

[2011-01-01 14:25:00](#)

Private message to Dean Thomas

Hey mate. I expect you got my owl this morning about the ~~party get-together~~ small party on Wednesday and your owl's probably on its way here -- I'd have used the journal but I'm inviting more than two people and Mr Rosier said it would be rude to write an invitation everyone could read when not everyone was invited.



 [alt_seamus](#)

One thing, though. After the get-together at Mr Peakes' house Padma wanted to know if you fancied her. I said I didn't think so but I think she'd be more comfortable around you if she knew for sure. You don't, do you? You just want her as a regular friend?

Do you fancy anyone? Everyone thinks now that I fancy Lav but I don't really, it's just that Padma needed some people to go on group dates with her and Page so no one started any rumours about her, and so Lav and I agreed to pretend to be dating. I like Lav, and she's pretty, but I don't want to snog her or anything like that, ew. It's sort of fun having a pretend girlfriend though, I liked buying her a Christmas present and the group date was a lot of fun.



 [alt_dean](#) at [2011-01-01 21:46:26](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I've already sent Bast along. She was dieing to spread her wings. So, thanks for the invite I will be there.

And about Padma- Can you not be nice to a girl without her thinking you fancy her? Girls! Why in Merlin's name would I have told her she could invite Page if I fancied her? Don't worry mate, tell her I don't. Actually, none of the girls have caught my attention yet. They are all so, so... I don't know. I'm just not interested. Maybe when they are a little more mature and know how to keep things to themselves.

But as of yet, even some of the older girls are just too full of themselves, and don't always exhibit dignity and class. Padma would make a good friend though.

I guess I will see you in a few days.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2011-01-02 04:03:45](#)**
(no subject)

I know what you mean! I like Padma a lot but I wouldn't want to tell her anything I really wanted kept secret. At the very least she'd probably tell Parvati and Parvati would tell the whole school.

I'll see you Wednesday!

2011-01-01 14:32:00

Private message to Padma Patil

Hey Padma,

I expect you and Parvati got my owl this morning about the party on Wednesday, and I wanted your advice about something. Mr Rosier suggested that I branch out a little and invite some people who I don't know particularly well but might like to get to know better. Who would you suggest? I already invited you and Parvati and Lav, Grant Page, Geoffrey Hooper, and Dean Thomas. I was thinking maybe also Ernie Macmillan. Or maybe Zacharias, but he's kind of grumpy, I'm not sure what he'd be like at a party. It would be nice to have Daphne Greengrass there but then I guess I'd have to invite Blaise Zabini and I don't know if I want to invite him or not, what do you think?



 **alt_seamus**

I also invited Draco and Harry and Hydra but that was mostly just as a courtesy so they'd know I'd like it if they COULD come. I don't think they can.

Maybe Belinda and Linus?

I don't know.

Oh and I asked Dean if he fancies you, I'll let you know what he says. I agree it will be a lot less awkward if you just KNOW.



 **alt_padma** at **2011-01-02 00:51:00**
(no subject)

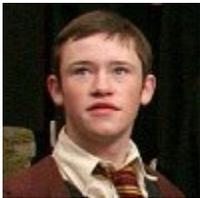
Yes, we got the owl. And Mum and Dad weren't going to let us accept at first because of what happened with going to see Black (or not going to see Black, you know), but I pointed out that it might offend Mr Rosier if we didn't accept so then they decided we could come.

Belinda and Linus are good to invite and MacMillan's really sort of all right; Smith's not grumpy too much, it's that his parents have raised him to be a bit stand-offish. He sort of needs to get to know you before he'll lighten up a bit, you know? It's too bad that Daffs and Zabini are all matey, isn't it? You know she was really hacked off over that quiz - not just because of Zabini but because of all the things the

quiz said about Millie. Even though most everything we said about them was true. Oh! You could possibly invite Astoria, though she's a firstie, so maybe not unless you're thinking about anyone else in first-year.

