

2010-10-01 19:14:00

Private Message to Sally-Anne

I didn't think it would be as hard as it is, letting go of him, I mean, but I just can't stop thinking about Pi Regulus.



[alt_pansy](#)

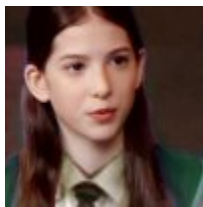
And I can't help it.

Maybe it's the Dementors. I got sad when I was around them in London, and they're all around here, even though they aren't really that close. But every time I think things are back to normal again, it hits me upside the head all of a sudden, the fact that he's *gone*, and he did those *awful* things, and it still *hurts*, and I still miss him so much.

And I keep coming back to it over and over like a broken record.

And then I feel bad that I want it to stop because that would mean that I didn't miss him or care about him any more, and I feel bad because I shouldn't care about him because he did those terrible things, and I don't know. It just blows chunks. All of it.

I need to not be in the Common Room right now. Do you want to go up to our room and listen to music? Or something? Anything. I just don't want to *think* right now.



[alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-10-01 23:50:58**
(no subject)

Yes, I absolutely want to go up and listen to music.

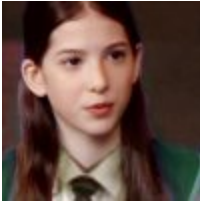
Or out, maybe we could go up to the Astronomy classroom? Professor Sinistra said once it was alright to use it after hours. And it's sort of out of the way, I don't think anyone would come find us.



[alt_pansy](#) at **2010-10-01 23:55:06**
(no subject)

Yes, let's.

Long as we're back before curfew.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-01 23:56:09](#)
(no subject)

And I understand why you miss him, no matter what he did.

He was funny and kind and he cared about you so much.

I miss seeing him tease you, because when I'd see him talking to you I'd know it would make you laugh.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-02 00:00:36](#)
(no subject)

Thanks for saying so.

And I'm really, really glad you're my friend.

2010-10-02 10:47:00

Very official announcement #2


Students, I am happy to tell you that the Duelling Club shall be re-instated for the remainder of the school year. The Club is scheduled to meet every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, beginning on Tuesday, 12 October. I will be the faculty organiser for the Club, and Professor Acton has graciously volunteered to assist.



 [alt_rabastan](#)

Since Professor Lockhart is no longer with us at Hogwarts, I cannot ask him what was covered in last year's Duelling Club meetings. As such, I invite you to share those details with me in this entry, so that I may construct future meetings as a compliment and continuation of what you have already learned.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-10-02 17:10:11**
(no subject)

That's wizard!!


Well, um. I think you could pretty much teach us anything and it would be more than we got from Professor Lockhart. I mean, he showed us loads of moves he called Flourishes and Parries, which was ways to swing our arms about and throw our cloaks back over our shoulders. And different ways to bow. He was kind of big on posture and how to plant your feet. Oh, and he showed us how to put charms on our cloaks so they'd billow, but mostly he just told us not to hurt each other and set us to it.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2010-10-02 19:59:49**
(no subject)

I'm so pleased that you listened to the advice of we Slytherins and decided to reform the club, Professor! Only I'm rather surprised that it isn't Professor Sinistra who will be assisting.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-03 21:47:55](#)**
(no subject)

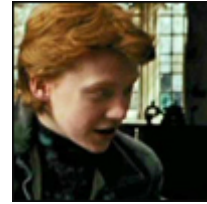
It's well snitch you're starting up Duelling again,
Professor!

And thank you again for speaking to the YPL
yesterday. It was...interesting. I didn't realise there were so many
places opening up for people to use. And the bit about the floating
markets, that was nift.

2010-10-02 11:03:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Hey. I heard Professor Brutka's got some new exploding things down at the creatures pens that just got delivered this morning. Towler and Bell said when they were coming up from Quidditch, they heard banging and saw sparks shooting up, and they could see Brutka down there with the delivery wizards and a load of cages all stacked around.



 [alt_ron](#)


Who wants to go down after lunch and see what he's got?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-02 16:45:05](#)
(no subject)

Daphne's having a birthday thing this afternoon, but we might stop by for a little.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-02 16:49:41](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

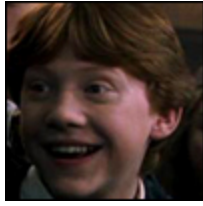
I was thinking we could go down straight from lunch. Is that when the party is?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-02 17:07:29](#)
(no subject)

Well, sort of. But we can show up a late. Maybe Sally-Anne and me can walk down with you to see the exploding things for a little, and then we can make our way over to where the party is.

Because exploding things are always interesting!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-02 17:11:59](#)**
(no subject)

Wizard.

Did you see what Professor Lestrage just wrote about Duelling Club starting again?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-02 17:16:21](#)**
(no subject)

I did! And cheers for suggesting starting it up again.

2010-10-02 20:15:00

Private Message to Luna Lovegood

Luna,




 [alt_ginny](#)

Dean told me about the programme that he was invited into. (Yes, I finally decided to talk to him again.) I think it's great that they are establishing a way for half-bloods to properly join society once they leave school. Maybe you can try to get invited next year. I mean, I assume you haven't been invited to join this year as you would have told me straight away. While I will never regard you as a half-blood, it might not hurt for you to do some of the things they consider proper. I would never want you to change, but I do want you to be comfortable, happy and free. If you can somewhat comply with their standards, when you leave school, you will never have to worry about anyone seriously looking over your shoulder. You should try to conform, just a little.

Please don't be cross with me for suggesting this stuff.

Ginny



 [alt_luna](#) at [2010-10-03 18:40:17](#)
(no subject)


Well, I haven't been invited to be part of that programme anyway. I don't know why. Maybe they think it's rather a lost cause for me.

How, exactly, do you think I should conform?

Conforming to keep others from looking over your shoulder is rather like looking over one's own shoulder to save them the job.

And it's rather difficult to do without getting a crick in the neck.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2010-10-03 18:56:53](#)
(no subject)

Oh Luna! I guess I should have known you would say something like that. That's the reason we all love you. But I want you to be happy. Are you truly happy when you stay with the Browns?

And please think about the future. What shall you do if they don't consider you a proper citizen when we leave school? They wont restore full or most rights back to you I think. And I'm not sure, but I think it would be hard for you to make a real living and set up house for yourself.

Luna, I know its a long way off, but if you could do and say the things that people deem proper. I suppose a good start would be to stop talking about the creatures you love, maybe stick to whats taught in our books.

I guess I would say, act as they act, and talk as they do, but don't give up your gentle nature.

I don't know Luna, but you are a smart witch, I am sure you will figure it out.

2010-10-02 20:23:00

Honoria

Sorry, I've been in the library nearly all day. I will be revising for charms tomorrow, and i just wanted to let you know in case you are busy when I get back to Gryffindor Tower. Do tell me how you think you are making out so far. I know it was your goal to revise more in that subject this year. Do you find the material any easier to master? Also let me know what you would like to work on. We can work on any charms you would like for as long as you would like.



 [alt_ginny](#)

[2010-10-03 08:43:00](#)

Fourteen



 [alt_daphne](#)

Yesterday was positively the most tremendous birthday I've had yet! I remember being so excited for thirteen, how it sounded so grown up, but *fourteen* just sounds ages beyond that for some reason. Mother must've known, for the party hamper she sent was filled with things suited to a more mature gathering. The fairy lights are still going in the common room, and I do so hope we can keep them up until they flit out. They add such a lovely cheer to the place. I have just gone and cleared the streamers off that high-backed chair near the fire. As much as I would like to have a throne at all times, if I don't remove the streamers now some brute shall happen along and tear them off, not even thinking to ask if I had plans to save them.

Now, I do so hope that everyone invited had a lovely time. Blaise, the doves were such a *clever* touch. I was admiring them all evening, and then, when you suggested we take the cage up to the castle parapets I thought we were simply going to free them, I didn't at all expect them to transform into a shower of brilliant, sparkling stars! It was so beautiful. And *romantic*! Draco, your guitar solo was really so impressive; I had no idea that you'd come so far. And that song you're trying to write? "Hey, Hey Merlin?" It's so catchy! Milli and I have had it stuck in our heads all morning.

Belinda, your trick with the diva's delight had me in absolute stitches! I used to love those sweets more than any other, but my voice tutor has restricted me from them until further notice. He says that if I rely on them too much they'll make my real voice lazy, and I shall never progress and be able to sing a true aria. Anyway, I've just found more diva's delights in a dish on a pouf, do let me know if you would like any extra. Oh, and someone's hidden their tea cup under the pouf, too! Maybe they didn't like the reading in their tea leaves?

That reminds me...some of you may have noticed the beautiful bouquet of snowdrops that my parents sent me; they're a breed that Mother has especially cultivated so that they will bring about a happy, restful sleep if the flowers are placed near a bed. She and her society ladies often deliver them to the patients at St. Mungos, you see. Well, I had all of them in a vase by my bed when I went to sleep last night, and I scarcely wanted to wake up this morning! Sleep was like a delicious, feathery blanket I wanted to wear forever. So, for all of you

who were kind enough to attend my party, if you would like one of the flowers to put on your bed-side table so that you too may experience their magic, please let me know. I think I have far too many for one healthy person to have. The snowdrop should stay alive for two weeks or so, but thereafter you can dry it out and keep it under your pillow. It will still work, thought not as strongly.


Teddy, I must say that your coll

Oh!

OH.

I've just found the cake. I had left it neatly wrapped up on a little pedestal table so that Astoria and I could send the last slice to Queenie. But **SOMEONE HAS GONE AND EATEN IT!** Not just eaten, the plate has been *laved* clean so that nothing but grotesque streaks of spittle have been left behind. Ugh! **WHO WOULD DO SUCH A HORRID THING?** You've just deprived a very small girl of a slice of cake from her own sisters. I hope your stomach becomes so upset that you vom up for **DAYS!** I bet you're the same beast who grew that odd, glowy fungus in the girl's toilet, too. Now I have to go write to Queenie and tell her that I couldn't save her a slice of cake because one singular person in my house is horrid. At least I hope that it's singular person. Surely Slytherin would never bring together *multiple* cake thieves!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-03 16:25:39](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yes, please, the snowdrop sounds lovely!

And it's horrid that someone went and helped themselves like that!


Not taking Divination, I thought it was really nift how people were trying to read each other's leaves. Lav's not nearly as rubbish as she thinks. But did you notice how no matter how many times Marvolo swirled his round, they always made up the same shape? Sort of a shaggy bear shape? Seamus says it's the Grimm, but that Professor Carpenter always insists it's a donkey or something meaning good fortune.

I think we ought to save the Mellifluous Meringues for the play, that

way everyone who ought to will sound utterly polished at the performance. I quite loved the effect of the Princess Pastilles, though, those were well brilliant, but the flavour of the Delights were my favourite. They tasted like Turkish Delight. Have you ever had Turkish Delight? Sandoval served some when I went to visit her over the summer and it was completely divine. I think it's my favourite sweet ever.

Anyway, happy birthday again, Daphs, and I'm glad we all had such a jolly time of it.



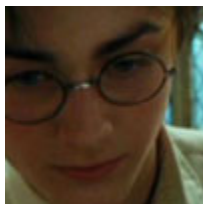
 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-10-03 16:43:19](#)**
(no subject)


I will bring the snowdrops to dinner and you may help yourself, and so may any others who would care to.

I do have the rest of the pastilles and the meringues put away in my trunk, so I know that they're safe, at least. There's no need to save them, though, not when Mother will send me a new box when it comes time for the play, should I ask her.

Turkish Delights is one of the things Papa gets for Christmas time. He *loves* it, and I think some flavours are rather nice but I don't like the one that tastes of roses. It's like eating perfume, and I don't fancy perfume on my tongue.

Oh, the Grimm! I've never been able to get a good look into Harry's cup so I don't know if that's what his leaves look like or not. You know, now that I think on it, I was certain that I had a finger in my cup yesterday. I couldn't tell who it was pointed at, because at the time there were so many people in the common room, but ooh, I bet it was pointing at the cake-thief!




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-04 00:00:27](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, it is.

It doesn't really bother me. To have the grim I mean. It doesn't always mean death. Or anyway half the people who get it don't die. But I hate how Professor


Carpenter keeps saying it's not. It just makes me think more about how she's lying.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-10-04 04:06:12](#)
(no subject)

I can't imagine why a Professor would have any reason to lie to you, Harry. Even if you do have the Grimm in your cup, it's no secret as to what it means, is it? It's about that man Snape and our old Professor Macnair, and you've known about them for awhile now.




 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-03 17:13:32](#)
(no subject)

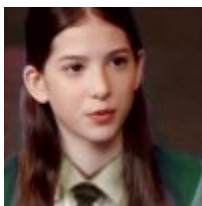
Glad you liked it, Daphs.

Your parents do know how to supply a party, don't they? Shame about the cake, though. It was really excellent.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-10-03 19:08:43](#)
(no subject)

They do, but I really do owe you and the other boys a great deal of thanks for planning everything. You understand my tastes so well!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-03 17:40:21](#)
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Daphne. Your party was lovely.


That's a shame about the cake. Maybe it was someone's cat who got into it? It would explain why they licked the plate. (Or maybe it was Greg. He ate my sandwich once and I was only gone for five minutes in the loo!)



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-10-03 19:10:19](#)
(no subject)

I can see all the little troughs that the person's tongue left on the plate and it's definitely a human-sized tongue, and not that of a cat. Who in Slytherin could be so uncouth?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-03 17:42:47](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

If it were anyone else's cake missing I'd think it was Daphne. She steals Pansy's shampoo often enough.


It was a wiz party, though. Especially the meringues, they make everyone sound like an opera diva for about five minutes, which is awfully funny when they're just saying things like 'would you pass me another bottle of butterbeer.'



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-03 22:12:50](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

She really was asking for it, putting it out there in the common room so everyone could see.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-03 17:48:12](#)
(no subject)

Glad you liked the song, Daphs, but it's actually Pansy who wrote the lyrics, and together we've just been mucking about trying to find a tune that works well. I didn't think we'd hit it yet, but if you had it stuck in your head maybe it's coming along better than I thought.


Might've been a sixth or seventh year who nicked the cake. I don't think they were too pleased with us for taking over the common room for such a long time. Probably you should have taken it to your room if you wanted to save it.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-10-03 19:13:02](#)
(no subject)

Oh Draco, I know that you're right. I had meant to take the cake to my room but there were so many other things that I had to bring in, like the all the flowers and the gifts, that I thought it might not matter if I fetched the cake in the morning. I had it wrapped so prettily, too, with streamers and such, that I thought for certain it would be clear that it wasn't meant to be eaten.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-03 22:07:28](#)
(no subject)

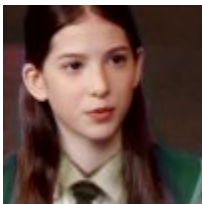
Glad you liked Draco's and my song, Daphne, and it was a very lovely hamper.

Draco has a point about it possibly being a sixth or seventh year, but I wouldn't put it past a firstie either. They're just young enough to not really know any better, *n'est-ce pas?*



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-03 23:27:28](#)
(no subject)


A sixth or seventh-year might steal the cake but they wouldn't lick the plate after.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-03 23:29:38](#)
Private message to Daphne and Pansy

Well, maybe Marcus Flint would. Have you seen him at the table? He's about as couth as a demented jarvey.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-10-04 03:55:31](#)
Re: Private message to Daphne and Pansy


I could see a sixth or seventh year licking the plate if he were cross that we were noisy last night. To send a message, you know. Or maybe it was Flint.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-04 01:35:01](#)**
(no subject)


Thanks for inviting me, Greengrass. It was a brilliant party.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:56:19](#)**
(no subject)

You're very welcome, Finnigan.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:52:30](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, and Daphs, those snowdrop things sound well snitch.


Would you mind if I asked for one?



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:55:55](#)**
(no subject)

Not at all!



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:56:55](#)**
(no subject)

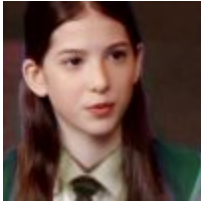
Might I have one, too?

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:57:15](#)**
(no subject)


Of course, that's why I offered.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-04 03:57:22](#)
(no subject)


I would love to have one too, if you have any left.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2010-10-04 04:01:10](#)
(no subject)

I have a few, yes. Since they're so popular perhaps I ought to ask if Mother can spare another bouquet.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-04 04:08:14](#)
(no subject)

Merci!

2010-10-03 12:15:00

Sundry Items



 [alt_lucius](#)

First of the month accounts settled.

Under-estimated the amount of time required to untangle Lucretia's financial affairs; have only just learned of the final dispensation of her monetary estate this week. Apparently there were several accounts to be held in trust for one year following her death - why I cannot fathom, but such were the terms. As the anniversary is in three weeks (hard as that is to believe), Ari has been kind enough to tackle the Ministry's inheritance tax forms and prepare to wrest the monies from the goblins' long fingers.

By mutual agreement, the Hogwarts' Board of Governors met in London last week, and an hour later, owing to the overlap with the *Prophet* advisory board. Coupled with wishing Minerva happy returns on her upcoming birthday, adding a few more minutes of cheer at the end of the meeting. But made for an extremely long day and afterward, had only the energy for a quiet supper at Elysian. Odd thing, though: Fleet insisted that I accompany her to meet her husband at their club instead. There commenced a puzzling comparison of clerks. Quickly became clear that Fleet had tasked Maribel to create an impromptu opportunity to solicit my advice on the subject. Fleet's clerk seems inferior in every way; told him at last that if he is so unsatisfied he should simply discharge his assistant and engage a competent one. Allowed as how Crispin did have a wearing in period, though certainly not a long one, in which he grew accustomed to my expectations, but had he not learned to exceed them, I should not have retained him in my service.

Have been speaking with Narcissa on cutting back some of the engagements we had agreed to early on in the season. Particularly with her new commitment to the Daughters of the Protectorate, it seems ridiculous to maintain the schedule we had previously thought reasonable. Suspect she would rather over-extend herself than re-visit which events to cancel. Suggested that the effort would be worth it when the holiday season closes in and she finds herself running out of time to plan our usual celebrations, or disappoints herself by selling short.

Among her commitments I am glad to see coming along is the collaboration with Revati Patil. She is far too modest to say it, but I do believe their partnership has gone a long way to ease both their grief over the tragedy of last spring's occurrence. Though it is not without its own sources of stress. Narcissa has been, to my mind unnecessarily, worried that the camera will not forgive the intervening years while she has been involved in other pursuits. The amount of preparation she is undergoing for this week's modelling has been, as I say, superfluous, but nonetheless I cannot pretend to be displeased with the results. Even if the primary purpose was a psychological benefit, there has been a physical one as well. I hope she is as proud of her efforts as I.


Draco, we have not had your owl from you this week. Assume this signifies that you are well and merely pre-occupied with scholarship. Still we do look forward to your letters and trust that you will write more when your studies allow.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-10-03 23:54:39](#)
(no subject)

As I have said already - thank you for all your well-wishes.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-04 02:38:37](#)
(no subject)

Not at all, Minerva. It is a small recompense for the chaos with which you must contend daily.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-04 01:28:06](#)
(no subject)

Did you get the invitation to Mum's wedding?

I know you and Aunt Narcissa are awfully busy, but it'd be nice if you could come.

And she'd be brilliant at modelling! I can't wait to see her photos.




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-04 02:36:00](#)
(no subject)

Yes, of course we did - that is not an event we are likely to miss. The 20th? 21st? Sometime between the beginning of school holidays and Christmas, I recall that much.

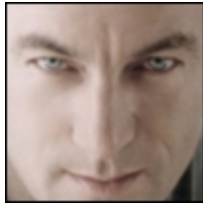
I'm surprised you haven't seen the albums. Narcissa was a model before we married. And very sought after as well. But when Draco was born she decided not to return - until now, that is.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-04 02:49:40](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I know she *used* to be a model. I just meant she'd make a lovely model right now too.

And yes, it's the 21st. It's a Tuesday evening. Mother will be pleased to hear you're coming. Prospero too, I'd warrant.




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-04 02:56:22](#)
(no subject)

I think so as well, Little Bit. She claims she needed to reduce by two stone but she looks as trim to me as the day we married. Mind, she has strengthened a good deal on her current regimen and that is worth keeping.

Yes, I thought it crafty of them to plan an evening affair - much simpler and it saves everyone the loss of a whole day at that time of year. Though from Campbell's perspective I'm sure he had more of an eye toward the financial advantage than that of the timetable.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:03:18](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it is a second wedding for both of them. Although it's hard to tell sometimes, with all the fuss mum's making. She's having my dress changed *again*, even though the first two were

fine.




 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-10-04 02:51:53](#)**
(no subject)

You may not worry if my waistline has gained an inch or two between Draco and fifteen years of marriage, but believe me, the lens will! You're generous to say that it hasn't been necessary, though. But I am rather proud of myself and I've no intention of giving up the extra exercise once this ordeal is over. Though the modelling - that I am rather glad to have left as a full-time occupation!

Are you and Ari still poring over documents? I'm just about to return from Diana's. We've had quite the hen party.




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:00:50](#)**
(no subject)

I would never stand in your way, love, if you felt the need to run from New London to Cardiff in order to maintain yourself, but it is also true that you have never let yourself go in the time I have known you.

So there was not nearly as much to do as you imagined. The camera will capture you as well as it always has, I've no doubt about it.


Ari and I set the books aside two hours ago; I have been home for some time. Shall I wait a while longer before my last nightcap?



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:01:25](#)**
(no subject)

Just a few minutes longer - I'll be home directly.



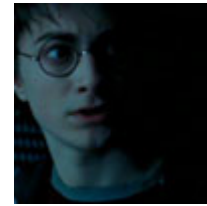
 **alt_draco** at **2010-10-04 04:08:04**
(no subject)

It's been a full week, Father, but a lot of things have happened. I think you'll be happy to hear about most of them though. I'll be sending an owl off at breakfast tomorrow.

2010-10-03 19:53:00

Grim.

Well Tuesday we have our very last day of tea leaves. We aren't even doing a full class, just one cup of tea, then moving on.




 [alt_harry](#)

I know I'm going to get the grim again and then I'm going to fail. Professor Carpenter doesn't think that it really is. Only it is. I mean I suppose it makes sense. That I would get the grim. And nothing else looks like a grim really. Even she can't say what else it is. Only that it's not a grim. But it is. So she's going to fail me for this whole section I just know it.

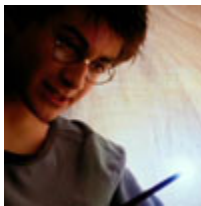
Father is going to kill me.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-04 01:27:32](#)
(no subject)

Well, that would explain the Grim.

Joking! Joking!




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-10-04 03:35:38](#)
(no subject)

It does, doesn't it!!

I hadn't even thought of that. Heh.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-04 01:32:55](#)
(no subject)


It's bloody unfair Professor Carpenter insists it's not a Grim.

I mean, for Merlin's sake, she did say in her beginning lecture that you have to pay attention to your own instincts as well -- all that rot about training the Inner Eye -- but then she doesn't believe what YOU see in your OWN teacup.

Just because you should look FIRST for the nice explanation doesn't

mean the nasty one is NEVER right. I don't mean to say I think you're doomed but it's a valid interpretation. It seems like.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-04 02:41:37](#)**
(no subject)

Well, just because he has a Grim doesn't mean he's going to pop his clogs, either, right?

I mean, it's a sign, but it doesn't mean certain death. Just that someone's trying to come after him. And we know someone's coming after him - someone's always coming after him. But that's why Professor LeStrange is here, and the Dementors, to keep him safe. So it makes sense he's seeing the Grim, but not that it means he's in for it.

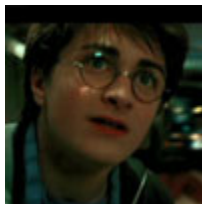
Maybe he is in danger, but Hogwarts is probably about the safest place in the world, next to someplace like Buckingham.




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:37:29](#)**
(no subject)

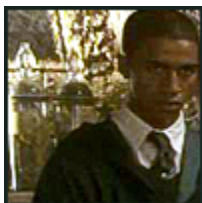
Well, exactly.


Which is why I don't see why Professor Carpenter is so convinced it CAN'T be a Grim.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:38:10](#)**
(no subject)

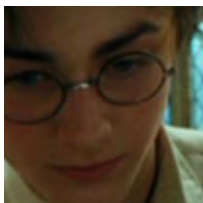
Well, Buckingham isn't that safe, I mean, think of all the times they've seen people skulking about. But I don't think it's really a problem. I mean just like you said somebody's always after me but I'm always actually safe or anyway I can take care of myself.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:29:39](#)**
(no subject)

Well, surely it means more that you're in the thick of it in Dark Arts. Professor Carrow seems pleased enough. And you're not having trouble in Arithmancy, are you? And Creatures is a lark, so don't let this

Divination thing get you down. It's probably just that you're doing yourself to death writing homework parchments for them all. Stop that and you'll quit seeing the Grim in your leaves!

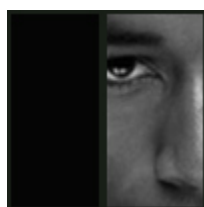


 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:36:32](#)**

(no subject)

I don't know. I suppose it might mean more than that.

Also Carrow is ~~creepy~~ an odd bird.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:41:25](#)**

(no subject)

Well. If it is, we've got your back. You know that, right?

True enough, but I guess I've met a fair few even odder. It's about knowing how to get on, isn't it? Regardless.

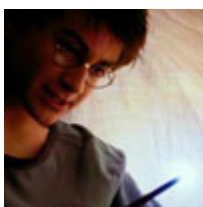


 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-10-04 04:00:06](#)**

Private message to Harry Marvolo

Harry,

I was talking to Daphne at her party last night and I got the impression that Professor Carpenter NEVER thinks anyone's tea leaves are bad, and that everything is always "auspicious." Is that true?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-04 05:14:27](#)**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

I think so.

I mean what else can a grim BE???



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-04 12:08:14](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

I don't know, since I'm not taking divination. Maybe you should poke around in the leaves when she's not looking and try to make a new shape out of them.

Anyway, it sounds like Professor Carpenter is either a bizarre optimist or she doesn't want to be held responsible for you getting the grim in her class.

2010-10-03 20:24:00

Private message to Padma Patil

Do you want to revise together this week? Dean Thomas asked if he could come along. Do you mind? I know you haven't always got along with him but he's trying, honestly, and the more he's tried to distance himself from Weasley the harder Weasel's tried to make it for him.



 **alt_seamus**

He's in that new program, the one Master Gibbon started.



 **alt_padma** at **2010-10-04 02:45:59**

(no subject)

Sure, we can get together, and Thomas too if he minds himself.

Tuesday or Thursday evening, but not both. Monday's Young Interrogators and of course Wednesday is History Club, and I have to keep up in Ravenclaw Corner at least twice a week.

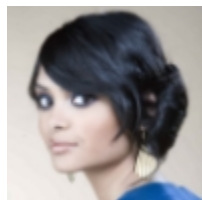
Also, now that Corner's out as well as a half-blood, I really can't do more than one night that's not an organised activity. You understand, right?



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-10-04 02:59:43**

(no subject)

Let's make it Tuesday. I'll let Thomas know he can come. And I wouldn't dream of getting in the way of your time in Ravenclaw corner, but I don't know what Corner turning out to be a halfblood has to do with it.



 **alt_padma** at **2010-10-04 03:09:06**

(no subject)


Oh, well, it's just that he often revised with me and Moon and Dunstan, and if I were to keep revising with him as well as you and now Thomas too, you know that Zabini will go on and on about how I'm too friendly with half-bloods. I mean, it's just you and Su Li, really, as you've both turned out to be well snitch, but now Corner's

halfblood and I've supported him and if we bring Thomas in too, which is okay, I'll just have to be careful not to spend so much time with you lot and not enough with the Slytherins or with the older kids at Ravenclaw Corner. See?

I mean, if it comes down to a choice I'll certainly keep you on, you're loads more fun than Corner. But I don't want to not revise with housemates in our year at all, either.

Maybe I'll just have to revise with Moon and Corner and Dunstan only twice a month, or something. I dunno, it sort of depends on whether Zabini keeps being a berk about Corner and whether Draco keeps backing him up or not.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:36:22](#)**
(no subject)

I see what you mean. Zabini is being a bit of a berk, isn't he? I hope he finds something new to get steamed about soon. Poor Corner. It must have been a nasty shock.

2010-10-03 20:26:00

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

Hey mate, I really dislike sending these messages, but I guess its pretty useful.



 **alt_dean**

I don't know about you, but It seems to be pretty uncomfortable in our dorm most of the time. I am told that some of our dorm mates consider me a back stabber. I just want things to be peaceful.

