I can do it, I pretend at first that I can't because it makes Carrow so cross.

I also don't usually raise my hand in class anymore, he doesn't like it when I know the answers.

But then I get everything right on the tests and since that's where most of our marks come from...




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-24 12:01:27](#)

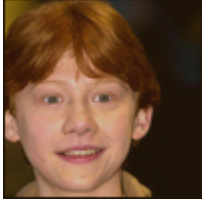
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Exactly. And you'll ace your OWLS, because he doesn't lead those exams at all. And that's what *really* matters.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:31:29](#)**
(no subject)

I'll speak with my classes and see if there's enough interest to justify it. If it's going to include older and younger students as well, I'll probably have to seek out a second staff member to assist.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:41:00](#)**
(no subject)

That would be so wizard, sir.

Thanks!

2010-09-23 18:06:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

Thank you for your message, Ned. I do understand, of course.



And, of course, opera isn't everyone's cup of tea. But in any case, I entirely agree that you mustn't break your date with Sarah. I assure you, you'll be utterly bowled over by her work. When her show opens, her name will be on everyone's tongue: I truly believe she is producing the definitive work on the subject, and I don't say that only as her friend. Her vision is utterly uncompromising. You'll see.

 [alt_lana](#)

Lana

[2010-09-24 09:19:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan and Draco Malfoy



 **[alt_padma](#)**

Well, I went to that revising session last night. It was mostly firsties and a few second-years who either desperately needed help or simply didn't know Perks or Parkinson very well.


But it wasn't too bad. D'you think they realise that only one of them can be made prefect?

But that's why I'm writing to you two. It is the sort of thing that could get taken into consideration next year when they look for people to make prefect. I mean, not that I think you'll have any trouble, Malfoy, if you wanted to be made one. But if these revision groups become popular then it might look odd if you're not part of them. And Finnigan, I think it'd be good if you came. I mean, right now it's probably between you and Thomas, I mean if they had to decide today, and unfortunately Thomas mostly gets slightly better marks. And I certainly don't want the two of them to think they'll have a load of younger students who worship them because they're so kind as to help them out!

It's like with Ravenclaw Corner, right? We should make it a privilege to spend time with older students. So, I was thinking, maybe we go to their sessions for a while and figure out who the best ones are, and then in a few weeks we tell those students that we're interested in keeping them on but in a different, more exclusive, group. Then we still get credit for helping the younger students, they're super-grateful because they got singled out, and if Parkinson and Perks want to keep on with the others, well, maybe we keep going but mainly to figure out which ones to pull away?

What do you think?



 **[alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-24 14:20:40](#)**
(no subject)

So it wasn't all for girls, then? When Pansy wrote to Bones I figured it was some female mission.

Your plan to skim off the cream is good, but you've got

to make sure that it doesn't look too suspect. But if Finnigan and I come, more boys will show up, and it can be a matter of things getting too big and disorderly. Separate groups will just become necessary.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:23:28](#)**
(no subject)

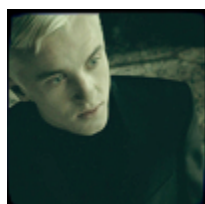
That's a good point about separate groups. They might not even care if we take all the clever ones. Perks tutors Longbottom, I think she likes dunces because they make her feel extra clever.




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:26:04](#)**
(no subject)

By the way, I don't want to speak to Weasley (even in the journals) but I DO like the idea of starting up Duelling Club again. Do you suppose Professor Lestrangle would be willing to run it? Maybe you could ask him.

I mean, if for no other reason than it's a a free chance to hex Weasley and no one can even take points for it.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:36:15](#)**
(no subject)

He told Weasley he was going to talk to his other classes about it and see if there was enough interest. Of course there will be, though.

You already got away with hexing Weasley and not losing points, but I know what you mean--sometimes it's nice to be able to get the credit for something like that.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:51:19](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, we got away with it but credit for it would be even better!

Besides if I hex him at duelling club then everyone

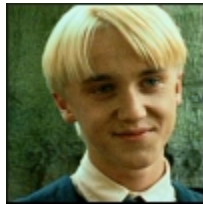
will know it was me and I still can't get in trouble with it (well I suppose I would get in trouble if I cast any seriously dark spells, something that would really hurt him).




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-24 14:55:27](#)
(no subject)

He acted like that hex last week really hurt him, but it can't have done. It wasn't even as 'dangerous' as the one we someone cast that made him write to everyone in the journals. All he had to do was say that one phrase.


It was what he deserved, anyway. Actually, the funniest bit was when his brothers made it worse.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-24 14:56:31](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that's rather what I was getting at. You can't do anything dark, no, but I'm sure you'll do one better than one of those awful Weasley-type hexes, which always seem to involve boogies and spots and other things a three-year-old would find hilarious.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-24 14:45:19](#)
(no subject)

No, it wasn't all girls. Well, Weasley and Longbottom maybe really are girls. But no, there were some boys, too.


I overheard Bundy saying it was because she's pants and Weasley got partnered with her. So it was self-defence he wanted Perks to teach Bundy, and then Parkinson decided to invite other people, and *then* she made that announcement in everyone's journals to call attention to herself.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:54:01](#)**
(no subject)

So wait a tick, were Weasley and Longbottom there to GET tutored or BE tutors? Either way I can see your point about needing separate groups.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:57:33](#)**
(no subject)

To GET tutored, of course! And because Weasel can't even get his own partner to do the spells right.

(Though with that new wand he's admittedly much better at Charms. Nuisance. How d'you suppose his parents managed to get it for him, anyway? Must have starved themselves for a month. Mind you, his mum could do with a little starving, if it'd help her reduce a bit.)




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-09-24 15:03:11](#)**
(no subject)

Well good, because if they were actually trying to tutor people I should think a school-wide warning ought to be issued.

The wand might have been some kind of re-population perk, since they haven't moved to a new house in all this time. Too bad, though, that broken wand was one of the best things about last year. Remember when he leaked slugs? Hah!




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-24 14:22:17](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know if my marks are good enough that anyone would want my help. Except in History and no one cares what mark they get from Binns.

Were you helping people revise in Charms? Maybe next week I could help you demonstrate things? I could be the one that shows them what not to do.




 **alt_padma** at [2010-09-24 14:51:58](#)
(no subject)

I was doing Charms and Perks was doing Transfiguration. Not that I'm not good at Transfigurations, but I'm better at Charms.

I thought your marks were improving? But then Thomas gets tutoring over the summers, too, so you've got to get ahead of him.

Maybe it'll help you anyway if you come and get extra practice. Besides they do take other things into account for prefects - like the YPL and all. But marks are important. And everyone knows you've been running History Club with me since the beginning, so that's in your favour. And you're not in trouble all the time like Weasel or Longbum.



 **alt_seamus** at [2010-09-24 15:07:11](#)
(no subject)

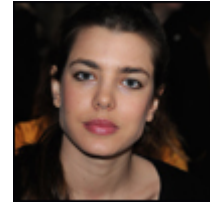
They're IMPROVING but I'm not exactly at the top of our class!

I hadn't even really thought about who they were going to pick as Prefect but it's certainly not going to be Weasley or Longbottom, Longbottom isn't really in trouble that much but most of the first years are already better in Transfiguration than he is.

[2010-09-24 10:17:00](#)

XXXVIII.

Well. That's really satisfying--to be done with the first praxis unit of the programme. I topped the written exam. By quite a lot, actually, which is a nice reassurance that I've not been overconfident about my own abilities. The physical test this morning was a closer call; I've been neck and neck with Evan for weeks, and we've had Singh and Catchlove just behind us, so a lot of the outcome today was down to how we each responded on the unfamiliar course. And, I suppose, whether anyone cracked under the pressure of its being the exam, though honestly, if any of us were that limp under pressure, we'd no business trying to become Aurors, had we?



 **[alt_lana](#)**

I think I'd still have come out on top even if Evan hadn't taken an unfortunate hit to his knee just as he rounded that sudden hook in the course. Pity about that low ricochet, but if he'd had his wits properly about him, he could have leapt over it. Obviously, he didn't.

At any rate, Forney's just posted the standings.

And, Singh. It looks as though I've an extra ticket for tonight if you'd like to come along. We'll be in my parent's box, which gives quite a nice view of the stage. Let me know. I plan to be here taking care of paperwork until four or so. I expect you plan to stop back in to have a look at the standings, right?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-24 20:48:08](#)**


(no subject)

Congratulations!!

I knew you'd come out first, I just knew it!

Where are you going tonight?




 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-24 23:36:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, I don't like to gloat, and I did work very hard to be certain I'd be top of the standings, but if I'm really honest, I knew I'd manage it. It's just a matter of doing every last bit of what's needed to eke out the best you're capable of. And, of course, it's important to not let yourself get enmeshed in petty interpersonal things that take time and attention away from what's crucial.

We're off to the opera tonight, actually. Athena Belby's singing Isolde, and I can't wait. I think her voice is truly one of the most inspiring I've ever heard. Of course, I can't sing a note myself, and I can't claim to have very refined sensibilities about music, but I do enjoy the opera.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-25 00:32:42](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I don't like to gloat, I merely like to brag where everyone in the entire PROTECTORATE can admire my insufferable brilliance!

Ass.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-25 00:54:21](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hahaha!

Language, Perks.

She really is something, though, huh? And Percy being all matey down there.

Ugh.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-25 00:56:40](#)

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

And don't you suppose she threw that low hex that took out the other bloke? And now she acts like it's such a shame he couldn't compete.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-09-24 20:51:44](#)

(no subject)

Well done, Sandoval.

Is auror training very different from what you expected? What has been the biggest surprise so far?



 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-24 23:39:24](#)

(no subject)

Ta, Weasley.

The training has been very intense. Consuming, really. And I expected that, but somehow knowing it will be true and actually experiencing it were miles apart.

It's the most incredible thing I've ever done, and I feel very, very privileged to have been selected for this honour.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-25 13:57:14](#)

(no subject)

Congratulations, Sandoval.

Don't make the mistake of resting on your laurels.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-09-25 15:39:14](#)

(no subject)

Oh!

No. No, I won't.


Thank you, sir.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2010-09-25 20:19:28](#)**
(no subject)

Congratulations indeed, Miss Sandoval.



 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2010-09-25 23:29:09](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, thank you!

2010-09-24 12:19:00

Private Message to Susan Bones and Megan Jones




 **alt_hannah**

Good news! Eloise got her owl inviting her to join the Sisters in Witchcraft, too, at breakfast this morning! I guess that her guardian was just a little late about letting her know about it. That means that all four of us got in. I'm so happy, because it would have been SO awkward if it had just been three of us.

Have any of you heard who else got in? I think Katrina Bundy is another one. I'm so curious about the sorts of things we'll do at the meetings, although Su Li thinks maybe they'll teach us about some of the more advanced household charms, which would certainly be useful.

Mrs Malfoy is supposed to be involved with organising everything. I've been curious to see her, since she's in the papers so much. She's ever so elegant! I wonder if she'll ever come to any of the meetings.



 **alt_susan** at **2010-09-28 02:54:42**
(no subject)

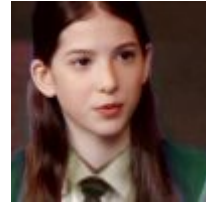
I just don't know, Han. I mean, I'm glad I'll be in with you and Eloise and all, but doesn't it make you, well, a bit nervous?

People *noticing* us like that I mean.

That's why I haven't really said anything much about it, because I know I'm supposed to be excited, and I kind of am, but...I don't really know what to say.

2010-09-24 20:41:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [**alt_sally_anne**](#)


So. I heard from the Strettons today. Through a private message in the journals, I suppose with me gone they had to get used to reading their own journals to see orders and so on.

Apparently they got an owl from Mrs Malfoy inviting me to take part in some special program for half-blood girls. It sounds like they're going to teach us household spells? With maybe some fashion tips? I don't know exactly.