Well, anyway. Obviously you don't want to invite any of the Strangers (though you might have to include Parkinson once in a while - but Parkinson comes with Perks attached practically at her hips). How well do you know Su Li? She's actually quite sweet. Who does Hooper say would be good to ask? Parvati says Demelza Robins is really rather sporting. And Linus has a brother in that year, too, Horace. Oh, and you probably know him a little better than I do, but Jugson always seems to know what's what with the younger classes. And there's Cuthbert, of course. How many people does Mr Rosier want you to get to know?

(And what has Thomas said?)



 **alt_seamus** at **2011-01-02 04:08:16**
(no subject)

What happened with seeing Black? Why are your parents cross with you?

I'll invite Belinda and Linus and Macmillan and Smith, I think -- there are others I'd like to get to know but I don't want to overload the party with people I don't know well, it's not supposed to be anything big. Hooper might like me to include some people from his year, I'll see what he thinks.

Anyway, Dean said of course he doesn't fancy you, why would he have invited Page along if he were thinking anything like that? He just wants you as a friend.



 **alt_padma** at **2011-01-02 04:24:13**
(no subject)

Oh, didn't I tell you? Well, I don't suppose anybody pays much attention to Loony Lovegood's postings, but she wrote in her journal the other day about how Lav and Parvati and I went to the ballet in New London last week. And that would have been fine except that we told Mum and Dad when Lav was visiting that we could go to the ballet that day because we'd be seeing Black's body with Mrs

Brown. Only then when we went to visit Lav, we all told Mrs Brown that we'd already seen Black, with our Mum and Dad. So when Loony wrote about us seeing the ballet, Mrs Brown suddenly realised that we couldn't have gone to see Black the same day on account of the long queues.

Well. Mrs Brown took us that very same day, then. And then Mum had her send us home by Floo and then she took us back again the very next day. So we had to see the awful thing twice! It was so horribly unfair. And then Dad said that we weren't to go anywhere the rest of hols. But like I said, he soon figured out that it would be a mistake to dismiss someone like Mr Rosier.

And I suppose Thomas would make an all right mate, now that he's much more normal about being a halfblood. Really, he's been much better all-round lately, hasn't he? I guess it's like Sandoval and Professor Sinistra say, and the YPL brochures, about how a little encouragement in the right directions can make all the difference to how one handles adversities like that. Thomas needed to just stop taking offence at every little thing - and most importantly he needed to realise that even being a swot has its limits.

2011-01-01 15:48:00

Happy New Year, Everyone!

So the really stupe thing?

Wasn't Christmas at all, really. It's that we get to go to Stornoway again to visit my brother Charlie and see what they get up to with the dragons up there. We're going tomorrow before supper and coming back Thursday.



 [alt_ron](#)

Charlie says it's been colder than a witch's, er, he says it's been really bloody cold up there. So we're packing our warmest things, and Mum's been putting extra heavy weather charms on our cloaks and mittens and hoods and all. (So, Sally Anne. I'm taking the mittens you made me, and they're really great. Mum says I'll never lose them, 'cause they're the brightest orange she's ever seen! They're really warm, too. Which was a good thing last week when we went off exploring and were out all day. I never got cold at all. Course, I'm pretty sure Stornoway'll be loads colder and windier, too, than it was in Newton Poppleford!)

So, yeah. I hope you're all having great hols and have fun stuff to do to keep from getting bored until we go back to school.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2011-01-02 23:29:19**

(no subject)

Whoa, I'll want to hear all about it when I see you back at school! Have fun!

2011-01-01 15:48:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

There's lots of stuff to tell you about.

But first, I wanted to say thanks for pressies.

Nev, the chocs were great. We ate them up right away before Mum could tell us not to.

Heh!

The Cannons mittens are nift, Perks. And Mum really liked the wrist warmers you knitted her, too. She spent a long time looking at how you'd done the design, so I guess you did pretty well! And I've got the picture from one of my Cannons posters on that picture thinger you gave me. Mum said I should have a picture of all the family, but, y'know. I'll maybe do that if we take a picture with Charlie while we're visiting, but right now it's really nift because the picture I've got is Wintringham making this amazing save with two bludgers coming at him from opposite directions!