I guess you can tell that I have been even more quiet than usual. I guess I am pretty quiet anyway. But if I say much of anything people will think I am trying to get them in trouble. I wish there was a spare dorm in the tower sometimes. This would be much more pleasant without a certain someone giving me funny looks half the time.

Anyway, I haven't really told any one yet, but I received an invite into that programme Master Gibbon is running. I've accepted of course, but so much drama has been going on this past week. Especially with Corner's revelation, I decided to keep my mouth shut, as someone would be sure to say I was picking on him next.


Anyway would you like to revise sometime, maybe we can get together with Patil. I try to stay in the common room or library as late as I can. The pity party in our dorm drives me crazy. Or at least it did when we first got back. Now I just do whatever I can to ignore it all. I don't want to get mixed in with the stupid silly stuff.



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-10-04 01:25:13**
(no subject)

I'd be happy to revise with you mate, and I don't think Patil would mind. I'll ask, anyway. And I'm glad to hear you'll be in the program -- I reckon it'll lead to some good opportunities.



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-10-04 01:25:49**
(no subject)


As for the rest of our house, don't let them get you down. I think it's at least half jealousy.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-04 03:00:50](#)**
(no subject)

Patil has time to revise with us on Tuesday.



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2010-10-04 15:22:44](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks mate, that's great. I just get tired of revising by myself all the time.

2010-10-04 15:49:00

Order Only: Happy birthday, Minerva


We don't say it often enough: thank you for your leadership, and for your bravery in protecting the children and continuing to glean information for us, even in the most dangerous venues.



 [alt_molly](#)

Somehow, a tin of shortbread seems a pitifully small acknowledgment, but it's sent with heartfelt thanks. Even love. Do enjoy it. (Remus provided the cinnamon.)



 [alt_bill](#) at **2010-10-04 20:58:06**

(no subject)

I've sent along some Scotch that I'm sure will make the shortbread even more enjoyable.

Slàinte, Minerva, and happy birthday.




 [alt_kingsley](#) at **2010-10-04 21:03:49**

(no subject)

Happy birthday, my friend.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2010-10-04 21:47:05**


(no subject)

Too right, Molly dear!

Minerva, the children have sent along a bundle of thank you notes (charmed for security of course!) and some drawings you might find amusing.

We can never thank you enough for all you do. You are a true inspiration to the people at Moddey Dhoo (including me!), and I'm so grateful for your help and guidance. It isn't easy building a school from the ground up, and we could not have done it without you.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-10-04 22:51:54](#)**
(no subject)

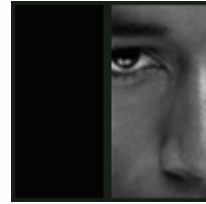
Many happy returns, Minerva.

I have a bit of a remembrance for you that I collected during my travels. I'll pop up with it this evening.

I assure you it is an altogether better bottle than that Sea-Buckthorn liqueur our friend Mr Cooper had me send you from Branton Burrows.

2010-10-04 20:36:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Harry Marvolo



 **alt_blaise**

Do you see what Corner's saying in his journal? That MLE think we're behind some robbery at his parents' apothecary shop.

How daft is that?

I'm sure saying outrageous stuff like that's going to make everyone believe him now!

Want to wager on when exactly MLE will turn up to question us? My galleon's on September 35th.



 **alt_draco at 2010-10-05 03:58:32**

(no subject)

Did you see that Weasley left him a private message? What do you want to bet that it says?

"Sorry you're an outcast now.

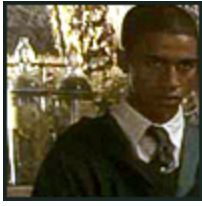
So, yeah.


I was thinking, wanna be outcasts together?

We can throw rocks at the lake and I'll dream about being best mates with Harry Marvolo while you dream about being best mates with Teddy Nott.

So, yeah. See ya later."

People weren't nearly as hard on Corner as they could have been; he ought to have known people would be sceptical. Lying about your blood isn't a lark, it's serious.




 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-05 04:27:27](#)
(no subject)

I know, really. Corner's been ridiculous.

Honestly, he and Weasley deserve each other. Big girls' blouses, both of them.

And completely mental for thinking Teddy or Harry would want them around.



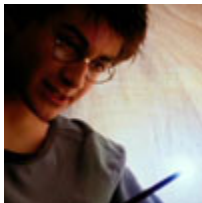
 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-10-05 16:28:36](#)
(no subject)


Weasley makes me

Oh

I bet they're slagging off on us too.

Why would any of US do something like that. Corner's life's going to be bad enough now anyway. Who would ever lie like that, is what I want to know. Surely they knew it'd come out.



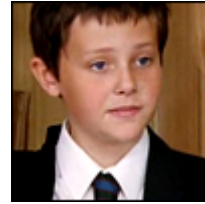
 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-10-05 16:30:40](#)
(no subject)

What a tosser.

2010-10-04 21:00:00

(no subject)

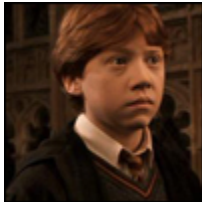
The apothecary shop that my mother and step-father own was robbed two days ago. Mum wrote.




 **alt_michael**

MLE said it might be connected to all the gossip about us here at school.

Look. I didn't know I was a halfblood before she told me about Master Gibbon's programme. So whoever thinks I did, you can shut it. I may not like them lying to me, but that's no reason for anyone to break into their shop and help themselves.



 **alt_ron** at **2010-10-05 02:13:02**
Private Message to Michael Corner

Hey.

I didn't say anything before because I figured you might think it made things worse if they all saw me talking to you. And, y'know, if you want I guess you can tell them I'm saying something rubbish here if you don't want anyone to think you have anything to do with me.

It's just that I want you to know I think it's rotten what people have said. It's not like you're any different whether you're halfblood or pureblood or who your parents are. You're just you. And people should either like you or not like you for who you are, right?

But they don't. Or, anyway, the people who think they count don't think like that. So they thought you were fine until you told us about your parents, and now they've completely changed their minds and think it's okay to be nasty about you.

Yeah. So anywiz, I guess I just wanted to say that I'm sorry you had to find out that's how people can be.

That's all.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-10-05 02:40:24](#)

Re: Private Message to Michael Corner

Well not everyone's rubbished me. Patil and Finnigan, they've been sports about it all. But it's mostly Zabini who's being thick and spouting off all the time. Just when I think everyone's moved on, you know?

I guess people can believe all sorts of daft things. Like how everyone thought you tried to get Marvolo killed.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-05 03:08:14](#)

Re: Private Message to Michael Corner

Yeah, people believe all sorts of daft things. And some of them say mean stuff that's totally daft-- even when they don't believe a bit of what they're saying.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2010-10-05 02:51:09](#)

(no subject)

I'm sorry, Michael.

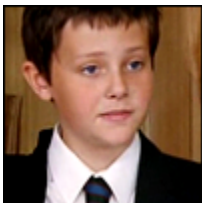


 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-10-05 02:52:57](#)

(no subject)

Indeed it is not.

I am sure that your mother and step-father have consulted with the MLE, who have very good investigators who will certainly get to the bottom of this.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-10-05 13:06:37](#)

(no subject)

They've consulted, but it sounds as if MLE don't think they'll ever catch the person who did it.


They didn't leave any traces, see. And they can't be sure it was harassment, I guess, because the place wasn't

vandalised or anything, just some valuable ingredients gone. But they said with the timing it was more than likely someone deciding to punish my mum and step-father because of me, yeah.

Anyway, luckily they didn't take much. Dad My step-father has to redo all the warding spells and replace a window. Oh, and the stock, of course.

I just don't want it happening again.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-05 13:13:03](#)
Order Only

That's odd.

When I went to Sheffield the only 'evidence' I could turn up that Snape had been around was that an apothecary's shop in the area had been robbed.


People said they saw a shady character in the vicinity and two days later there was this break-in. No one recalled any other theft in town or nearby in years. And the owner said the thief took lacewing flies. Nothing else, just lacewings. Except that whoever it was disturbed a whole load of other things.

Now this robbery in New London, another apothecary shop?

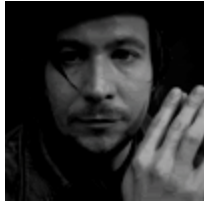
You ask me, MLE are hiding behind this ridiculous story that the robbery was motivated by prejudice.

Bill, do you think you might be able to find out anything about *other* apothecary shop break-ins over the last, say, two months?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2010-10-05 14:44:36](#)
Re: Order Only

could whoever it is be looking for polyjuice ingredients?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-05 14:49:15](#)

Re: Order Only

Would make sense, wouldn't it? Although lacewings are used in a few other potions, if I remember right. Growth, engorgement, compression - I remember we had to make that incredibly tricky Vanishing Solution for our NEWT, that had a load of lacewing flies in.

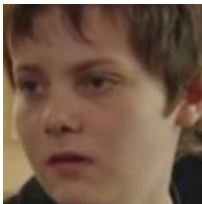
I wish I knew what ingredients had been taken from the Corners' shop! It's hard to tell with only one item on the shopping list....



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-05 03:46:11](#)

(no subject)

Are you serious? The MLE thinks that a couple of thieves robbed your parents apothecary in *New London* because of gossip happening *all the way over at Hogwarts*. Corner, you obviously don't know the first bloody thing about how the MLE works.

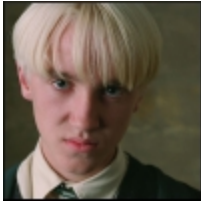



 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-10-05 13:03:09](#)

(no subject)

No, that's what my Mum said MLE told them - that whoever robbed them might have targetted their shop because of reading all the gossip in the journals, and wanting to sort of rub salt in the wound, that sort of thing. Sort of a grown-up version of the way people rubbished me in the last week or so, since it came out that my mum ~~lied~~ hadn't been certain I was a half-blood on account of how I could have been Corner's son for real.

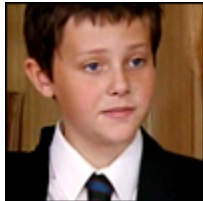
MLE are the ones who thought it was, er, motivated out of the news. I'm not making it up, that's what they said.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-05 14:26:34](#)
(no subject)

They said it because they're more or less telling your parents to live with it. They've got better things to be doing, MLE, haven't they?

You know, Corner, if you were really raised to believe you were pureblood, then it only follows that you should understand why some people are sceptical of your whole situation. Lying about blood purity is a serious offence, not something to be shrugged off with an "oh, sorry, made a quafflepock." If people react as if it doesn't matter, then what's to stop other people from lying about their lineage?




 [alt_michael](#) at [2010-10-05 14:43:58](#)
(no subject)

I thought MLE were there to protect everyone, in point of fact. But they said something similar, that it was a really minor break-in and they thought it'd be an isolated incident.

As for people being skeptical, yeah, I'm not particularly surprised, but there's a difference between that and rubbishing me left right and centre. It's because I was raised like a pureblood that I'd have thought people would believe that I wouldn't lie about it in the first place - not knowingly, anyway. If I'd been told different, I'd have said so, and not lied about it at all - because I know it's important to be truthful about it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-05 14:57:14](#)
(no subject)

To protect people, not cauldrons.

You've hardly been rubbished at all, Corner. Most people have extended their sympathy to you, as far as I know. A few of us reserve the right to analyse the situation further, and you whinge like someone sprinkled dragon dung into your breakfast. It's seriously unbecoming. And stop trying to pull aside Teddy for a talk when he's made it clear that he isn't interested.

2010-10-05 12:21:00

Order Only: Thank you all for your best birthday wishes



Molly, Bill, Kingsley, Poppy, all of you at Moddey Dhoo - thank you for the lovely gifts and thoughts.

 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

I was pleased to see Poppy on my birthday, but our celebrations were rather modest - only a bit of conversation, and a dent put into Bill's Scotch (and rather more than a dent put into the shortbread, Molly. Delicious).

Someday, I hope to be able to celebrate in rather different style, when we may all see each other face-to-face; but nevertheless you made the day memorable and lovely.

2010-10-05 18:04:00

Order Only

I believe my day would have made even Paracelsus weary. And to think it began with Professor Carpenter's assurance over breakfast that today looked to be most auspicious! (I hope one of you lot enjoyed my share of felicity.)



 [alt_poppy](#)

The circus began just after breakfast when one of our older students arrived, sporting a rather advanced case of the clap. I suppose he could deny the urgency of his symptoms no longer. Of course, this sort of thing never ends with one case, though it's fortunate that he was quite certain he'd got it before coming to school. Nonetheless, his list of persons with whom he's had relations of a sufficiently personal nature will require a number of awkward interviews in the days ahead. And, of course, I had no choice but refer him to Minerva for the disciplinary consequences of his having knowingly endangered the health of several of his classmates.

After that, and in quick succession, I've had six cases of stomach cramp, two stanch-resistant nosebleeds, one severely allergic reaction to sneezewort, one runespoor bite, and not one but two children with limbs broken in a late-afternoon flying mishap. I suppose all the first years with any aptitude for flying have already tested out, so we're down to those who are terrified, vertiginous, or hopelessly inept. On the bright side, it's been years since Madam Hooch has had a fatality, so I'm sure they'll all muddle through eventually.

I don't suppose you'd care for a nightcap again tonight, Minerva? By the time I've finished the day's parchmentwork, I'm sure it would be welcome.

2010-10-06 20:06:00

(no subject)

I can't recall when I've been so nervous - and it's ridiculous, I know! But I've hardly been able to eat supper and I'm sure I'll not get a wink's sleep. When this photo shoot is over I shall be so relieved ... until I see the results, I'm sure!



 [alt_narcissa](#)

But I am most grateful that I set aside all other commitments today for a full day of pampering at Ardenia's. One never really contemplates the meaning of looking ten years younger until those ten years really do make a difference.

I'm not even vexed that I had to dine alone. Lucius had an impromptu supper engagement following court. But I'm in such a state I don't think I'd be fit company even for my own husband. As it is, I have hardly been able to keep my mind on something as simple as cards! I honestly don't think I've been as keyed up since sitting for the NEWTs.

Perhaps my time would be better spent reviewing the calendar and determining which commitments can be relinquished in the next couple of weeks.

Oh, and Mariah - Cooper is a delight. He came armed with a few preliminary sketches for Kensington and made quite an impressive showing of it. We discussed the relationships of his sculptures to magical gardening and the horticulture of rare plants as well as features that would yield practical as well as aesthetic results. He is certainly an expert in his Herbology, as well as Transfiguration! You might consider inviting him to the WI for one month's tea.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-10-07 01:09:49**

(no subject)

I cannot *wait* to see the photos, Aunt Narcissa. I am sure they will be just *beautiful*.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-07 01:29:31](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm glad to have your vote of confidence, Pansy. But I'm afraid I suffer from experience: I have seen before the sad results when a witch who ought to have better sense decides to take one last wild

broom ride.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-07 14:09:59](#)
(no subject)

Narcissa.

I trust it's all going smoothly today.

I have a matter to discuss with you--by way of reporting--but it can await your convenience. You'd be welcome to stop in here to the office, or I'd be happy to come to you. Whatever you prefer.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-07 17:52:12](#)
(no subject)

We've taken a break, which is perhaps the most encouraging thing I can say thus far.

No, that's not true: Revati followed my recommendation and did not hire the ghastly Miss Calderwood. And the other young ladies are all perfectly suited to their robes.

In any case, I look forward to hearing your news. I was just saying that it's been too long since we've seen you at the Manor. Would you care to come to supper next week? I'll be in need of a friendly face after this weekend's engagements: the Burroughs' anniversary following the Troy wedding. I do quite like Mrs Burroughs but Adolphus will tell the same stories over and over ... one might as well be listening to Walburga Black for all one can put in a word.

Oh - and blast, I meant to tell Aleta that I can't go to the WI's lecture on Monday night. Well, Tuesday, then?

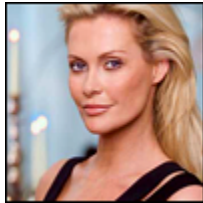



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-07 18:23:34](#)
(no subject)

Tuesday evening, then. I look forward to it, and I can tell you outright that you may set your mind at ease on the matter. Certainly, there's no cause for you to worry between now and then: what I have to report should relieve your concerns altogether.

Oh, also. As it will no doubt make you laugh: mother sent me a gift yesterday for no apparent reason in the world (other than her desire to register that hope springs eternal in the maternal breast) packed with all and sundry items necessary for hosting card parties. I've given a cursory glance to the very comprehensive *Universal Strategies for Winning Card Play*, and it appears I have a great deal to learn!

The world is a quieter place in Mrs Black's absence, is it not? Though I had a meeting this morning in Nottingham with a woman who is acutely reminiscent of her; I wasn't entirely sure of escaping the conversation unhexed.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-07 22:33:54](#)
(no subject)

Either she's in a very giving mood or she's had a cleaning out! She sent me a number of albums of photographs, many of them with Aunt Lucretia or Great-Aunt Charis in them. And also a rather decorative deck of cards.

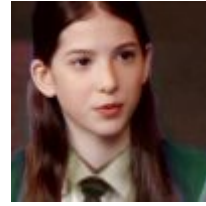
Perhaps you'd better have the cards, as well as the book on play. I'm afraid you're rather hopeless when it comes to totting up what's been played.

I don't suppose I'll need to send her a note as I shall see her Monday for the WI. Unless I do decide to cancel after all.

2010-10-07 15:44:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Steer clear of Martha Yaxley today. I don't know what happened but she is FURIOUS about something and hexing anyone who so much as crosses her path at the wrong moment.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

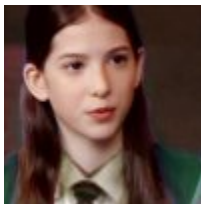


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-07 21:26:15](#)

(no subject)

I'd bet she had a row with a boy.

All those sixth and seventh years just go *spare* over one another, honestly, it's so fun to watch.

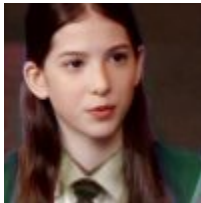


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-07 22:29:23](#)

(no subject)

Probably.

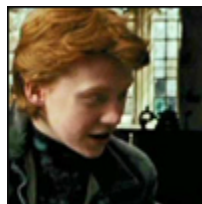
Chastity Derwent spent most of the day crying in the loo, I heard.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 00:59:03](#)

(no subject)

Come to think of it, wasn't Yaxley seeing Orion Sandoval? And she hexed Honoria.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-08 03:04:41](#)

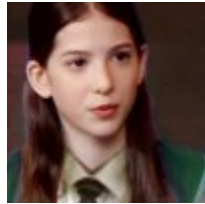
(no subject)

Towler says Sandoval was snogging someone out behind the Quidditch pitch one afternoon when he went out there. But it wasn't Yaxley. He's sure of that.

So if Sandoval's seeing Yaxley, he's not just seeing her.

Maybe.


If Towler's not just talking rot. It's hard to tell sometimes.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 03:20:04](#)
(no subject)

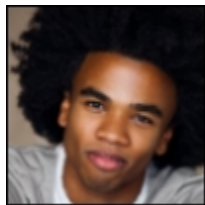
Well, if Sandoval's double-timing her and Yaxley found out that would maybe explain why she was so cross?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-08 14:23:44](#)
(no subject)

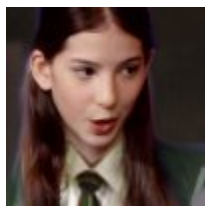
No wonder.

That's an awful thing to do. But it doesn't surprise me, really to hear it about Orion Sandoval. Honoria's all right, but Orion's just about as nasty as his older sister.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2010-10-08 14:24:27](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. It's a wonder he ever gets girls to snog him in the first place.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 17:00:11](#)
(no subject)

Apparently he's snogged quite a few. That IS why Chastity Derwent was crying and I heard a rumour there was yet another girl in some other House -- either Gryffindor or Hufflepuff. I don't know if it's true, though, as no one seems to know who it is.

Well, also I heard Felicia Green was seen hurrying off to the infirmary this morning and apparently anyone who snogged Orion has to go to be seen by Madam Pomfrey. But she's a half-blood! So I think she's probably just ill.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-07 21:50:34](#)
(no subject)

No bloody joke!

I hear she hexed Honoria Sandoval's nose off this afternoon!! Seriously. They had to carry it along when they took her to the hospital wing!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 00:54:20](#)
(no subject)

Hexed her NOSE off? That can't possibly be true.

Ask your sister, she was probably there, she's spending a lot of time with Honoria these days isn't she?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-08 03:00:17](#)
(no subject)


Yeah, I heard it was bleeding all over the place. All. Over. The. Place.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 03:20:29](#)
(no subject)


Ew ew EW, I don't believe you Ron Weasley!



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-08 14:21:19](#)
(no subject)

Well, you should. There are bloodstains to prove it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-08 14:52:51](#)
(no subject)

Oh, *double eww*.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 16:53:27](#)
(no subject)

Well.

I heard from Aurelia that Martha Yaxley said afterward it was practise. It's what she intends to do with Orion's -- uh, Orion's boy parts.

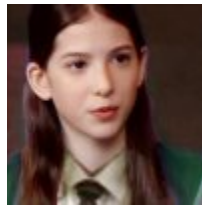
And Melinda Pennifold, she's the newest girl prefect, took every girl aside and asked us if we'd ever snogged Orion? And even when I said no, she said that if I HAD I needed to go see Madam Pomfrey right away and I shouldn't worry about gossip, I could just go during the day and no one would know, especially Martha.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-08 17:04:40](#)
(no subject)

Blimey.

Well, everyone knows Madam Pomfrey keeps students' secrets. Still. It must be embarrassing for everybody.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 17:06:55](#)
(no subject)

Well the problem is, now everyone's watching to see who goes to the infirmary. (At least all the Slytherin girls are.)

I reckon YOU'RE safe going if you feel sick -- no one's ever heard of Orion snogging a boy!



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-08 19:01:07](#)
(no subject)

Of course not.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-08 19:01:41](#)
(no subject)

He's really not the type.

To the relief of all the other boys, no doubt.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-08 19:02:06](#)
(no subject)

Wait a minute.

You mean there are boys that do?




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-08 19:03:05](#)
(no subject)

Nev, you're a third year.

There are some things you shouldn't know
until at least fifth year.

Trust us.

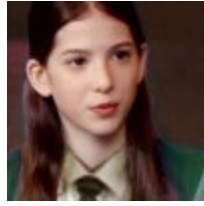


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-08 18:25:17](#)
(no subject)

Which is a complete and utter lie, of course.

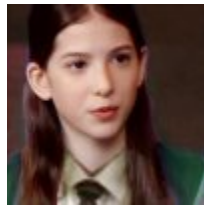
everyone would know. Especially Martha.

I wonder if Melinda ever was involved with Orion, and is trying
to cover for it?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 19:12:52](#)
(no subject)

It's true everyone would know. I heard at lunch everyone had been talking about poor Felicia Green and it turns out she went because she was throwing up (and of course then someone joked that maybe Orion had gotten her preggers, but for Merlin's sake, if she were GOING to do anything like that she'd use a contraception charm, she's not a complete halfwit.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 19:19:31](#)
(no subject)

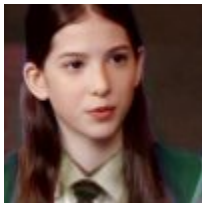
And I can't see Melinda going on with Orion. First of all, I heard she's got a crush on Magnus Derrick. Second, she'd be too scared of Martha.

BUT. If Cassandra had been carrying on with Orion she MIGHT try to cover for Cassandra. Don't you think?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 00:56:19](#)
(no subject)

Still, it's lucky for Yaxley that Lana Sandoval is gone from Hogwarts. Not that Honoria was her favourite sibling but she wouldn't take kindly to Yaxley just attacking her. (I heard she accused Honoria of laughing at her, when Honoria was laughing at something else entirely.)




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-08 17:04:02](#)
(no subject)

Did you see all of Lana Sandoval's private messages today? She wrote to both Orion and Honoria. She probably blamed Honoria for having her nose hexed off. And then blamed Orion, too, for good measure.

Martha's still furious. I'm staying well clear of her, even though I'm not related to Orion Sandoval or to Chastity Derwent or to anyone

else who's had anything to do with this. I'm staying out of the infirmary unless I'm REALLY sick, the next few days -- I don't want anyone thinking I might have been one of Orion's girlfriends!



 **alt_ron** at [2010-10-08 19:15:46](#)

(no subject)

Oh. *EWV!*

All this talk about snogging--that's what's gross!

2010-10-07 22:25:00

Private Message to Orion Sandoval



 [alt_lana](#)

I am so angry with you right now I could spit. Thanks to your idiocy I've just been hauled out of a very important lecture to answer questions for St Mungo's public health brigade, who have been trying fruitlessly to search out the mysterious witch you claim to have got off with that night at Highgate. Couldn't I tell them whom I'd seen you in company with that night?

Do you realise that they'll be repeating this conversation with everyone anyone mentions to them until they eventually track her down?

What in Merlin's Auspicious Name were you thinking?

I suppose you think a bit of notoriety will stand you in good stead? Well, I assure you your family will feel it otherwise: I've never been so humiliated!

Orion.

At least Martha needn't worry she's caught anything; they assured me a person would have to have had intimate 'contact' with you to have got it from you. But she must be so hurt to think you'd do this. You'd been seeing her for weeks by then. You were with her that evening!

Ugh.

Honestly. It's just too awful to think about.

ARGH! Now it's all over Hogwarts, and I'm having to hear about it from everyone. You are a wretched, insufferable, horrible idiot.

2010-10-08 09:25:00

Private Message to Lana Sandoval

Lana,

I'm so sorry to bother you when I'm sure you're ever so busy in the training programme, but you probably ought to know that Orion's gone rather mad.



 [alt_padma](#)


It started a little earlier this week. Well, I guess it started earlier than that, since Chang says he's been having some trouble for a while, and Chang finally made him go see Madam Pomfrey. I dunno what for. But I think it's something to do with, er, his -- Chang said he was having to go to the toilet a lot more often than normal. But I'm not sure what that has to do with why he should be so beastly to everyone! It's really his own fault if he's upset because Yaxley's cross with him.

And she is, terribly cross, because Towler caught him snogging Derwent. And Derwent said he's a cad and he told her off and said it was her fault. Her fault they got caught? I dunno. Well, then Chang said something odd yesterday about warning your brother that he oughtn't to have gone sneaking about with Chambers when she's had sore throat for two weeks. I dunno why Chang cares if everyone gets sore throat, though.

But anyway, he certainly got caught out with Derwent when everyone knows he and Yaxley have been spending loads of free time together. And Chambers - well, you know how she is. She's always trying to snog anyone, sore throat or not. I mean, I could believe she started everyone getting colds, but not Derwent. Well, the thing is, I can understand if he's upset because Yaxley found out, but honestly, he's driving everyone to distraction. Yesterday he threw everyone out of Ravenclaw Corner! EVERYONE! And he was so loud about it that Madam Pince came over and told we all had to leave, Orion included! Then he went and told Dames she could 'have it' but I dunno from the way he said it if he meant the Corner or the plague.

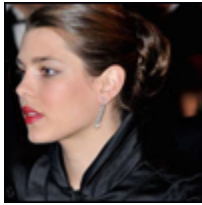
Please, no one knows how to talk to him and I'm afraid if he goes on like this he'll shout at a Professor, maybe not the Carrows but someone like Professor Lestrangle, and then he'll really be in trouble. Can you talk to him?




 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-10-08 14:03:59](#)
Patil.

It's Orion's own lookout what he does.

I've washed my hands.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2010-10-08 14:20:06](#)
(no subject)


But, Patil. You might want to go today and apologise to Madam Pince on behalf of the Corner. Promise her that there will be no further disruptions.

In fact, you might suggest to Dames that the two of you go in together. That way, if you need to, Dames could offer that some of you would help Madam Pince clean smuts and smudges off the books that firsties always use. She's always fussing about that.

At any rate, don't you get up Dames' nose by doing anything behind her back, but it would stand you well to suggest something productive if you manage it correctly.

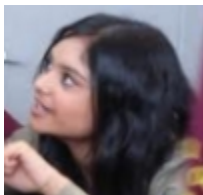
Oh. Also. Don't pay too much mind to anything Xi Chang says. He can be a perfect tosser sometimes.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-08 14:32:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh. Okay, I will.

Only I don't think Chang's a tosser, most of the time. But maybe you're right. I heard he told Orion that he doesn't care if his willie falls right off, and that's really about as horrid a thing to say to a boy as I can think of.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-08 14:33:10](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and thanks! I see you sent him a note. Maybe he'll be more reasonable. Or at least if he isn't, he'll leave the rest of the Corner alone.

2010-10-08 10:18:00

Private Message to Honoria Sandoval

Honoria, dear.