It's going to take up a bunch of my Saturdays. At least the household spells will come in useful if the Strettons make me do all the cooking again.

I asked Bundy and she got invited too. I don't know who else did.




 [**alt_ron**](#) at [**2010-09-25 02:08:38**](#)
(no subject)

Household spells and fashion tips?

How boring is that?




 [**alt_pansy**](#) at [**2010-09-25 02:13:17**](#)
(no subject)

If by *boring* you mean *useful*.


You are such a boy.



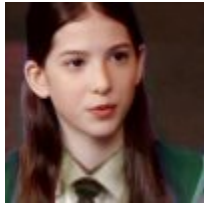
 [**alt_ron**](#) at [**2010-09-25 02:15:18**](#)
(no subject)

What're they going to tell you? How to chop turnips and what colour looks best with your apron?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-25 02:20:45](#)
(no subject)


I don't think Aunt Narcissa has chopped a turnip in her life, and she wouldn't be caught *dead* in an apron.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-25 02:26:23](#)
(no subject)

Well, I don't think she's actually going to be running the meetings. There's some woman named Miss Catchlove who's coming later in the year.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-25 02:33:59](#)
(no subject)

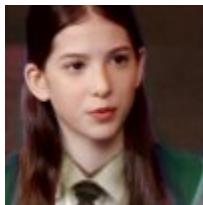
Oh. Well, maybe she'll be doing other things with you from time to time. She is terribly busy.

But it's still pretty funny to think of Aunt Narcissa giving advice on how to clean things.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-25 02:43:41](#)
(no subject)

'You tell the elf it needs to be cleaned! And then you have it punish itself for letting it get dirty enough that you noticed!'




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-25 02:23:49](#)
(no subject)

I bet we use that spellbook for brides your mum sent me last winter when the Strettons had me doing all the cooking.

Or the posh version of it, anyway.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-25 02:09:08](#)**
(no subject)


I mean to say, it sounds like stuff my mum would like.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-25 02:26:56](#)**
(no subject)

Too bad they won't have your mum teaching it. That would be fun. And she could look in on you. Make sure you were behaving yourself!

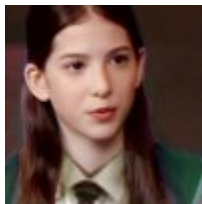


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-25 02:40:55](#)**
(no subject)

I mean, really, I could teach you most of the house spells Mum uses. I mean, who do you think gets to chop the turnips? Or dust? I know three spells to do that. Cleaning sinks? I'm your source.

And I think you should wear blue. Definitely. Or green, since it's your House colour. Whatever.


You don't need to learn stuff in bride books, right? I mean, Saturdays are days for having fun.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-09-25 02:42:34](#)**
(no subject)


Well the point isn't REALLY to learn house spells. It's to be mentored by people who can help me find a job after I take my NEWTs, you know?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-25 04:34:25](#)**
(no subject)

Isn't that what YPL's about?



 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-25 02:09:24](#)
(no subject)

So.

You're doing it, I guess. When's it start?




 **alt_sally_anne** at [2010-09-25 02:30:13](#)
(no subject)

Of course I'm doing it. If someone went to all the trouble of arranging for Mrs Malfoy to create an organisation to help 'worthy' half-blood girls, I'd be a fool to say no.

Anyway, the Strettons already accepted for me.

The first meeting's in October. Wait, I guess October starts next week; it's not that soon. Mid-October.




 **alt_pansy** at [2010-09-25 02:12:08](#)
(no subject)

That's brilliant!


I think that could be a really great thing for you. I mean, I know you're worried and all about what it'll be like after you leave school, and even if you just learn household spells, it'll be with Aunt Narcissa, and that's an excellent connection to make. And you can bet that she didn't ask just everyone, either.



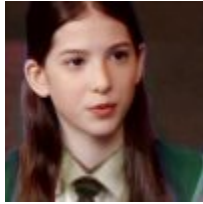
 **alt_ron** at [2010-09-25 02:17:18](#)
(no subject)

I wonder who didn't get asked.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-25 02:21:41](#)
(no subject)

Oooh. I suppose we'll find out after the first meeting.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-25 02:41:12](#)
(no subject)


Well.

I would for sure expect that Su Li will be in, because she tries hard to be friends with all the right people. And that Sarah Fawcett would not, because of how upset she got over her mum.

I was trying to think whether anyone might have been asked, but refuse. I'm sure anyone in fostering who gets asked would say yes, but if someone's a halfblood and it's not common knowledge, like Susan Bones before Megan blabbed to Patil, they might say no.


Or Milli. She got one of the letters, last winter when all the halfbloods were put under quarantine. Only I don't think the teachers knew because they didn't make her sit away from the rest and I don't think anyone noticed but me that she got the letter. Anyway, I doubt she was asked but if she WAS I expect her parents said no.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-25 02:19:11](#)
(no subject)

Oh, hey. One good thing: Patil won't be in it!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-25 02:21:17](#)
(no subject)

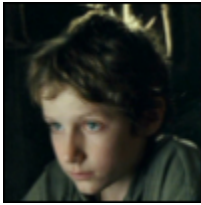
Point!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-25 02:30:41](#)
(no subject)

HA.


That's one good thing, anyway.



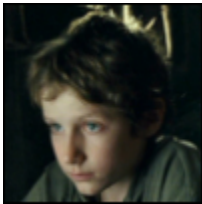
 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-25 04:14:33](#)
(no subject)


Definitely a benefit.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-25 04:13:36](#)
(no subject)

Huh. You know, it might be sort of revealing, in a way. If you think about it. Maybe it's all about the sort of stuff that a pureblood like Mrs Malfoy thinks half-blood girls ought to know. What's important. At least, that's sort of the idea I got from hearing Katrina Bundy talking about it.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-25 04:15:14](#)
(no subject)

Huh. I wonder if there'll be something for half-blood boys?

[2010-09-24 22:38:00](#)

Athena.

You were magnificent tonight. I confess, I've always thought *Tristan* over-rated, but now I realise it's that I've never seen or heard Isolde brought to life.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)**

I apologise for slipping away from the after party, but I'll come round sharp on the dot of noon tomorrow. I haven't forgotten the errand you wanted to run on the way: there should be plenty of time, but if you care to leave earlier, just pop into the fire and let me know.

I had a look at that article you clipped on the artist, and you're right, I did think the business about his feeling the aura of a block of stone or a vat of molten metal stretched credibility, but I appreciated the training regimen he puts himself through in order to have full command of his own magical resources. It makes good sense that he can bend the materials to his will with most ease and accuracy and creative force when he's fully centred in himself.

I'll wager you 1000 to 1 he tells us how his training 'suffuses' his work with 'bodily and extra-bodily form,' or, at the very least, that he'll tell us how it inspires his 'kinetic imagination.' When he finds a phrase, he does beat it bruise-coloured, doesn't he?

I'm pleased you're able to come for the opening, you know. It would surely have been easier for you to gather yourself for it on Monday or Tuesday evening, but I think tomorrow's programme will be worth the effort. And, of course, it was kind of Narcissa and Lucius to include us in their number.

Rest well.




 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-09-25 04:40:31](#)**
(no subject)

She was a marvel, wasn't she? We've only just got home ourselves; I fear we might all need a dose of Hopgood's In-Vigour or VitaMite tomorrow to get through the afternoon - but you'll be happy to know that Athena herself was mindful of the time and promised to shoo everyone away in 10-15 minutes or so. I'm so glad you and she are

coming along. You mustn't be cross, however, should she find it too much for her after all.

I see your young charges have completed their first round of trials. What pray tell are they onto come Monday? Or do you dread the thought of fresh mayhem in the hallowed Aurors' training grounds?




 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2010-09-25 13:41:54](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

The neophytes have all survived physical training and their first practical defence unit. Some of them just by the tips of their wands, mind you; others much more robustly.


We've given them until Tuesday to rest, and my role in their next session is only to see that they adopt a reasonable and regular fitness routine: they'll be joining me in the dungeons at six every morning. I won't see them again for anything academic until their session on arcane magic comes up. March, I think, or April. By then, I anticipate the cohort will have got rather smaller.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-09-25 13:45:43](#)**
(no subject)

I thought the second act a bit sluggish but the third act made up for it in sheer might. Athena is young for Isolde - perhaps that is why hers was so much more passionate than many an inferior performance.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2010-09-25 13:55:41](#)**
(no subject)

It wise of you to seek fortification during the second if you found it lagging. I thought its tone a quiet coiling in anticipation of the storms to come, but I admit that may have had everything to do with personal bias. I could listen to Athena sing a Potions manual.

By the way, the new Ouroboros course was a boon for our examination yesterday. The neophytes had all come to rely on

anticipating the path and patterns of a familiar course, so Ouroboros forced them to wake up and wand it.

And those who are alert to such things had the opportunity to see how high a standard of preparedness is kept by many of Our Lord's most favoured subjects.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-25 14:23:51](#)

(no subject)

Turning you into a music lover, is she? Careful, Barty, you'll take up dance next.

But yes, the new course is rather more challenging. At least until we all grow used to it again. I should think their performance also affected by the length. I have not run the Ministry course in some time but Claudius tells me Ouroboros' new configuration is two hundred yards longer than the Ministry's, owing to the number of switchbacks. (He also mentioned the lack of funding to change the course more often than once a year or so.)



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-25 15:26:51](#)

(no subject)

Athena would scoff, I'm sure, at any suggestion that I have any real capacity for appreciating music's finer points.

The fact that there are other courses in town to which many have at least occasional access has, perhaps, coloured our discussions of whether budgetary galleons are not most effectively channeled into ops and investigation. I suppose it's been felt that in the end what matters most on the training floor is the level of one's opposites in an exercise, the physical elements of the course or equipment being secondary or tertiary in importance. That said, I appreciate a challenging course. Rather more than I do music, truth told.

2010-09-24 23:09:00

Private message to Padma


I got an owl from Mr Rosier today, and he said I've been invited to participate in a new program for loyal wizards in fostering. It's going to be run by Mr Gibbon -- Mr Rosier knows him but I don't think I've met him.



 [alt_seamus](#)

I don't know what we're going to be doing. Mr Rosier said it was a selective program that should be a good opportunity for me to make contacts in the future. At least I know for certain Weasley won't be there, which is something.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-09-25 04:17:49**
(no subject)


Really? Weird.

Su Li got invited to something similar. But Mrs Malfoy is leading her programme.

Only her letter mentions a Miss Catchlove teaching some lessons on household spells and that.


I wonder what your group will be doing.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2010-09-25 14:33:33**
(no subject)

It had better not be household spells! That'd be dire beyond belief!



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-09-25 14:44:59**
(no subject)

DID YOU SEE?

Professor Sinistra and Professor Lestrangle were walking down toward Hogsmeade together!!!


Parvati says they fancy each other!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-25 17:26:33](#)
(no subject)

I didn't see but I heard Parvati telling Lav. Do you REALLY think they fancy each other? Aren't they, you know, kind of old to be going on like that?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-25 17:35:55](#)
(no subject)


Well, she's never married, has she? And Professor Lestrangle is famous for not being married. I mean, he's always near the top of the eligible bachelor lists, isn't he? And he's a war hero. She'd be daft not to fancy him. And they exchanged a load of private messages from the time he arrived.

And he's speaking at the YPL next week. I mean, I suppose they'll be talking about that, won't they, but she asked him to come and speak.

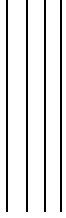
I mean, it's hard to tell, isn't it, because he rather smiles at everyone like that. But he's well handsome.

Suppose Professor Acton's followed them into the village? We could watch her at supper to see. If she's seething, then I'd say yes, Professor Lestrangle and Professor Sinistra really do fancy each other.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-25 17:41:59](#)
(no subject)

Good thought about looking to see what Acton does. What'll it mean if she's not there at all, though? That she was so upset she stayed in her rooms and had the elves bring her dinner or that she's just catching up on marking?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-25 17:50:12](#)**
(no subject)

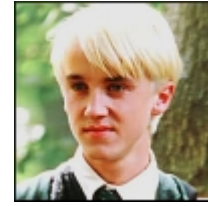
I suppose it depends on whether they're back for supper or not.