Parks, you're the best, getting me that book on broom charms. It's the same one you checked out from the library in London over the summer, yeah? But it's got an extra chapter on modern innovations, which is aweome. I keep working on the Silver Arrow, and she's getting better all the time. The broom kit's got really great twig clips, too, and they're supposed to be charmed to always stay sharp, so that's nifter than wiznift!

Hey, Terry. That box you carved is really dead amazing. And the lion on top looks really good. I don't know how you do that.

I'm really sorry all I could do for you lot was crackers again. I'm dead hopeless at making stuff. I mean, really. Anywiz, I liked it all a lot. So, thanks!

There's other stuff I wanted to tell you, too. Like about some stuff I've talked about with Mum and Dad--well, mostly Dad, actually. Some of it was about that hex of Percy's. They were really cross about that. But it was interesting, too, because I got to ask Dad some questions I've been meaning to about Dark Magic. Well, because he was trying to say that I should think about the things I do to get back at people sometimes, because putting a mean hex on someone that embarrasses them or whatever is a bit like using a hex that makes them do stuff they don't want to, and he said it was all a matter of degrees.

Anywiz, he says Dark Arts are always about either hurting people or making stuff happen against someone's will. Like the Imperius curse or the hex Percy put on me are both bad because I didn't get to decide



 [alt_ron](#)

for myself what I'd say to people. I had to do just what Percy wanted. And it felt really, really wrong. But really Dark spells use stuff like blood in order to do really big stuff that no other magic can make happen. Like he said that Dark sorcerers sometimes do spells that start with killing someone in order to make the wizard's power greater or make him live longer or heal someone who's about to die. So it's not always something horrible that you want to do, but it takes doing something really awful like killing a person or a unicorn or something in order to do it. Like the Death Eaters. That's why they're called that, I think. Because they do Dark stuff that takes lifeblood for the spells or potions or whatever.

But I wanted to tell you, too, about something else interesting that's happened. On Wednesday we went off on our brooms, exploring. I mean, it was really getting dull being cooped up inside, and when Percy was around--did I tell you what we did to Percy?--it was terrible, so Mum said we could go off with Mr Diggory and Cedric to go scavenging a bit in some of the old muggle towns around here. There are loads of them, y'know. Little places tucked up in the woods and round the coastline and in the hills. Hamlets, Mr Diggory calls them. Not even proper villages, some of them. Like they'd have a pub but no owl post office, or a church but no grocery or pub. Anywiz, the big seaside towns have been pretty well picked over by teams from the Ministry, but some of the little places haven't been touched. Mr Diggory says that at first people were too sensitive to, y'know, take stuff that belonged to the people who used to live there, but now it's clear they're never coming back, and if it's stuff that could be useful, then it's better it's put to use than just left to the vines and rust and rats and all.

Anywiz, we went first to a little tiny hamlet called Hand and Pen where Mr Diggory had seen a bunch of yarn in a house one time, and he said Mrs Diggory'd been after him for yonks to go back and collect it for her. So we did that and found some jars and stuff in an old canning cellar, so we packed that up, too. And we had a big sort of sling, like a hammock, that the twins strung up between their brooms, and they went and took that stuff back to the Diggories' while the rest of us went on to a place called Slewton Combe that's not much bigger than a knut and wasn't worth that much. So we didn't stay long. Just kind of looked in windows and poked about in a couple of sheds. And then we got to a place called Whimble that's quite a bit bigger than the others--I mean, it has a square and there's a church and a school building and there used to be two pubs and a big place called Whiteways that made cider and stuff out of apples and pears. Mr Diggory thought there might be some things there that people on the

barter network could use, and he found loads of stuff that he got us to shift out of the barns and buildings. And then Mr Woodhayes turned up and said a couple of the other men from the network were on their way, too. And about then the twins came back, so Mr Diggory said we could go off on our own if we wanted and do some proper exploring.