I've only just heard what happened to you yesterday. Of course, it's beastly that Orion's mistakes should have such a terrible cost for poor Martha. I know she must have been utterly beside herself to have done such a thing. I trust you were only in the wrong place at an unfortunate time and that you did not, as some have been saying, snicker rudely about her as she went by.



 [alt_lana](#)

In any case, I trust that Madam Pomfrey was able to set things right in short order. And who knows? Perhaps your nose will look the better for it once it's healed.

The elves were able to take the stains out of your robes, I hope. It would be far better if you didn't write to Mama complaining about it, you know. And certainly, you oughtn't to bother Papa. In fact, it might be altogether best if you would let me know whether you need something ordered from Madam Malkins' to replace what's been spoiled. I'll take care of it for you.

And, of course, whatever you do, you mustn't let this business distract you from your studies. Perhaps it's just the impetus you've needed to find a quiet seat deep in the library where no one will be tempted to gawk at you and where you can really apply yourself to your work. That would be putting a positive face on a trying situation.

2010-10-08 10:37:00

Harvest

The harvest reports are coming in, and the news, I am cautiously pleased to say, is good for the most part. Wheat and barley are up from last year. Oats are a bit down, but still above the harvest two years ago. Turnips and potatoes are also strong, which means that I hope we will not be facing major food shortfalls through the winter. This is particularly gratifying considering the labour shortages some of the work crews are working around due to the reduction in numbers from the epidemic of Black's paralysis last year. Of course, the work crews were supplemented somewhat with the newly awakened. The new hands, of course, are rather green at most of the tasks, slowing the work, but we have had great luck with the weather, which has certainly helped.



 [alt_arthur](#)

An excellent beet crop means that there may even be a more steady supply of sugar available than there has been for the past five years, perhaps even enough to spare some for muggles, on a limited basis, of course. There are those who argue that such luxuries shouldn't be wasted on animals, naturally, but there is no doubt that an occasional indulgence can help keep the population more docile.

There have been reports of some rot destroying a good portion of the cabbage crop, however. We will have to keep an eye out for reports of scurvy this winter.

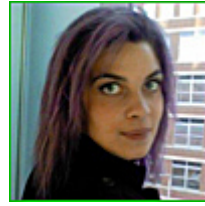
2010-10-08 11:39:00

Order Only

Well. I was still feeling a bit under the weather, so I popped in to see the healers at St Mungo's this morning, the same ones who looked after me when I was ill before. Everything's absolutely fine.

Nothing to worry about what so ever.

They gave me a potion to help clear the symptoms, and in fact I feel better already just knowing I'm absolutely fine. I suppose I was probably just overreacting, thinking it might be related to my illness from before.



 **alt_nymphadora**

So, nothing to worry about. There we go. Good news all around.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2010-10-08 16:43:08**

Order Only: Private Message to Remus Lupin - about the shop

Where are you?




 **alt_nymphadora** at **2010-10-08 16:49:27**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Remus Lupin - about the shop

WHERE ARE YOU??



 **alt_lupin** at **2010-10-08 16:51:54**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Remus Lupin - about the shop

Good grief, what's the matter? I'm in the shop now, everything's fine. No need to panic.




 **alt_nymphadora** at **2010-10-08 16:54:06**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Remus Lupin - about the shop

Stay there, I'm on my way back. Do not move.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-10-08 16:43:29](#)**
(no subject)

It's wonderful they were able to give you such a cheering report.


I'm very glad to hear that all is well.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2010-10-08 16:48:47](#)**
(no subject)


Yes, it was quite a relief to hear that everything's fine.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-10-08 16:57:03](#)**
(no subject)

Good on ya, then, cousin. Hope you mend soon.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2010-10-08 17:02:16](#)**
(no subject)

I'm very relieved to hear it.

[2010-10-08 12:33:00](#)

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

They're gorgeous. Thank you.

But a joint present? 'From Athena and Barty'?
What's next - holiday cards? How positively domestic. You really ought not to let your mother catch any wind of it or she'll be sure to send out wedding invitations before you can cast an obliviation charm on her.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)**

How fortunate I shan't really be seeing her on Monday, don't you agree? Lucius has the Nimbus Board and I'm sure will go for drinks after. My cards and I shall be home by half-five and I intend to spend the evening in quiet contemplation of my flowers.




 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2010-10-08 17:12:19](#)**
(no subject)

Pleased you like them.

And, yes, Athena tells me that very large bunches of flowers are just the thing to give when a famous woman has a notable achievement. You're quite right about mother. Fortunately, I think Athena's no more keen than I am to make things any more formal than they currently are.

I'm afraid mother has long since had to reconcile herself to being less than satisfied with me. I trust I'm not found so disappointing in all quarters.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-10-08 22:27:04](#)**
(no subject)

Disappointing? Not at present, no.

I'm quite proud to take the credit for arranging that you meet Athena. She seems just the sort who is suited to your habits.

Most of them, anyway.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-09 03:11:45](#)
(no subject)

You're quite right about that. And she takes the rest of them admirably in stride; in fact, I believe it suits her quite as well for her part that we keep certain matters separate.

True as well that you deserve credit. Have I thanked you adequately?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-09 03:18:28](#)
(no subject)

I'll let you know when you may stop. Thanking me, that is.

2010-10-09 10:41:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Anyone want to go out to the pens today and see if those firecrabs have got any bigger? It's probably safer out there than inside today. Especially for you lot in Slytherin.



 [alt_ron](#)

At least we don't have to go to YPL again this week. Professor Lestrage's lessons are really nift, but that meeting last week was too boring. And Professor Sinistra was so much more, I dunno, 'the Protectorate this' and 'the Protectorate that' than usual. I guess it was because Professor Lestrage was there and she wanted to impress him. But honestly. I hope next month's is better.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-10-09 22:09:26**
(no subject)

Good idea. Pansy and I tried hiding out in the library but it's no use, Martha Yaxley came by twice trying to find Orion Sandoval, though I think the Ravenclaw Corner crowd gave him the boot. And with Chastity Derwent still creeping around (she's been tailing Siobhan, or when she's not about Kathryn Pyle, hoping Martha won't dare do anything to her in front of the Head Girl or a prefect) I think a pen of firecrabs is likely to be safer than the Slytherin common room!

2010-10-10 17:19:00

*Order Only: Private Message to
Remus Lupin*




Please come back now.

I can't do this on my own.

 [**alt_nymphadora**](#)



 [**alt_lupin**](#) at **2010-10-12 09:28:09**

(no subject)

I'm so sorry.

2010-10-10 20:10:00

Order Only

I wonder sometimes whether more than one or two parents these days tell their children anything at all about maturing bodies and matters of intimate health. I've spent a great many hours this week educating and reassuring children about the behaviours which might put them at risk of a social disease--and those which will not.



 [alt_poppy](#)

It's well that I do not melt when wet: I've been veritably drenched with tears this week as I've advised the young ladies compromised by contact with our resident Lothario. There are, it would seem, three cases of magnitude: one suffering unpleasant symptoms of the mouth and throat, the others experiencing no outward signs, but infected nonetheless. The only silver lining for one of those young witches was confirmation that she is not, as she had convinced herself, expecting.


But, of course, there has been a heavy additional toll in the form of contagious rumour and rampant misinformation. I have seen dozens of students of all stripes, worried quite sick that they might suffer dire consequences from having snogged someone who snogged someone who snogged someone who might have shared a pumpkin juice with a certain Person of Interest. And it's not just excitable females. Yesterday I reassured a young man concerned that he might have been infected by sharing a toilet with his now-infamous yearmate, only to have him back in my examining room today certain that he was suffering symptoms as a result of having stepped barefooted into the shower shortly after the young man in question had exited. I assured him that his 'symptoms' were a matter of thinking very much too much about the matter in question.

Meanwhile, we seem to be having rather a rash of hex injuries requiring my attention. Not a few of them related to this other business.

I have high hopes that with a new week we'll all move on to new matters here at Hogwarts. I hope that all of you are looking forward with hope to the week ahead.


Cheers.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-10-11 02:26:25](#)**
(no subject)

You know, occasionally I think I must have missed part of the Hogwarts experience by not skulking about bringing girls to all the secret nooks and crannies And then I hear about idiocy like this and I realise what I really missed was what the Muggles call a bullet!




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2010-10-11 14:25:49](#)**
(no subject)

Well, yes. Indeed.

The trouble is that at fifteen, sixteen, seventeen impulses quite outweigh reason (let alone knowledge). And at that age, there simply isn't enough maturity to cope with the consequences, social and personal.

Imagine if you had pursued such experience as a student: MLE would be quite overwhelmed with the burden of checking all possible leads on your potential offspring. Rumour has it that they've committed quite a lot of resources to that project as it is!



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-10-11 14:45:55](#)**
(no subject)

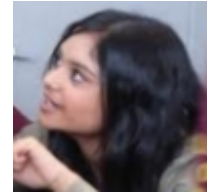
Oh, well, it hardly compares. I mean to say, I realised later I had a lot of lost time to make up! But even at fifteen, sixteen and seventeen, I can truthfully say that the last thing on my mind was dating - and the first thing I taught myself was how not to *catch* anything. Or leave anything more permanent than a pleasant memory, for that matter.

As for sprogs, I find the whole prospect of MLE tracking down my every liaison to be a marvellous waste of their time. But then I didn't know the house would seal itself and I daresay that's thrown a spanner into their midst. They're so desperate for an explanation other than the obvious that they'll go to any length to prove there are still Blacks in the direct line!

2010-10-11 15:32:00

Well, I thought the play committee

did rather well. Karoline's script is already well strong but she's taking all the suggestions people had and putting them into the third draft. Or maybe it's the fourth. Anyway, it's going to be brilliant.



 **alt_padma**

And I think everyone's going to really enjoy a chance to have some fun, particularly after all the trouble last week! Honestly, you'd think Derwent and Yaxley were trying out for 'The Witches of Wormwood' or something, the way they were carrying on. And Sandoval has been beyond insufferable! It's just as well he told Dames he'd not be coming to Ravenclaw Corner anymore, because it's been the only place where no one's come looking to throttle him all weekend. Only I think Dames would let him come back if he'd start talking sense, which sort of worries me, because honestly I think his behaviour has been deplorable. Not just getting Derwent and Yaxley and even Chambers all ill like that, but the way he treated them afterward, as if it was their fault for snogging him and not his at all!

I mean, by comparison, really anything our year's done has been trivial. Well - I can think of one or two people who've done terrible things and deserve what they've got.

But anyway, I think we've got the Corner all straightened out now, especially after Dames and I talked to Madam Pince (and thanks for that advice, Lana!).

I can't believe it's already more than a week into October! Oh, and Finnigan, we'll be revising with the others tonight - at least for a little while. It gets too crowded in that classroom, though, so we might just take a smaller group nearby for a little more room. (Honestly, we might just as well tell everyone to go to the Great Hall when it's that many people!)




 **alt_seamus** at **2010-10-12 02:11:02**
(no subject)

I think smaller groups make a lot of sense.


And UGH to Orion Sandoval! I completely agree he's been a complete git.



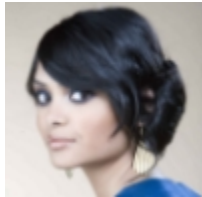
 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-12 02:47:17](#)
(no subject)


Yes, I think things went much better after we split off. Especially when Gupta tried practising his 'Lumos' charm. I think he was even worse than you when you started!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-12 02:49:35](#)
(no subject)


Oh? What did he light on fire?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-12 02:55:05](#)
(no subject)


Didn't you see? He made his hair stand on end and glow. And when Burbage got too close to him it made his hair stand up on end!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-12 03:00:14](#)
(no subject)

Psht. If there were no actual flames involved he is not yet my rival for mishaps with basic Charms!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-12 03:06:04](#)
(no subject)

No, it was because he was spilling over onto other people - with the smaller group the firsties could spread out more and no one else got bothered by it.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-12 02:21:35](#)

Private message to Padma

There's been all sorts of talk in the Gryffindor common room about Sandoval and his disease and HOW you get it (because I guess it's not really JUST snogging).

Someone said they knew a boy who got it from another BOY. One of the firsties ran out with his hands over his ears.

~~It reminded me I don't know if~~ Do you know any men who snog other men? Because I don't. Do you think he was having me on?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-12 02:32:12](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Well, I don't. But my mum does. Lots of designers and artists and like that. Hyperion, he's a pufta. Oh, and I think my dad said that the man who owns Presto Records, Tenebridge, he's a big one. I've never met him, though. But his robes are well flash and he has loads of rings and all. And of course there were all sorts of sordid articles about how Sirius Black would bugger anything, but he was just depraved, wasn't he? ~~I think his brother was too~~

There are also girls who snog girls, but it's harder to tell because girls are more naturally affectionate with one another, you know? But I heard someone say Jeannette Derrick was one, and sometimes I think Brocklehurst might be. Only sometimes she's sort of looking at Morag or Belinda in a rather queer way.

Dad says it's because they're not made right, but Mum tells him it's just that people are different to one another and not everyone is meant to get married and have loads of kids. But it's sort of weird, innit?



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-12 02:34:35](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Girls ARE more affectionate with one another, you lot can be dead puzzling, actually! Like when you're furious with each other one day and doing each

other's hair the next.

Interesting to know about the flash robes and rings and all. Is that how you can tell?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-12 02:42:58](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Well, boys are just as hard to understand. Like how you can eat five helpings of pudding and not get fat, or how you can go four days without a bath. Or when you're really thick - not you personally, I mean, but all of you, collectively.

I don't think it's the only way. I mean, I'm pretty sure that all those notes from Mrs Malfoy to Regulus Black about Ganymede Bobolis were because they were doing more than going to the club together. But the few times he was here Black never wore anything even remotely showy. And Professor Lockhart always wore exquisite robes and did his hair well and all, but he wasn't bent at all!

But I think if a wizard acts more like a witch, then that's usually a good sign he's a robe-lifter. Although I guess it stands to reason there must be some that aren't - I mean, someone has to be the man, right? They can't all be girls' blouses.

I dunno. Do you want me to ask Mum more? I mean, I know she knows a few and she'd know if they're all flamboyant like that.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-12 02:48:57](#)


Re: Private message to Padma

~~If you don't think she'd mind~~ You don't have to ask your mum, I was just curious. I suppose you're right about Lockhart. And Black.

Ganymede Bobolis, he edits that magazine doesn't he? Is he girly, since Regulus Black really wasn't? I mean he never seemed girly to me.

As far as pudding we can eat all we want because we're growing! That's what I've heard anyway. Don't ask me to explain about the baths some of the others don't take, I shower every day.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-12 03:04:37](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma

I dunno about Bobolis, I've never met him. But he didn't seem bothered at all to bid on Black in that auction thing. Or to wear fancy dress. But then fancy dress doesn't have to be girly, either, I suppose.

And if we ate all the pudding we wanted it would go straight onto our hips and ... other places where a girl doesn't want a lot of bulk! But even if you do take a shower every day, you still think disgusting things are funny - like dungbombs and belching and all.

Anyway. I just asked Euterpe what Ganymede's like and she said he's brilliant and not at all like a girl. Well, except that he has trouble growing his beard in, so he has a little moustache that's all blond and looks more like a girl's arm hair than a proper moustache, and she thinks he should just shave it. But she said he's fit and he doesn't dance any better than most boys. Whatever that means! Mostly boys hate to dance at all!



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-12 03:10:37](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma

Oh well, there's no accounting for the fact that girls don't find dungbombs funny.

And fancy dress doesn't have to be girly at all. Though wasn't there a man dressed up as a girl in that panto we saw? THAT would be a girly sort of fancy dress.

Do you think it's a good thing, or a bad thing, for a boy to like dancing?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-12 03:17:34](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma

Well. I think most girls would like a boy who likes to dance, and is somewhat good at it, because it's no fun to sit around all evening and not dance. But most boys are embarrassed

about dancing, which is silly, if you ask me.

But I guess that's because some girls might think that if a boy holds her on the dance floor it's because he fancies her, and the boy might not feel that way. So I can see why boys might not want to dance.

Though it's odd that you'd all be worried about looking like fools, since you do that every day without any kind of music playing at all.



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-10-12 03:24:39**

Re: Private message to Padma

Too true.



 **alt_seamus** at **2010-10-12 02:36:24**

Re: Private message to Padma

And I expect Sirius Black would have bugged animals if they'd hold still and not bite him. I wouldn't put anything past his kind.

2010-10-11 21:24:00

Private message to Geoffrey Hooper

I'm back from revising with Patel, are you back from the library? I heard you were looking for me earlier. Anyway, I'll go down to the common room and hope to catch you there.



 **alt_seamus**

2010-10-11 21:27:00

Fall term going well



 [alt_seamus](#)

I've hardly written in my diary at all this term because I've been so busy. Divination is a bit naff, I can see why Mr Rosier says it's good to know it's limitations. Though I suppose it's rather nice to write paper after paper about how my tea leaves say I'm going to be rich, famous, successful, I'm going to get a present or my favourite meal, have scholarly success, get O's on all my OWLs, and so on.

And one time they said I was going to get a present and I DID, Mr Rosier sent me a parcel with chocolate frogs and some nice tea. But the time the leaves said I was going to have my favourite meal, I can't remember what it was for dinner that night but it certainly wasn't anything I especially like.

Maybe I just Don't Have the Inner Eye, as Lav would say.

Dark Arts is more interesting. I expect Arithmancy would be interesting if I could understand what was going on half the time. Dark Arts is actually going well, though, I really think I'm going to do well in this class.

2010-10-12 20:29:00

Duelling Club


was wizard and how!

Sorry about knocking you off your feet, Bundy. But you got some good hits on me, too. I didn't notice the one on my ear until I went to the loo after: the purple tag marker came right off, though, and I don't think it's going to bruise. Anywiz, good show.



 [alt_ron](#)




 [alt_hannah](#) at **2010-10-13 01:44:44**
(no subject)

It was ever so much fun, wasn't it?


My ears haven't stopped itching yet, though. I thought it was a rather silly hex, but the Professor was right: distraction really can make a difference.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-10-13 01:55:04**
(no subject)

Yeah, too right about that!




 [alt_neville](#) at **2010-10-13 01:55:09**
(no subject)

'Tarantallegra' is another one you wouldn't think would work so well. But it's really hard to think of a counter-spell when your feet are flailing all over the place.


Or maybe it's just me, 'cause I'm such a horrible dancer anyway.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-13 01:46:54](#)
(no subject)


That was really brill, mate! Much more impressive than I managed against Dunstan.



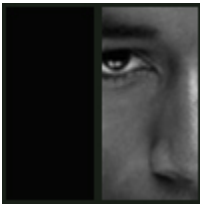
 [alt_luna](#) at [2010-10-13 01:49:27](#)
(no subject)


Really? She looked rather wobbly when she came back to the common room, so I thought she'd been hexed rather thoroughly. Did you do that?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-13 01:51:08](#)
(no subject)


Oh, no, that was Teddy Nott, I think. He was paired with her after me. Whatever he did, um, hit her rather hard I think, yeah.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-13 02:19:06](#)
(no subject)


So brave of you, Weasley. Always partnering halfbloods and halfwits. Makes you feel strong, does it?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-13 02:42:48](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Blimey. About as much as sneering does the same for you, I guess.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-13 02:50:40](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Don't mind him, Nev. He's all talk and no wand. Did you see him with Bulstrode tonight? She totally had him flat on the mat twice that I saw.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-13 02:53:49](#)**
(no subject)


It's not like you did so well. I saw Nott and Bulstrode both got the better of you.



 **[alt_blaize](#)** at **[2010-10-13 03:01:04](#)**
(no subject)

So that's your game? Make sure you've got the weakest partners so you can pad your ratings? You must make your housemates so proud.




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2010-10-13 19:25:31](#)**
(no subject)

I thought it was pretty wizard too!

I wasn't so sure about joining last year, but I'm glad I decided to give it a go this year!


I need to try to be a little faster on my feet though; I landed pretty hard when Fawcett caught me with that Jelly-Legs.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-13 20:15:25](#)**
(no subject)

It is a good workout, isn't it?




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2010-10-13 22:30:42](#)**
(no subject)

It is! And don't worry--I feel like I'm fairly pants too, most of the time.

I *know* a lot of the spells, but I just can't seem to think of them when I'm startled--and I guess I'm a little nervous of people doing real Dark Arts stuff, since I'm not taking it.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-13 22:42:22](#)
(no subject)

Well, I have trouble because I can't think on my feet like that. It's like you *know* so many things you *could* say, that by the time you *pick* one, a really good one that would be ace, your opponent has just up and hexed you.

Maybe we're both just overthinking things.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2010-10-13 22:54:14](#)
(no subject)

Probably, but have you ever tried to *stop* overthinking? It's not as easy as it sounds.

Maybe we should duel each other--one of us would have to think of something eventually!




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-13 23:17:33](#)
(no subject)

Haha, point! Or we could sort of... practice not thinking? Just blurting out something, and see who could say it faster? We probably shouldn't use wands, though, cause that could get dangerous.

I'd bet Professor Lestrangle would know things we could do, too. Like pointers. You want to go up to his office together tomorrow and ask?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2010-10-14 03:21:04](#)
(no subject)


Yes, let's do! If we go together, it'll be strength in numbers, like.



 **alt_pansy** at [2010-10-14 03:27:14](#)
(no subject)

Ace.




 **alt_ron** at [2010-10-13 23:39:37](#)
(no subject)

We shouldn't have to worry about the Dark Arts stuff until we get classified for the upper levels, right? I thought that was the best thing about the way Professor Lestrangle has got it set up, the levels. So there's just a few different kinds of spells you're allowed to use until he upgrades you. I mean, that's still loads of actual spells, but only ones we're ready to deal with and ones we should be able to defend against, you know.


I mean, Professor Lockhart didn't even seem to know that's how duelling clubs are supposed to be set up. How naff is that, right?



 **alt_pansy** at [2010-10-13 20:14:46](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm still pants at it, big surprise there, but it was still tonnes of fun. And I do think I got a bit better at it this time round -- it's easier to concentrate when you don't have to worry about flourishing properly.




 **alt_ron** at [2010-10-13 23:34:18](#)
(no subject)

Ha. Flourishing.

Now that was pants.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-14 02:53:10](#)
(no subject)

You can say *that* again.

2010-10-13 11:31:00

Cake

Well, as Twycross and Kendall have already figured out, yes, my parents did send a birthday cake. (Thanks again, Mum and Dad. And for the new shoes.)




 [alt_zacharias](#)

I was going to wait until this evening to share it, but I heard from Preece that pudding tonight is rumoured to be sticky toffee, so I reckon I might as well have the cake at lunch.

Our year first, and if there's any left then I'll see. I don't want anyone helping themselves like the glutton that et up Greengrass's last piece!

(You'd think with two years of Astronomy, star charts would be easier than they are!)



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-10-13 15:51:45**

(no subject)

When you say our year, do you mean just Hufflepuffs?

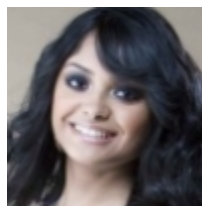


 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2010-10-13 15:53:06**

(no subject)

I wouldn't have had to say anything in the journals if it were just Hufflepuffs.

But really I mean mates first, basically. So if you or Moon want a small slice, that's okay.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-10-13 15:56:55**

(no subject)

Oh. Well, maybe a small one.

Did you see the article in the *Prophet* about how some people are getting heavier? I guess Apparating everywhere will do that.

But there are some people who think it's a lot of transfigured foods, you know? And that foodsellers who make that kind of food put all sorts of other things in it, to make it taste not like turnips or whatever, and that too much of it can make people fat.


But I suppose yours is real cake - I mean, I can't imagine your parents sending over anything less. Only that we have a lot of transfigured food at Hogwarts so I've decided I'm going to be very careful about what else I eat.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-10-13 15:58:39](#)
(no subject)

No one's twisting your wand, Patil. If you don't want cake, then don't come get any. More for everyone else anyway.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-13 16:00:27](#)
(no subject)

I never said you were forcing me! You don't have to get so shirty about everything, either, even if you *are* fourteen.

Anyway, a small piece wouldn't hurt and it's kind of you to offer it round.

(Did you get anything else besides shoes?)



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-10-13 16:03:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, all right then.

(Nothing much yet. But then my family aren't really big on birthday presents. I needed the shoes, though, and they weren't ready when we left for school!)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-13 22:47:59](#)

I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Sweet Merlin. Just eat the cake already, Patil.
Honestly. You'd think she was sweet on him or something.

Although it's anyone's guess as to why. He's an utter *toad*.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2010-10-13 17:35:32](#)

(no subject)

Happy birthday again, mate!



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-10-13 17:40:35](#)

(no subject)

Cheers, MacMillan!

Tell your little brother I think there's enough for him to have a small piece.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2010-10-13 19:22:43](#)

(no subject)

Cheers Smith! I hope it's been a good birthday so far.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2010-10-14 01:52:21](#)

(no subject)

The cake was utterly delicious. Thanks for sharing it out.

I know, I know, my star chart was giving me absolute fits. It turns out it wasn't Mercury I should have marked as being in retrograde, but Mars. It threw everything off, and it took me ages to track down the problem.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2010-10-14 01:59:58](#)**
(no subject)

Happy Birthday and I hope that no one helped themselves to your cake. No one ever did fess up to that, you know. But being fourteen is quite grand! You'll see.



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2010-10-14 02:38:13](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it was nowhere near as big as your cake! By the time we shared it round it was mostly gone. And it's not like I've a sib at home to send it to.

So far, though, fourteen is brilliant.

2010-10-13 20:21:00

Non-Stop Day

The whole week has been ridiculously hectic, in fact. The only luck so far has been that court was especially brief - a testament to Our Lord's efficiency.




 [alt_lucius](#)

Executive Session ran over-long, meaning there was no time at all to follow-up with the Minister prior to Court. Hoped to schedule an additional half-hour Thursday but am told Fudge has a divisional meeting with Fleet prior to our usual time and I have an appointment at Obscurus directly following same. Suspect the infrastructure planning for next fiscal year is taking Fleet longer than it ought owing to the flood of requests for additional magical engineers all over the country. The enhancements to New London are desired elsewhere and the subsequent demand for improved Floo grates has been increasing steadily over the last two quarters, an attempt, I believe, to attract New Londoners to other communities just as much as to convenience travel to our capitol. Discussed at length at yesterday's Muggle Labour Committee meeting, in fact.

Barty - I did receive your owl regarding a time when Narcissa and I may both stop in to MLE, though I am not certain it can be this week. For my part, Ned can work something out with Crispin. (If, that is, Crispin can be bothered. Of late I have but to cross the threshold of the door before I hear the distinct sound of a clerk hastily chivvying someone off the Floo and shuffling parchment to appear otherwise occupied. Particularly in the wake of Fleet's solicitous questions regarding him so recently, am less than impressed with this apparent comfort in his position of advantage. Time for a reminder of my expectations - if I were not so over-occupied this week, I should have undertaken it already!) In any case - a week and Thursday appears free for me; not sure if Narcissa is available then. Do I correctly surmise this regards to her recent complaint? If so then surely that is soon enough to meet us both. If it is more urgent, then I am sure we can re-arrange ourselves as needed.

Cannot believe it is already time to assemble invitation lists for our holiday party. Draco, if you would like to invite anyone on your own behalf, be sure to let us know; we shall not simply repeat last year's list, in the assumption that you shall choose to be more selective.




 **[alt_percy](#) at 2010-10-14 02:07:29**
(no subject)

I have noted a 'talking up' of the career path of magical engineer the past couple of years during career discussions with our Hogwarts advisors, more brochures available, etcetera, with a resultant uptick of interest in our senior students. Presumably the word is filtering down that there is a crying need for the job, and so it's definitely a career focus that is being rather more heavily promoted. I realise it doesn't help the labour crunch now, but hopefully it will result in more talent being available in a couple of years or so.

(I do hope all is well with Mr Crispin, I hope you don't mind my saying, as I remain sincerely grateful for all the assistance he rendered me during my internship this past summer.)



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2010-10-14 15:44:40**
(no subject)

Indeed, yes. The Ministry have been placing more emphasis on municipal planning and in particular re-ordering communities with a greater sensitivity to the practicalities of wizards' lives. To say nothing of ridding the whole country, and not just New London, of the eyesores the modern muggles had inflicted on us.


However, such industry is not without its drawbacks. I presume you will have read the recent spate of articles encouraging wizards to continue regular exercise programmes and behave sensibly in the matter of maintaining physical health? There have been an alarming number of new businesses applying for licence to operate within New London and elsewhere - 15 new applications for Monday's Magical Commerce meeting, for example - with what I should consider a dubious benefit to the public. On the other hand, there seem to be just as many industries determined to capitalise on our country's tendencies to indolence. Though to my way of thinking they promise quick solutions with no particular indication of lasting effects. Still, both sides of the trade do serve to circulate the economy - so it seems not to matter whether they feed off each other or contribute to each other's successes.