[2010-09-25 09:32:00](#)

Private message to Pansy Parkinson

Pansy-

I've tried a few times to start this now but as there's really no subtle way to do so, I'm just going to come out with it. I don't know why you're so chummy with Weasley and Longbottom and I don't really care. There are a million reasons why you shouldn't be friends with them but I'm sure you've heard them all from my Father, so I'll spare you the lecture. Mostly, I just want you to know that you do have friends in Slytherin House. And more than just Perks, at that.



 [alt_draco](#)


The only people I remember knowing from a very, very young age are Harry, and you. Hydra came later, of course, but still that's just a total of three people. No matter how many friendships and acquaintances I forge while at Hogwarts, none of them will know me the way that you lot do. You know that I hate fish because of what happened when I was learning to fly, with the pond and the sticklebacks. You know about the time I accidentally killed one of the peacock chicks at our Manor because you helped me bury it in the garden. (I really did think that it's neck was the handle, and that you were just supposed to carry it that way.) And because you know me, you know I have to put Harry first. It's always been that way and it probably won't ever change. But that doesn't mean I've forgotten you.

Remember when I said that I think you would make a good songwriter? I meant it, too, because you're good with words, and you have a keen eye and ear for things that most people would overlook. What I'm saying is that I've come to realise that you're curious about the world, about things and people that are outside the realm of usual experience. I don't think that I share that particular trait, but I do understand it. Or, okay, I'm trying to, at least.

Trying is a start, isn't it?

-Draco



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-26 00:54:39](#)
(no subject)

Draco --

I've read this over and over again today, which is why it's taken me ages to write back. It really does mean a lot to hear that you still think of me as a friend, because I miss you too. Lots. I know, I know, girly sentiment, blah blah blah. But I'm a girl, so I'm allowed.

And I really do mean it.


Trying is a great start. And I'll try to understand where you're coming from better too. Because friendship, real friendship, it takes work, and I'll be the first to admit that I haven't been making enough of an effort with you either. And you're *so* right. We've known each other since we were babies, and even though we've had our share of disagreements and haven't been as close as we used to be, I've always thought of you as my very first friend, and I haven't stopped caring about you. I know Harry comes first, and I'm okay with that. But if what you're saying is that you're willing to make a bit more of an effort, well, so am I. Because I think it's worth it.

Do you know how utterly nift it was to go out in the Forbidden Forest and fight those spiders? Honestly, I mean, I know we were in danger of getting eaten, but it was still brilliant. And it was mostly brilliant because I got to go through it with *you*. And it reminded me of when we would pretend to fight the topiaries in your gardens, only it was *real*, and it was almost like it used to be for a little. And I'd like that again, only this time, without the giant spiders. If you could manage that.

I've still got some revising to do tonight, but would you be up for something tomorrow? I haven't heard you play your guitar yet, and I'd love to.

--Pansy.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-27 02:18:31](#)
(no subject)

-Pansy

I'm glad I found you today so we could talk more in person, even if it was mostly about music.

I'm not sure Mother likes my playing guitar, I think she's worried I'll stop drawing and painting, and it's always been her that I've sent most of my drawings to, so you see how that goes. But the difference is that I like drawing and painting in a serious way, really studying it and trying out different techniques, and with guitar it's mostly for fun. For now, anyway.

I really do want to see your song, though. Maybe we could come up with some music to go with it, chords and things. Oh, and if you ever want to try out my guitar yourself you can, of course. It really belongs to Father but I know he won't mind if you borrow it.


I remember the topiaries, the topiaries were brilliant. The Forbidden Forest, not so much. Maybe it was different for me, though. The whole time I was thinking about something bad happening to Harry, as usual, but there was you to worry about, too. It was sort of exciting to think about the experience after the fact, but in that particular moment I was too busy being weighted down with dread.

That's what I meant when I said that I'm not curious about things outside the realm of usual experience. Or I'd much rather just imagine about those things than actually experience them. Which is why we have art and music and such in the first place, really.

I'm pretty sure the Razzers is going to get duelling club going again. I overheard Professor Acton at supper, volunteering to help him out. Too bad, I bet he was really hoping that Professor Sinistra would volunteer instead!

-Draco



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-09-27 03:37:34](#)
(no subject)

Haha, I'd bet! I think they're sweet on one another, at least a little, Professors Lestrangle and Sinistra, I mean. and I think it's awfully romantic.

The duelling club will be ace. I'm pants at it, but it's still fun to try, and cheer on other people.

It's funny, isn't it, how we could experience the same thing so differently? I remember I kept feeling like I wanted to laugh the whole time, and there you were, worried about the rest of us. And what's more, when we were all out there together, I felt like it was the first time in a long time that I *didn't* feel weighted down with dread. Maybe because I knew you were there to keep me safe. Or because I didn't have to dwell on all the things I was worried about, and could focus on *doing* something instead.

And maybe your mum isn't terribly keen because she didn't study it herself? Or she doesn't see it as having the same sort of merit as a more classic instrument? But if you keep it as something for fun and don't make noises about becoming the next Rhys Morgan, I'll bet she'll be fine. And it would be brilliant to work out the song together. I've been stuck on the chorus for ages, and I don't want to show it to you just yet until I've had a chance to work on it some more first, but if I keep getting stuck, I might need help getting unstuck, so there's that.

And it was fun to try out the chords. It made my fingers hurt, though, and just after trying a few! You must have to build up calluses or something with practice. Either that, or I'm quite a baby when it comes to manual labour.

[2010-09-25 14:22:00](#)

Barty, Athena



We're packing in for a little while; I do still want to find the two installations in Osterley Park, but Ursula's feeling a little off-colour so we're going back to the table for a spot of lunch before continuing.

 [alt_narcissa](#)

Don't rush back if you're enjoying yourselves, certainly, but if you're wondering where we've gone, you'll find us back on the Common.

Charles and Ygraine said they want to go look at the stone birds again, the ones over at the bend of the river, should you wish to join back up with them instead.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **[2010-09-25 19:01:07](#)**
(no subject)

Narcissa.

We're headed your way, but by way of the lake-shore. Our favourite so far is the water feature with the tall reeds. I'm more taken with the swaying forms, but Athena says they have perfect harmonics.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **[2010-09-25 19:30:45](#)**
(no subject)

I admit I'm taken with several different items.

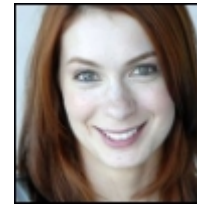
The linden leaves are quite soothing but way his birds in flight achieve the illusion is simply extraordinary. And I'm quite amused by the owls as well. I can certainly see why Ganymede was so keen to help him attract an audience.

There's no rush to rejoin us, dear. Gaude's taken Ursula to the nearest Floo point, poor thing.

2010-09-25 22:04:00

ORDER ONLY

I'm just about to drop into bed after a long, busy day, but it's been absolutely ages since I've written a thing in this, so I thought I'd give everybody a brief update as to the goings-on at Moddey Dhoo.



 [alt_alice](#)


We've been bringing in quite the bountiful harvest the last few weeks, and it's still going quite strong. Our apples are coming in beautifully, as are the onions, courgettes, and pumpkins, and we've gone berrying to catch the last of the season. It's been warmer than usual lately, so we're still up to our ears in tomatoes, although thanks to all the help we got from Molly, the bulk of them have been canned away for winter. I can't tell you how much I appreciated your stay, Molly, love. It really was such a boon to have your help, and Ian and Katherine were so pleased that you approved of their efforts at bee-keeping, Colin was practically glowing with all the wonderful things you told him about your thoughts on the Memorial Garden, and Felicia Saint has already finished knitting her first pair of socks, and is starting in on her second with enthusiasm. The children always enjoy your visits so much, as do I!

I especially appreciated our talks about Neville and Evelyn. I'm so relieved that nothing out of sorts has happened to either of them these past two weeks, barring Neville's trip to the Infirmary, that is, but you really did help me feel much better about their start of term. I couldn't be happier that Neville has your Ron there with him through this difficult time, and that Evelyn is in Gryffindor with both of them.

On that note, we're also very much looking forward to Bill's visit to Moddey Dhoo tomorrow. It's been a while, or at least it feels as though it does, and it will be so good to see him again!


Poppy, just so you are aware, Frank's knee is doing ever so much better thanks to you. Here's hoping it stays that way for a while. Not tromping around the countryside for days on end should help, though. And I would also like to know if Neville misses any more of his Defence classes due to illness. I'd like him to not make a habit of it.



 **alt_alice** at [2010-09-26 06:37:31](#)
(no subject)

And Sirius, Remus, and Tonks, I know I'm a little late to add in my two sickles, but I do think the cafe idea is a good one. As long as it's carefully done, that is. Frank and I talked about it last night, and thought it had some real potential for establishing connections in London, which would really help matters. And, as you've said, it might prevent cases like that poor girl this summer.



 **alt_sirius** at [2010-09-26 16:32:13](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Allie.

We've had a reasonably good visit too. And I think we've brought him round to the idea. It's not that it's without risk - just that the amount of risk is likely worth the payment if it works as Dora and I think it will.

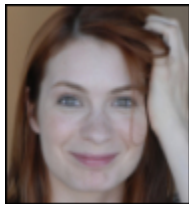
Moony says Stephen's version of the potion works, though not as well as the original concentrate. I hadn't realised quite the difference, but then I never saw the full effect of the potion since he'd run through it before my first full moon with him. He says it makes a staggering improvement. I know Stephen wants to keep perfecting it - and good job if he could, too, as we might be able to get some in to the enclaves or at least to Mrs Granger. Meanwhile, I suppose I'll be planning my life round the moon again.


Anyway. I've stayed over a few days more to help keep Remus on-board Dora setting up her expansion, but I'm keeping an ear open for news about Snape.

We heard an amusing rumour, by the way: Apparently some chap claiming to be me has produced a leaflet version of Grim Truth. No one believes it's me, of course, and the writing is supposedly rubbish. But it's giving MLE some fits, tracking down the source. I guess people are finding ways to be resourceful. Still, with any kind of rumour that I'm alive reaching the Ministry, I'm not sure how long I ought to stay in London.

Oh - and I've asked Remus to give some thought to the spells protecting 12 Grimmauld Place. If this idea of providing safe

hideouts for muggleborns does work, we may want an extra building. But I'm worried about breaking the seal on the old house. If Bella or Narcissa discover they can suddenly gain entry, it may be worse than leaving it vacant. Remus can sort that out, I'm sure - and it gives him something to do besides worry Dora's going to get herself sacked again or arrested.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-26 21:41:46](#)**
(no subject)


I'm so glad the Wolfsbane potion is working for Remus, even if it does need some adjusting.

Remus, love, could you owl your notes to Stephen about what seemed off? He could use your insights.

And 12 Grimmauld Place is certainly an interesting thought. I hadn't remembered it, honestly, but it is a potential asset, for sure. Could we use the secret-keeper method on that, too? With Remus as the secret-keeper? How easy would it be for you to get in?

Well, I suppose that's something for you and Remus to sort out. But certainly keep us all updated!



 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-27 02:43:33](#)**
(no subject)


Well, there are a few factors to consider when it comes to Grimmauld. If I understand Rodolphus correctly, the house will only open to me. Since it wouldn't open to Narcissa even with a key, I'm guessing that means that I might have to do something besides unlock it - though I'm not sure what.

But more to the point is whether the act of opening the house, of breaking the wards, will alert anyone. I wouldn't be surprised if Rodolphus had put a charm on the house so that if the wards go down, they'll know it instantly. It would do us no good to get in only to have Bella charging out from the Floo five seconds later.