So we flew off, the three of us plus Cedric, and we went poking about the countryside and ended up in a place called Newton Popleford, and it was full of mad muggle stuff. Like when we flew into town, and just as we crossed the river at the bridge where the main muggle road goes into town, there was this house that had sort of statues in the front that were of bears wearing clothes and posed like they're waving at you. Totally mad. There must've been a dozen of them, those bears! We decided we should go in one of the pubs because its sign says it has a skittles alley, but when we went in, it smelt as if something'd died in there, so we left right quick. Phoaah! Cedric said it smelt the way you'd think that Mr Black's corpse probably smells if it weren't sealed up in that box. He's been to see it, and he said it was really decayed. Said it was pretty interesting to see what happens to a body. He was telling us that one of the cheeks had sort of caved into the mouth and the lip on the other side looked like it had sort of slid down his chin or summat. Anywiz, I don't know if we'll get to go now that we're going to Stornoway. Which is, y'know, probably good, 'cause if it's as awful as Cedric said, I can't imagine Mum letting us look at it. She'd have kittens about Ginny seeing it, for sure.

Anywiz, Newton Popleford was pretty interesting. We went in some houses and they were pretty much just like the Muggles had left them. Only one of them'd had a leak in the thatch and stuff that'd got ruined inside.

Oh, and we went in the village hall and there was this picture display up.--Did you know Muggle pictures don't move? That was queer.-- Anywiz, it showed pictures of people sledging in the winter, and there were some of people in fancy dress for some carnival they had there, and some were of kids running about in the schoolyard, and some were ladies in hats and odd-looking clothes standing about by the church. And then there were a whole load of pictures that showed blokes playing something that uses bludger bats but on the ground and has funny-looking masks and big padded kit.

And then there was this one picture of a lady who looked a bit like Mum, and she was holding a big bunch of flowers and smiling like she was really happy. And, I dunno. It made me wonder if we'd been into her house at all, and y'know, where she is now. It was odd.

But we found some nift stuff. Cedric found one of those bludger bats, and the twins found some tools and a really enormous cauldron in the school kitchen that they figured was for making soup, but they've got other ideas for it, and I just picked up some little stuff--a ball that bounces all ways you wouldn't expect, and a pipe that's carved with a bloke's head, and some sweets called sherbet lemons that fizz in your mouth, and I was going to bring a load of muggle blowing gum from the shop there, but we tried it and it'd gone off. It was just all hard and nasty. Oh, and I got a pocket watch that you have to wind up, but it keeps good time. I gave it to Dad because I knew he'd think it was really nift, and he really does.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-02 02:18:24](#)

Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

Oh, hey. I was going to say this earlier, but Mum wanted us to go through a trunk full of stuff that belonged to Bill and Charlie to see if any of it would fit any of us--Fred and George and me, I mean--so I couldn't write this.

Anywiz, she took your package for your Mum and Dad, and I know she took it out with her on Christmas eve when she was taking stuff round to some of the neighbours. I don't guess they could probably tell you whether they'd got it, could they? Yesterday, when you saw your parents, I mean.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-02 03:16:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

Oh! I knew your mum must have taken it to them, because when I saw them they were wearing their mittens I knitted them.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-02 03:17:39](#)

(no subject)

You did not tell us what you did to Percy. Unless I missed it.

What did you do to Percy?



 **alt_ron** at [2011-01-02 03:38:53](#)
(no subject)

Oh! Heh.

Well, we actually did a few things to him, I guess. When we first got home, the twins showed me how to break his locking charm and get into his room. We transfigured all his shoes into hedgehogs and let them out the back door! And y'know what? It's really amazing how easy it is to do stuff like transfiguration now I've got a wand that's really mine. Not to mention one that's not broken. But, I mean, back when I was using Charlie's old one it never worked for me like this one does. Those were some fit hedgehogs: they trotted right down the stairs and out through the kitchen!