I am glad to hear that the Governors' recent directive to align Hogwarts' careers advice with the growing and changing needs of

Ministerial opportunities has been communicated to you and your yearmates.

As for Crispin, I am sure that his inattentiveness of late is an indication not of his past exceptional service but of his complacency in my satisfaction with him. Your brief time within the household must have driven home the importance of my position and the necessary support I require in order that I accomplish all I do in Our Lord's glorious name with the greatest ease and a minimum of disruption. Crispin knows what I expect and the penalty for failing to meet those terms. And he knows how he can remedy the situation if it continues.



 **alt_percy** at [2010-10-14 16:49:49](#)
(no subject)

I have indeed been following with great interest the articles in the *Prophet* concerning the urban renewal projects. Some of the photographs have been quite stunningly impressive. New London is truly shaping up to be the city it always should have been by rights, and I'm sure the country as a whole will continue to benefit in the same way under Our Lord's wise leadership.

It's fortunate that we have a Magical Commerce meeting, to weed out businesses of dubious merit then, I think. I suppose it would be inevitable that some are impossible to accurately assess as to their benefit to the public unless they've been operating for awhile...but surely that is one reason that businesses must periodically be re-licensed?

Yes, indeed, the Hogwarts career counseling has increased in its usefulness the past couple of years, I think. And I have been equally impressed with some of the guest speakers who have been made available through the YPL programme to speak to student about their jobs. That has been quite an inspired way to help our students visualise what a typical day in various professions might be like.

(I am sure that all who work for you must make it their object to please you. I am confident Mr Crispin knows that as well as anybody.)




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-14 15:14:16](#)
(no subject)

Lucius.

No, the matter of Narcissa's complaint has been dealt with and should cause no further concern. This is a new development in another quarter, if you take my meaning. I'd like you to hear reports collected by a handful of separate teams.


I'll have Pennifold follow up with Crispin and Mariposa to find a time.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-14 15:21:10](#)
(no subject)

We can both be there at 9:00 tomorrow, Barty.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-14 15:23:09](#)
(no subject)

No, I've


Yes, of course, my dear. The meeting at the *Prophet* can be re-scheduled.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-14 21:27:01](#)
(no subject)

Good. I'll see that everyone's assembled in the conference chamber at 9:00, then.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-14 22:13:28](#)
Private Message to Virgil Crispin

If this is what I suspect, better cancel my 10 and warn *Witch Weekly* Mrs Malfoy shan't be in tomorrow.

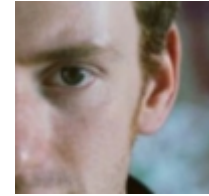


 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-14 21:26:00](#)
(no subject)

Excellent.

[2010-10-14 10:35:00](#)

Don't forget: your Prefects can be a resource




 [alernity](#)
 [alt_percy](#)

I would like to remind all students that your House Prefects are always available to answer questions. Sometimes these questions may include topics beyond the scope of matters such as friendships, homesickness or school assignments. There is no doubt that the years that we spend at Hogwarts include some rapid changes as we all mature into young men and young women. It sometimes can be helpful to speak to someone older and wiser who can confidentially and discreetly answer niggling questions that you may have been a bit too bashful to ask anyone up until now. Don't be shy! We are happy to help set young minds at rest.

The Prefects also have a selection of reference materials at their disposal on a wide variety of topics.



 [alt_percy](#) at **[2010-10-14 16:00:16](#)**
Private message to Madam Pomfrey

The suggestion was ... well, not enthusiastically received at the Prefects meeting, I will admit. But given the situation with Mr Sandoval and all his various partners this past week, it was perfect clear that something must be done. I do hope that this initiative will reach some of the quieter students who might be reluctant to seek you out. Not that the students don't trust you in a general way, mind! But some really do have a lively dread of having any adult--no matter how wise and discreet--know about what they consider their private business.

I wonder whether a few gender-separated meetings of the YPL might also address some of these issues? Perhaps you might raise the idea with Professor Sinistra?

[I did distribute the brochures to the Prefects. We do need more copies by the way of the one entitled "How Far Is Too Far? (Places No Tongue Should Go)."]



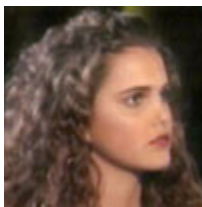
 **alt_poppy** at [2010-10-14 21:34:34](#)

Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey

I shall make the suggestion to Professor Sinistra when I see her next. Thank you, yes, it's a very good idea.

[I shall send extra copies of the pamphlets to each Head of House, then.]

I do appreciate your taking the lead on this matter, Mr Weasley.



 **alt_penelope** at [2010-10-14 16:17:59](#)

Private Message to Percy Weasley

You might tell any of those horrid 4th-years that I am NOT going to demonstrate page 6 of *How Far is Too Far* and the next one of them to ask will find himself in the hospital wing with his tongue in a knot!

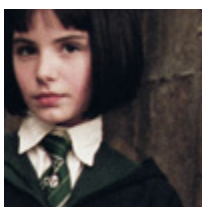


 **alt_percy** at [2010-10-14 16:58:20](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

'Himself?' For the more awkward questions for that sort, I would recommend that you refer the boys to one of the male Prefects in your House. (I am confident Xi Chang for one can easily depress any juvenile attempts at levity with those sort of questions.) Surely the girls aren't as bad?

And if they are, well, that is one of the reasons you've been chosen to be a Prefect: the Headmistress thinks you should be able to handle it.



 **alt_pansy** at [2010-10-14 21:59:22](#)

I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

No offence, Ron, but I'd rather chew off my left arm than talk to your brother about growing and changing and discreet things about being a girl.

Triple eww.

Not that the Slyth prefects would be much better, either.



alt_ron at 2010-10-14 23:06:56

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Ha! Like anyone would want to talk to Percy about any of that stuff.

Unless that's what he and Clearwater are talking
abo-

no, y'know what, that's just too disgusting to think about!



alt_sally_anne at 2010-10-14 23:40:11

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

I'd rather ask my questions of that lady in the portrait who's cavorting with nymphs in a fountain!

As for our own prefects, I rather think Melinda Pennifold knows how babies get made but she might have just learned it in the last two weeks, you know?



alt_pansy at 2010-10-15 02:01:14

Re: I Solemnly Swear I Am Up To No Good

Given the way she's been slinking around, it's quite possible.

And I'd bet that lady knows quite a lot about nymphs, but not necessarily boys.

2010-10-16 02:30:00


(no subject)

I wish my mum was here.



 **alt_nymphadora**



 **alt_alice** at **2010-10-16 13:34:35**

ORDER ONLY

Dear heart, it sounds like you're feeling a little blue, and I'm sorry to hear that. Everything all right?

And while we're talking, I wanted to be sure and extend an invite to you and to Remus for Halloween -- we usually have a bit of a party, nothing big, but it tends to be a good time and I'd love to see you again.



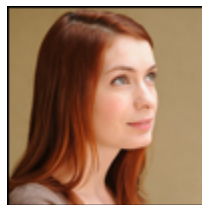
 **alt_nymphadora** at **2010-10-17 11:17:20**


Re: ORDER ONLY

Halloween. I don't think I can

Would it be alright if I owl you? I don't want to write here, but I really need

Would it be okay? I'm going to write now.



 **alt_alice** at **2010-10-18 15:30:33**

Re: ORDER ONLY

Of course, Tonks, love.

I'll be waiting for your owl.



 **alt_sirius** at **2010-10-16 15:06:14**

Order Only

I miss her too, this time of year.

She'd have liked your idea about the cafe and all. She

and your dad were always glad to have a few friends in, nothing formal.

You've not hit a snag or anything on that? I could pop back down if it'd help.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2010-10-17 11:12:44](#)

Re: Order Only

No, it's okay. Everything's fine. I was just having a sappy moment in the small hours of the morning. Sorry to worry everyone.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-17 12:45:08](#)

Re: Order Only

You sure? Only between the gorgon trying to put her hooks into you and what you wrote to Allie

Well, I guess we all need to talk to Allie once in a while, don't we?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2010-10-17 13:51:17](#)

Re: Order Only

It's just girl stuff. Nothing to do with the cafe, I promise.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2010-10-16 16:59:05](#)

(no subject)

You must mean your foster mother, small one. As we all well know, the advice and comfort offered by a blood traitor does little good.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2010-10-17 11:31:31](#)

(no subject)

Yes, of course, it was Mrs Crouch I was thinking about. We haven't spoken in a while. I shall send her an owl this afternoon to enquire after her health.

[2010-10-16 11:33:00](#)

Private Message to Padma Patil

Padma,

Did you see what the Head Boy wrote?

If you haven't, you should take a break from revising (cos I'm sure you are!) and go read it and have a laugh!




 [alt_lavender](#)

I mean, great Merlin, I think I'd *die* before I talked to a Prefect about anything like That!

Parvati and I are trying to work on our Charms essays, but we keep getting fits of the giggles just thinking about it.




 [alt_padma](#) at **[2010-10-16 16:46:53](#)**
(no subject)

His announcement's only the half of it! There've been a load of boys who've decided to make sure Clearwater knows what a prat her boyfriend is.

They've been following her for two days asking her for details out of the pamphlets and whether she'd like to practise, or wondering whether she and Weasley really pay any attention to *Parts of You No One Else Should Touch* or just use it for ideas. She nearly hexed the face off Lares Tamblyn when he asked her if Weasley ever kisses her for real or if they just talk about what they oughtn't be doing! I guess Clearwater's well cross with Weasley herself, too. I heard Anderson telling Laverty that Clearwater was whinging because she told Weasley she was having a time of it and he sort of didn't come to her defence.

I think she'd rather like to break up with him, only she thinks he's got wonderful 'prospects' and doesn't want to give that up. I guess she figures her own 'prospects' aren't terribly good. (And no wonder! Do you think she ever does anything with her hair? And a bit of rouge or gloss would do wonders, I think.)



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2010-10-16 18:21:23](#)

(no subject)

You wouldn't see me going out with a Weasley, prospects or no!

Percy does seem to have the right ideas, but sweet Morgana, he can be stuffy! He probably takes an age to say 'I love you' and throws about fourteen big words in.

I just had a perfectly awful thought--do you suppose he writes her *poetry*?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-16 21:38:12](#)

(no subject)

Revolting!

I dunno, sometimes Weasley is tolerable, but mostly he just puffs himself up so much it's disgusting. I mean, even that time when he came down on Perks, when he ought to have been agreeable about it all, he was so perfectly officious it was impossible to like him even then.

The one thing he really seems good at is making himself useful to people who are more powerful than he is, like the Headmistress or Mr Malfoy.

2010-10-16 11:49:00

(no subject)

Another one in the books, innit? And a knees up tonight in yer honour. Well done, mate!



 **alt_wagstaff**

2010-10-17 18:51:00

*Private Message to Eloise Midgen,
Hannah Abbott, and Megan Jones*



 **alt_susan**

What did you think about the Sisters meeting yesterday?

It was more fun than I thought it would be, honestly--although I can't believe I tripped on the moving staircase right in front of Mrs. Malfoy!

And I don't know if there's a special program on earth that can make me enjoy cooking. Still, I'm glad to be doing it.

I hope it's not too much work though--between our electives, and choir, and YPL, and I'm doing Dueling Club this year, and Parkinson's study group, and now this, I feel like I hardly have time to think!

Oh, has any of you lot seen an announcement about when the first Hogsmeade weekend will be? I haven't seen any notices posted, but I haven't looked recently. I can't wait!



 **alt_hannah** at **2010-10-19 02:43:54**
(no subject)

I thought the same thing. Much more fun than I expected. I suppose I hadn't ever really thought much about how you need such a wide range of charms to manage a household.

I think cooking would be more fun if I were better at Transfiguration. My mum's got absolutely mad skills with transfiguring turnips, but everytime I try, I can't get the flavours right, and then everything I try to cook tastes off.

I don't think they'll make it be TOO much work. They want people to participate, so they'll try to make it fun.

I don't know when the first Hogsmeade weekend is, either. I suppose we should ask a prefect, if any of them would ever get back from the library.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2010-10-20 01:42:10](#)**

Private Message to Hannah Abbott

It's the Potiony bits of cooking that always get me--I'm not actually bad at the Transfig.

Oh, and Megan seemed a little shirty to me at breakfast this morning--do *you* know what she's on about?



 **[alt_hannah](#)** at **[2010-10-20 15:33:54](#)**

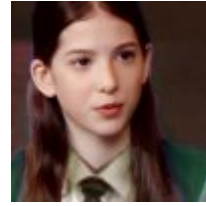
Re: Private Message to Hannah Abbott

I'm not sure, but I know she's a little upset that her guardian hasn't sent back her Hogsmeade permission form yet. Perhaps that's it.

2010-10-17 19:00:00

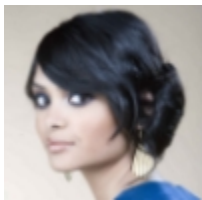
Sisters in Witchcraft

A few weeks ago I was invited to join a new group called the Sisters in Witchcraft, which is for half-blood girls. It is supposed to teach us social graces and other things that will help us in later life. Mrs Malfoy is the director of the program and she won't be at all the meetings, I don't think, but she came to the first meeting, which was yesterday. She was very kind and welcoming to all of us, and we all introduced ourselves. I mean, I knew all the girls there of course but we all introduced ourselves to Mrs Malfoy. We were supposed to say our name, where we are from, and some interesting facts about our families (our foster families, or for those who live with their real family that they were born in, something about that family). My interesting fact was that during my summer holiday I helped the Strettons take orders by journal for their jam company. Isolde Inglebee's foster mum is a botanist who raises very interesting magical plants in a special greenhouse.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

The meeting was very nice and I am looking forward to participating.

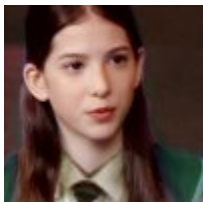


 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-10-18 15:47:56**

(no subject)

Do you really think that they're going to enter you all into a register so that when you want to get married, boys can look up whether you're in good standing?

That's what Burrow said the Brothers of Purity wanted. His father's an elder in the Brothers, you know. But Su Li said it was nothing of the kind.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-10-18 18:07:42**

(no subject)

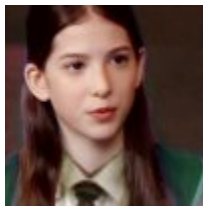
Well, Mrs Malfoy wanted to reassure us that this organisation's purpose wasn't to play matchmaker. But it's supposed to mean something later on that we're in the Sisters, that we've been taught how to fit in in good society. And at some point we're going to all research our wizarding heritage and do our genealogy on the wizarding side.

I'm really trying not to think about marriage at all yet, though! I mean I'll at least wait until the boys are taller than me and over their spots before I start thinking about anything like THAT, you know?



 **alt_padma** at **2010-10-18 18:30:23**
(no subject)

Well, I think it's a good thing they're not just trying to set everyone up with someone to marry. I mean, I know it's important to get married and have kids, of course, but I agree with you that it's too early to think about that! (Although we do have cousins who were betrothed already before they were our age, and Dad keeps joking that he's going to make sure Parvati and I are both promised before we're finished school. But we just tell him how terribly old-fashioned that is! Besides, there really aren't all that many Indian wizards who are near us in age. Well, I guess there are, but imagine being betrothed to someone way older than you, like, 25 or something. Haruman's age! Yuck.)




 **alt_sally_anne** at **2010-10-18 18:37:58**
(no subject)

Mrs Malfoy told us that in the old days, purebloods were sometimes betrothed as babies. That was a long time ago, though, and only certain families. There was a whole branch of divination that was supposed to reveal good matches that would lead to lots of children, no squibs, etc. 'Being happy' might have been on that list but it doesn't sound like it was a priority.

Would your parents really arrange a marriage for you? How would they pick, would it be for sure an Indian wizard or would a pureblood from a good family be alright even if he weren't Indian? Do they care whether he's from Ravenclaw House (or Gryffindor, I suppose, for Parvati)? One of the things Mrs Malfoy mentioned that sometimes caused a mess with betrothals was when two families that ALWAYS Sorted into a particular House agreed to marry their children, and then one of those children went and got Sorted somewhere else.



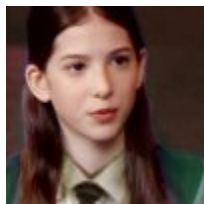
 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-18 19:07:17](#)
(no subject)


Yeah, loads of Indians (even the muggles) used to get betrothed as infants, but definitely by the time they were ten or so. Mum and Dad were betrothed when she was nine and he was 12! (It drives Mum mad that Haruman's not married yet.)

As far as houses, I don't think they care much, so long as the boy is from a good family and will make a decent living, and has fairly powerful magic. Of course, they'd be a lot *happier* if we married Indians, because we'd be sure to keep up the old traditions, and I think they're worried we won't do that if we marry someone who isn't Kshatriyan or at least Brahman. But I think I wouldn't mind celebrating Christmas and Krishna Janmashtami, or putting together Easter baskets in the spring and still celebrating Ganesha Chaturthi in the autumn. We already go to everyone's Christmas parties anyway, so I don't think it should make that big a difference.

I don't think Dad would really arrange anything, at least not without Parvati or me agreeing to it first. But if he did it would definitely be with an Indian wizard family, you know? That's much more important to him than a Hogwarts House.

Su Li says you don't meet again until January - and you'll be learning household charms? That should be useful.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-18 19:26:16](#)
(no subject)

Yes, household charms and 'gracious hostessing' were the two things Mrs Malfoy mentioned. It's someone else who will be teaching the household charms, though, Mrs Catchlove I

think?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-19 02:47:18](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Blimey. Marrying? I bet the boys would rather wait until even longer than that to think about it.

I can't think beyond next week's Potions essay.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 02:58:06](#)

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

Well. Some of the other girls were worried that the whole purpose of this group was to fix us up with eligible boys and so we spent about half the meeting talking about marriage.

Probably people were thinking about it extra because of Orion Scandal-vol (I heard someone call him that today and thought it was rather funny).



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-19 03:09:49](#)

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

Wow.

Well, I can guarantee you the topic's never crossed the mind of any of the blokes in our year.

Unless...wonder if they talked about it in that Sons of Whozit group? Haven't heard about it if they did.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-18 18:18:07](#)

Private message to Pansy Parkinson

The meeting was rather fun and I DO think they're hoping to marry all of us off in the end but I'm not sure who they're thinking they'll marry us TO.

I've read articles about how they want the half-bloods to marry pureblood wizards, but I'm not sure how that's supposed to work because no pureblood who actually cares about ancestry would marry a half-blood under any circumstances. And I'm sure the purpose of this group isn't to give me the social graces to marry a

disreputable pureblood from a suspicious family (you know, the sort who might at least consider marrying a halfblood and their parents wouldn't disown them outright).

And when I try to think of pureblood boys who come from good families but not TOO good all I can come up with is Ernie Macmillan. And we can't ALL marry Ernie Macmillan! (Also, he's a HUFFLEPUFF but I suppose I'm not supposed to be fussy about THAT sort of thing.)

I suppose things might be less grim in other years and you CAN marry someone a bit older or a bit younger but still.

Anyway at least it wasn't boring and Mrs Malfoy is nice, I've met her before of course but not in this sort of setting.



 **[alt_pansy at 2010-10-18 21:34:31](#)**

Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

Well, I think it's better than marrying another halfblood, isn't it? That way, your kids would be practically pure, and you wouldn't worry about fostering or anything. Like Susan.

And you don't have to find someone *now*, but I'd bet there's all sorts of people you'd want to marry, and this might just give you more options.

I dunno -- it's sort of weird to think that the boys we go to school with right now are going to be our future husbands. I mean, I know that's how it worked out for Lucius and Aunt Narcissa, and for my mum and dad too, and lots of other people. But still. We're only thirteen! And I hope I get to snog more than just one boy before I settle on who I'm marrying, because it'd be awful naff if we only got to snog the one forever and ever.



 **[alt_pansy at 2010-10-18 21:43:47](#)**

Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

And half of them are really double-ugh anyways, I mean, who'd ever want to marry Crabbe or Goyle? Or Finnegan ~~even though he does have some good connections for a halfblood~~ or Smith for that

matter?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-10-19 02:34:02](#)**

Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

I know, seriously. UGH.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-10-19 02:32:40](#)**

Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

I've checked the rules and I get to be a 'true subject' once I finish at Hogwarts -- actually I think it's once I take my OWLS and come of age but I'm not 100% sure. Still, when two true subjects have a child that child isn't subject to fostering so I should be alright there even if I do wind up married to a halfblood.

It IS a weird thing to think about. Everyone meets at school, where else would they meet? But you look at the boys in our year and ... well it's hard to imagine any of them old enough they don't think dungbombs are the most hilarious thing ever.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-10-18 18:25:04](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I'm sort of wondering how we're supposed to research our wizarding ancestry, since we aren't allowed to talk to our parents, even our wizard parents. I suppose maybe Hogwarts has records, we can go back through those. And there are the birth records at St Mungo's.

Ever since Dean Thomas turned out to be a half-blood I've wondered what they'd do if someone found out that my mum had, oh, a wizard grandfather or great-grandfather. Would that mean she'd be a half-blood (barely) and allowed to carry a wand again? And then would I be allowed to go there on holidays? I mean I don't even really know how they handle that sort of thing. Not that it matters really, I remember the names of my muggle grandparents but I don't remember any further back.

I looked up my parents in some of the old annuals first year, mostly because I wanted to see pictures of my mum. But I pretended when we were talking about heritage that I'd just looked up my father, and Mrs Malfoy said she was very impressed by my quiet dedication to

learning everything I could. Which was funny since at the time I wondered if maybe I was doing something I shouldn't.



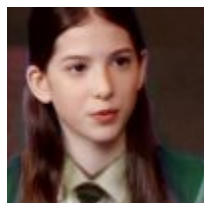
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-18 21:41:02](#)

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

I'd bet she had half an idea what you were up to anyways, she can be really sharp about that sort of thing.

I don't know... maybe we could work on it separately, just you and me? And you could focus on your dad at the meetings? I mean, just in case anything does turn up, it'd be great and all, but it might look bad if you don't find anything.

I can send off for some genealogy books from the library in London, if you want.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 02:35:01](#)

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

Oh.

That's a really interesting idea, but

Yes, actually. But not right away, we don't have to get started for a bit and this will give me some time to think, you know, and see if I can remember more names.



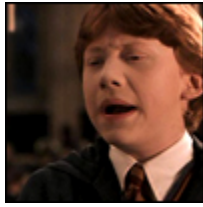
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 02:37:47](#)


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

Also, I didn't want to say this in a private message cause you never know who's reading them.

But thank GOODNESS Goyle and Crabbe have parents with tapestries and so on because otherwise I'd worry a bit that someone would think one of them and me would be a good fit, you know? After all, they're pure and I'm not! And I'm clever and they're not! And we're all in the same House! PERFECT! As long as you overlook how utterly LOATHESOME they both are.

I'm not entirely sure Vince knows I'm a half-blood, mind you. But his parents would, so I'm safe.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-19 03:15:33](#)

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

EWWWWW. That's the most disgusting thing ever.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 03:41:25](#)

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

Which bit?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-19 16:54:09](#)

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

Well, obviously, the bit about Crabbe and Goyle and anyone marrying them.

I mean, I totally don't understand why you think anyone ought to be thinking about marrying anyone yet. Sure we'll probably all get married someday, but who's even thinking about that now? Except you, I guess, but I don't see why you would do.

Is it some Slytherin thing: you want to work on knowing the right people now so you can have the right friends when it's time to get bonded?

But aren't you



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 17:28:06](#)

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

Well it came up at the Sisters in Witchcraft meeting, Pansy and I had been talking about it in the private message part.

It's not so much that people were thinking about it, as they wanted to make sure the people organising the group

WEREN'T thinking about it. If that makes sense. But we wound up talking about marriage for a while anyway because Mrs Malfoy started telling us stories about the old days when pureblood got betrothed at BIRTH and if you think we're too young NOW imagine if your parents had betrothed you AT BIRTH to Lavender Brown. Because once upon a time they might've!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-19 18:15:54](#)

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

HAHAHAHAHA! Brown!!!

Seriously. I think my Mum would rather eat gnome poo than end up being inlaws with Mrs Brown.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 19:51:49](#)

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

Good point.

Luna Lovegood, then, she got on well enough with Luna's father!



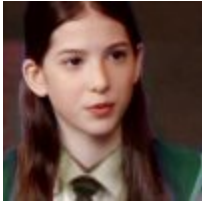
 [alt_susan](#) at [2010-10-19 17:14:24](#)

(no subject)

I had a good time too!

It's nice to have a chance to get to know people in a different way, that you wouldn't normally see much of because they aren't in your House or your year.

And I'm with you on being glad that it doesn't seem to be about betrothals and things, at least not yet.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 19:52:28](#)
(no subject)

I agree that it's nice to get to know people in a different way.

2010-10-18 22:17:00

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.



 **alt_lucius**

Long discussion with Narcissa this evening, but she has agreed that it is better for the *Prophet* to assist in a controlled campaign to dispel the rumours than allow the gossip rags to run rampant with indiscriminate stories. I've booked in with Fudge to-morrow morning to brief him on approving your proposal. Let me know if Scrimgeour gives you any difficulty; heard from Hopkirk that she'll endorse whatever plan you devise. We can meet with Bole to-morrow afternoon or Wednesday - as your diary allows - to cover the permissible details.

Perhaps Travers ought to provide the *Prophet* with a selected analysis of the false tracts. Nothing too supportive to Black's originals, of course, but enough to reduce the matter to one of mockery and disdain - and naturally the passages that are least likely to emanate from one with his history or background. Bole can provide follow-up articles linking the sightings to Zuckerman's theories regarding Snape, which should further deflect the rumours and remind the public to report any suspicious encounters.

The whole business makes me wish for the days of Monitoring spells again. Pity it's completely unrealistic to put the topic into a Taboo, especially considering that the terms are so common. It was burdensome enough in those early months. Still, it's a comfort to think that anyone attempting to resurrect Black by attracting attention will eventually gain yours.

One favour, if you don't mind: She has said nothing to me directly, but I recognise in my wife the signs of ... let us say, *optimism*, at the implications of some of your team's reports. She may well take the notion that if this mysterious figure is in fact real, is alive and has enough similarities to Black to pass for him Should she come to you with any such ideation, I hope you will not encourage her. I think neither of us would care to see her return to the distress she suffered at either of Regulus' infamous disappearances. Dementors aside, by summer's end I had thought her much recovered; this newest development may set her back if she is allowed to run away with false hopes. To say nothing of the consequences (potentially from more than one source, if you take my meaning) were her belief to become known, especially after the job we had explaining his instabilities. I am sure I can rely on your discretion to handle her with care should

she impose upon your sympathies with any outlandish thought that Regulus might have slipped his bonds a second time.

Let Crispin know when to have me at Bole's - no, on second thought, better tell us both; he missed my instruction to push back the appointment following your brief on Friday. Lucky it was only to the club for Mulciber. Well. I shall sort Fudge in the morning, and then my *clerk*, make no mistake.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-19 18:05:01](#)

(no subject)

Lucius.

Wanted to see Scrimgeour before answering, but that was interrupted. By Fudge. Obviously you stirred him into action this morning--he admitted he'd been distracted from international matters and had in fact allowed a request from the French to languish--he seemed entirely surprised to find that they've been working all along and had, in fact, something of substance to report.

As Bellatrix pointed out this is hardly the first time Fudge has appeared to be overtaxed by the demands of his office. I feel certain he took her point.

Regardless. By the time we'd assembled--I believe Fudge's assistant tried her best to reach you, knowing you would wish to be in the room for the report--the French Inspectorate had opened the Floo for the Directeur Général:

They have a body, and the preliminary evidence supports identification.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-19 18:19:13](#)

(no subject)

That is the first good news I have had all day.

I'm not at all surprised Miss Robins was unable to reach me this morning. I have been ... blind-sided, I suppose is the best term. Dealt an entirely unexpected and unwelcome surprise. Still, while your report gives truth to the adage that good news can wait, I am very pleased to hear it.

Was heading to Elysian but shall see if I can reach Dideron myself, now. Did he say when they expect to confirm a positive match?




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-19 19:06:54](#)
(no subject)

They have strong circumstantial evidence: personal effects, bodily characteristics, location, etc.

Dideron did mention that they'd been unable to confirm a match through residual magical signatures: it's rather late for that, and while they have a collection of personal items Black is known to have used magically, the imprint of his magic has obviously faded from those items, as well.