As for protecting it, assuming we could use it, that's also something to think about. I wouldn't dream of protecting it any other way than the Fidelius Charm but if we do that, then it may be of limited usefulness as a way station for muggleborns. But

the first step has to be seeing what we can figure out about the spell currently protecting the house. And our Remus excels at that sort of thing.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2010-09-27 03:43:19](#)
(no subject)

He most certainly is!

Perhaps as it's linked to your bloodline, you might have to...

Well, that wouldn't be very pleasant to think on, would it? I'm sure you and Remus will sort it out, and here's hoping it's as simple as walking through the front door.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-09-27 16:04:00](#)
(no subject)

It was really delightful for me to visit, too.

I just received my weekly letter from Percy. He mentioned Evelyn in passing, because he knows I'm interested in how she's settling in, since Ron's such a good friend of Neville's, and he knows that the news this summer might make her arrival at school difficult. *"She's losing a little of her stiffness and shyness, although she talks much more easily to Leonora Jenkins (that's the other Gryffindor 7th year prefect). She's probably bonded the best with Michelle Iskanderian in her dormroom"* (that's the girl who comes from an emigre family).

Do say hello to all the children for me. I find I do miss them very much. I loved having the chance to mother little ones a bit. It's so hard on a mother's soul that all of my chicks have flown the nest!




 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-09-27 16:09:58](#)
(no subject)

Thanks for hosting another Weasley so soon after the last one. You've all done a really remarkable job this past year, and I loved the memorial garden.

Tell Freddy I don't hold the dead fish he snuck into my bag against

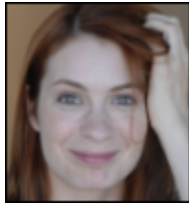
him...much. And tell him that I'll have my chance to get back at him the next time I visit. You've certainly got your hands full with that rascal. He could teach the twins a thing or two.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2010-09-27 16:10:48](#)**

(no subject)

I do hope to make my next visit a longer one. One day just isn't enough.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2010-09-27 17:31:38](#)**

(no subject)

Hear hear! And you're always welcome.

I hadn't heard of the fish incident -- that explains why Freddy was so well-behaved all day, though. I'll bet a knut that Sarah Little was involved too.

2010-09-27 21:56:00

(no subject)

Good evening, students of Hogwarts. Permit me to take up a few moments of your time. First I must express my thanks to Headmistress McGonagall for allowing me to address you all in this way and to Professor Sinistra for her cooperation and assistance.



 [alernity](#)
 [alt_narcissa](#)

Many of you may already be familiar with two organisations whose goals are to celebrate blood purity and bring together the daughters or sons of long-standing family lines in order to glorify and honour the traditions of the Protectorate. Inclusion in these orders is competitive and, needless to say, far from assured simply due to a pure lineage. The Daughters of the Protectorate, for example, requires its young inductees to prove their heritage stretching back at least four generations by means of tapestry, magical bonds on their families' matrimonial contracts or other unimpeachable source. The Brothers of Purity function much the same.

For several years, these august orders have discussed ways in which to recognise those of you who are just as loyal, just as hard-working and just as devoted to the ideals of Our Lord Protector's magnificent realm, but who had not the fortune of birth into one of our most illustrious families. The challenges which non-pure students face on entering our society are more difficult and more impressive as a result of their perseverance, yet they have far fewer avenues for conviviality with their fellows once they have departed Hogwarts.

That is why in the last year, our members have devised two new programmes which will be opened to a select number of students who have been classified 'half-blood' according to the Department of Purity Control. Master Glaucus Gibbon and I are honoured to have been asked to act as advisors to the pilot. The Sons of Wizardry and the Sisters in Witchcraft will begin meeting next month and convene several times over the next year. These junior groups fall under the general supervision of the YPL but should in no way interfere with participation in that primary and highly successful organisation.

The second- and third-year students who have been recommended to participate have already learned of their good fortune from their parents or guardians, who accepted on their behalf. Please do not be discouraged if you were not one of the selected pupils; we only had

room for a limited number of you at this point. We have several activities planned which we expect will be of great value to you as you consider your options for your futures. But the programme is more than just learning a few fundamentals such as cookery or scourging spells - easy enough to learn from a book or an afternoon's seminar. This programme aims to capture certain intangible qualities and impart them to a segment of young citizens who might otherwise never gain access to them.

That is where the remaining body of Hogwarts plays an important role. While Master Gibbon and I both have experience and ideas regarding topics and exercises to cover and we have been speaking with colleagues in several industries, we are both interested in what you would recommend. As young citizens with the closest observation of your classmates, I encourage you all to provide your suggestions: What do you think is important when it comes to the qualities you would expect your compatriots to exhibit? Imagine yourself in the near future, giving them an interview for a position, for example, or considering who to invite for an evening's supper or salon. What do you prize?

Please feel free to make your recommendations here in this entry or by owl or private message to myself and Master Gibbon, should you wish for more privacy. I assure you we shall read them all, though we may not respond right away. We welcome comments from all students, regardless of year or bloodline.

Once again, thank you for your kind attention. We both look forward to getting to know several of you more directly over the coming months.

-Mrs Narcissa C. B. Malfoy



 **alt_pansy** at **2010-09-28 02:06:52**

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Aunt Narcissa;

I know Sally-Anne got selected on her own merits to be a part of the programme, because she truly does deserve it. But I wanted to say thank you anyways, because I know how much it'll mean to her to be a part of it, and I'm so glad that she'll get the chance to work with you. She really is looking forward to it quite a lot.

And I do think it's a brilliant idea, and it'll be all the more brilliant because you're in charge.

That's all. I'll let you know if I think of anything interesting they can do.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-29 15:02:38](#)

Re: Private message to Mrs Malfoy

Thank you for your vote of confidence, Pansy. I agree that your Miss Perks comes highly recommended; I shall be very interested to see whether she is truly as exceptional as I have heard.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-28 03:17:55](#)

Private message to Mrs Malfoy

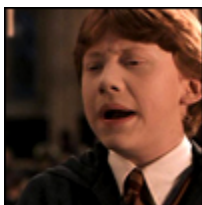
I am honoured that you found me worthy of an invitation to join this new organisation, Mrs Malfoy. I don't have any suggestions, I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank you, and I'm very much looking forward to the first meeting.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-29 14:52:18](#)

Re: Private message to Mrs Malfoy

Indeed, your inclusion was a matter of not mine, but several recommendations, including Professor Sinistra's. I look forward to meeting you as well, Miss Perks.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-28 16:03:43](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

An evening's supper or salon?

What qualities would I expect my compatriots to exhibit? I wish my compatriots would treat people well and not stab people in the back. But, oh! You mean the halfbloods. Well. I'd like them to be like everybody else, of course. Which, if they aren't, isn't down to them but to people like you, innit?

I'm kind of tempted to answer her question about what I'd ask somebody if I was wanting to hire them for work, but I guess I shouldn't stick my wand in.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-28 23:10:03](#)

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

Yeah, probably you'd better not.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-29 03:33:58](#)

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

I wonder what Blaise is saying? He's one of the ones who always acts like he thinks I might have something catching -- he's polite enough most of the time but he tries really hard not to touch me, even casually like if he's passing me a platter at dinner. He's standoffish with everyone, though. Secretive, even. I wouldn't be entirely surprised if they're hiding something about his ancestry.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-29 03:41:10](#)

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

You know something else I'm wondering is whether this means they're going to start up something like Brothers of Purity / Daughters of the Protectorate but for purebloods who can't prove their lineage halfway back to Salazar Slytherin the way the Lestranges can. I mean, I'm sure Percy would LOVE to join the Brothers of Purity -- but AS IF they would ever invite a Weasley. And I'm not sure he'd even qualify, your family doesn't have a tapestry does it?

But he can't very well join the Sons of Wizardry, either.

(He'll just have to join the Order of the Brown Nose, instead. Actually, I think he's the founding member.)



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-09-28 21:41:08](#)**

Private Message to Mrs Malfoy

Dear Mrs Malfoy,

I'm not sure whether I've got any ideas that will be very helpful, but I've put down a few thoughts since you've asked us.

It seems to me that society is like a web of many circles. The tightest and most important of them are made up of family and close friends, those people most like oneself. That's what my mother says, at any rate, when she makes up lists for her soirees. She says it's fine to include one or two really interestingly different wizards or witches, who aren't part of the regular set if they're the type of people the regulars will find witty or intriguing--an author, say, or an inventor--but only if they won't insist on bringing someone dull or objectionable along as their plus-one. I've met some unique sorts at her gatherings, and some of those were halfbloods.

So I suppose your programmes might invite some of those exceptional types so that halfbloods like Perks or Abbott could see what they could make of themselves if they've got some talent and the right introductions.

We were talking last night in our Common Room, and we all agreed that it's another matter altogether about hiring them. I mean, I can't see hiring someone with such a suspect background to be a personal retainer, an amanuensis or something. That sort of flaw runs in the blood, doesn't it? So you certainly wouldn't want one keeping your accounts or managing your properties. Too much temptation and opportunity, I'd think. And then there's the issue of conversation, because, of course, one doesn't want to be surrounded by dull personalities, and all the ones I've met here seem to be awfully dull--if they aren't also dim.

But if one were going to hire a halfblood, I'd think the first question would be about character. Are they honest? Reliable? Would they skive off 'sick' all the time? Would they blab your secrets to gossip writers? Would they work well with other staff or would they always be whingeing about compensation and duties? And would they always be grunching about how others are cruel to them? It seems as though most of the ones I know are always complaining about our teachers or the older students hurting their feelings in some way or

asking too much of them, so I think most of them could use some serious work on their attitudes.

I hope this is the sort of thing you wanted to know. I guess I think it's a good idea, starting these societies, but I expect it'll take a lot of work to make much of them. I guess there's not much question they need the help, so I hope they're as grateful to you as they ought to be.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-29 14:51:42](#)

Re: Private Message to Mrs Malfoy

Thank you for your reply, Mr Zabini.

Your mother is of course a very astute and shrewd judge of society; it should be no surprise that I agree with her on many of your points. Your suggestion regarding bringing in guests who have accomplished impressive goals despite their blood status is exactly the sort of activity we hope to achieve with this programme.

When it comes to hiring a halfblood, much depends on the sort of work being performed and as you say, the character of the individual. That is precisely why this programme aims to imbue its participants with a respectability that is as near as can be to that of a pureblood. It may well be the case that a hiring official has no choice but to hire a halfblood, often because the work is beneath any qualified pureblood or because there are simply no applicants. The question then becomes, which one? Since, as you say, there are halfbloods who have managed to rise higher than their station, it cannot be the case that one is just as good (or bad) as another (as one might say of muggles). I might also remind you that a pedigree is not necessarily the only indicator of trustworthiness, competence, probity, or even the tendency to complain! Our goal is of course to encourage these select halfbloods to make the most of themselves but, more importantly, to provide the community-at-large with a simple device to help them identify halfbloods who have been adjudged to be worthy, saving many a pureblood from needless worry and doubt when considering their merits.

Nothing can entirely erase the taint of non-magical blood, Mr Zabini, that is true. However, the Daughters and Brothers remain hopeful that with the proper conditioning, some few of your

halfblood schoolmates may be redeemed of all but the one circumstance they cannot control: their births.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2010-09-28 22:53:47](#)

Private message to Mrs Malfoy

I'm ever so excited about being included, Mrs Malfoy, and so are all my dorm mates. We will do our very best to show you that we will make the most of the opportunity you've given us.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-29 14:57:45](#)

Re: Private message to Mrs Malfoy

I look forward to your efforts, Miss Abbott.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-09-28 23:08:23](#)

Private message to Mrs Malfoy

It is extremely heartening to learn of this project. I truly admire your willingness to provide the remedial assistance that some of our students need, to overcome the disadvantages of their inferior birth. Yet I shouldn't be surprised, considering what I've learned of your other charitable work over the summer.