Um. And then did you see Percy made a date with Clearwater to go to Diagon Alley? Well the night before he went, the twins went and charmed the back of his robes to say 'I'm a git and proud of it!' But only when he has them on, so he wouldn't see it when he was taking them off the hook. It was hilarious at breakfast. I thought Mum was going to have kittens, but she didn't let on at all! Just served him his porridge and didn't say a thing.

Anywiz. Then Christmas came and I gave him the mirror I bought in that jumble shop in Hogsmeade. I charmed it to say really rude stuff whenever someone looks in it, so when Percy opened it up, it said, 'My goodness! You are gruesome, aren't you?' In a really loud, rude voice! And every time he'd pick get near it, it would say something else. Funniest thing ever. So Percy stuck it under some wrapping paper and I guess he hoped it would get lost, but the twins found it and fixed it up in the corridor just outside Percy's room, so when he came out the next morning, there it was, insulting him. So then he put it in the rubbish, but we got it back and put it up over the toilet. You could hear it from outside, telling him off the whole time he was in there! And then he hid it a bunch of places, but I got really good at 'Accio' and got it back every time! Well. For a couple of days. He finally took it somewhere far enough away we couldn't summon it back, I guess.

But it was fun while it lasted.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-02 03:43:00](#)
(no subject)

Your mum didn't tell him that his robes said he was a git?

She must still be really cross with him.

The mirror sounds brilliant. I can think of a lot of people who could use a mirror like that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-02 03:46:57](#)
(no subject)

I think she just thought it was a laugh.

She thinks it's important to learn how to take a joke well. And, y'know, Percy really doesn't

usually.

He was pretty good about the mirror, probably because he knew Mum and Dad were watching to see how he'd take it, but by the end you could tell he was really steamed.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-02 03:20:43](#)
(no subject)

And I grew up near an old muggle hamlet. It was kind of wrecked, but I used to roam there when I was little and found a lot of interesting stuff. My parents picked over the useful stuff -- I mean, there was food in cans and jars, they took all of that because it was food and we needed it. But they left a lot of things that weren't useful, just interesting.

Did you find any wind-up music boxes? There was a muggle near us who'd collected them, and a few in the house hadn't been smashed when -- well, anyway, there were some that worked. I used to wind them up and listen to them. They were nift.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-02 03:42:58](#)
(no subject)

I guess we weren't looking for stuff like that. Anywiz, I didn't see any. I guess. Do they look like magical ones?

How d'you wind them? With a nob like on a watch?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-02 03:44:58](#)
(no subject)

There's a key. Like a nob, I guess. You turn it and it goes tick-tick-tick and when you let go the music plays.

They all looked different. There was one with a white horse with flowers on it, made from china, I think, and there's one that was a glass ball that you tipped to make it look like it was snowing.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-02 03:44:25](#)
(no subject)

And what sorts of music did they play? Was it nice? Or silly? I mean, some muggle stuff's nift. And other stuff's just daft. Really.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-02 03:50:02](#)
(no subject)

Some of it was good and some of it was annoying. I sorted them out pretty quickly and wouldn't wind up the annoying ones.

I could hum my favourites to you when we get back to school but I can't really do that through the journals.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-01-02 23:13:01](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad you liked the box. I like whittling a lot. It's something a ~~mu~~ someone like me can do, and there was a man who taught me at one of the camps. He could whittle the most amazing things, and I loved watching him.

Been thinking about what you said about blood spells all day, putting it together with something Sally-Anne said on Madam Pomfrey's entry up above, that Master watches me like a hungry animal on the journals.

See, Master loves blood magic. I mean, he really really REALLY loves blood magic. And the blood he used most of the time for his spells was mine. It was awful--I won't tell you the sorts of things he did with it, what it did to me. It gave him extra power, some of which he used to control me, and some that he used to...well, never mind. Nasty stuff.