He did not say directly--I think the French are rather more reserved than we on such subjects--but I gathered he might follow up with a request to Bellatrix for a personal sample of some sort that could be used to confirm the body's familial relationship to her. To be honest, I've no idea whether Bellatrix would agree to any such thing. She wants the remains transferred here immediately, of course, but that met with resistance. (They are conducting their examinations *in situ* and feel it would impair their investigation to shift the remains.)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-19 19:32:33](#)
(no subject)

Bella would be beside herself, I'd wager: On the one hand, a chance to prove once and for all her victory; on the other, at the expense of acknowledging a kinship best forgot. I don't envy Dideron her reaction if he *does* ask. Still, he has a solid point. If she refuses? Well, we shall not be exhuming Walburga even if that would make any difference. Narcissa ... may be amenable, if it could be accomplished without invasive magic. Had I not inadvertently stood her up for lunch I could have asked - but then, the opportunity to serve the Protectorate and vindicate her sister may be reason enough for her to comply.

As for the remains, so long as they are willing to transport them once they have completed their inspections, let them conduct what trials they will. Our Lord has already reserved a spot in His

collection for the prize, once the public have been able to view the evidence that Black cannot possibly return.

We could not have asked for a better answer to those infernal broadsheets. Well done.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-19 19:56:37](#)
(no subject)


Yes.

The only unfortunate consequence of this timing is that it may bolster Narcissa's hopes--if you are correct that she is still harbouring them--that our rash of supposed domestic 'sightings' might be evidence of Regulus's survival.

Considering her position, I would almost rather that we'd found his remains.

I'm entirely in agreement that whatever we do with regard to squelching those ludicrous forgeries, we must not foster any notion that he could be the impostor. It's too ridiculous to imagine his having penned anything of the sort. Regulus was weak, there's no denying that, and he was guilty of countless idiocies, but he was never a lover of the muddied masses.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-19 20:30:08](#)
(no subject)

Exactly so, and hence my fear that her desperation to grasp at any wand will lead her to a conclusion without regard for its embarrassing implications.

Regulus not only alive, but turned irrevocably from Our Lord and working to bring about our downfall? One idea is as preposterous as the other.

Fortunately, as I say, she has made no overt mention of it to me, so perhaps I am simply being cautious. Still. I am sure you are aware of the extent of her mourning, despite her cousin's myriad flaws. We all liked Regulus, of course, but she always viewed him as her particular pet. I should not like to see her put herself through any more torment on behalf of her sentimentality toward him - nor should I wish you to be

troubled by it further. She has taken more than enough of your time and indulgence over the last few months.

It would indeed have been better for us all to speedily locate his remains as well - curse them both for their penchant for dying and simultaneously disappearing! But if one must choose between the brothers for one to confirm - well, I cannot but prefer to identify the traitor over the deserter.

Narcissa will simply have to live with the indecisive nature of Regulus' end, as shall we all. Who knows? If it took four months to find his brother's corpse (if indeed, it *is* him) then Regulus may yet provide a clue to his final moments and the whereabouts of his own tomb.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-19 21:45:06](#)
(no subject)

I've just come from a meeting where Fleet was among the group. I gather that congratulations are due to Crispin on a rather significant appointment. I'm surprised you let him go.

Unless he tried to engage you in a bidding war for his services? I thought him sounder than that.

2010-10-19 11:38:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_sally_anne**

HURRAY I got an owl from the Strettons this morning with my Hogsmeade form signed and everything!

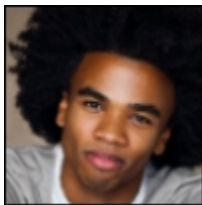
I was hoping that business with the Sisters in Witchcraft would get them to do it. It always makes them nervous when important people are nice to me.


So I'll be able to go! I can't wait.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2010-10-19 19:14:30**
(no subject)

Well, we probably could have found a way for you to go even if you didn't get permission, but this way we won't have to be put to the trouble. Excellent!



 **alt_lee** at **2010-10-19 19:15:49**
(no subject)

Good going. You'll like Hogsmeade.


You can write back to them with reports of what jams they sell in the stores which will give them the idea that they're doing it all for their own benefit.



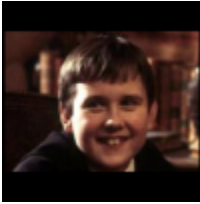
 **alt_sally_anne** at **2010-10-19 19:58:36**
(no subject)


Oh, excellent idea. Painless sucking up is always a good investment (because it doesn't cost you anything, not because it always pays off, mind you).



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-19 20:57:01](#)
(no subject)

Definitely true.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-19 19:16:39](#)
(no subject)

That's great!


When is the first Hogsmeade weekend, anyway?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 19:59:08](#)
(no subject)

Halloween! So they had a little more time to get that letter in but I was half expecting they'd wait until the DAY before.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-19 19:55:40](#)
(no subject)

That's just ace! I was going to be very put out if they made a fuss about it.


We are going to have such. a. fun. time.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 20:00:32](#)
(no subject)

Where do you think we should go first?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-19 20:56:31](#)
(no subject)


Well, I know I'm going to get a ton of things at Honeydukes, so we should go there last.

Other than that, and a trip to Scrivenshaft's, I

really don't mind one way or the other where we go, just so long as it's out of this castle!

Where do you want to go?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-19 21:36:08](#)**
(no subject)

But if you go to Honeydukes last they may not have any of the good things left. I heard they sell out really fast on Hogsmeade Days.

[2010-10-19 12:38:00](#)

(no subject)


Lucius? Did you forget that we planned to meet for lunch? I've been at *Il Monello* for forty-five minutes. Signore Ramundo is most distressed that I've kept putting him off so long.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Is something amiss? Remember, dearest, I do have an appointment at two. And so have you, if I recall!



 [alt_lucius](#) at **[2010-10-19 16:57:35](#)**

(no subject)

My apologies, my love. Something's come up. Please don't delay any longer on my account. I doubt I shall be able to join you.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **[2010-10-19 22:41:50](#)**

(no subject)

Well, we shall have to return again sometime. Giordano was most disappointed when I didn't linger over anything much more than a salad. He claims it was a waste of his kitchen, though I am sure it was rather fresher than almost anywhere in town except perhaps *Portico*. At least it had none of the dreadful traits of these little storefronts cropping up, full of transfigured mush. Nothing but fat in a pie crust!

So you don't think you'll be home before 7, then? I wonder if I could scare up enough hands for whist. One does tire of an empty table three meals in a row.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **[2010-10-19 22:48:37](#)**

(no subject)

Athena's been hounding me to take her to *Bargello*, but perhaps we should try *Il Monello* instead? Italian's not my favourite cuisine, but I do trust your judgement in these things. Your recommendations always prove reliable.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-20 13:28:01](#)
(no subject)

I generally find pasta far too heavy myself, but Chef Ramundo specialises in a more classical Roman influence: simple preparations, fish, vegetables, delicate seasoning and light sauces - not overpowering the palate. Half the menu is directly from *Vitto Pitagorico*. Really it's about as far from Bolognese as one can manage.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-20 14:14:55](#)
(no subject)

Sounds promising. Perhaps we can try it soon. Half at least of all one finds on restaurant menus these days seems deliberately intended to pack ballast on our frames. Do they imagine we are squirrels, storing up fat for a long winter?

Honestly. I was in the Lobby just this morning, waiting to catch Pennifold as he came through the Floo, and you would not believe the girth of some of our employees: it's a marvel some of them can squeeze out through the grates. Appalling.

Travers proposes that MLE might offer a reducing plan for the Ministry: we could run them daily through the course downstairs as target dummies. Self-preservation is a strong incentive for even the most indolent sorts. Sadly, the Minister is unlikely to approve.

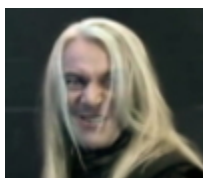


 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-20 14:39:20](#)
(no subject)

It's a constant complaint of mine - so many only ever Apparate or Floo and never take any exercise or look after their own spreading silhouettes. But the cuisine shift I blame entirely on an over-reliance on transfigured starches as a base. Heavy oils, rich cream sauces to cover the taste of artificial foods - and loaded with unhealthy sugars besides.

In fact, Celia and I have been discussing a series of articles

rating the success and advisability of several plans currently available either in private programmes or being published. I don't know if you've glanced at the weight management sections of *Whirl* recently but half of their suggestions are nearly as sadistic as Travers' suggestion - and probably less effective! Still, one does need to maintain oneself and there's no excuse for neglecting to do so.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-19 17:25:38](#)

Private Message to Narcissa

I have learned the reason for Crispin's inattention to his duties of late. He has been securing another position for himself and intends to leave my service.

Leaving!

Too stunned at present to offer a coherent précis of our morning's discussion. Five years and this is how he chooses to tender a resignation? Without even enlisting my approval or assistance in the matter? Skulking about in secret conversations and enlisting the complicity of his prospective employer to keep his activities from me. Oh, he claims to have tried to 'find the right moment' to tell me but instead he has waited until the last possible moment - not even two weeks until his new position begins!

Needless to say the news has resulted in chaos on my end; in a way, he is fortunate that I shall be keeping my course time at the Elysian. He is lucky I did not elect instead to practise cursework on *him*!

Damn Crouch for snatching up Ned. Where shall I find another competent aide?

I am sorry, my dear. I did not mean to leave you waiting - but as you can see I have been ... confounded by this revelation. It is beyond vexing!



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-19 17:36:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

What? But where is he going? It must have been quite an opportunity to convince him to leave you.

Now, darling, I know this is a blow, but I'm sure he shan't leave you completely in the lurch. You know he thinks very

highly of you. He must have been terribly nervous to say anything. Of course, waiting only makes you more justifiably upset, whereas if he'd told you sooner you'd have had more time to prepare. But he's young to learn such things.

How soon must he go? Is there no way to convince him to stay? Even for a little while longer? Perhaps Christmas? By then you should be able to engage a suitable replacement.

By all means, go to the club; it will help. And don't go storming back to the St James' house, either - talk it over with Ari. He always helps you level your head over things. I'll see you tonight and we can discuss it more ~~calmly~~ at length.

Were you able to talk to Barty, at least, before all this came out?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-19 18:10:07](#)

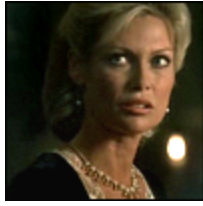
Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Oh, he has parlayed his association with me into an opportunity, all right. Fleet and Gibson offered him the supervision of the new Office for the Regulation of Commercial Enterprise. Since summer's reclamation projects, Gibson's had this in mind. I should have known when he suggested Crispin had talent in the field. And Fleet - asking me my opinion of him as a clerk! I'm a fool not to have made the connexion myself before now.

But according to Crispin, he's already stayed longer than they wanted and the Regulatory office anticipates an influx of applications and the need for inspection tours as we approach the holiday season. Thus, they require him as of 1st November to begin training. He has sworn to procure an interim assistant with at least a few days' transition and offered to consult his replacement once I have chosen a permanent clerk.

That does little to mollify me, however. It is intolerable to be expected to accept such short notice! And kindly do not tell me to get my head put back on straight by Ari; I believe I have every reason to react as I have done.

All right. I shall be late if I continue thus. Whoever else is running the course this afternoon had best be on guard.

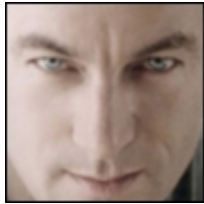


 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-19 19:53:52](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Well. Surely you don't blame him for wishing to rise on his own? You are naturally perturbed by his duplicity in keeping it from you, as anyone would be. But I can understand why he might have done. You would have offered him a rise in salary or some other temptation to keep him. And it might have worked for a while, dearest, but a young man of Crispin's talents can't be expected to remain your clerk for the rest of his days. And perhaps he *has* met someone, as you suspected, and remembering your conversations with him while he was seeing Miss Kirke made him realise he had to take a position where he could dictate his own hours or manage what he needs to start a family. After all, it is a sizable promotion, and something he couldn't do if he'd continued with you.

It's certainly a bad hex, husband, and I know it's a terrible inconvenience to you. But I *think* that what is really troubling you is that he did not enlist your help, nor obtained your approval, before taking this decision. Isn't that right? What does Ari say about it? (And no, I did not mean to imply that you need him to analyse you, only that talking with him always seems to steady you.)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-19 20:00:14](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

I've not had the chance to speak to him, steadying or no. Barty had some news that could not wait for action. I had the club inform Ari.

However, it means I shall be here through supper as well, most likely, or at the Ministry. Can you forgive me for missing your company twice in one day? I promise you will like the reason when I tell you.

It's been quite enough to steady me all its own, in fact.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-19 22:31:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

Thrice in one day, Lucius. Did you forget already that you left before I came down to breakfast?

I suppose if you must, you must. But you'll have to make it up to me; you are not forgiven just because it's some form of good news.

2010-10-19 14:16:00

(no subject)

Tore through my notes in a fury last night. Slime, essence, putrescence, menace, penance. Cold as a hag's dug this morning. The faceless watching, perhaps lingering a little too near. Cleansing fire would help, but ran out of firewood. Too much pigeon blood on the logs, kept them from burning very well. Scraps made with the fourth year essays helped with the conflagration, though. Best possible use for them, to my mind.



 [alt_amycus](#)

Building up a tolerance might be wise. It's worth thinking on. A little stroll in the moonlight, a few feet nearer every time. Must dare to do what no one else will dare. Purity will be the cloak. Might keep me warmer, too.

Am wanting a bloody sandwich, there's no tidbit available, and there's never a bloody house elf when you need one.

(I'm saving yours for you, Justine.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2010-10-19 19:51:12**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I wouldn't go anywhere near him, if I were a house elf.

Do you think he thinks he could build up a tolerance to dementors? I didn't think that was even possible, though I don't know what sort of happy thoughts Carrow would even have for them to steal.

I hope he gets too close and they steal his soul. If he even has one.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2010-10-19 19:57:09**

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

I don't think he does.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-19 19:58:24](#)

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

If he does, any dementor that tried to suck it away from him would probably just spit it back.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-19 20:01:50](#)

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

Maybe the Dementors actually got him years ago and that's what's wrong with him?

I heard they can suck out your soul but no one seems to know what happens THEN. Just that people who have their souls sucked out don't die.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-19 21:32:19](#)

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

Ugh.

Maybe. Though I thought that people who'd been Kissed just sat in their chairs and moaned.

That's mostly what they do in the Brotherhood of Secrets books, anyhow. Or stumble around in dark parts of New London where they haven't cleaned out all the Muggle stuff. When they walk they kind of shuffle along, so you'd hear them just before they come out of the shadows behind you.

2010-10-19 17:26:00

*Private Message to Ned Pennifold--
Tomorrow Afternoon*

I may need you to shift those two appointments from tomorrow afternoon to some time later in the week. Make the necessary arrangements for that possibility before you leave today, would you?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

2010-10-20 18:46:00

Order Only: Another break-in!


I don't know if any of you lot noticed it, but there was a tiny piece in the paper yesterday about another break-in at an apothecary in Gateshead. This time there was evidence that the burglar used equipment in the laboratory in the back before leaving the premises.



 [alt_sirius](#)

I'm heading north to check things out.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-10-21 02:49:45](#)
(no subject)

I'll see what I can find out on this end.

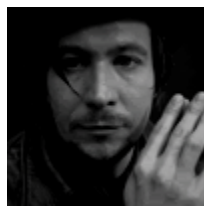
Kingsley? You and your group know anything?




 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2010-10-21 02:51:23](#)
(no subject)

We keep our ear out for rumours, but I haven't heard anything in particular about apothecaries.

If we do find anything, we'll pass it along.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-21 12:13:05](#)
(no subject)

I remember there was another one, a couple of weeks ago - one of the boys in Harry's year wrote about it. Cooper? No, Corner! MLE passed it off as a bit of a prejudicial prank. But when I'd looked into rumours of a suspicious character in Sheffield, an apothecary's had been robbed there, too. Frank and I thought there might be something more going on.

Anyway, I'm here now, so might as well poke around.

[2010-10-21 10:06:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

I thought History Club went really well, don't you? I'm glad we decided to focus on more recent stuff this year, I think it's well relevant compared to, say, wars from three hundred years ago or something.



 **[alt_padma](#)**

I wish we were going to Hogsmeade this weekend instead of next! You've got your forms from Mr Rosier, right? Only Midgen hasn't got hers yet and she's been moaning about it for *days*. This morning she got an owl and she was positively beaming, but then it turned out it was just a letter from her foster parents telling her they'd had a note from Professor Acton. She'd written them because Midgen's marks are well lower than last year's! Her face got all red and I've never seen anyone go from smile to scowl quite so fast! At least they didn't send her a Howler, for her sake, but it would have been well classic if they had done!

Are you up for revising tonight or are you going to sit with Hooper again? Isn't it funny his taking an interest in helping you with Arithmancy like that? Well, it's making an improvement, whatever he's done. Only if you're going to revise with him I'll tell Thomas that it's a Ravenclaw Corner night. So let me know?




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-21 23:07:17](#)**
(no subject)

I agree, History club was excellent. And yes, Mr Rosier sent my permission letter back with me when I got back from the summer, along with some pocket money to use in town. I can't wait.

I'm meeting Geoff Hooper again to work on Arithmancy again, it's really complicated but he's good at explaining.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-22 02:26:31](#)**
(no subject)

Everyone says to go to Honeyduke's first because otherwise they'll sell out of everything. But I dunno, I think if *everyone* goes there then there'll be a huge

queue and it seems like you could go to the other shops and then Honeyduke's and still get in the queue before the others have finished.

Besides, I don't need sweets, I'd rather go to Scrivenshaft's anyway. Or Dervish and Banges, Dames says they've got loads of nift gadgets and all.

Which bit are you finding the most complicated? I think the equations are well impossible, but maybe they'll be easier for you now you're doing star charts in Divination too? That's three lessons with stars in: Divination, Astronomy and Arithmancy. I guess I don't quite see how one can time a spell so that it goes off at the exact moment of an equinox, say, or...like, the exact time Mars is in retrograde. Seems like it would be really hard. Arithmancers must have to keep on eye on their clocks all the time! But if Hooper can explain it to you that's good. Most of the Ravenclaw Corner chaps take Arithmancy, too, so I get loads of help when I need it.

Should we work on Charms over the weekend? I think I figured out the trick to that knot-tying charm.

2010-10-21 15:22:00

STINGER

WHOO I'M FLOATING!!!!

FLOATING INTO THE HOSPITAL WING
NOWWWWWW



 [alt_harry](#)

2010-10-21 15:24:00

whoops dropped my journal

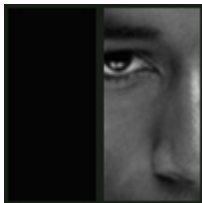
Have it back now!


Who knew that Billywig stings were going to be so wizard?! Best class ever!!!



 [alt_harry](#)

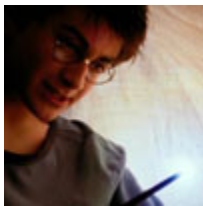
Good thing you don't levitate very high though otherwise I'd be in the STRATOSPHERE but that would be FUN!!




 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-21 19:54:31](#)
(no subject)

Has Madam Pomfrey put you right yet?

You did make it up there, didn't you?




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-10-21 20:38:27](#)
(no subject)

Now she did.

Man, that was strange.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-21 21:41:29](#)
(no subject)

So what happened? Was it really wizard feeling?

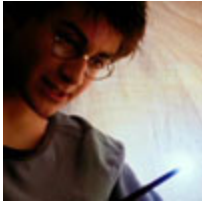
After you left, Brutka put us on notice that he was making a strict count at the end of the lesson, and no one should plan on slipping any of them out to use later.


Shame about that.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-21 23:12:47](#)
(no subject)

Did you really sing the whole way to the infirmary?




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-10-22 15:41:55](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

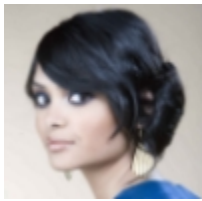
The Chudley Cannons fight song.


I dont know either.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-22 15:59:26](#)
(no subject)

That's well awful! Couldn't you at least have sung 'Hey Hey Merlin' or something? The Cannons are rubbish!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-22 01:36:13](#)
(no subject)

Are you all right?


I heard from Capper that Billywig stings can be addictive.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-22 14:39:42](#)
(no subject)

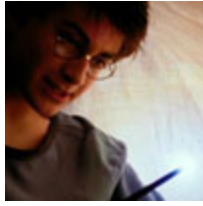
Careful, you'll be giving Stretton ideas.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-22 14:49:24](#)
(no subject)

Who d'you think told Capper!


Seriously, though, who'd want to sting themselves over and over? It can't be that snitch-feeling.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-22 15:41:06](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know but I was all floaty. I wouldn't mind it again let me tell you!!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-22 16:03:34](#)**
(no subject)

There've got to be better ways to feel like that, though. Although, I shouldn't recommend becoming the sort who drinks too much or is always looking for plimpy scale dust or opium or whatever they tell you will make you 'feel great' and you'll never even get out of bed most days!

2010-10-21 18:07:00

Private message to Geoffrey Hooper

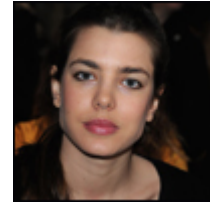
Dean Thomas is going to be at loose ends tonight, I'll try to shake him off if he tries to follow me when you and I meet. Same place as last time, yeah? I know you prefer it's just the two of us. Sorry in advance if I can't manage it, only he's about the only one of my roommates who still talks to me, so I don't want to be rude. ~~Also his guardian knows Mr Rosier and~~



 **alt_seamus**

2010-10-22 10:41:00

Private Message to Lana Sandoval



 [alt_lana](#)

Memory
Faulty Recall
False Memory
Inducing False Memories
Tampering with Memory--Manipulation of Others;
Self-Manip
Detecting Manipulated Memories

Distinction: Faulty/Manipulated Recollection vs. False Testimony

Mnemonics: Aids and Amplification

Suspects, Witnesses, Informants:

- Perceived Role
- Cultivating Trust vs. Undermining Resistance
- Methods and Devices for Taking Statements
- Staging Interviews:
 - Location: scene of crime; witness's domicile; neutral venue; holding cell; interrogation dungeon
 - Personnel: numbers, strategy, teamwork, gender considerations
 - Timing
 - Temperature
 - Considerations re. Comfort/Discomfort: methods and materials

Methods:

- Modes of Interrogation (from encouragement to coercion)
- Sneakometrics
- Persuasion (and rules regarding)
- Truth serums (and rules regarding)
- Legitimacy (and rules regarding, plus methods for detecting/countering Occlumency)
- Power Plays
- Restraint
- Coercive Measures (magical and otherwise; effects on interrogator)

Nota bene:

Male suspects attempt deception more frequently than females.

Female interrogators mistake truth for falsehood more frequently than male interrogators when tested for accuracy of lie/truth detection. No gender difference in ability to correctly detect falsehood. (We're more suspicious. Not a bad thing, surely.)

Speakers blink more, pause more frequently when lying than when telling truth. (No absolute measure for all speakers. Individual baseline must be verified case by case. Veritabulator measures facial and vocal cues.)

Controversy over 'gaze aversion' as non-verbal cue: the preponderance of research shows gaze aversion has no correlation to lying; however, the misconception persists among interrogators that suspects betray falsehood if their gaze flicks away or if they avoid eye-contact during questioning. Two recent studies have attempted to measure what they call the legitimacy-skew, pursuing the theory that wizards will avert their gaze if they believe an interrogator might use legitimacy on them. If true, it stands to reason that this would lead to gaze averting even from subjects with no reason to lie because even the innocent have been trained to fear the invasive penetration of their thoughts by legitimacy. Bottom line: gaze aversion in MLE interrogations is not to be taken as an indication of guilt (or innocence).

2010-10-22 12:22:00

(no subject)

Did anyone else read the *Prophet* today? I saw there was an interesting front-page article, but I couldn't get anyone to lend it to me at breakfast, so I had to wait and read the copy in the Hufflepuff common room. (And could whoever clipped one of the photos tell me what it says on page A2? Our copy's missing two paragraphs.)



 [alt_zacharias](#)

I guess some bloke's been writing up these really dead awful essays and calling them the 'Grim Truth.' And MLE are trying to get information about who's really writing them, because it's sure not that traitor Black, he's dead, inn't he? So they reckon it could be anyone hiding behind Black's name and just saying they're Black to make people think he's not really dead (which he is, of course). Only they're sure it's not really a pureblood, because some of the things these essays say, someone who grew up pure would never say, right? So they figure it's a mudblood or a halfblood trying to sound pure.

Some of the quotes are well classic, too:

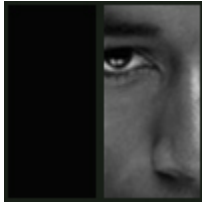
Take no comfort that you are not yet dead: you are merely being fattened for the kill. And some of you have been given such charming gilded cages that you mistake them for pleasure palaces provided for your frolics--for your folly, more like. Do not be deceived: doom awaits us all.

That's well cheerful, isn't it? But I really like this bit:

What's grim and true--and no less grim for being true, nor any less true for being frankly grim--the Grim Truth frankly told without any of the mystifying fumes of frankincense that hide the bitter stench of foul, fudge-smirched filth....

I mean, try saying 'foul fudge-smirched filth' ten times really fast! It had me and Begy in stitches when we tried it! Of course, Begy thinks maybe this chap's just making fun of the originals, you know. But if it's meant to be a parody it's well standard, isn't it?

Anyway, I've a feeling the missing bit on the back of the photograph is another quote. If it's as hilarious as these we want to know!



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-22 20:38:59](#)
(no subject)

Who writes like that? 'Fumes of frankincense'?
Please!

And why shouldn't we live in palaces when they're just standing empty waiting to be cleansed and put to someone's use? If it's a wizard, he's obviously not qualified for the repopulation programme. Sour grapes, I'd say.

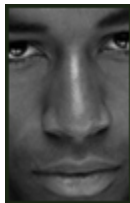
And if it's not a wizard, I'd like to know what they're about, giving mudbloods parchment and letting them write nonsense like that.




 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-10-24 14:53:29](#)
(no subject)

Too right. But they did sound sort of like that, didn't they? I mean, I didn't read the real ones, except sometimes the blokes in the common room would read them aloud so we could all have a laugh. And he was always throwing little bits in that were supposed to sound like poetry. Like that last one he wrote: 'wave after wave of blue as if there's nothing you can do'. I mean it rhymes and everything!
Mad.

His brother read poetry too, didn't he? Maybe that's the first sign of insanity. Parkinson would know, she writes verses. Reckon she'll go crackers too?



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2010-10-24 19:55:30](#)
(no subject)

You didn't read Black's stuff, but you can quote his poems?

Right.




 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-10-25 00:50:06](#)
(no subject)

I don't read them. It's like I said, Preece read parts of it aloud, for entertainment, you know, and that bit got sort of stuck in our heads because it was so ridiculous.

Anyway it looks like whoever's writing them now has the same sense of cheek.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 20:52:03](#)
(no subject)

Nice, Smith.

Real nice.

I find it quite remarkable that you manage to pack in so many insulting things into four sentences. You are a callous and vile idiot with no taste or culture. I hope that if you ever lose someone that you are close to, that someone as equally vile will make a joke out of it just so you can know in some small part how incredibly awful you are.

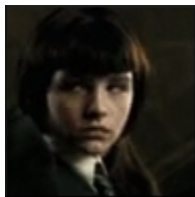



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2010-10-25 00:55:42](#)
(no subject)

Look, Parkinson, it's not my fault your 'friend' went crackers. Or that you let yourself care so much about a serial murderer.

Anyway, maybe next time you'll think twice before you start attaching yourself to misfits and weirdos. Oh - too late.

But I'd stop reading so much poetry if that's what it does to you.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-25 01:07:57](#)
(no subject)

But it *is* your fault that you are an insensitive arse.

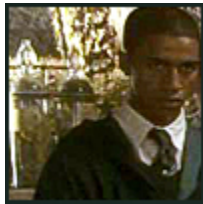
Go suck on a toad and leave me alone.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-24 14:58:04](#)**
(no subject)

The article said they'd collected ten different essays so far! And they're all slightly different, but they can't have been written by a real pureblood. There are occasional references to muggle things. I dunno, I guess there's a whole team who spend their time analysing every word.


I bet Lana Sandoval knows all about what they're doing to catch the impostors, she's training to be an Auror and probably knows everyone working on the team.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-10-24 19:56:45](#)**
(no subject)


You know, I hope they ask her back to talk to the YPL. That'd be dead interesting to hear Sandoval tell what it's like, training with the Aurors.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-25 00:58:54](#)**
(no subject)

That's a brill idea, Zabini! I don't know if they would, though, because we've already had Aurors come. But maybe if they come talk to the firsties she'd be one of the ones who comes and tells them how it is to train, and then maybe we could sit in if we liked.



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2010-10-23 14:13:08](#)**
(no subject)

That's hilarious!