It's all the more admirable, really, given the difficulty of the assignment you've set yourself. What, after all, can really be done to overcome the disadvantages of a difference that is knit into the very fabric of one's being, into one's magical signature? Purity is purity, after all. The half-bloods may ape it, but although they may be drilled in posture or proper speech or better manners, or what have you, there will always be that telling something that sets us pure apart. I'm not expressing myself very clearly, perhaps, but that may be simply a sign of the difficulty of pinning the nature of that ineffable quality down into words.

Yes, it's quite a challenge that you've set for yourself, if I may be so bold to say so. But then, from everything I've heard about you from your many admirers, Mrs Malfoy, I believe you have never been one to back away from a challenge.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-09-29 15:30:40](#)**

Re: Private message to Mrs Malfoy

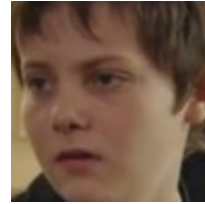
I know quite what you mean, Mr Weasley: Nothing can entirely overcome the taint of non-magical blood.

However, as I'm sure you observed while working for my husband, many jobs are considered beneath purebloods and yet the employers refuse to consider halfbloods on the basis that they are summarily unacceptable. Inevitably, this leads to several problems, not least of which is undoing all the good faith created by their experiences at Hogwarts, where by-and-large they are taught they can make something of themselves; it discourages them further from making the attempt and pushes them toward dishonesty and resentment toward Our beneficent Lord Protector, which cannot be tolerated.

Our goal is not only to drill them in proper manners, speech or carriage, though certainly that is an important part of our aim. It is our hope that by the time these and other students complete their participation, the community will be able to easily identify them as a cut above the common halfblood.

2010-09-27 22:02:00

Private Message to Mum and - To Mr and Mrs Corner



 [alt_michael](#)

I guess I wasn't sure whether 'Dad' would work, even though--

Well, I'll get to that.

I got your owl, Mum, and I've been thinking about it. I won't pretend I'm not cross. I mean. Dad, you're the only dad I've ever known, but now it turns out I've got another father I never knew even existed.

And he's a muggle.

I guess I just wonder when you planned to tell me, if ever. Because if I really am half-blood, I think I deserved to know that. Before you got caught, I mean.

Anyway. I've been thinking about what you said, how Mr Master Gibbon did a load of research and figured out that I'd been born months before you and Dad got married, and how he realised that Dad isn't my real dad, and why he decided to come and see you about it. I guess it's lucky that he decided you didn't know it yourselves, instead of what you told me, Mum. Because even though I'm well angry, I don't reckon I want you or Dad to get in trouble for hiding it on purpose. Especially since the muggle man was a dirty great liar who already had another kid and all. But anyway, I'm glad you think I should be the one to decide whether I want to be in this new programme or not. Because really, it's my life and I'm the one who has to live with everyone at school finding out the truth. Though he could have left well enough alone, I reckon, and it wouldn't have hurt anyone.

Well, I guess if I'm not in the programme, it could hurt me later, couldn't it? If someone else finds out that Dad isn't really my dad?

But if I go in the programme now, everyone will think I've been lying. And I haven't. You have.

But I think I'll go ahead, because I got to thinking about the YPL trip to London this summer, and how everyone on our week was, well...I mean I could tell, really, that we weren't getting the same kind of treatment as the group ahead of us. Malfoy and Patil and all. And so

now I wonder if someone else already knows and just didn't tell you that they'd figured it out. And if that's the way I'm going to be treated, well, I'd rather it be for a reason I know than a reason I don't know.

So I think I should go ahead and be in the programme. But I'll tell Patil and Finnigan and Moon first, they'll be the most understanding, I think - and I think they'll be the ones most likely to keep everyone else thinking I've just been hiding it from everyone. So you can tell Master Gibbon if you like.

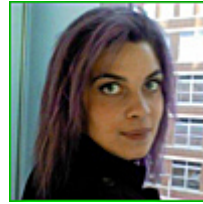
Only don't thank him because I reckon this isn't really a favour, and it's not fair at all, and if you don't mind I don't think I'll be home at Christmas.

Give Bitsy a hug from me, though, Mum.

2010-09-28 09:58:00

Order Only

Bit shattered after work yesterday - dunno why I'm feeling so tired at the moment. I was feeling a bit peaky at the weekend, mind. Maybe I'm coming down with something.



 **alt_nymphadora**

Anyway, sorry, point is I didn't write to update you all last night, but before work yesterday I managed to pop in to see a few of the girls from my old neighbourhood. They were all pretty keen to hear more about my job here at the shop with kindly Mr Ponds, who's only gone and got himself a reputation for being fair and decent to halfbloods, the scoundrel.


So I casually mentioned our idea about selling cakes and the like, and having somewhere in the evenings for get-togethers. Right now, apparently they're holding little parties in people's flats, but they're so scared of getting caught and hauled in for making too much noise or organising subversive anti-government activity or some such nonsense, they're basically just sitting quietly in a room together and avoiding eye contact until it's time to go home.

That's tragic, I said. I reckon we can do better than that.

They were all a bit anxious, I think, of being seen to be too positive about our beer garden idea, just in case, but there was definitely fire in their eyes when they started talking about how it might work.

I think it's a goer.



 **alt_lupin** at **2010-09-28 15:31:12**
(no subject)

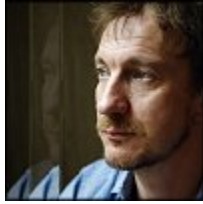
It's not related to your previous illness, is it? Perhaps you ought to make an appointment at St Mungo's, just to be sure.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2010-09-28 15:41:51](#)
(no subject)

I think it's just a cold or something. It doesn't feel the same as the other illness.

You've forgiven us for this madcap idea, then?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2010-09-28 15:58:18](#)
(no subject)

I suppose I must have. It's not a bad idea - it's just a dangerous one. But by now, I really ought to expect that of you two.


Do you want a cup of tea?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2010-09-28 16:00:18](#)
(no subject)


I'd love one, ta.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-09-28 16:39:31](#)
(no subject)

What's wrong with danger, then?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2010-09-28 16:53:52](#)
(no subject)

I should think the answer to that is self-evident!




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-09-28 15:42:02](#)**
(no subject)

Good news, then, Dora.

Sorry I scarpered off - I'm just checking on that rumour in the papers that Snape was sighted near Sheffield.

Have you talked to Poppy about your symptoms, by the way? You were feeling a bit off last week as well. If the Pepper-Up doesn't help within a couple more days you probably ought to ask her for a consultation.




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2010-09-28 15:55:58](#)**
(no subject)

There was one of those silences, you know, the ones just before something happens, and then there was a sort of murmur around the room as they started talking about it. It was pretty exciting. I think they'll definitely use it, once things are up and running.

I don't want to bother Madam P, I'm sure it's just a cold. Scrubbing bogs at the Ministry isn't really conducive to good health, after all. I'll be right as rain in a few days, never fear.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-28 16:07:54](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure you're quite right, dear, but do tell me how long you've been having symptoms. And whether they've been troubling you right along or whether they come and go.




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2010-09-28 19:24:14](#)**
(no subject)

I've just been feeling a bit off for a few days. I'm sure it's nothing to worry about, just a cold or something, but I promise I'll go straight to my healers St Mungo's if I don't feel better soon.

How's that?




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-09-28 21:45:26](#)**
(no subject)

As you wish.

Do let me know if I could be of help, though.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2010-09-28 23:29:53](#)**
(no subject)

You did look a bit tired when I caught a glimpse of you on my way out of the office. I'm sorry I didn't have more than a moment to chat with you, but I expect I'll be working late on Thursday night, finishing up the month end reports, if you'd like to stop by. We can catch up, and I'm sure I'll have a tin of Molly's shortbread handy.

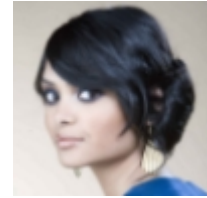


 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2010-09-29 09:50:12](#)**
(no subject)

That'd be lovely, Arthur. I'll see you on Thursday then.

2010-09-28 11:54:00

*Private Message to Lavender Brown and
Seamus Finnigan*



 **alt_padma**

You'll never guess what Corner told me and Moon last night!

Seamus, he said he wanted you to know, but I don't think you've any lessons with him today. So he asked me to explain.

He said he'd been invited to go into the halfblood programme, that Sons of Wizardry thing that you're going in. Up until Friday, he didn't even know he was a halfblood - no one did! His mum kept it a secret even from him!!

I mean, I suppose we should have figured it out because he wasn't in our group at the YPL and because he kept trying to talk to Weasley when he thought I wasn't watching. But he swears he didn't know before now. So I guess he just had some back luck at the YPL, and as far as Weasley, I dunno, maybe he thinks Weasley ought to behave better because he's matey with Parkinson. I told him to just watch it since Weasley's such an arse. And now that everyone will know he's a half-blood he doesn't want to get lumped in with that lot, even more than before.

But imagine not knowing, and finding out that the person you've been calling your dad your whole life isn't really at all? I mean, it's like something you'd read in one of your mum's Sorcery Romances, Lav! It's terribly tragic, really, the whole thing. I guess his mum's well embarrassed about it, too - and really, she should be! What happened was, his mum was engaged to be married to this muggle and then she found out he'd been lying to her! He was already married to another muggle! Taught her a lesson, I guess - they really are animals, aren't they?

But then, she found out she was going to have Michael, only she didn't have a husband because he was a dirty great scheming muggle liar, so she convinced Mr Corner to marry her instead. I guess he'd been in love with her for ages, and he'd asked her to marry him a couple of times already, or he'd never have helped her. So he agreed to marry her and to say that Michael was his! Isn't that mad? And they never told Michael, ever.

But then it turns out that Master Gibbon, he's really interested in Divination, I guess. And so for all the boys in our year and second-year, he looked up everyone's birth dates and had their charts done (so see, it will be useful once you get to that), and he discovered that Michael was born before his mum got married to his - well, step-father, I guess. So he did a little more looking round and he found out that Michael couldn't have been pureblood. But I guess because of the timing, he wasn't sure whether they knew or not. But he wanted to include Michael in the programme because he didn't think he'd be able to pass any of the tests to prove otherwise, if he tried to join the Brothers of Purity later when he's grown up, and all. So Michael's mum wrote to him, told him what happened, and let him choose whether to go in the programme or to keep lying to everyone.

And obviously, he chose to tell the truth and go in the programme. Which I think is really quite noble. He could have kept right on lying and no one would have known, but instead he's owning up to the fact that he might not really be pure, and he's making the best of it.

If Karoline weren't already working on the Fall of the Ministry for our play in the spring, it'd be a marvellous thing to write about, wouldn't it?




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-09-28 18:45:23](#)
(no subject)

It's like Dean Thomas in reverse, in a way. Thomas thought both his parents were muggles, only it turned out his father was a wizard and his parents hadn't gotten married. Corner thought both his parents were proper wizards only that turned out not to be true either.

Really makes you see why the Brothers of Purity (and the Daughters of the Protectorate) want everything checked over twice and documented with a tapestry or something. Because you just can't tell, otherwise, WHO someone's father was.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-28 19:21:11](#)
(no subject)

I know!

But you can see he was really worried people would think the wrong thing, like when it turned out Bones

had been hiding what she was. He didn't want people saying he was a liar like his muggle dad or even his mum, pretending to be something he wasn't. He didn't know.

So that's why he wanted you to know, especially, as you'll be in the programme too and the others will listen to you.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-09-29 01:07:00](#)**

(no subject)

Do you think he really didn't know?

Does he LOOK like his father? I mean the man he always thought was his father. Does he have

pictures?



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2010-09-29 01:33:42](#)**

(no subject)

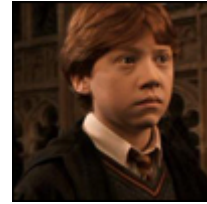
Poor Corner! That must have been a dreadful shock!