It hadn't even occurred to me until now, but I bet that's one of the reasons he hates it so much that I'm with the Headmistress now instead of him. He's lost one of his easy sources of blood for blood magic. And maybe that's one reason why he especially hates the Headmistress, because he figures she's using my blood now.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-01-02 23:17:12](#)**
(no subject)

Blimey.

She isn't though, right? She'd never do something like that.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-01-02 23:19:22](#)**
(no subject)

No, of course not.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-01-02 23:50:47](#)
(no subject)

Phew.

That's an awful thought.

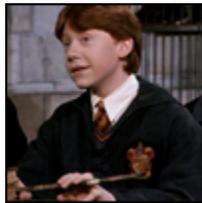
Awful that Carrow did it, but worse to think about Headmistress McGonagall doing anything like that.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2011-01-03 01:45:53](#)
(no subject)

You know she's on the Council, though. She's a Death Eater. She surely knows plenty of Dark Arts even if she's powerful enough not to need to use them ordinarily.

I'm glad she doesn't use Terry's blood, though, that's horrid.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-01-03 03:31:13](#)
(no subject)

Well, yeah. I did know, but Mum and Dad always talk about her as though she's someone they really trust. Or trust with us, which they don't everyone, y'know? I mean Mum gets really upset about the fact that the Carrows are here as teachers. And I don't think she was all that happy to hear about Professor Lestrangle coming. But maybe that was partly that he was replacing Professor Lockhart, and even after what he did, the rotten fraud, she'd never let any of us say anything against him.

Anywiz, Mum likes the headmistress. I mean, I've heard her talking to Dad and she called the headmistress by her given name. Y'know, Minerva.

I think they must have known her for ages. Well, I mean sort of more than just as Bill and Charlie's teacher or our headmistress. I mean maybe they had her as their Transfiguration teacher when they were at school.

D'you think that's right? She is loads older than they are. I

think. But then I can't imagine they'd call her by her given name if that's the way they knew her. It's almost like, I dunno, like maybe Mum served on some committee with her or summat. To get to know her that well. Or maybe--

No, I dunno.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 03:34:15](#)
(no subject)

They probably did have her as a teacher. She's been here a long time.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-03 03:57:19](#)
(no subject)

Well, I guess that must be it.

Or maybe it's because Charlie was such a great Quidditcher, and I've heard she really liked him. She used to be head of house for Gryffindor, y'know, back before she was headmistress, and Charlie says she always secretly favoured the team when he was playing. Did little things that let them have better practice times than they'd have got otherwise. Called the Slytherin captain into her office when he was scheming to get Gryffindor's times cut in half. That sort of thing. Maybe that's when Mum got to know her better.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 03:58:35](#)
(no subject)

Oh, does she?

Interesting.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-03 04:03:12](#)
(no subject)

Well, don't go blabbing it about!

And I'm not sure she does it anymore. The

twins have never said anything like that.

That I can think of right off, anywiz.

Much.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 04:04:21](#)
(no subject)

Well, she can favour you all she likes, our Seeker will still wipe the floor with you lot every time.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-03 04:08:46](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yeah?

Don't let Wood hear you say that!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 01:43:52](#)
(no subject)

Well, Carrow hasn't pounced yet so it's a good thing I'm not in Divination, I guess.

We've done a little blood magic in Dark Arts class but we had to use our own blood. That limits things rather a lot. Miss Professor Carrow talked a bit about how a wizard or witch's blood is far better in this sort of spell than muggle blood (but any human blood will work a good deal better than animal blood). You know what's interesting, I'm sure Carrow would die before he said he thought you were a real wizard, that your blood was basically the same as his -- but that's why he wanted YOUR blood. Because it's wizard's blood, it's powerful.

And for that matter they'll say that muggles are the same as animals but it's pretty obvious they know they're not.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-03 02:35:08](#)
(no subject)

Wow. Hadn't thought of that, either.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-02 23:27:41](#)
(no subject)

Glad you liked the chocs. The cracker was grand. It went off with the loudest bang, made Evelyn squeal like anything.