I'll have to see if someone in our common room will loan it to me for a laugh.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2010-10-24 14:38:01](#)**
(no subject)

It would be funnier if they'd caught the git who was writing it.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2010-10-24 14:49:03](#)**
(no subject)

Well, if he keeps writing them they're bound to catch him eventually. Like they caught Black.

I heard Capper and Bobolis saying that MLE think it might actually be more than one person. But either way, they're obviously deluded. And bad writers as well!



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-10-24 19:57:45](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, they will. And no mistake.

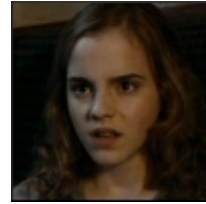
Won't be pretty to be him, then.

[2010-10-22 18:45:00](#)

I SAW HIM

I saw a tall black haired man and he was acting suspicious and

He was in Hogsmeade.



 **[alt_hermione](#)**


Harry sent me to get him sweets because he was feeling down, and so I went, and I started off down the path back to Hogwarts from Honeydukes and he followed me, so I turned back around and went to the Three Broomsticks, and he went away, and I think I'm safe, and I'm going to go back up to the castle now, but I thought that I had better tell people *right away*, before anything happened.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2010-10-22 22:49:54](#)**
ORDER ONLY

It wasn't you Sirius, I mean, I don't think you're even around, are you? But he had long black hair and I couldn't see his face, I couldn't really even tell if he was Macnair or Snape or someone else entirely because he was all wrapped up in a cloak. Only that he was big.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2010-10-22 23:38:57](#)**
Re: ORDER ONLY

No, it wasn't me, kiddo, I'm in Gateshead. Sorry I didn't see this right away. I found a decent take-away curry place and had chanced it for a spot of vindaloo.

Are you back up at the castle by now? I don't want you in Hogsmeade if either of them are about. And it's possible - Hogwarts isn't so far from here. Easy Apparating distance for most wizards.

I was going to finish up looking into this last break-in but that's minor. Anyway, I think I've already figured out most of the story here. Lacewings from Sheffield. Crocodile livers and bicorn horn from New London. And here in Gateshead he used Re'em blood and sneezewort along with leeches. Still polyjuice, maybe, but polyjuice doesn't use Re'em blood! Maybe it's more than one potion?

Paracelsus save me if I can figure out what he's doing. Except that if it is one or the other of them ... then I'd bet they're making a play for Harry again. Probably want to polyjuice themselves and then use the second potion to kidnap him? I don't know - I can't figure it out.

And Circe, I don't like that at all. This is not good.

Right - Hogsmeade is more important than Gateshead. I'll hit the road tonight.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-10-23 01:23:32](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

I've been with the MLE. They just gave me my journal back. I'm all right. Harry's all right too.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-10-23 02:06:51](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

If it's polyjuice they're attempting to brew, they'll be wanting fluxweed at the full moon. As you know, it's terrifically difficult to find in the wild here anymore: the Department of Mysteries created a blight that killed nearly all of it. It was one of their earliest projects, and a devastatingly successful one. So they'll have a time of it, finding any, and that might put paid to their efforts.

There used to be a small crop of fluxweed hidden away in Dartmoor that one or another of us would slip off to collect when the Order needed it, but the last of that disappeared five years ago, and there were once a few isolated patches out along the Suffolk Downs, but I've not seen or heard of any there for even longer. We tried transplanting some, as you know, but that was a singularly unsuccessful trial, and if Pomona couldn't manage it, I doubt anyone else has.

So unless they've some way of knowing that we've got a thriving crop here now (thanks entirely to you and Laszlo), I'm sure I don't know where they'll find any.

That begs the question: you don't suppose that's what's drawn them to Hogsmeade--some knowledge that we've got the stuff here

in the greenhouses? How on earth would they have had gleaned that information?!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-23 02:15:45](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Well.

Macnair was at Hogwarts at least a year before he tried to kill Harry, right? He might have noticed the fluxweed and told Snape.

Or, if Snape's on his own, he might not know the fluxweed's all gone, and just assume you've got some. After all, if anywhere is likely to have it, it's Hogwarts.

But that's assuming he hasn't found it anywhere else. If he's already been able to brew polyjuice, he could easily try to take any of your places to get in to the castle.

Please be careful. I should get there in a day. Less if I try some short hops via Apparation.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-10-23 02:22:53](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Macnair can't have known, I don't think. The plants didn't arrive until you breached the wards at the solstice, and that was after he'd been apprehended.

But you're right, of course, Snape wouldn't realise we'd ever gone without: he would simply assume we have it as we always did--before. And that opens the door to all the other things he'd expect us to also have: any number of potentially useful ingredients, and implements, and texts.

Gracious.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-10-23 02:29:07](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

But on second thought: you're also right that if he doesn't already have polyjuice made, he'll have a difficult time getting in here.

And if he **does** have the potion and access to someone's bodily excrescences, then we'd be hard pressed to keep him out. And no clear idea what it is he'd be wanting here. Potions ingredients? Medicinals? Texts? Creatures?

Revenge?

Hostages?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-23 02:32:31](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

He's been in Azkaban, Poppy. If I'd been cooped up in there for twelve years, well ... I doubt I'd have any clear idea what I'd be after. All I know is he's dangerous. And insane.

Don't forget that dagger stuck through Harry's photograph.

Yeah. I'm on my way. I'll be in Moony's old HQ.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-10-23 02:41:08](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

He may have been in Azkaban a long time, but if, as you think, he's behind these apothecary thefts, and if he's been brewing things with the ingredients, I shouldn't dismiss him as insane.

He might not be in his right mind, but he's got far greater command of his mind than anyone's a right to expect after a dozen years in that nest of horrors.

And, no. I've not forgotten the photograph. Or the dagger.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-10-23 02:42:32](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

You think he's after the boy.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-10-23 04:44:49](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Oh, my goodness.

Do be careful, Sirius.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2010-10-23 04:47:31](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Yes, be very careful, my friend. Most of all, make sure you're not seen! If there's even the slightest hint of a rumour that Sirius Black has been sighted, it'd immediately draw the MLE off the hunt for Snape and Macnair to chase you. Which might leave the Marvolo boy in even more danger.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2010-10-23 04:51:26](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Bugger.

There's precious little known about either of them. Their habits, their proclivities...but I'll see if anyone in the network has managed to pry some information out of the MLE that might give us a clue, a hint, as to what either of them might be up to.

Watch your back.



 **[alt_bill](#) at 2010-10-23 04:33:53**

Re: ORDER ONLY

Let me know if you hear of any other ingredients reported during these thefts to add to the list. Kingsley, that goes for you and the Players, too. I'll run it by McGillicuddy--he's best at Potions in my analyst network, see what he makes of it.

Stay safe, Hermione.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2010-10-23 03:36:52**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You really saw one of them? Do you know which one?

Lucius says Harry's not to go to Hogsmeade this weekend because everyone's worried. Even though he's got the Rizzer, who'd wipe the floor with either one of them, really.



 **[alt_hermione](#) at 2010-10-23 13:39:20**

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

No, I haven't any idea. Whoever he was he was all wrapped up in a cloak. It was cold last night even that early!!

You're right Harry's not to go. He's pouting. Steer clear if I were you.



 **[alt_terry](#) at 2010-10-23 04:40:31**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I just saw this now. Bloody hell! Have you returned to the castle by now? Please let me know you're safe!

I couldn't bear it if

I can't believe it that you maybe risked your neck to get Marvolo some bloody sweets!



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-10-23 13:37:42](#)

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

I'm all right, honestly!

They didn't know. I mean, they knew about the dementors, but everybody knows about those and they just think I'm like a student so they don't hurt me. But - well it was all right, anyway. Marvolo didn't know, and HE'S the one who's really in danger.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-23 14:11:38](#)

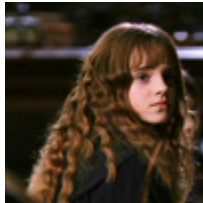
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Well, it's good you're all right. But I don't see why you or Marvolo would think the Dementors would leave you alone: they effect everyone, don't they?

I mean, he couldn't wait til next weekend and get stuff for himself? What a--

never mind. You'll just stick up for him if I say it, anyway.

But you shouldn't. He's always doing stuff that's dangerous for you.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2010-10-23 15:17:48](#)

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

Well of course they make me SAD but they weren't going to SOUL SUCK ME, is all I meant.

2010-10-22 21:26:00

Order Only

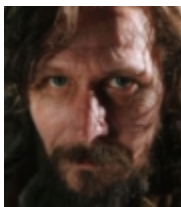
I particularly did not need this.

The MLE has us all mewed up in the castle. It's anyone's guess whether the students will be allowed to go to Hogsmeade; certainly Mr Marvolo won't.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

If only - well.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-23 01:29:27](#)

(no subject)

Were MLE hard on Hermione? Merlin, they didn't legitimise her or anything?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-10-23 02:12:41](#)

(no subject)

Not that I can tell, and not that she's admitting - she doesn't show any signs of Obliviation, either. They questioned her without any aid of truth potion or charm and then remanded her to Mr Marvolo, it seems.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-23 02:20:35](#)

(no subject)

Thank Dee for that much.

Are there many MLE about? What measures are they taking for Harry's safety, do you know?

I'm heading to Hogsmeade, Minerva. It'd be helpful to know what to expect.




 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2010-10-23 02:45:17](#)
(no subject)

I'm not clear. There are at least five or six in the village, that I've heard about. Five or six more up at the castle, but mostly they're allowing the teachers to control the castle's security, for which


I am grateful.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2010-10-23 03:22:20](#)
(no subject)

never thought I'd be glad to read that, but it's good to know you've got some halfway decent help from the MLE on this. and that they're letting you do your job.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2010-10-23 05:00:07](#)
(no subject)

Well, thank Merlin for that. Very relieved to hear it.

2010-10-22 22:34:00

*Private Message to Minerva McGonagall
and Rabastan Lestrangle*



 **alt_lucius**

Minerva, I've just been in conference with Mafalda Hopkirk on the sighting in Hogsmeade this evening. We were informed by Crockford that the girl's interrogation was routine. Nonetheless, Mafalda has asked and I have agreed on behalf of the Governors that Mr Marvolo ought to be kept within the grounds for the time being. Crockford is moving the Dementors closer to the village and given the boy's reaction on the train, it would be doubly wise for him to remain within the protection of the castle.

Raz, Crockford also reports a certain pamphlet that was recovered in the village, which he'll pass on to Barty's team. More prognostication of Marvolo's untimely demise. Keep him close if you please.


If you require anything prior to the Governors' meeting next week, let me know.



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2010-10-23 03:02:06**
(no subject)


I quite agree, Lucius.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2010-10-23 14:34:42**
(no subject)

Of course I'll keep him close, even though he's making it very it clear that he resents me for it.




 **alt_lucius** at **2010-10-23 14:37:22**
(no subject)

Indeed. I detect a note of sullenness in my son, as well, though he has elected to martyr himself to keep Harry company.

If we can just keep them alive and sound until they emerge from their teens, I think we shall have succeeded at a minor miracle.



 **alt_rabastan** at **[2010-10-23 14:41:10](#)**
(no subject)

Harry's being sour with everyone and so it's making Draco sour, too. It's on the verge of making *me* sour, but I haven't lost my rag yet. Though maybe I ought to. That'd certainly get their attention, wouldn't it?

Can't blame them too much, though, they just want to be able to do the things the other kids do. I expect they're not going to thank us for this until their both thirty-five, though.

[2010-10-22 23:01:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Pansy Parkinson



Sending you both additional chocolate.


Draco, Harry will not be allowed to go to Hogsmeade next week-end. There is good reason to believe the village unsafe for him. I leave it to you to decide whether you will remain in the castle with him or go with your year-mates. But if you do choose to exercise your privileges, I trust you will also take extreme caution. Keep Crabbe or Goyle with you at least, and by no means venture away from the high street alone. We have reason to believe our enemies would not hesitate to gain access to Harry through you. Be careful. Above all, do not allow Harry to escape your uncle's surveillance or convince him to accompany you both into the village - I do not think your uncle would leave you unprotected but there are many distractions and he is but one warlock.

 **[alt_lucius](#)**

Pansy, believe you will be in need of cheering charms, so here is one: Your friend Mr Tenebridge has asked to hear that little song you wrote. He may have in mind arranging for one of the groups on his label to produce it. Have promised to ask if you would come at Christmas to give him a sample.

And if that is not enough, as I said, Valerian will be there by morning with parcels for you both.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 03:32:32](#)**
(no subject)

Really? I mean... really? The song is a bit silly, and it's my first real try at writing things, so he'd probably think it's rubbish, and now I'm all nervous about it, but that is absolutely brilliant! *The* Mr Tenebridge wants to hear *my* song!

That's awful about Harry not being able to go, though. I know he's been looking forward to it for ages. So that Granger girl wasn't making things up? She really saw one of them at Hogsmeade?




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-23 03:42:11](#)**
(no subject)

Well, Nolan specialises in acquiring young talent. I'm sure he expects that your efforts will be raw. Do not underestimate the value of his interest, though: He can recommend a great deal to help you along.

Granger certainly saw someone, though exactly who or what his intent is still unclear. Still, MLE cannot afford to take any such reports as less than a real threat. My caution to Draco applies to you as well, Little Bit. If you go into the village, do look after yourself.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 03:52:06](#)**
(no subject)

I shall. And I'll be sure to not go anywhere by myself.

And it really is *such* an honour. I mean, just the chance to meet him this summer was so ace, and just thinking about all the other people whose music he's listened to, and how I'd be part of that group of people, well, that is *fantastic*. And you're right, I'd bet he'd have all sorts of great advice.




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-23 13:13:45](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, I thought that would buoy you for at least a few hours. Very well, I shall tell him that you accept his invitation. There ought to be plenty of time over the holidays after your mother has left for her honeymoon.

You needn't tell her of this if you don't wish to do, by the way: Once she has remarried and you come in to your father's allowance you shall be largely independent and you and I may decide together what is best for your future.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 20:25:11](#)
(no subject)

She's been so busy with the wedding, I honestly don't think she'd care one way or the other. But I won't burden her with my plans.

This wedding cannot happen fast enough. Honestly. She forgot to send me pocket money this month -- I had to remind her twice -- otherwise I wouldn't have had a thing for Hogsmeade and that would have been so embarrassing.




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-23 20:46:52](#)
(no subject)

Presumably she has forgot that you have the ability to spend it in the village this year.

Still it is concerning that she has not made arrangements for you to get an allotment automatically. I suppose since it is only a month or two until you may draw from your trust monthly, she feels it unnecessary. Well. If you have need of money for anything in particular, simply ask.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 20:53:54](#)
(no subject)

I shall.

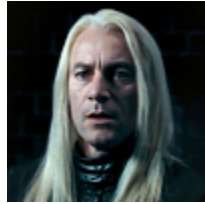
I don't suppose...


This might sound sort of petty, but would it be possible to see how much she's taking from our account for the wedding? To make sure she's not spending more than the interest? It'd... well, it'd be a mum sort of thing to do. To spend more than she ought, and to see that she got use of it instead of me.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 22:31:54](#)**
(no subject)

Do you think it'd be worth writing Mr Baddock about?




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-23 22:45:49](#)**
(no subject)

You do not need to worry about that, Pansy. I know it was confusing but one of the many forms you signed when we met with Mr Baddock was an enjoinder freezing the principal amount of your trust. Your mother is authorised to withdraw only on the accruing interest.

But it does remind me that we shall have to go back to Gringott's - with your mother this time - to remove her as a signatory on the account following her nuptials.


How long do they plan to honeymoon, exactly?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 22:55:44](#)**
(no subject)

They are taking off on Boxing Day, and coming back the day after New Years.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 22:57:38](#)**
(no subject)

And it's good to know about the account, too.

I just know she's spending a ton and a half, so I was worried. But I guess that's Prospero's problem, not mine.




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-24 01:20:13](#)**
(no subject)

I rather get the impression that they are attempting to economise - certainly that is my experience of Campbell. He has all the hallmarks of a highlander in that respect.

Nonetheless, I was many times assured by both your Aunt Narcissa and my sister that when it comes to planning a wedding, no expense is too extravagant to attain perfection.


Certainly it would not be the first time a bride - even a second-time bride - over-rules her fiancé by spending too much.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-23 23:02:09](#)**
(no subject)


I'll have Ari make an appointment before Christmas Eve so you and she can transfer the account. No sense letting her retain access any longer than necessary.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2010-10-23 14:32:25](#)**
(no subject)


Well, I probably won't go. Hogsmeade isn't very special, anyway. It's just an old country village.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-23 14:38:39](#)**
(no subject)


Entirely your decision, son, though I am sure Harry will thank you for your steadfastness.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-23 15:22:00](#)
(no subject)


Wait, what's this about Mr Tenebridge wanting to hear Pansy's song? I helped write it, you know. Well, not the lyrics (though I did suggest that the chorus be repeated more), but I helped come up with the music to go with the lyrics. And who's going to play the song for him?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-23 18:02:41](#)
(no subject)


You told me that you helped to write the music and I have not forgot. If Mr Tenebridge likes it I'm sure we'll discuss the proper credit for both melody and lyrics. As for going to play it, I assumed you would wish to go. Did you not tell me last summer that you pre-authorized trips to recording studios, WWN and broom factories?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 20:20:28](#)
(no subject)

Of course you should come along! That would be absolutely brilliant. And you should most definitely get credit for the music part. Because it's part your song too.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 20:34:00](#)
Private Message to Draco

I would've said that it was our song, but I wasn't sure if you wanted to make a big deal of it, because of your mum and all.

But it is both of ours, and it'd really be ace if you came along to play it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-24 15:25:31](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I'll come along. I'm starting to get the idea that Father doesn't want me to play music, though. Yet I guess it's acceptable if you do it, for some reason.

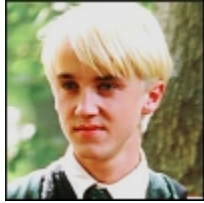


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 20:39:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I think it might have something to do with my last name.

I'm sorry, Draco.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-25 02:03:33](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I don't know if it's just that. It might be because I'm a boy, and an only son, and things of that nature. Basically I don't think he wants to encourage me to be a musician or an artist because it doesn't really do much for the Protectorate. Though that's not completely true - like your song, for example, it pretty much says how great New London is now that we don't have to hide our magic. That does a lot in favour for the Protectorate, when you think about it.

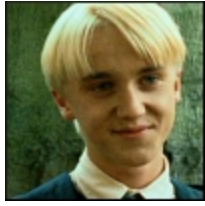


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-25 02:58:30](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

True. But if you look at all the things Lucius does... it's so much more than what a song could do. I mean, he's changing the world.

And there's only a few wizards out there who could do what he does and do it well, and I think he's hoping you'll be right there next to him one day. Which is a lot to think on, and a pretty heavy responsibility. But, you know, a pretty cool one too.




 **[alt_draco](#) at 2010-10-25 12:15:26**

Re: Private Message to Draco

Oh, no one has to worry about that - I'll do important things. Maybe music will be one of them, and maybe it won't. You know what would be snitch, though? If a band performed while flying on brooms. They could have concerts after quidditch matches!



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2010-10-25 15:08:30**

Re: Private Message to Draco

Now that? Would be ACE.

I mean, I know they usually do little halftime shows and things at Quidditch, but to have a whole concert after?

I could see it working. Even if they weren't all on brooms. Sort of like I'd bet it'd give a chance to new bands, too, that wouldn't be able to fill a stadium on their own -- a ready-made audience.

2010-10-22 23:54:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Hermione?

I caught only a quick glimpse of you, when the Headmistress was talking to those MLE about you.

It kills me that they sent you back to Marvolo--to run more of his stupid errands for him, no doubt--but I can't get to see you.

You're...you're all right. Aren't you?

Of course you are.



 [alt_terry](#)

2010-10-23 09:38:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Sally Anne, Pansy, Nev.

(Good thing I don't have to use private messages to talk to you lot since there's three of you. I heard Jones got well cheesed at Bones--heh, that rhymes!-- 'cause Bones sent her a PM she couldn't read 'cause she was third on the list. I bet that happens all the time, people forgetting you can't have more than two.)



 [alt_ron](#)


Anywiz. Last night some of us were messing about and came up with a game you play with switching spells that turned out to be a real laugh! You need to get a bunch of stuff together--like we had Bundy's bunny slippers and Towler's omnioculars and my wrist sheath and a load of other things--nobbly rubber balls and some ribbons and a bell and just a load of stuff--and then you take one thing and swap something on it with something on one of the others, and then you pass it to the next person and they have to swap something on it with something from one of their things and then you pass it on. It gets really mad!

It's a bit complicated putting it all right at the end, of course. I think Towler's omnioculars have still got bunny ears.

Anywiz, I was thinking you might want to play. (It'd be great with jam!!!!)

And Nev, you should totally try it. You were hiding out last night so we wouldn't ask, weren't you?




 [alt_pansy](#) at **2010-10-23 20:28:11**
(no subject)

That sounds like it'd be brilliant practice for Charms, too!

D'you want to get together tonight? I could bring some music, and we could make a regular party out of it.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-23 20:47:57](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, that'd be wizard.


Have you got anything new? Musicwise, I mean.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 20:50:00](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I picked up some new stuff from summer hols, so I could bring that, yeah. Would it be just us, or would Bundy and Towler and them be there too?




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-23 20:54:54](#)**
(no subject)

I was thinking it'd just be us. I still haven't cornered Neville to get him to do it, but I think he'll be more keen if there aren't a load of other people who might rubbish him afterwards for being naff. I mean, I think he can do this stuff, but it's harder when people are watching.

Sorry, Nev. I'm not trying to be mean or anything.


Um, anyway. It'd be okay, I guess--with me, I mean--if someone else came along. Was there someone you wanted to ask?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-23 21:14:53](#)**
(no subject)

Hydra. If you wouldn't mind.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-23 22:17:20](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. Sure.

I'd say we'd bring Evelyn along, too, but I don't think she's up to the switching spells it takes to

play. But I bet Hydra's already good at them. Unless they haven't started that yet. I can't remember when we did those last year.

Anywiz, we could play something else if she can't pick it up or doesn't want to do it. Or, y'know, we could just listen to music.

Where do you want to meet up?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 22:25:25](#)

(no subject)

That old classroom by the Astronomy tower would be best, I think.

And Hydra's really sharp about Charms, so I'm sure it wouldn't be a problem.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-23 22:44:54](#)

(no subject)

You know what, maybe we will see if Evelyn wants to come along. I think people are being pretty rotten to her. And maybe it'd get Nev to come.

He's so quiet all the time now.

I dunno.

Guess he's having a time of it, too, actually.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 23:12:37](#)

(no subject)

Well, I'll bring along Exploding Snap in case Evelyn does come. But that Switch game does sound ace, we definitely have to try it.


I don't blame him for keeping his head down and all. It's the best thing to do, really. And people've stopped talking about it over the journals at least, which is a good thing.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-23 23:17:49](#)
(no subject)


Oh, and I have the most *ace* thing to tell you. I only just found out, but it is really, really wiz nift.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 03:09:44](#)
(no subject)


Oh, hey. That's totally snitch about your song. I bet it's the best thing ever to go and play it for them.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 03:15:45](#)
(no subject)

I'm nervous, though. I mean, it was fun to write and all, but I'm worried he'll think it's rubbish. Just kid stuff, you know? And that he's just humouring Lucius.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 03:21:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, I guess he knows you're a kid from the start. And even if he's doing it 'cause he wants Mr Malfoy to owe him a favour or whatever, he's still asked you and he's going to hear just like he would any other songwriter. And, I mean, they all got their start sometime, didn't they? And, y'know, some of the really big musicians are just a few years out of school, so they couldn't have been a lot older than you when they started. Right?

So, y'know, even if he doesn't take this song, it's a start. And you'll write more of them, I bet, until some band buys one and makes it famous!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 05:02:03](#)
(no subject)


You're right. It is a start. I think that's what makes me so nervous!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 04:26:22](#)
(no subject)


Even if it's a favour to Mr Malfoy, it's still a good song.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 04:52:46](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad you think so!




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 02:26:44](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry I've been making myself scarce lately. I was talking with Evelyn last night, and then tonight....yeah.


Anyway, you probably had a better time without either one of us there.



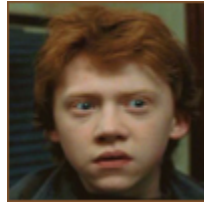
 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 03:08:27](#)
(no subject)


So, what happened? Something again tonight?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 03:27:42](#)
(no subject)

I reckon I just wasn't good company. That's all.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 03:46:24](#)
(no subject)


No, hang on, Nev. What've Nott and Goyle done? I mean, I don't think you're writing them love poems in that PM you sent.

What'd they do?

If you tell us, we can all figure what to do about it, yeah?

I mean, if we'd known, we could've done something tonight instead of just listening to music and messing about.

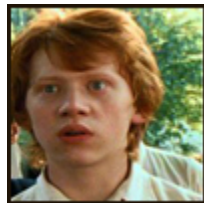



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 13:21:03](#)
(no subject)

Someone killed her cat, Ron.

I don't think Nott or Goyle could get into Gryffindor Tower.


But they were hinting that they knew about it. Somehow. ~~And~~ they've been



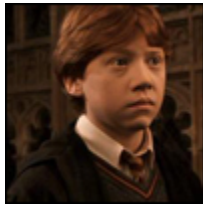
 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 13:37:13](#)
(no subject)


They WHAT?!



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 13:53:40](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 13:50:10](#)
(no subject)


Have you told Madam Hooch?

I mean, Evelyn's sure it hadn't got out of the Tower at all, right? So how'd anyone get in here to do something awful to it?

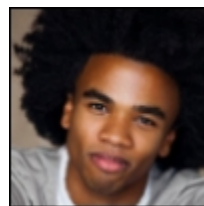
Unless it was a Gryffindor that did it.


You don't think-



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 17:33:44](#)
(no subject)


She hasn't told any of the teachers yet. She hadn't told anyone until I wormed it out of her because she's been crying.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2010-10-24 17:34:34](#)
(no subject)

How does she know it got killed and didn't, I dunno, just die?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 17:56:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, there wasn't a mark on him.

But someone cut his paw and used the blood to write 'Blood traitor' next to his body.

I'll bet whoever did it used Avada Kedavra to kill him. Which

means someone taking Dark Arts, yeah?

Evelyn's really broken up about it, and she's scared, too. But she won't say anything to Hooch, and she doesn't want me to say anything, either. I don't know what to do.

I'd offer to get her another kitten, but that might not be a good idea, if it ends up like Fitzwilliam.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-24 17:58:37](#)

(no subject)

That's...that's just sick.

And you think it was Nott and Goyle? D'ye want us to take those gentlemen aside and pound them for you?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 17:59:47](#)

(no subject)

No! I don't have any proof, and that might things even harder for Evelyn and me. It's just that they were hinting that they knew. Maybe they heard about it from whoever did it. If, you know, it was a Gryffindor.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-24 18:02:48](#)

(no subject)

All right. We'll keep an eye out for her. For both of you. Thanks for letting us know, mate.

And if it was a Gryffindor...we'll find out. And we'll make them pay. Somehow.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 19:58:47](#)


(no subject)

Is there anyone in Gryffindor House who isn't quite awful enough to kill someone's pet, but who IS awful enough to

'accidentally' let it out of the tower and then tell Teddy Nott where it is?

They'd have to be awful enough they don't mind having a cat killed. I think Lavender might be willing to be that cruel to Evelyn but I'm not sure she'd be that cruel to a cat, you know?



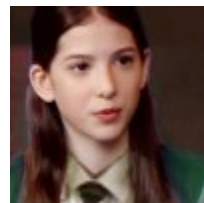
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-10-24 18:46:34](#)**
(no subject)

Hang on, though. I mean, if it was Avada Kedavra--

You really think Nott can do that? I mean, I've heard stuff about his father and all, but that's really advanced, and they've only just started Dark Arts.

I mean, Sally Anne. What do you think? D'you think Nott can do Avada Kedavra and make it work?

I think it'd have to've been a teacher. An adult, anyway. I mean, maybe a 7th year. I've never heard of anyone using that spell while they're still in school. Have you?



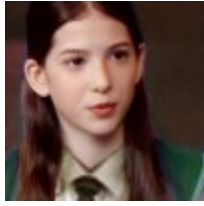
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-10-24 19:46:21](#)**
(no subject)

Actually if it was actually Aveda Kedavra I don't think it was Teddy. He would have

well

he might have used magic but it would've been something bloodier, or at least not as clean as AK. I don't know how much detail you want me to go into here considering the circumstances. What I'm trying to say is that I would expect Teddy to kill Evelyn's cat some other way.