Imagine finding out you weren't who you thought you were your entire life--you're right, it is a bit like something that would happen in one of Mum's romances. It's a good thing Corner's not old enough to be engaged to anyone yet.

[2010-09-28 16:57:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Did you hear about what happened to Michael Corner? I think it's true, because he looked really tense today.




 [alt_ron](#)

I've been thinking about the stuff parents don't tell kids. I wish they wouldn't do that. Keep secrets, I mean, and think they're protecting us when really it means that anytime something can happen where you really needed to know.

Anywiz, I feel sort of awful for Corner. I mean, Patil was already all over him for being soft. And, y'know, for talking to me. What's it going to be like now for him?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-28 22:44:25](#)
(no subject)

Michael Corner?

No, I hadn't heard anything. Why, what are people saying about him?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-28 22:58:27](#)
(no subject)

Katrina heard it from Lav and Parvati. I mean, I wouldn't trust either of them to tell the truth about something like this, but Corner looked really upset. And like Katrina said, there's that private message he sent his parents yesterday. Did you see that? The way he addressed to Mr and Mrs Corner?


Oh, anywiz. He's just found out he's really a halfblood, and the Ministry's found out about it, too.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-28 23:12:17](#)
(no subject)

But how can that be? There's no doubt his parents are purebloods, both of them.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-28 23:14:16](#)
(no subject)

Not if one of them turns out not to be really his parent.

His father, I'd guess. That's easier to fake than Mrs Corner not being really his mother, if there are witnesses at the

birth.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-28 23:15:18](#)
(no subject)

Ohhhhh.

That means....he found out he's a half-blood AND that Mr Corner's not his real dad at the same


time?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-09-28 23:16:00](#)
(no subject)


Most likely, yeah.



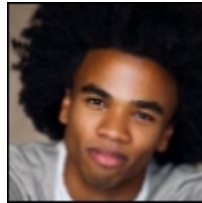
 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-09-28 23:16:54](#)
(no subject)


Wow. Poor bloke.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2010-09-28 23:18:09](#)**
(no subject)


I suppose. It has to be more of a shock for him since he used to be a bit of a snob about it, too. His blood status, I mean.



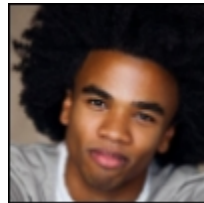
 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2010-09-28 23:18:49](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah. That'll knock him off his pedastal a bit won't it?



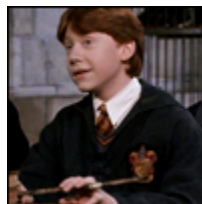
 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2010-09-28 23:19:44](#)**
(no subject)


He may find that his good friends Padma Patil and Lavender Brown and the rest aren't quite as good friends as he thought they were.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2010-09-28 23:20:19](#)**
(no subject)

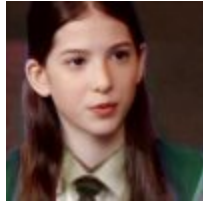
That'll make my heart bleed for him. Believe me.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-09-29 00:01:45](#)**
(no subject)

Well, he's not a bad sort. But, yeah, it'd be kind of what he's got coming if they turn on him. I mean he went pretty much out of his way to show Patil he doesn't really like me.

Though that's not so unusual right now, is it? And he never did anything as awful as Thomas has.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-29 00:49:21](#)
(no subject)

Patil likes Finnigan well enough. As long as Corner acts like he knows his place I doubt she'll go out of her way to make him miserable.

It sounds like he told Patil FIRST. Which was clever.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-29 00:22:19](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, see that's the thing. Katrina says that Lav said his dad was a Muggle, but I bet it's not as bad as that. I mean, it's totally like Lav and Parvati to make it as horrible a story as they can think of. Katrina thinks he was probably a Muggleborn wizard and lost his job when the trouble started and so he didn't marry Corner's mum. And now I suppose he's in the camps somewhere. Whoever he was.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-29 01:04:14](#)
(no subject)


That's pretty awful, honestly, that he found out the man he always called 'Dad' wasn't.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-09-29 00:50:30](#)
(no subject)

This was the first I heard about it but after dinner I heard Daphne going on about it to someone so it's officially all over the school.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-09-29 02:37:52](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, it would be if Greengrass has got hold of it.

[2010-09-29 08:26:00](#)

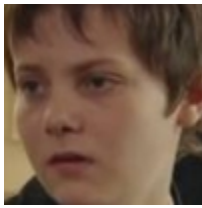
Private message to Michael Corner


It doesn't matter in the least. Your parents are the ones who raised you and loved you. And they're always your parents, no matter what anyone else says about them.



 **[alt_luna](#)**

Really, I haven't found that being a half-blood is that bad. (Although I'm not really one, of course, since they're lying about it, so our cases are a little different. Or perhaps they're lying about you, too? I just find it easier to smile and nod when people call me one, since it seems more important to them than it does to me.) But that's all right. I'm still me, and that's what's important. And you're still you.




 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2010-09-29 13:39:24](#)**
(no subject)

It's different when they lie to you, Lovegood, and not just about you.

You don't know anything about it so just leave it.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2010-09-29 13:48:33](#)**
(no subject)

Well, of course I don't know about it! How could I? Only you can know what you're feeling about your own life.

I can only *imagine* that it must feel quite sad and lonely, to be surprised in such a way. But I'm sure you've heard people say that I have a pretty good imagination.

I simply wanted to let you know that if you want to talk about it, I'll listen, and of course keep whatever you want to keep private. But that's entirely up to you.

2010-09-29 09:47:00

Private Message to Michael Corner

Michael,

On behalf of Hufflepuff House, I wished to let you know that we remain as ever your loyal friends, despite your recent change of status.



 [alt_ernie](#)

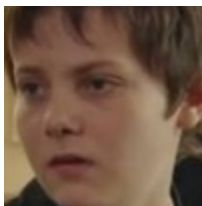
While the news may be viewed by some as unfortunate, and is undoubtedly not something you welcomed, know that no true friend would blame you for your parents' deceit.

You've shown the quality of your character in telling the truth immediately, and I'm sure all your friends here at school will recognise the bravery and decency of your actions.

Hufflepuff House welcomes halfblood and pureblood alike, and you would be welcome at our table or in our common room if you ever wish to visit.

Your friend,

Ernie



 [alt_michael](#) at **2010-09-29 18:31:25**

(no subject)

Thanks, MacMillan, that's decent of you. All of you.

Lovegood tried to tell me he's still my dad, but that's rubbish. She doesn't get it at all.



 [alt_ernie](#) at **2010-09-29 18:54:46**

(no subject)

It's right rough that your parents have been lying to you, and for your whole life too. I'd be furious with my mum and dad if they did something like that.


Loony Lovegood might not have cared when her dad was lying about her being a halfblood, but she doesn't care about being called Loony or having no mates either, and she does care about all those

weirdo made up creatures and that other nonsense that got printed in her dad's magazine before he died, so she's obviously a bit messed up in the head.

I know she's your Housemate, but you're probably best off staying away from her.

Anyway, you'll be alright. Wayne and John are on that programme too, they're good chaps, and I think Finnigan's in as well. Do you know what is going to be about? Mrs Malfoy said something in that letter she wrote in the journals about learning cooking spells and stuff, that'd be awful. But maybe that's just for the girls? I hope so.




 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-09-29 19:18:41](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, she's well barmy. Honestly I've never really given her any thought but then she decided to write to me and it was well strange.

And that's just it. I mean, how'm I supposed to know now whether all that time, he was just pretending to care about me so no one would think I'm not really his son? It sort of makes me sick thinking about it.

But the cooking and cleaning stuff is just for the girls. I got the formal letter from Master Gibbon and it talks about orienteering and learning things like how to mend equipment and make things out of wood and metal and like that. So it does sound rather fun.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-09-29 21:21:44](#)
(no subject)

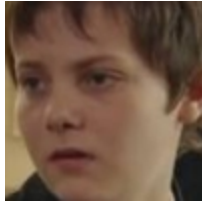
She's probably trying to help, I guess. Maybe she thinks she understands, because she found out her dad lied about her being a halfblood too. I suppose it's not her fault she's so loony it came out wrong.


And it's not the same anyway, is it. Lying about being a halfblood is bad, but lying about being someone's dad. That's awful. I don't reckon your dad .. well, you know, Mr Corner, I don't think he'd be just pretending to care, though. You can probably pretend something like that for a while, like if someone from the Ministry

was visiting to check up on you and you had to pretend to be nice while they were there for tea, but you couldn't keep it up all the time. It'd just drive you mad.

I guess you won't really know for sure until next time you see him. If he's nice, you know he really does care, but if he's not, you know the truth. Are you going home for Christmas hols?

Good show on the cooking and cleaning! Orienteering sounds wizard, and building stuff is fun. Me and my brothers used to build dens in the garden with bits of wood and stuff. It'll probably be like the stuff we've been doing for YPL, only it sounds like you get to actually do things, like building things, instead of mostly just listening to people talking about stuff. That'll be much better. You're really lucky



 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-09-29 22:02:32](#)
(no subject)

That's not even the half of it - she said she doesn't believe the Ministry when they told her she's halfblood and she still thinks her Dad was pure.

He wrote to me today and said a lot of the same things, you know. How he's my dad in every way that matters and that I'm to go right on thinking of him as my 'real' dad because the other one was just a nothing. And that they really want me home at the holidays. I told them I wasn't coming. But I dunno. Maybe I should. I just don't think I can face them. Either of them. But maybe I'll feel different by term's end.

And yeah, the programme really doesn't sound that bad. The YPL isn't that naff, either, though. I'm hoping Professor Lestrage talks about some interesting stuff and not just the market in New London. I've been there loads of times.

[2010-09-29 11:34:00](#)

(no subject)

I've been occupied along with Master Gibbon in preparing the halfblood activity programme for the YPL, answering the comments and such.

We've uncovered quite a number of good suggestions as well as some, not entirely unexpected, concerns. Rest assured, the Brothers and Daughters have undertaken this project after several year's consideration and more than a year's debate about the best way to proceed and are committed to producing the best results, despite any challenges that lie ahead.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)**

Meanwhile, however, I've been too busy the last few days to comment myself on the extraordinary display offered by Mr Cooper throughout Kew, Osterley, Wimbledon and other public gardens in New London. It really was an impressive array and highly skilled manipulation of materials, particularly for someone of Mr Cooper's young age. Ganymede, I'm so grateful that you alerted me to it.

In fact, I have been thinking since the weekend that it has been over four years since the gardens at Kensington have been done over and I think it's high time. I've invited Mr Cooper to lunch with me at White's to propose his ideas.

Oh, and Ursula, have you been seen by St Gerard's yet? I thought it might be that and nothing untoward. Gaude must be very pleased. Be sure to keep up any exercises they give you - and no transfigured foods, even if they seem tempting. It's sure not to contain the proper nutrients.



 **[alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-30 02:37:19](#)**

Private Message to William Collins

Mr Collins,

I believe under the circumstances I have been most tolerant of your attentions. However, I cannot believe that I have not made myself abundantly clear on the subject of my response. Very well, if you must have it baldly: I refuse you. Under no condition will I entertain any invitation from you, sir. Yet you persist. I cannot think why. If anything I have said can appear to you at all like encouragement, I know not how else to express my refusal in

such a way as to convince you that it is one.

Your communications have heretofore been tiresome bordering on ridiculous, yet I hold I have been courteous. Nonetheless, I thought I had made myself plain enough at our last communication and that you would, finally, subside. Which is why I am astonished by your latest owl! I found it in the worst possible taste. I confess I am mystified as to how you could think that presenting me with your suspicions regarding my husband's fidelity would induce me in any way to look upon you favourably! The accusation against my character alone is as preposterous and insulting as your insinuations against the character of my marriage and particularly of my husband.