I don't think anyone in our year can do AK yet and have it work. MAYBE Greg can, because although he's completely in the dark at anything at all about theory (or ethics or COMMON BLOODY SENSE) he is really good at the spells. But I'd be surprised if he could actually do AK.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 19:51:23](#)
(no subject)

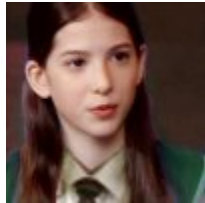
It wouldn't have to be a teacher though. There ARE older students who can do it. And if anyone in our year CAN manage it, it would be Greg.

Here's the other thing though, how closely did you look at the cat? I mean there are other spells that can kill that won't leave a mark that's easy to see.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-25 01:05:25](#)
(no subject)

I wouldn't know how to tell what sort of spell it was, and anyway, I didn't see him before she took him out and buried him.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-25 01:15:01](#)
(no subject)

Well, I don't think either Teddy or Greg would've been able to get into Gryffindor House, any more than you could walk into Slytherin.

So there must have been a Gryffindor involved, which is just awful.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 19:58:21](#)
(no subject)

Was it found in her rooms?

That means it might've been a girl.

I'm sorry, Nev. That sounds dead awful.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-10-25 01:02:09](#)**
(no subject)

Not in her room, no. Sort of tucked behind the corner of one of the hanging tapestries, in the archway just inside the portrait hole, so you wouldn't see him unless you were looking for him. Which she was, because he'd been missing for three days. And then you didn't see the writing unless you moved the body. She found him late at night when no one else was around. I don't think she told anyone except for me. I'm trying to get her to agree to tell one of the prefects, because I think they should know.

So...did a Gryffindor take him outside and let someone outside the House do it, and then put him back inside? Or did a Gryffindor do it? Either way, it looks like a Gryffindor must've been involved somehow.

Which rules out either of the Professor Carrows, I suppose. Well, unless they had a Gryffindor help. Maybe one of the older students in the Dark Arts class.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-10-25 01:12:35](#)**
(no subject)

I hate the thought that someone in your house would have done that to her.

If she doesn't want to talk to a prefect or Madam Hootch do you think you could persuade her to talk to Professor Brutka? He's kind, and he might be able to work out who did it. Or if she wants another pet he might be able to charm it in a way that would keep it safe. He put a charm on Sebastian to make it so the cats wouldn't notice he was there and chase him. I don't know if there's a way to keep a pet safe from people.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-25 01:52:04](#)
(no subject)

Me, too.

I don't think she's going to want another pet for awhile. But if she does, talking to Professor Brutka is a good idea. Thanks.

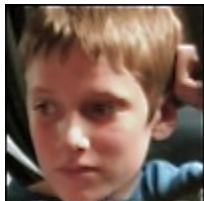



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 14:23:10](#)
(no subject)

Oh bloody hell.

It probably was Teddy. If he had any way to get at the cat. But I don't think he'd have gone in to Gryffindor Tower to get it, the cat would've had to get out. Or someone in Gryffindor would've had to get it out for him, but I don't know who'd do that to your sister.

Even the Slytherins try to keep our pets away from Teddy unless we're there to keep an eye on things. It's easier for the girls, because he can't get into our dorm.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-10-24 18:05:37](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I could see Teddy Nott doing it. He's certainly poisonous enough.

Or...it might be something Master would do, too, come to think of it. I know he's got it in for you, Neville. Has he been as bad to Evelyn? It might be easier for him to get his hands on Evelyn's cat than your toad.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 18:07:22](#)
(no subject)

Hadn't thought of that.

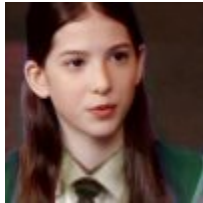
She's better in Transfiguration than I am. But he's always taking points from her anyway.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 19:54:45](#)
(no subject)

I'm trying to decide if I think Carrow would do this, or not.


It's not that I think he wouldn't kill someone's pet. It's more than I think he might prefer to find some excuse to do it in front of them.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 04:51:30](#)
(no subject)

Are you okay, Neville?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-24 13:19:06](#)
(no subject)

Not really.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 02:39:19](#)
(no subject)

So that's why Jones was in such a snit this week. I was rather wondering.


Anyway the switch game was fun. I think all large textbooks SHOULD have furry handles, honestly, it makes them much easier to carry.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 03:14:37](#)
(no subject)

It does, doesn't it!



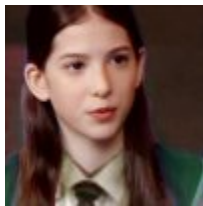
 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 03:15:58](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I was coming out of lunch right in front of Abbott Friday, and she was telling someone else about it. I mean, you'd think she'd just have asked Bones what she wrote and remind her you can't see it if a PM's got more than two people on, but no, she got totally shirty about it, and I guess it got Bones all upset before she found out what she'd even done wrong.

And, yeah, the handles were awesome! Are you going to keep them on?

We'll have to collect stuff--anything that's got weird textures or shapes or colours or whatever--and do it again.

Oh, and, yeah. You were right about the jam. Sticky isn't really a great texture to use. Since some of that stuff you wouldn't really want to lick, anyway.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 04:25:46](#)
(no subject)

It would never occur to Jones that Bones did that on accident and not as a purposeful snub. She thinks Bones is still cross with her because she gossiped about Bones' blood status to Patil and Brown back during first year.

Though I suppose it's just as well she did, the later your blood status comes out the crosser everyone is with you. Look at Corner.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 05:02:46](#)
(no subject)


As if Bones is that complicated. She's not the type to hold a grudge *that* long.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-24 05:15:33](#)
(no subject)

You're right, of course. Though she hasn't invited Jones to her house again, has she?



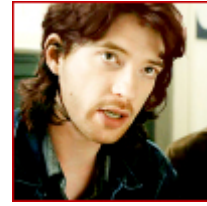
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-10-24 19:55:57](#)
(no subject)

Point!

2010-10-23 21:27:00

Order Only: Potions research

I've met with McGillicuddy and gone over the list of potions ingredients that you mentioned, Sirius. Polyjuice is the obvious thing that springs to mind with a few of 'em, but he, too, thinks that there might be more than one potion whoever is taking the stuff might be trying to create.



 **alt_bill**


The Re'em blood, now...he says that there have been a flurry of papers published in the professional journals in the past year or two discussing its use in some particularly Dark potions. He tried to explain some of the more arcane theories, but I must admit, it got a bit too advanced for me to follow him. Most of the research seems to be investigating states of consciousness, and specifically, nightmares.

I asked if he had any ideas. He didn't, which was frustrating, but he asked me to pass along if you hear of any other thefts. Perhaps if we learn of other ingredients, he'll be able to put the pieces together.

What do you make of that? Poppy, any other thoughts? What does Pomona think? I suppose if Snape spent twelve years among the Dementors, he might have a few nightmares he's like to banish. He was supposed to be dead clever at Potions when he was at Hogwarts, I've heard.

Frank and Alice, you should also pass along the list to Stephen. He might have some ideas, too.



 **alt_alice** at **2010-10-24 03:19:18**
(no subject)

I'll be sure to send it along, Bill

2010-10-23 21:45:00

*Private message to Teddy Nott and
Gregory Goyle*

Just leave my sister alone.

She hasn't done anything to you.



 **alt_neville**

2010-10-23 23:27:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good




 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I got hold of one of those Prophet articles Smith was writing about the other day, where they talk about the 'Grim Truth' pamphlets someone's been putting together.

I don't know if I believe it was actually written by Sirius Black. I mean, if he really is alive I'd think he still has his diary and wouldn't he use that if he's not worried about MLE realising he's still alive? Also, it sounds a little odd. Lavender Brown likes to use Capital Letters in Odd Places because she thinks it makes the things she writes sound More Important but I don't remember Sirius Black doing that (or anyone else with more than half a brain) (actually, that's probably giving Lavvy too much credit).

Although I do like the bit about the Lord Prevaricator's minions in the Ministry of Madness and his bloodhounds, the Monstrous League of Evil. It sounds like something right out of one of the comics the boys are always passing around. 'Ministry of Madness' sounds like a good name for a music group, actually, but MLE would probably be cross if someone used it.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-24 13:47:42](#)

(no subject)

Monstrous League of Evil?

I think that is in one of the comics. Can't remember which one, but they're always having villains join up and name themselves something like that. Only then they always turn on each other in the end, so you're meant to know it's a big joke for them to think they can trust each other. Cause obviously they wouldn't be villains if they were people anyone could trust.

2010-10-24 10:07:00

Order Only: Hogsmeade

Well, now that I'm here I'm rather stuck for the moment. MLE are all over the place. Even as Padfoot I wasn't received very well, I'm afraid. The whole village is on edge.



 [alt_sirius](#)

Moony - I rushed up here without even thinking: Full moon last night. I'd hoped to get back down to London for it. Sorry, mate. You all right?


Meanwhile, I did a reconnoitre round the village but as I said, they've locked the area down pretty well. Circe, those Dementors. Made my fur stand on end, I don't mind saying.

I did see a tall cloaked figure heading to the Hog's Head, a little after ten o'clock last night. But by the time I caught up the door had closed. I stayed and watched the door for a couple of hours, until they closed up, but none of the people leaving matched the one I'd followed. Must be he's rented a room? Anyway, I'll head over there soon, see if I can pick him up again.

Bill, I saw your message. Minerva, do you think Madam Pince would mind if you borrowed some *Practical Potioneers* for light reading? I'd be interested in that theoretical information on Re'em blood and some of the other ingredients that have been nicked recently. You could leave them in the tunnel; I'll fetch them when I can.


Hermione, you all right, kiddo? Think Harry would mind if you had some of his chocs to ward off the Dementors? If only it were that simple to keep MLE at bay.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2010-10-26 00:43:39**
(no subject)

Are you still there in Hogsmeade? No trouble at all, I hope?

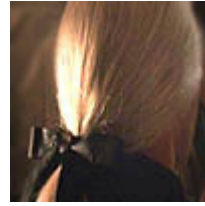


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-26 01:02:21](#)
(no subject)

No trouble. Though I've been waiting for the village to pack in for the night before taking a stroll.

2010-10-25 14:09:00

Private Message to Virgil Crispin



 **alt_lucius**

Impossible to pry Ned away from Crouch; had already explored that option, thank you, as it was my first thought on recovering from news of your imminent departure. Apparently Crouch lost no time after catching wind of your defection before immediately offering a rise in salary and a host of other benefits - which strictly speaking he is not authorised to promise - in anticipation that I might seek to replace you quickly with someone I already know to be qualified. Reminded Ned at the week-end of Crouch's limitations in making good his proffered advantages, to which he replied only that he believed Crouch capable of either forcing the issue through Hopkirk or supplementing Ned's profile himself. Also mentioned the preferment available to him should he remain at the Ministry in such a visible post.

Once again you see how the implications of your methods continue to compromise my affairs and jeopardise a smooth and speedy transition.

We have already spoken of the magnitude of your mis-calculation so I shall not belabour it here. Still I cannot understand how you might imagine your covert activities could not fail to disrupt the important business requiring my attention nor, particularly in this case, cause me personal embarrassment in the face of colleagues. I suppose we are both lucky that as circumstances would have it, you managed to find your courage before I had made a liar of myself by denying any hint that you had accepted another position. Nonetheless I believe the difficulties now apparent from such hasty notice make clear to you how much you still have to learn - which had you chosen to conduct an orderly and above-board progression in your career, I might have been able to provide opportunities to remedy. I regret that nearly six years of overall successful and productive service should end on this sour note.

It is of course natural that you should wish to rise: A man with no ambitions has no drive to succeed. What I cannot countenance is that you felt you had to hide your aspirations, and further that you enlisted the aid of your prospective employers in deceiving me as to the nature of their inquiries. Such duplicity may be applauded when deployed for the advancement of one's prescribed duties; it becomes insulting when it is used in pursuit of personal gain to the detriment of one's principal, when no treachery was required. Further it extracted from

me references that, had I known exactly whence the request derived, I might have been able to temper to place you in a better bargaining position when their offer arrived.

I should have every right to rescind my former praises of your ability and capacity and to inform you that you may not look here for future recommendation. As it is, I find myself ... undecided whether to take so hard a line, despite the wrong you have brought upon my household. You have within your hands the opportunity to redeem my opinion of you, particularly as you enter a sphere which I have limited time or resources to personally influence. If you truly wish to restore my regard for you and for the length and effectiveness of your service, you will consider carefully the offer we discussed this morning.

Meanwhile, time grows short to engage a replacement while you are able to provide basic orientation. I assume you are willing to devote all or part of the week-end if we cannot find a suitable candidate until Friday? Kindly narrow the field to your top three and clear my calendar for Wednesday - with the exception of court if you please - for interviews.

2010-10-26 09:05:00

Catchlove, Evan, Sandoval, Singh

Opportunity for you: Ipswich. Field interrogation. Other skills may be tested as occasion dictates.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

I'll take the first three to volunteer. File's on Pennifold's desk should you require where, what, how before committing.

Leaving by eleven o'clock. Assume you can forgo one day of kiosk pasties for luncheon.



 [alt_lana](#) at **2010-10-26 14:52:44**

(no subject)

Count me in.

Professor Myddleton's just finished his lecture on Pensieve manipulations. I'll be free very soon.

Have my own lunch.

2010-10-26 10:11:00

Order Only: Bill

Bill, I'm sorry for the delay in getting back to you. I did want to speak with Pomona, but she's been consulting with Acton on ways to add extra protective magic on the greenhouses, and we obviously can't speak freely in her company.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Re'em blood is used in warming draughts to reverse severe hypothermia and in a number of quite prohibitively expensive invigoration potions (of a sort often taken by rich old goats with an eye for young witches, if you take my meaning). Together with lacewing flies, I'd say the latter is a possibility as lacewings are commonly used to catalyse engorgement broths.


Apart from the obvious applications for such a concoction, those two ingredients might also constitute the basis for a strengthening draught. Other ingredients might include salamanders, graphorn liver, or centaur dung. And possibly certain oppositional ingredients as catalysing agents--valerian root, perhaps, or aconite.

Theoretically, one might substitute Re'em blood in any of the recipes for bone-restoring potions, though there would be risks: I should think that bones healed with a Re'em mixture might turn out much stouter than is normal in healthy humans; controlling the ingredient proportions would be a desperately tricky venture.

I've hunted up the articles you mentioned, Bill, and I don't mind saying that they made me shudder. Dark, indeed. For instance, one of the papers claims to be about development of a nightmare curative, while its theoretical discussion shows that the authors' methodological bent is towards nightmare cultivation and consciousness manipulation. The literature review includes the one existing study on controlling Inferi and papers on docility, thought-direction, and dream-insertion in Muggles--the sort of stuff that the Department of Mysteries occasionally allows out its doors to prove that it's doing something substantial with its budget.

Of course, it's all beyond my expertise, and I do not generally pay much heed to this sort of research. However, if you think there's a reason we should know more, I'm certainly willing to pursue it.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2010-10-26 20:20:35](#)
(no subject)

Poppy, isn't Re'em blood - well, I think I remember my father saying a few times that Abraxas Malfoy would have died years earlier if he hadn't used dark spells to counteract the curse that hit him in '45. And Re'em blood is a major component in counter-curse potions, isn't it? Or is that the whole spleen? Can't remember.

Anyway. If you or Pomona or Minerva could leave some of those journals in the tunnel, I could come get them for a little light reading. I'm finding it next to impossible to get out during the daylight hours, but perhaps in a day or two MLE will ease off.

Does Aberforth still run the Hog's Head? I wonder if he got a look at the cloaked stranger from the other night. Course, it's not like Padfoot could go up and ask him. But he always had some scraps he was willing to part with; I might be able to convince him to take in a stray for a while.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2010-10-29 16:01:07](#)
(no subject)

Re'em and unicorn parts are both useful in counter-curse potions, though with truly dark spells, it's often a matter of slowing rather than reversing or neutralising the damage. (It's why we were all so entirely beside ourselves when Bellatrix Lestrange cursed you. Do you have any residual signs of that? I'm sure you appreciate how fortunate you are to be alive and with us today.)

And, yes, the Hog's Head is still Aberforth's. It's been a great while since I've been in, mind you, but one hears a story or two. He's not the most genial barkeep north of the wall.

Have you managed a look into his premises?



 **alt_sirius** at **2010-10-29 16:25:49**
(no subject)

I've not noticed anything troubling me, but if my innards suddenly start to liquify I'll be sure to let you know.

I did venture down there last night, in fact, and yes, Aberforth's still there. Unfortunately so were about four MLE agents. He chased me out when I tried to nose through the kitchens, saying the last thing he needed was to answer charges of improper sanitation.

You ask me he should worry more about the rats he lets in the front door than the dogs that sneak in through the back.

2010-10-27 12:08:00

(no subject)

I am not sure how we shall maintain this pace straight through the holiday season! Even having cut several commitments out of the remaining weeks, there are more things to do than hours in the day, it seems.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

I was quite sure I'd have time to finish *Children of the Blood* before the DoP luncheon today and yet, here I am, quite mired by other more pressing commitments, and barely past chapter three. It's gripping, truthfully, but I just have not had the leisure for reading in the last two weeks. It makes me long for our little beach holiday again!

And there's no help in sight: try as I might I could not bring myself to disappoint Norah and turn down her request to help with the WI reception for Madam Kindle, and of course it would have to meet this week; Friday is our deadline for approving the proofs of the issue, so Revati and I are meeting tomorrow to discuss them together; I've the Sainsbury caterers to begin planning for our usual holiday party; Cooper coming to Kensington on Friday after my time in the office, so we can walk the grounds before he chooses his sites; a fitting for several sets of robes for the upcoming season; and then there is the small matter of Our Lord's celebrations at the weekend!

Sometimes, though, the bustle is well worth the trouble. It was lovely to see the newest McLaggen's Naming and of course, catching up with Charles and Ygraine at the Evan-Cuthbert wedding. And Ned! Barty, he says you've given him a rise already: You must be very pleased. It's good to see he's doing so well.

Though it's less rewarding to note that the trade in counterfeit fashion is as lively as ever. I have nothing but sympathy for those unfortunates, like Mrs Dunstan, who are duped into purchasing so-called 'originals' when they have no idea that the items are forgeries. I can only hope she took more care with the wedding present!




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2010-10-27 22:33:10](#)
(no subject)

Indeed, Pennifold has been quite satisfactory. I do think it's important to reward competence and loyalty. Call it a hedge against losing a good employee just as he's hit his stride in the position.

You are busy, indeed! I trust Mother is suitably grateful for your assistance. You'd certainly be within bounds to expect that she reciprocate when you have a demanding task that would be best delegated.

I'll be interested to hear--and eventually see--what you decide with Cooper for his Kensington installations.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-28 02:25:59](#)
(no subject)

That's an astute way to put it.

I admit I've no particular reason not to work on the committee, even if your mother were not heading it. It's not every day the WI loses its membership secretary, after all, and after fifty years in the post she deserves recognition! But I admit it's a smallish affair, compared to my usual brief.

Yes, I'm keen to see what he has in mind as well! To be honest, now that the collaboration between myself and Revati Patil is concluding, I've come to look at Mr Cooper's efforts as my next little indulgent pleasure-project. But perhaps it's also because really there's no worry in it for me: Given what I've seen already, I'm confident that whatever he devises for Kensington will be highly decorative.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-28 02:09:17](#)
(no subject)

I see no reason we should not eliminate a few more commitments, if you feel so pressed for time. Certainly you ought not to take on anything new - surely something can do without you?




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-28 02:18:08](#)
(no subject)

I know if I allowed you to determine which invitations to decline, you'd soon clear the calendar quite neatly! But no, I've gone over it twice now and really we are at the minimum, I think, at least through the holidays.

I do wish I'd got further in Marsden's book, though. Such an engaging speaker, yet one had nothing intelligent to say, not having read his work fully. Though we did strike up rather an interesting discussion of his research into camp dynamics, particularly the tendencies of muggles to organise themselves into petty kingdoms within the larger communities. I could have told you, had you been home for supper.

Was your lengthy deliberation successful, at any rate?




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2010-10-28 14:53:29](#)
(no subject)

Define success.

Have I made a selection? Yes. Whether the chosen beneficiary will turn out to be satisfactory remains to be seen.

Are you certain Mariposa may not be persuaded to assist with the calendar, if nothing else, for the time being?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2010-10-28 14:59:38](#)
(no subject)

Mariposa has her hands quite full with my needs, Lucius, and I see no reason to deprive myself simply because you have exacting standards in your personal secretary. Besides I do not think she would suit at all well, even as a temporary measure. You're sure to growl and put her off - particularly while you remain out of sorts.

It's understandable, dearest, that you should be vexed. But any

new employee requires time to learn the job. I'm sure whomever you pick will do his absolute best to please you and keep things running smoothly.

I'm meeting Ursula for a bit of shopping but would you like to meet for a late luncheon?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-28 15:01:00](#)**

(no subject)

I would but I've *Prophet* this afternoon. Could you shake her off and meet earlier?



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2010-10-28 15:04:03](#)**

(no subject)

Well.... Let's say half-twelve, then? It's just she's having a hard time of it. You know it's not an easy pregnancy so far.

But I'm sure I could explain why I'm dashing off. I'll have Mariposa reserve a table at *Le Chien*, shall I?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2010-10-28 15:05:55](#)**

(no subject)

Half-twelve. Yes. See you then.

2010-10-28 11:35:00

Private message to Geoffrey Hooper

I'll see you later for more Arithmancy, yeah?

It's amazing how hard I've been finding it!



 **alt_seamus**

[2010-10-28 11:39:00](#)

Hogsmeade!


Who's looking forward to Sunday???

Dean, do you want to walk there together? I want to go to Zonko's first, Honeydukes is brilliant and all but I can always ask Mr Rosier to send me sweets, he's not as likely to send me ~~dungbombs~~ jokes.



 [alt_seamus](#)



 [alt_padma](#) at **[2010-10-28 17:04:21](#)**

(no subject)

I simply can't wait! I wish it were Saturday but I suppose it's just as well we'll have all Saturday to finish our homework because I know we'll not get anything done Sunday, with Hogsmeade and the feast and all.

You already know what I think about going to Honeyduke's first, it's mad. The queue will last forever. May as well go everywhere else first and then shop Honeyduke's while everyone else is waiting.

I'm definitely going to Scrivenshaft's though, my quills are getting all splintery. You can waste your sickles on dungbombs if you like - just don't set them off anywhere near me!

(I cannot *believe* how difficult it was to pull everyone back to the early establishment of the muggleborn registry, after Carmichael started talking about bogeys! Honestly it was like there was a whole mass of bogey-related spells that he thought would be a smashing joke to play on muggles, and did anyone know if Dementors have bogeys or if Pendleton-Davis had invented any other spells besides the Bat-Bogey or whatever. I'd like to feed him to the Dementors and see if he's so quick to ask *them* about their bleeding bogeys! Honestly I think that's the BEST part about Hogsmeade: No second- or first-years allowed!)

Anyway - are you meeting Hooper? Again? That's the third time this week, isn't it? You must really be having trouble with Arithmancy.

I suppose that means Thomas will want to revise with Moon and Dunstan and me. As long as he's willing to work on Transfiguration.

Professor Carrow's been on about getting the fur perfect on our pot-bellied pigs.



 [alt_seamus at 2010-10-28 17:18:53](#)

Private message to Padma

I am having trouble with Arithmancy but also -- you know what Gryffindor's like. I room with Weasley and Longbottom, and of course there's Dean Thomas but he hardly talks most of the time.

It's such a relief to find another boy in my own House who really believes in the Protectorate. So we revise but we also sometimes just talk.

I think revising Transfiguration is a good idea, though. Maybe I should tell Hooper tomorrow night is better. I don't want to give Carrow any excuse to -- what is with him this year? I thought he was bad enough before.



 [alt_padma at 2010-10-28 18:18:27](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

I'm glad you remembered to make this private! For a minute I thought you'd said all that flat out, and while who cares about Weasley or Longbottom seeing it, Thomas can be so prickly. And nevermind Carrow!! He'd probably Cruciate you if you criticised him like that where he might see it.

But as for what's going on...well, I mean, I think having the Azkaban guards nearby is sort of unsettling everyone, isn't it? But Professor Carrow especially. He was actually held in Azkaban last year, for a while, anyways. Bobolis says she thinks Mr Malfoy arranged that especially because he doesn't care for Professor Carrow, but if he doesn't, he's hardly alone, is he? And anyway I know Mr Malfoy's powerful but I don't think the Minister would put someone in Azkaban just because Mr Malfoy told him to do.

So I guess he's having trouble - Professor Carrow, I mean - and he's more fractious than usual. In Ravenclaw we just hop to whatever he says to do, without giving him any reason to fuss. But sometimes I think he actually wants the excuse to be vicious, you know? So once in a while I'll Confound Brocklehurst or Capper

when Professor Carrow's back's turned, so they'll give a wrong answer and let him fume a bit and then he's all right for the rest of the lesson.

Really it's all a question of knowing how to handle people, I think, don't you?



 **[alt_seamus at 2010-10-28 19:08:05](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma

Weasley already knows what I think of him but I'm hardly going to say a word about Carrow where he can see.

I wonder why wrong answers settle him in the Ravenclaw lessons and wind him up worse in Gryffindor? I don't need to Confund anyone, Longbottom hardly ever answers things right.



 **[alt_padma at 2010-10-28 19:20:05](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma

Oh? Even after all the extra help he gets from Perks??

Shocking.

I don't know why but I've asked Parvati why she and you and Lav have to be in Gryffindor. It's such trouble sometimes, really, and it'd be so much easier if you were here in Ravenclaw or even in Hufflepuff! Why do we even need Gryffindor at all, d'you reckon? I mean, just because he was a founder? But he was wrong about so much!

Hey - maybe we ought to talk about the Founders some night soon, for History Club. What do you think?



 **[alt_seamus at 2010-10-28 19:24:04](#)**

Re: Private message to Padma

There's nothing wrong with courage if it's courage in the service of the right things.

The problem is that if you're brave AND a traitor

at heart, your fear isn't going to be enough keep you in line.

I mean all the houses have their issues. Hufflepuffs are easy to lead and if they get the wrong leader they'll follow them over a cliff. Ravenclaws sometimes get curious about something and damn the consequences. Even Slytherins can go wrong, it happens, and they're better at hiding it. You know?

I think a History Club meeting on the founders would be brilliant.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-28 22:06:19](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

I suppose, but so many of you lot in Gryffindor are not just brave, you're thick-headed as well. And it seems like everyone lumps the good Gryffindors in with the bad ones, so sometimes it seems like it would just be a whole lot less trouble if one could say you weren't Gryffindors at all. But I suppose there are Ravenclaws who are slimy gits, too, like Stretton and I guess Sandoval, now, too.

What if you were to talk about Godric Gryffindor and I'll take Rowena Ravenclaw. And I'll ask Parkinson if she wants to talk about Salazar Slytherin and maybe MacMillan or Bones will cover Helga Hufflepuff.

Oh, and let me know if you decide to meet Hooper tomorrow instead. It's so much easier to have Thomas in the group if you're there as well.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-29 03:36:15](#)

Re: Private message to Padma


Courage doesn't pair well with stupidity, I'm not going to argue with that! And not EVERYONE lumps the good Gryffindors in with the bad ones. Mr Rosier doesn't, and I don't think Mr Malfoy does, or most of the teachers other than possibly Carrow.

I could definitely talk about Godric Gryffindor, there are some excellent biographies of him in the library, and I think Parkinson would be an excellent person to talk about Salazar

Slytherin.


It's just as well Hooper turned out to be busy tonight, as I really needed the Transfiguration practice. Ugh. I'd be happy if I never saw furry anything, ever again.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-28 17:20:03](#)
(no subject)


Too right about first and second years.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2010-10-29 00:50:20](#)
(no subject)

I'll be staying around the castle, actually. Harry and I are probably going to spend some time with RaProfessor Lestrangle.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-29 03:37:06](#)
(no subject)


Oh -- well, that sounds interesting anyway. I'm sor
And safer for Marvolo.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-29 03:12:44](#)
(no subject)

A trip to Hogsmeade is simply not complete without a stop at Zonko's.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-29 03:37:48](#)
(no subject)

That's what I've heard! I can't wait.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-29 03:15:53](#)

(no subject)

I'm looking forward to it.

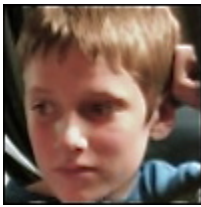
I expect I'll be leaving at a little different time, but perhaps I'll see you and Dean around the shops or something.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-29 03:16:48](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Yes, this means I have no expectation that you want to spend any time with me. Carry on without me. We'll all be happier, honest.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2010-10-29 03:17:50](#)

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

Is he giving you a hard time of it, Neville?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-29 03:48:21](#)

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

Seamus doesn't come out and say anything straight to my face, no. But I'm pretty sure he's moaning about me behind my back, to Padma Patil and Draco Malfoy and Lavender Brown and that lot.

Dean and Ron and me tried to talk some stuff out a few days ago. It didn't go so well. Ron had about as much steam coming out of his ears as if he'd taken Pepperup Potion.

Now it's sort of like there's a line drawn down the middle of the room, and Ron and me are on one side and Dean and Seamus are on the other. We all sort of pretend to ignore each other.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-29 15:49:17](#)

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

Too right it didn't go well!

But, y'know, he can't say we didn't listen. And now at least we know what he's about.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-31 02:29:43](#)

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

What happened? With Thomas, I mean.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2010-10-29 04:52:00](#)

Private message to Neville Longbottom

We could meet for butterbeer or something if you want. If it were just you, and not Weasley. But if you don't think you'll be able to shake Weasley off I understand.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-10-29 20:29:59](#)

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom

Y'know, it's a really odd thing. I don't quite see the point of shaking off my friends.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2010-10-30 01:50:34](#)

(no subject)

I certainly am!

Though I feel bad for Eloise, not being able to come because her guardians never sent in the permission. We're going to pick up loads of things for her though.



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2010-10-30 22:15:35](#)**
(no subject)

Sorry Mate,

I don't open this thing the way I should. Yes I would like to walk down with you. It will be so refreshing to leave the castle grounds for a while. I'm dieing for fresh air, as there is none hear in our room

2010-10-29 08:40:00

*Private Message to (Pansy) Parkinson
and (Ernie) MacMillan*



Finnigan and I were talking yesterday and decided it would be brill to devote an upcoming History Club meeting to the Founders. And I think it would be absolutely perfect if someone from each House presented a little bit about their House's Founder. So. Finnigan's got Gryffindor and I'll cover Ravenclaw, but I was wondering if perhaps you two might be interested in talking about Slytherin and Hufflepuff. (MacMillan about Slytherin, of course! Only joking.)


 [alt_padma](#)

It wouldn't be right away. Thomas volunteered last night while we were revising to present at History Club next, not sure what about but really it was rather sweet, coming out of his shell like that, so I didn't like to squash him, you know. And anyway, he's well clever enough, so I'm sure whatever he talks about will be relevant. And I know Moon wanted to talk about the Centaur Uprising of 1833 soon, though I've been putting him off but I really can't much longer. So, I was thinking maybe the week after that? Mid-November? That gives us all some time to find books and look up some things.

What do you think? MacMillan, if you're not well keen, maybe you'd ask Bones if she'd like to give it a go? And Parkinson, I figure this is right up your street, but in case not then I'll ask Malfoy. Or even Zabini, but I'm not sure he'd not turn up with some rubbish about how Slytherin was really nothing much compared to some Italian no one's ever heard of before. Besides, who wants to listen to Zabini for even ten minutes? He'll just whinge on about how no one's near as well fit as he is. Though Daphne'd be sure to come along, wouldn't she?

Well, anyway, I've Defence, so I've got to shut this for now. But let me know?



 [alt_ernie](#) at **2010-10-29 14:27:55**
(no subject)

That sounds well nift. I'm definitely up for it.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-30 14:10:58](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I could do something. I have that book about Slytherin that I read last term, and there's a lot of really interesting things in there that people might not have heard of before.

And I can look up some other stuff too. That'd be fine.

Cheers for inviting me, Padma.

2010-10-30 08:32:00

Private message to the Lord Protector

Dear Lord,

I very much apologise for sending You owls, and I promise not to do it anymore.

When You didn't respond to my private message I thought perhaps an owl would be a better way to get in touch, and then when You didn't respond to my owl, I thought maybe I should send ~~mør~~ another one, just in case.

The owl came back this morning and it still had its letter and I know that it didn't get lost.

Even the most daft and foolish of all owls knows the way to Your palace, after all.

I was very wrong to interrupt Your life, I know that You are very busy.

~~I thought You~~

I won't do it anymore.

Always Your loyal servant,
Hydra Elladora Lestrangle



 [alt_hydra](#)

[2010-10-30 10:54:00](#)

Private message to Aurora Sinistra



 **[alt_rabastan](#)**

Rory -

Since I'll not be off to Hogsmeade tomorrow, I'll miss that drink at the Hog's Head. Too bad, as I've become very partial to that stout they serve (your fault, by the way. I'm usually a bitter man - if never a man who is bitter). I know it's a lot to ask of you, but if you find yourself with a spare bit of time, would you mind picking me up a flagon of scotch? I can give you the galleons at dinner tonight. Or, ah...after dinner might be better. I don't know how it is that Acton manages to snag a seat next to me at every meal. That's why I haven't put in an owl order for my scotch - if she sees that package arrive in the morning she'll be inviting herself over to mine for a nightcap. Ever since I accepted her offer to help run the Duelling Club she's been...well, *persistent* is the word that comes to mind. I'm not really sure how to best put her o

Ah sorry, my niece just came to my door, looking all long in the face. Moreso than usual, that is. I'd best tend to her but - get back to me if you've a chance!

-Raz



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2010-10-30 17:42:49](#)**
(no subject)

Raz -

Have no worry - I was actually going to stop off and ask you today, if I could find you without Acton or students around. I'll cheerfully bring you some back. Anything else I can get you, while I'm at it?

I've promised to help Pomona out with keeping an eye on everyone, but she'll understand the errand. (And the stout really is fine, yes. I'm glad you've seen my reason for getting you to try it...)

On Acton - I was wondering about that. When I've poked my head in during the Dueling Club briefly, she's been all over trying to be .. well, persistent, as you say. She's never been precisely my favorite person, though I was good enough at Charms in my day, but lately,


she's been especially prickly with me, too.

(Incidentally: good job with the club. Not that it's hard to be an improvement on Lockhart, but the few moments I saw looked really quite good, and everyone seemed very taken with your explanation of how to choose between different distracting hexes.)

Don't worry about the galleons, either - if you want to come by after dinner, or have me come to you, either's fine, but I've got plenty of spare change at the moment, and it's not like I don't know you're good for it.

-Rory



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2010-10-30 20:36:18](#)**
(no subject)

Rory -

On everything else I'm as well stocked as I ever am, though I don't usually noticed that I need something until the moment that I need it, as luck would have it. Much appreciated, though - oh, and as to the brand of scotch, I'm not terribly particular (much to my brother's dismay), so go ahead and surprise me.

I could probably endure Ms Acton's persistence if she were actually helpful at the same time, but she's not very. I've gathered from some of the comments made by students that she was in pursuit of Mr Lockhart during his time at Hogwarts, as well. I've a feeling he was more welcoming of the attention.

Glad you thought the club looked good. It's going well overall, though with kids there's always the potential that the duel will turn into something more personal. I've tried to keep the pairings neutral for that very reason (the journals are really helpful in determining who's not speaking to whom, and who's out for blood against this or that poor sod, and so on).

I'll try to find you after dinner, if Ms Acton doesn't try to gnaw my ear off for pudding. Do you know that I've gone so far as to consider putting myself in that permanently empty seat next to the Professors Carrow, just for a bit of relief? That would only put me off my sup, though. Really appalling table manners from those two,

and the ominous mutterings aren't my idea of pleasant dinner conversation, either.

Time to restrain myself from further gossip, I think, lest you form a poor opinion of me. I'm going for a fly around the grounds while the Slytherins have their practice.

- Raz



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2010-10-30 21:04:56](#)

(no subject)

Raz -

I'll have fun picking something out, then. And if I see anything else that seems to want to come home with me. (Is it just me, or does that happen every shopping trip? More Flourish and Blots for me than Hogsmeade, but still.)

The attention to who to pair has not escaped me: you're right that the journals do make it immensely easier in that kind of thing. I'd much rather not pair people likely to throw a fit at each other while on the top of a tall tower with delicate equipment if I can avoid it. Much easier now than five years ago, when it was all guesswork and conversations with a few favorite students in each house, if they noticed.

On Acton - Merlin, don't let her chase you off to the Carrows. That's no fair to you. There's got to be some better solution.

If you wanted, I could put a word in Poppy and Pomona's ears that you're being pursued, and I'm sure they'd find you another spot nearer us, but I know they're not necessarily more to your taste. (I like them both, mind you, but I'm not sure that herbology and the infirmary potions are your favorite meal topics either.) Also, Acton might figure it out fast. By the by, if you think I'm opposed to gossip, you clearly haven't heard me at it myself: have no fear I'd think less of you.

I do have some sympathy with Acton - it's not like there's a lot of choices for companionship here, and I wonder if she's started getting the little period notes from the Ministry about how it's our duty to do our best for Wizarding England by having lots of children. The YPL work's helped keep them off my back, but I still

get them - and still have the same problem, which is that I'll not give up my star-watching, and finding another position that lets me do the research and observation I do here would be quite hard. (Teaching - well, I enjoy it, when they listen, but it's not my driving passion either.)

Anyway, I ramble again. Hope your flying went well, and I'll be up in my office after dinner.

- Rory



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2010-10-30 23:05:17](#)

(no subject)

R -

You'll have fun in general, I hope, even if you will be chaperoning.

Sitting next to the Matron and Professor Sprout would be preferable to the Carrows by several country leagues, I should think. I've no problem with those ladies whatsoever, only that they, like quite a few other members of the staff, remind me of my own school-boy days so much that I have trouble knowing how to address them, or what subjects make for suitable conversation (aside from the weather). But if I just busy myself with tucking into my food that shouldn't be a problem.

Ah, but see we've yet to do much gossiping on our visits to Hogsmeade together, so how was I to know you were at least a little partial to it? We've stuck to safe, civil topics like marking essays and favourite books. But we can only talk about those things for so long, eh?

I'm reasonably sure that Ms Acton is older than me by at least a handful of years, so she could very well be getting anxious about having children. I know that I'm getting anxious about it - by which I of course mean that there's really only so much longer that I can be written up as one of New London's most eligible bachelors before my family descends upon me en masse and presents me with a blushing, fertile bride.

The fly was brilliant, and I've worked up a massive appetite. See

||| you at dinner, and then after.
||| - R

2010-10-30 18:16:00

Happy Birthday!

Mum,

I hope you are having a great day. Dean let me borrow his owl, so I was able to send you some thing. Let me know if you like them. Luna sent something along as well.




 [alt_ginny](#)

I promise to write more, I have been very bad at that since we've been back here. But I will see you for hols, would really like to sit and talk with you and dad.

Take care of yourself mum. I hope you are doing something fun.


Love Ginny



 [alt_luna](#) at **2010-10-31 01:42:31**
(no subject)


I do hope the package didn't arrive crunched. I'm afraid it might have been a bit awkward for the owl to carry. Happy birthday, Mrs. Weasley!



 [alt_molly](#) at **2010-10-31 01:48:38**
(no subject)


It could have hardly arrived crunched with all the protective spells you put on it, dear. Never fear, it arrived safe and sound. What a lovely sketch! I'm astounded by how much your drawing has improved in the past year, dear. I will certainly treasure it, thank you!



 [alt_percy](#) at **2010-10-31 02:56:29**
(no subject)


What's it a sketch of, Mum?



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-10-31 02:59:13](#)**
(no subject)


Oh, it's a picture of Hogwarts, from the lakeside, at sunset. Arthur and I are both really quite impressed with it. She used some of the wax crayons we gave her on her last birthday, and she really did a remarkable job with the sunset colours.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2010-10-31 02:59:58](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you! I've been using those crayons so much with my botanical sketches that they're almost all used up. I'm so glad you liked it.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2010-10-31 02:49:42](#)**
(no subject)

How I laughed when I opened the package! I daresay I have never owned gloves that actually sparkled before! What a clever charm you used on them. Now your Dad won't be able to tease me anymore about losing my gloves all the time.


He pulled off quite a surprise for me for my birthday. We went out for dinner to new cafe that just opened up in the village, where we were joined not only by Bill, but Charlie, too! He got a weekend pass and so he'll be spending tonight and tomorrow with us. It's been months since I enjoyed a meal I didn't cook myself, so it was really a wonderful treat. I had the shepherd's pie, which was quite good. Arthur ordered the steak and kidney pie, and he said it was good, too, but not as delicious as mine!



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2010-10-31 03:33:03](#)**
(no subject)


I am glad you enjoyed the gift, and I am glad you are having a good time.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2010-10-31 02:54:11](#)
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Mum!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-10-31 02:55:24](#)
(no subject)


Thank you, dear. The snowglobe was lovely. I was very touched. I've put it on the mantelpiece where I can look at it every day.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-31 03:02:18](#)
(no subject)

Hip, hip hurrah for our dear old Mum!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-10-31 03:03:04](#)
(no subject)

I got your owl today, too, boys.

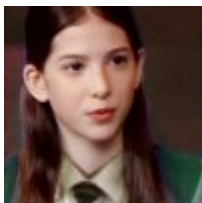
Should I be afraid to open it? I still remember what happened last year.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-10-31 03:03:50](#)
(no subject)

No explosions this year, Mum, we promise!

We're saving them all for Christmas.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-10-31 03:24:01](#)
(no subject)


Happy birthday, Mrs Weasley.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2010-10-31 04:10:00](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, dear.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-10-31 18:12:48](#)
(no subject)

Guess you got my letter, too, Mum?

Hope you had a sparkly day.

And, y'know, many happy returns and all.

2010-10-30 19:08:00

Private Message to Mr Peakes...



 **alt_dean**

Mr. Peakes,

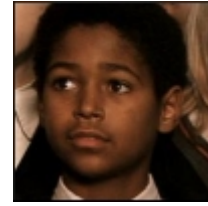
I have finally come to a complete understanding of what you were trying to teach me this summer. Somethings and/or people are not worth our time and our energy. It just saddens me that we all can't live up to the same standards and sense of pride. You should be getting a more detailed letter from me soon. I know I've been extremely silent, but I promise to try to better so that you know what I am doing and how things are coming along.

I forgot to add this in the letter, but I am sure you will be pleased to know that I am trying to be more socially acceptable. I spoke with Patil this week, and I will get to present on a topic in History Club. I will let you know more as I finialise my presentation. Also thanks for the pocket money you sent. I think its more than I actually need, but I will put part away for the next Hogsmead weekend. I will try to remember to keep you informed.

Dean

2010-10-30 19:45:00

Private Message to Padma Patil



 [alt_dean](#)

Padma,

Thanks for agreeing to let me present in history club. Over the summer, I studied about the Ancient Egyptians. I was highly intrigued by the stories about shape-shifters. So in some of my free time over the past couple of months I looked up information, historically of course, about Animagi and the history surrounding the registry at the Ministry. This is what I will present on. I think its a good topic, as it ties together history, with another major and highly interesting area of study.

If you would like, after I finish my presentation notes, you could take a look over them. Let me know what you think.

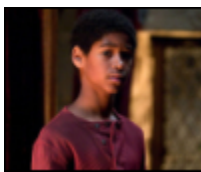



 [alt_padma](#) at **2010-10-31 15:49:15**

(no subject)

If you want me to look over your notes I'll be glad to do that, Thomas. The topic sounds pretty nift.

Are you with Finnigan? I thought he was going to meet up with some of us at Dervish and Banges but he never showed.



 [alt_dean](#) at **2010-10-31 16:09:46**

(no subject)

He was with me, but we got separated after Zonkos. He said there was something he needed to do, but I didn't catch it.

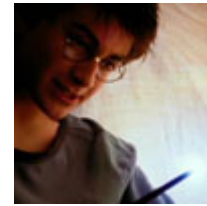
2010-10-31 10:29:00

Have fun at Hogsmeade.

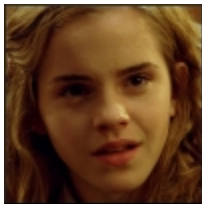
I just want you all to know that I hope you have a fun time at Hogsmeade.

I'm sure you will all have a great time. Of course I can send Hermione to get me things anytime so it's kind of boring for me and I don't mind not going.

Make sure you get some Sugar Quills, if you can afford them I mean, they're wizard for eating in class.




 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2010-10-31 14:33:12**
I Solemnly Swear that I am Up to No Good

OH HONESTLY.




 [alt_ron](#) at **2010-10-31 15:00:41**
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I am Up to No Good

Heh.

Too bad you don't get to come along, though.



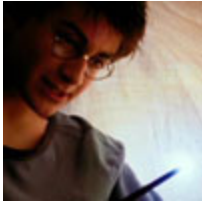
 [alt_hermione](#) at **2010-10-31 15:38:55**
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I am Up to No Good


I get to go all the time. It'd be nice to go with friends, though.



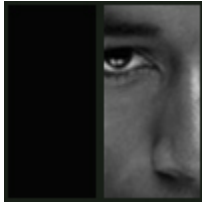
 [alt_hermione](#) at **2010-10-31 14:33:45**
(no subject)


If there is anything I can do to make your day better, Sir.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-31 14:34:25](#)**
(no subject)

Just come find me when it's time for tea so I don't forget.




 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2010-10-31 14:58:58](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks, mate.


You and Malfoy look out you don't have too much fun while we're gone.



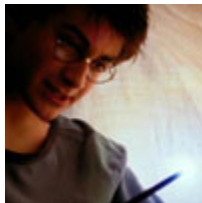
 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-10-31 15:39:14](#)**
(no subject)


No fear of that.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-10-31 22:22:18](#)**
Private Message to Harry

Hogsmeade okay, but it's no London. I mean, it's good for picking up a few odds and ends, and I'm sorry you couldn't hang out at the Three Broomsticks and get out of the castle for a little, but you're not missing much other than the company.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-11-01 14:40:54](#)**
Re: Private Message to Harry

Thanks Pansy.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 21:46:33](#)


Re: Private Message to Harry

Next time, I'll be sure to save you a seat, yeah?

And I'm throwing a music party next weekend, if you get Granger to get us all some butterbeer, it'll be almost like the Three Broomsticks, only better, because there won't be all those loud sixth and seventh years taking up all the room.

If you'd like her to, that is. And if it's safe enough.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-31 15:46:54](#)

(no subject)

Well, it's really too bad you couldn't come along, though. And I think some of us would've like to stay and go flying with you and Draco, except it's the very first time most of us are getting to go to the village.

Have you been to Madam Puddifoot's before? It's ever so cosy in here.

Anyway, by the next visit I'm sure you'll be able to go.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2010-10-31 21:23:28](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

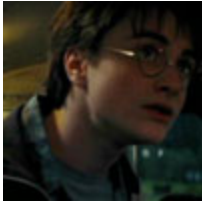
By the way, is it true what everyone's been saying since yesterday? I mean, you know Professor Lestrangle pretty well - are he and Professor Sinistra...well, does he fancy her? Everyone fancies him so it's not too difficult to figure out how she feels, but does he fancy her as well?




 [alt_harry](#) at [2010-11-01 14:42:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo

I don't know. He doesn't talk about things like that with me really. But he didn't know her in school or anything, I don't think.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2010-11-01 14:43:04](#)**
(no subject)

No never to Madam Puddifoot's!

2010-10-31 18:24:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall



 [alt_frank](#)

got a letter from Neville a few days ago. he said he's being hexed more than often, which is to be expected. but he also let me know that someone took evie's cat and killed it in the gryffindor common room. cut off its paw, wrote something threatening in blood on the floor next to it.

he's dealing with a lot right now, and he's afraid that if it gets out, or if the person that did it gets punished, that it'll get worse for both of them which is why he hasn't told hooch or you. so tread carefully with this one, but I thought as headmistress you ought to know.

you can probably guess that I'm angry as hell about the whole thing. these are my kids, min. this isn't supposed to happen at hogwarts. not to my baby girl. this goes beyond hazing and teasing, and if it gets any worse, I'm giving serious thought to pulling them out of the school.

he asked me what he should do.

he tries to hex the bastards that did this, he'll get raked over the coals. I'm gonna tell him to keep his head down, like he's been doing, but this -- how do you prepare your kids for this?

2010-10-31 21:03:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



alt_sally_anne

Well Hogsmeade was a blast and a half, I thought. Pansy do you think maybe we can go shopping in London sometime on holiday? Because wandering around shops with you was SO MUCH FUN and New London's much bigger than Hogsmeade.

I found some nift yarn, it sort of shifts around colours and glitters when the light is right, I'm going to try knitting with it. And I got sugar quills and chocolate frogs and some other sweets.

Ron and Nev, what were you lot talking to Finnigan and Thomas about when we came into Three Broomsticks? I hope you appreciated the way they cleared out all of a sudden and made space for us. It's a dead useful spell, it's not even technically a HEX, can you guess what we used?



alt_ron at **2010-11-01 02:40:52**
(no subject)

Wait. What?

That was something you did? I didn't even see you hex them.

But they were being total nimwits, so whatever you did, they totally deserved it. Oi.

Y'know, I'd almost be willing to move houses if we could just get away from Shenanigan and Tossopot.




alt_pansy at **2010-11-01 02:49:41**
(no subject)

Slytherin, remember? She's subtle like that.

Course, if you moved, it'd have to be Hufflepuff, cause you don't have the marks for Ravenclaw, and you'd get eaten alive in Slyth.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 02:51:10](#)
(no subject)

...

!




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 03:01:20](#)
(no subject)

I'm just saying!

Perhaps Finnestink and Thomarse should go to Ravenclaw, they enjoy sucking up to Patil so very much.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 03:05:28](#)
(no subject)

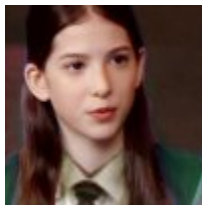
They all totally deserve one another, too. It's too bad her parents will make her get married to some random Paki when she's done with school, otherwise they could fight over her.


I hope he's old and wrinkly. The Paki, I mean.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 03:13:09](#)
(no subject)

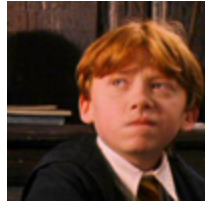
Yeah, it'd serve her right if her parents make her marry some old codger who just wants her to take care of him all the time. She'd be terrible at that.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:29:09](#)
(no subject)

She really would.

Then again an old codger who'd want to marry an eighteen-year-old girl would well deserve someone like Patil, don't you think? They'd be a good fit.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 03:36:47](#)
(no subject)

Ugh.

That's just

yeah, I guess it would serve them both right.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 03:21:05](#)
(no subject)

It's not like they get brilliant marks, either of them, y'know. Thomas can't even spell. I mean, I guess it's cause he didn't go to primary, but still. I think he gets marked down for it all the time.

And Finnigan. Well. He's not bad, but he's not top of anything, which, y'know, I'm not either, but that's because it doesn't make any difference whether I'm first or fifteenth in Charms, y'know. So why put all that into it? Finnigan, now. I think he'd like to do better so he could impress Malfoy and Patil and Zabini and Greengrass and all. But even when he works at it, he's not going to get top marks.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:26:02](#)
(no subject)

Not everyone in Ravenclaw is clever. They just have to really WISH they were clever, I think.

Well, although I don't expect the Hat would have Sorted Vince in there under any circumstances. Or Milli!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:17:39](#)
(no subject)

Are you trying to say here that you DO have the marks for Ravenclaw, or that you WOULDN'T be eaten alive in Slytherin?

I really can't imagine moving you anywhere, frankly, so it'll have to be Finnistink and Thomarse (ha!) to Ravenclaw so they can

suck up to Patil full-time. It'll be a bit lonesome for you and Nev but I imagine you'll manage.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2010-11-01 13:51:07](#)
(no subject)

I think Ron definitely belongs in Gryffindor. I just can't imagine him anywhere else.


The Hat did consider putting me in Hufflepuff, I think. Remember how long I was sitting under it? Dunno know why it ended up putting me in Gryffindor.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:20:21](#)
(no subject)

I'll give you a hint about the spell: you can cast it on YOURSELF and normally that's what people use it for.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 03:24:51](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

It was a memory jogger spell? Y'know, not everyone can get that to work on themselves. Neville, for instance. We tried to teach it to him, but you have to remember the spell in order to use it!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:28:25](#)
(no subject)


Yes, it was the memory jogger spell! It's a shame Neville can't make it work, I expect he'd find it awfully useful. I wonder if it would work if I cast it on him?

Anyway, Finnigan must have forgot something he was supposed to do today because he certainly dragged Thomas off in an awful hurry, didn't he? And I don't think he even had any idea he'd been jinxed, because sometimes that just happens, you're sitting somewhere with a butterbeer and you think OH NO I WAS

SUPPOSED TO MEET SO-AND-SO AT ZONKO'S FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO or whatever.

Did you go to Zonko's today? Get anything horrible?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 03:33:26](#)
(no subject)

I bet it made him think 'Oh! That's right! I'm meant to be off licking Patil's boots just now. Come on, Tossopot, we've got places to be!'

Good job they cleared out, though. I don't think there were any other tables in there. You'd have had to queue up and wait. Or go to that other place. What was it called? The tea shop that smelled of gingerbread and had the frilly curtains.

Of course, I went to Zonko's. And you'll just have to wait to find out, won't you?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 03:35:40](#)
(no subject)

Puddifoot's. All the sixth and seventh year couples go there to snog. It's terribly uninventive of them.

And just so you're aware, Ron, if it smells or looks like poo, I don't want it to come anywhere close to me.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 03:39:13](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that place. I mean, who wants to sit around holding hands and eating marzipan? Or drinking tea that smells like flowers?

That's just daft.

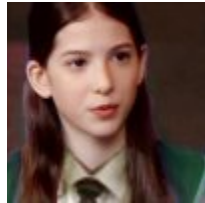
And I've no idea what you're talking about!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 03:43:33](#)
(no subject)

Well, fair warning.

Besides, I think there are so many other people that would appreciate it so much more than I ever would.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 04:03:19](#)
(no subject)

...Patil, for instance.

When she's sitting far, far away from us.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 04:14:30](#)
(no subject)

Agreed!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2010-11-01 13:53:27](#)
(no subject)


Like us! Except we'd rather be on the giving end rather than the receiving end.



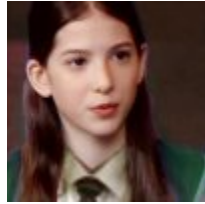
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:37:28](#)
(no subject)

There weren't any other tables. If it hadn't worked on Finnigan we were going to have to try it on someone else (after all, it's a public service, helping people to remember things they've forgotten, don't you think?)



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2010-11-01 03:40:26](#)**
(no subject)


You haven't ever used that on me, have you?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-11-01 03:53:07](#)**
(no subject)

Not yet.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-11-01 13:52:07](#)**
(no subject)


Well, maybe I had the wand movements, wrong or something. Maybe I might try it again.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-11-01 14:21:38](#)**
(no subject)

I'll cast it on you at lunch and see if that makes you suddenly remember something you left in Gryffindor and couldn't go get on account of all the excitement!



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2010-11-01 13:48:58](#)**
(no subject)

And leave me alone with them?! You wouldn't do that to me, I hope!




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-11-01 14:22:19](#)**
(no subject)

If Ron gets to move houses then so do you, it's only fair.

I think it would make far more sense to move Finnigan and Thomas, though.




 **[alt_ron](#) at [2010-11-01 17:44:09](#)**
(no subject)

No, I'd only go if you could.

But it's daft to think about it anywiz, since it's never going to happen. We're pretty well stuck with those two. Until we leave school--or until they get us thrown out. Whichever comes first, y'know.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 02:41:42](#)**
(no subject)

It was a *terribly* useful spell.

And after Christmas, we'll go *proper* shopping. And it will be brilliant.

I can't wait to see what you come up with for knitting projects. What are you going to do first?




 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2010-11-01 03:23:44](#)**
(no subject)

I hate to waste the yarn on anything that isn't really wizard but I'm worried if I try to knit something complicated it won't turn out.

I'll probably try a hat, or maybe mittens? Do you know if mittens are terribly hard? What I'd really like to make is a jumper but that seems like a dodgy project to try next seeing as I've only just got the hang of scarves.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2010-11-01 03:31:21](#)**
(no subject)

Well, mittens are smaller, but the thumbs might be tricky.

And if you don't like it, you can always undo it and

reuse.

I'd bet Mrs Weasley could give you an easy pattern for something that'd look really nift.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2010-11-01 03:35:46](#)**
(no subject)

Winnifred Gamp got a knitting book for her birthday last month from some great-aunt and she hates to knit so she said I could borrow it for as long as I like.

It has a pattern for mittens but I haven't taken a close look to see how hard it would be. It's got one for socks, too, but I don't see the point of socks, no one would see unless you were running around without shoes. And then several jumpers but in addition to them being complicated I'm not sure I have enough yarn for a jumper.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2010-11-01 03:44:40](#)**
(no subject)

Well, but the magical yarn can be in stripes so that you only have to use up some of it, and you can use regular yarn for the rest.

But that sounds like it'd be more complicated than just a straightforward jumper too.