You may be emboldened by the recent splash caused by the news of Seyton Urquhart's affair. You think to force me to consider your proposals under penalty of a half-formed threat that you will provide this 'evidence' to a disreputable and desperate fish-wrapper. What publisher do you imagine would be so foolish? But no matter. Perhaps you fantasise that you could somehow expose my husband to public derision and I shall turn to you for comfort and protection? I assure you that nothing could be further from the outcome should you attempt such a course of action.

I am willing to forget this entire incident provided you will desist all further attempts to contact me, to insinuate yourself into my interests and most especially to take any action which you shall certainly later regret. You may reply to this message with only one acceptable response: To indicate that you accede to my single offer of forgiveness and shall never again address yourself to me in public or private and never speak to anyone regarding your unfounded allegations regarding my husband.

I urge you to accept this ultimatum, Mr Collins, or you shall assuredly find yourself in a cauldron at the boil.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-30 02:40:07](#)

Private Message to Narcissa

Collins contacted you again? I thought you'd made it clear to come through me if he wanted to propose any further business collaborations.




 **[alt_narcissa](#) at 2010-09-30 02:40:41**

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

I thought as much myself, but apparently not.

Don't fret; I'm sorting him in no uncertain terms.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2010-09-30 02:41:12**

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Are you sure you'd rather not I deal with him directly?

Particularly if the halfblood programme is commanding a great deal of your time. I can dispatch him handily.

Mind this Cooper chap doesn't take your interest for a licence to become Kensington's artist-in-residence. I was quite partial to the geodesic forms but that does not mean I wish us to become his primary patrons.



 **[alt_narcissa](#) at 2010-09-30 02:41:57**

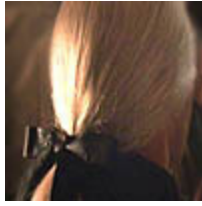
Re: Private Message to Narcissa


No, I'm certain it's best this way. I can always have Bella drag him in on a harassment charge if needed. At this point I'd be glad of an opportunity to curse him myself, he's been such a nuisance.

There's no need to fret over Cooper, either, my love. He may be younger and much more fit than Collins but my interest in him is purely for his artistic talent. Anyway, the gardens can't take him longer than a couple of months or it shall be too cold to put anything in.

Though I suppose there's always next spring.

Call it my birthday present if you like. The idea amuses me.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-09-30 02:42:52](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Somehow that does not encourage me. But as you wish.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-09-30 02:49:11](#)

(no subject)

Collins again?

I could make him Priority One on tomorrow's agenda. Shall I?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-09-30 02:58:00](#)

(no subject)

I've given him one and only one last opportunity to avoid anything vulgar, but if by tomorrow he has not replied to my satisfaction, I shall certainly let MLE know.

I had hoped to spare us all from the trouble but it does seem that the private message function has its drawbacks, harassment being one of them.

[2010-09-29 18:13:00](#)

Unbelievable

Does anyone else wonder what on earth gave people the idea that runespoors were so well fantastic?




 **[alt_zacharias](#)**

I don't think I'd fancy working with a three-headed snake that can kill you three times before you can take an antidote. On the other hand, the one Professor Brutka showed us started attacking itself in the middle of the lesson, which was classic.

I wish he'd got a real occamy in. What do you reckon will be on the quiz? He hinted there would be one next lesson.

(And in case you're wondering, no, I'm not going to say anything either way about Corner. It's his own business, I think and we should let him get on.)




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2010-09-30 03:25:06](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I think he'll probably have something on each of the creatures we've done; I guess I'd focus on whatever the most important facts were about each one.

Professor Brutka doesn't seem like the type to try and trick us and ask something really obscure or hard--I think he just wants to see that we really are learning it.

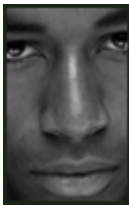


 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-09-30 18:03:34](#)**
(no subject)

Sometimes I think I'm missing out by not taking Care of Magical Creatures. But I've so much to do already with Arithmancy and Ancient Runes and Dark Arts, the YPL and Future Interrogators and History Club, I don't know how I'd fit in another class!

But Runespoors are really useful, I know that much. My uncle used to have one, he could get its heads to stop fighting when he played his *nadaswaram*.

(Malfoy says he doesn't even believe Corner! I think he would though if he'd seen him. He was well shocked, from the moment he read that owl. And he was really upset for a couple days before he talked to me and Moon. I'm sure he had no idea but I think he's taking it rather well, all things considered.)



 **alt_blaise** at [2010-09-30 20:20:03](#)


(no subject)

I'm sure he was well shocked when he got that owl. Thought he was passing himself off without anyone the wiser, and then he finds out it's about to come out?

No surprise it took him a few days to work out what sort of story would work best on you, either. Have to give it to him that he seems to have told you just the sort of thing to hook you.

Come to think of it, Corner might have some skill at snake charming if he'd try his hand at it. He's got raven charming down, at least.



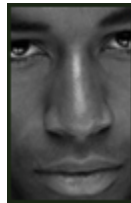
 **alt_padma** at [2010-09-30 22:17:29](#)

(no subject)

Oh, give over, Zabini. Corner's clever but he's not deceitful.

You of all people should understand how it feels to have your father replaced all of a sudden, with no say in the matter.

Anyways, he didn't have to say anything. He could've gone right on pretending and not gone into the programme at all. They did give him the choice and he decided to own up.




 **alt_blaise** at [2010-09-30 22:28:45](#)

(no subject)

That's where you're missing the thread, Patil. He knew it would get out now. Things like always do. He had no choice but tell us something before we heard another way.

Is there some reason you're working so hard to believe him? I wouldn't think someone like that would be worth your trouble. Surely you're not sweet on him. I mean, Corner?

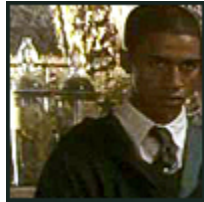



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-09-30 22:32:16](#)

(no subject)

And I don't know why you are going out of your way to be so disagreeable.

Corner happens to be a housemate. Don't tell me Slytherins wouldn't stick by their own - I know better.



 [alt_blaize](#) at [2010-09-30 23:05:53](#)

(no subject)

I can't think who you mean, Patil.

And if I were you, I'd think before I stuck my wand any further in the muck.

[2010-09-30 11:00:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Theodore Nott




 [alt_blaise](#)

The owl I got at breakfast? It was from Mrs Greengrass. She's sending a hamper for Daphs' birthday Saturday, and she wanted me to get something up for a celebration. I've been by the kitchens and the elves are going to lay out a spread. I thought I'd ask Professor Slughorn if he thought we could use one of the spare rooms in the dungeons, but we'd have to cheer it up some.

D'you think you can pry Marvolo out of his books for this? I know you've got Quidditch, too, that day, but Daphs'll feel snubbed if he doesn't come at all.

Oh, speaking of which. Corner's face was priceless when you told him off for using the good telescope last night. Filthy lying piece of rubbish.




 [alt_draco](#) at **[2010-09-30 17:47:48](#)**
(no subject)

It's bad enough that all the Ravenclaws seem to think they've a claim to the best telescope, let alone that it was him. Padma's being way too trusting on that whole situation. She should admit that it's at least possible that a Ravenclaw, of all people, might arrange their outing as a halfblood so that it works to their best advantage. I suppose he thought having Teddy in his corner (hah, *Corner*) would help him when the truth became public. Sure was wrong on that, wasn't he?

And sure, I'll round Harry up for Daph's birthday. The last thing anyone is in the mood for after quidditch is books, but food is always in order.




 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-09-30 18:05:04](#)
(no subject)

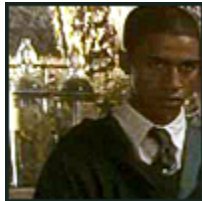
Teddy's right. There's always been something off about Corner. It goes all the way back to first year when he was always trying to worm his way in with Teddy. And now he wants us to think he didn't know about it himself?


Weak.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-09-30 18:15:15](#)
(no subject)

Here's what I figure: Corner knew that my Mother would know about his blood-status because she's one of the organisers for Sons of Wizardry and Sisters in Witchcraft. So it probably occurred to him that I would eventually find out the truth from her, and that I would then tell Teddy, and then he'd lose Teddy's friendship as a result. So he decided to confess to the truth before any of that could happen, hoping that it would make him look better. And plenty of people fell for it, too.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-09-30 18:56:21](#)
(no subject)

Too right we were going to find out.

And it's not as if Teddy ever let him very close. Certainly not since first year. We could all see that Corner wanted something from him without having anything to give in return.

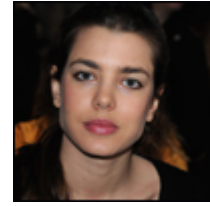
That's it with all of them, isn't it? Look at Perks, for instance, always sucking everything she can out of Pansy.

It's fine to keep that sort around if they serve a purpose, like Teddy playing chess with Corner when he's bored, but you open yourself up to being used. I don't blame Teddy a bit for being well hot about it. And if Corner gets burned, it's only what he has coming.

2010-09-30 16:15:00

XXXIX.

I'm reading something completely fascinating this afternoon: Gwladys Morgan's study of brain development and the early expression of magic in children. It seems that until a certain age, the structures of the brain, those which eventually mature to retain memories, are interfered with by the inchoate magic of the child. To put it another way, the brain must mature to a certain point before it can either control and channel magic or process lived experience in a way that can be stored as memory, but the two things compete apparently in a young brain. Here's the really staggering thing: Professor Morgan writes that although there haven't been enough properly controlled studies to confirm the phenomenon, St Mungo's specialists have reams of observational data suggesting that throughout infancy and toddlerhood, for as long as children are primarily carried about by their mothers, the mother's magic overwhelms the child, interfering both with the child's ability to develop its own independent magical character *and also interfering with the child's ability to remember what it sees, hears, and experiences!*



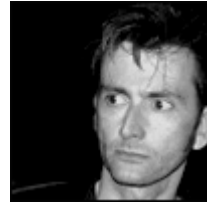
 [alt_lana](#)

I am so entirely loving this new session, I'm about beside myself! I love reading and thinking and learning--and we are tackling such interesting subjects at the moment, all of them revolving around magic, memory, and consciousness. The praxis sections will be on refining our own magic, especially unspoken incantation and wandless casting, and another on interrogation. Understanding how the brain functions is obviously crucial in both areas.

2010-09-30 17:31:00

Private Message to Mordant Travers

Do you have the file on those broadsheet 'prophecies'? I've just been sent another pair of them, full of the same sort of prognostications about ill omens signifying Our Lord's imminent demise. These two differ in typeface and grammatical details: how many of these loons are we dealing with?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

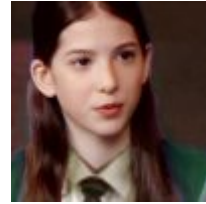
Shall I send you this pair or do you want to pass the lot off to me?

Oh, so you know: I shifted our time earlier for tomorrow. I don't mind having an audience, but the whole lot of them, standing about waiting for us to finish was irritating. They're scheduled in for 6 o'clock, so I pushed our slot up to 5. That's not too early for you?

2010-09-30 20:37:00

Reminder -- Study Group/Tutoring

Same location as last week -- classroom by the stairs to the Astronomy tower.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Pansy and I can help with Potions and Transfiguration; Patil came last week and helped people with Charms; and Finnigan told me today he's coming if anyone needs help with History.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-10-01 01:47:39**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I don't know why everyone seems to think Corner KNEW he was a half-blood. The funny thing is that no one accused Luna of knowing all along, and I think people liked Corner better than they liked Luna.

(Other than Ginny, anyway.)

The other odd thing is how it's spilling over onto me, Teddy is normally quite friendly to me but he cut me dead on the way to dinner. It's like finding out that Corner was a half-blood reminded him that he's not supposed to like ME either. Even though he's known I was a half-blood since first year.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-10-01 02:37:02**

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

I think some people did think Luna knew. It's just that most people thought she might be daft enough not to have known even if she should have. And I think a fair number of people have a fair idea it's not true. Don't you?

The thing with Corner is that he'd tried to be friends with Nott, and that means he's been sort of tagging along the outside of Malfoy's circle, you know? And I can see how they wouldn't like anyone thinking they'd been tricked like that.

It's amusing how Patil's all out of sorts about Malfoy not falling in line when she said Corner's all right. Mind you, that's the only thing funny about it. Otherwise, it's just sad. I dunno. Maybe it's just that

I know what it's like to have all of them rubbishing you.

I'm sorry about Nott treating you like that, but it's just how they are. ~~I wish you didn't ca~~

Dad said something once--

he said people like Malfoy think it's all down to convincing folks that they're better than everyone else, but the only way they can do that is by convincing folks that pretty much everyone else is rubbish. So they make themselves feel big by making out that everyone else is small.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 02:46:36](#)

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

I think Luna's likely right that the Ministry's lying for some reason. I mean I don't know WHY they're lying still given that they admitted in the end that purebloods could get the sickness. But they lied about everything else last year.

But what I mean is, even the people who believe she's a halfblood, or who are pretending to believe it at least, don't seem to think she knew all along. Probably because she is such a nutter.

I don't know if your dad's right -- I think it's more complicated than he's making out.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 04:23:03](#)

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

More complicated how?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 16:58:10](#)

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

Well.

I DO think there are people who can't feel superior any other way. Vince and Greg, for instance.

But Blaise and Teddy and Draco, they're all clever and quite good at magic. Well, Blaise is mostly just alright. But he's not a dunce, either.

But

You know there are people in Slytherin who almost never talk about their parents? I mean even less than I talk about the Strettons. I think Teddy some of them, when they believe that being a pureblood makes you better, it's not that they're trying to convince themselves that they really are worth something, it's more than they're trying to believe that this makes their family -- that their family isn't --

You know Teddy clearly feels sorry for me, he has since first year. But I wouldn't trade the Strettons for Mr Nott for ANYTHING. Teddy once asked his father to cast the cruciatus curse on him and he DID IT. The more I've learned about Dark Arts the more that bothers me. You can't cast cruciatus properly unless you really want to see the other person suffer. And this was before Teddy was even a student at Hogwarts -- he was a little kid, nine or ten years old.

Anyway, I think there's something wrong. I mean with Teddy's family, with his father (his mum's dead) and believing that being pure makes them better lets Teddy believe love his father.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 17:10:07](#)

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

Draco, now.

Draco's best friend is Harry. And Harry is the Lord Protector's son. And people pay quite a LOT of attention to what Harry thinks and does. And we know from Hermione that Harry lets her talk back as long as they're in private and only punishes her because he feels like he has to, for show.

I mean, Harry's clearly not the person he needs for people to think he is and Draco of all people SURELY knows that. And if anyone ever finds out what Harry's like they could blame Draco for it. Draco already gets punished when Harry does things wrong. I mean, what the Lord Protector told Harry years ago is

that if he (Harry) ever does anything REALLY terrible he will give Draco to the Carrows. Draco was mortified when Harry said this on the journals so don't tell him I reminded you, but. Being Harry's friend can protect you but it can also put you in danger because if the Lord Protector wants to really punish Harry he can do something terrible to YOU.

Anyway.

I don't know if there's any way to REALLY know what Draco REALLY believes about blood purity. But what I know for SURE is that Draco thinks if he's the most loyal and perfect subject of the Lord Protector who ever lived, he's more likely to be able to keep himself, and Harry, safe.



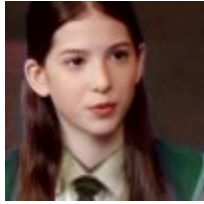
 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 17:33:48](#)


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

I wish Harry's father had just gone on and given Malfoy to the Carrows a long time ago. That would make loads of things better.

I'm not even going to pretend I don't mean that. Because Malfoy is one of the nastiest gits around, and Marvolo would be loads better off if he weren't always listening to what Malfoy says about how he should act. I mean, he's a really decent kid underneath, except that Malfoy tells him who he can be friends with and how he's not snooty enough and if it weren't for Malfoy always being there, watching ~~Har~~ Marvolo could treat Hermione loads better. He wants to be different, and it's Malfoy's fault he's not. And maybe that is just because he doesn't want to see Malfoy get hurt and not because he actually likes him, but it doesn't really matter, and it means Malfoy can go around acting like he's better than everyone except Marvolo and his father.


Don't even expect me to feel sorry for Malfoy.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 17:43:14](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Yeah, Ron? If the Lord Protector gave Draco to the Carrows and YOU became Harry's best friend, do you know what would happen the NEXT time Harry screwed up?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 22:04:48](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Like that's going to happen.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-10-01 19:01:09](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

So you want Malfoy given to Master, do you?


You don't have any idea what you're saying.

Personally, I don't think it's a good idea to give Master any free rein to indulge in his personal...tastes. For hurting people, I mean. Because the more he practises, the better he gets at it.

I know I don't work for him anymore.


But when I did, I had to clean up the messes. It sure wouldn't make things better for me.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 22:05:23](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Were we talking about you?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-10-01 23:01:29](#)

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

No. And I realise that. I was reacting to your saying that giving Malfoy to the Carrows would make 'loads of things better.'

See, my point is that you shouldn't think of Master as a useful tool to get rid of annoying people. Even if they're gits like Malfoy. I think that's what the Lord Protector does. He likes to use Master as a tool, to deal with people he doesn't like. Because Master's willing to do the ugly things that the Lord Protector doesn't want to be seen doing openly.

If you try to hide ugly things by doing them in the shadows, like giving victims to Master, it's still ugly.

And pretty soon, doing that sort of thing makes you just as ugly, too. You see?

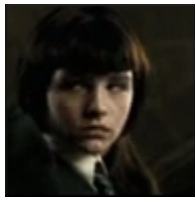


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-01 23:07:37](#)

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

You're right. It can happen to good people too.

The tool thing. And the ugly thing.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-01 19:59:08](#)

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

~~But if you could say all those things about me, about how I grew up a certain way and it couldn't be helped, and you can see how Harry is the way he is, why can't you do the same for~~

~~If you'd just take the time to talk to him instead of assuming~~

~~He can actually be really decent, you know.~~

I know I'm not going to change your mind about Draco.

But I don't think he's a nasty git. He's trying to be what everyone wants him to be the best way he knows how.

And I know you say you wouldn't be sorry if something bad happened to him, but I also know that I never want to be responsible for anyone getting hurt ever again. Even someone I hate.

Ever.

Even just thinking about it...

Just no.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 20:08:12](#)

Private message to Pansy

I'm trying not to get cross with Ron again. I really think he's just not thinking about what he's saying and I'm trying to remember he's a Gryffindor and can't help it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-01 20:13:15](#)

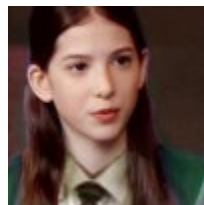
Re: Private message to Pansy

Well, you're going to have to hold your temper for the both of us.

I just can't even

Not after what happened last term.

Triple ugh. I feel awful just *reading* what he wrote.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 20:22:22](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

I think he's more likely to listen to Terry than either of us.

But

I just

Being given to Carrow isn't something I'd wish on ~~my worst enemy~~ anyone other than, well, Carrow. Not that that's possible but -- you know what I mean.



 [alt_pansy at 2010-10-01 20:36:59](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

yeah.

I just don't see how that could *ever* be acceptable for *anyone* to actually hope for.

And I just know he'll get all puffy and mad and not see that what he says is *scary* and sickening, but it is.

I guess I thought he was better than that.



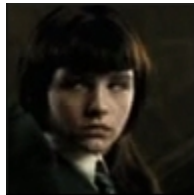
 [alt_sally_anne at 2010-10-01 21:58:18](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Well, even though he says he means it I don't think he actually does.

(Mind you, there are all sorts of horrible things that if they happened to Draco I'm sure Ron would throw a party. I just don't really believe that's one of them.)

I shouldn't have even brought Draco into it. Though he WAS the one Ron brought up in the first place. You know the funny thing, I think one person who really DOES cling to being a pureblood as the only thing that really makes him feel worthwhile? Percy Weasley. He knows he's from a family full of blood traitors but by Merlin, at least he's PURE!



 [alt_pansy at 2010-10-01 22:09:38](#)


Re: Private message to Pansy

I know, right?

And Draco's angry about Corner because he hid what he was, not because he's

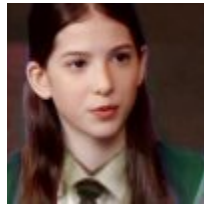
halfblooded. Because he's always been nice enough with you. And he was really broken up over Dennis too. You could tell.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-01 21:06:35](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

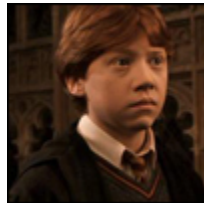
It's one thing not to like Malfoy, but it's entirely another thing to feed him to the Carrows.


No one deserves that, no matter what he's done.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 21:59:22](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


If one could somehow feed Carrow to himself, there might be some justice there.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 22:16:35](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Point.



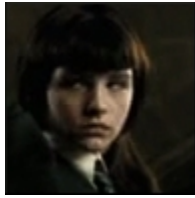
 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 22:16:19](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Oh, fine. Whatever.

It's not like I said I'd do anything to him. Just I wouldn't waste any time feeling sorry if he got what's coming to him. Sally Anne's the one that said that's what's hanging over his head. And she said it like I should feel sorry for him, well I don't.

I mean, really? I'm supposed to feel sorry for him when he's got all that money? Or am I supposed to feel sorry for him because he has to go around telling everyone who to like and who to kick? Should I feel sorry for him because all those people listen to him and do what he says? I guess I could feel

sorry for him because it means he has to spend time with Patil, but I don't think so.

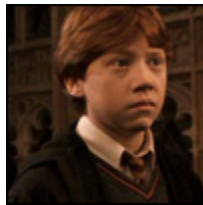


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-01 22:28:14](#)

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

Well, that's different though.

I can understand how you'd feel like *that*.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-01 22:33:50](#)

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

Thanks, Fisheye.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-01 22:48:51](#)


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

But I agree with Sally-Anne. The only person I'd want Carrow to have would be Carrow.

Or the other Carrow.

Tuna breath.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2010-10-01 03:28:35](#)

(no subject)

I can help with Charms too--it sounds like there were a lot of firsties who had questions last time.

And if anyone needs any Herbology help I can probably do that.

2010-09-30 23:31:00

Private Message to Wilhelmina Grubbly-Plank



Dear Auntie Mina,

I feel a bit weird sending you a private message, and I don't really know why.

 [alt_susan](#)

Normally I'd just owl you because, well, I just like writing letters better (and it gives me a chance to practice my Charms) and I think Valkyrie likes going back and seeing her mum and some of her old nestmates.

Speaking of which, Care of Magical Creatures is brill! I think it might be my favourite this year. Professor Brutka is such a calm, nice teacher, but you can tell he's firm too and really means what he's saying. He doesn't let anyone mess about and I can tell he treats his creatures well. You'd like him.

I feel like I've got more revising than ever, but somehow I'm not quite as worried about it as I was last year. What you told me last term really helped--sometimes it's just easier to talk to you about things like that than it is to talk to Mum and Dad. I sometimes think that I'll disappoint them somehow, or just make worry and they've got enough to worry about without tossing me in.

What I *am* worried about is this programme for half-blood girls that I've just found out I'm supposed to join--the Daughters of something or other, I can't remember exactly what it's called. I mean, I've always been sort of clumsy, and what if I eat with the wrong fork or something? What if I say something stupid, something I shouldn't?

Maybe I'm just being silly and getting worked up over nothing, but you always seem to be able to put my head back on straight, which is why I'm sending you this note.

I hope all the owls are doing well; give everybody scratches for me, especially Frejya, since she's my favourite next to Valkyrie.

Love from your niece,

Susan