The scavenging trip sounded dead interesting. Most of the muggle houses around here were picked through long ago, and there's not much left. At least, that's what Gran has always told us, 'cause she hasn't let us go look.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-02 23:54:43](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, they were great. And that's wizard about the cracker: all my spells are loads better now I've got this wand. It's dead amazing sometimes when I do stuff I've done for ages and it's just so much stronger. Means I shouldn't have to sweat any of the practical stuff this spring, right?

And yeah, Mum never let us go before either. And to be honest, I don't think she would've if she'd known we'd get to go off on our own like we did. She sent us off with Mr Diggory, and he probably let us do more than she ever would.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 01:47:38](#)
(no subject)

Did you get my owl with the thank-you for the cracker? I talked the Strettons into letting me owl everyone who'd sent me gifts. It's easier to borrow an owl once Christmas is over, anyway.

You make the crackers yourselves? That's really brilliant. Gemma thought your joke was brilliant, too.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-01-03 03:21:50](#)

(no subject)

Oh, yeah. It came this morning. So are the Strettons letting you have some time to yourself now you're not having to take parcels all over the place?

About the crackers--it's something we've done for each other since we were pretty little. Mum used to always make them for us all, and then she taught Bill and Charlie when they were old enough to charm the trickets and jokes and everything. She wouldn't let us do the sparkles and the pop until we'd started school, though I bet the twins could've done it earlier. They got Charlie to teach them all sorts of stuff when they were still pretty little, and I guess he figured what Mum didn't know wouldn't hurt anyone. (And that might've been mostly right, except they did some pretty rotten stuff to me that Mum never knew anything about. Just brother stuff, y'know, but still, I've got Charlie to thank for that! I think I'll tell him that when the twins get up his nose tomorrow.)

Oh, and. We got here to Stornoway in time for supper, and it's really nift. I'm just changing into my nightshirt and going back down to the lounge to talk to everyone some more. Some of the handlers have got night watch, but the rest of them are really great at telling stories. And there's pie and tea. And firewhiskey, but I'm not allowed to have any.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2011-01-03 04:12:57](#)

(no subject)

They haven't had a thing for me to do since Boxing Day. I'm actually kind of bored.

They went out on New Year's Eve and left me and Jeremy at the house and -- well, I wrote about it on my own journal, I don't need to tell you again here.

Stornoway sounds brilliant. I THINK they will let me visit Pansy this week. Mr Stretton had a hangover yesterday and Mrs Stretton got all cross because Jeremy said something stupid about it and well, I wanted to wait until things quieted down to ask, because if

|| Mrs Stretton actually says NO she doesn't like going back on it.
|| It's better to wait until she's not cross and ask then.

[2011-01-01 16:23:00](#)

Another year in the bin.

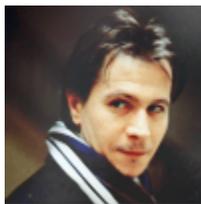
And what a year! I trust we will not soon again be tested as we were this past year with the Scourge. In fact, it seems the year to come will bring the silver lining of that dark cloud: the Prophet and these journals have been full of birth announcements in numbers we haven't seen for many a year! I see today alone that congratulations are due to the Hodgsons in Dent, the Peeles of Lyme Regis, and the Herrings of Pocklington. Best wishes to all of you.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Such a hopeful way to ring in the new; such a beacon for spring!

I suppose I needn't say it, but spring cannot come soon enough for me. It's been a dreary and dreadfully cold season here, following on from one of the most blustery, wet autumns I can remember.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-02 02:33:41](#)

Order Only

Happy new year, Poppy.

Any of those new births muggleborns, do you know?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-02 02:46:23](#)

Re: Order Only

No, these three were all born to wizarding families. Three at one go. If it kept up like this all year, we'd have to reopen one of the old wings of the castle that haven't been in use for ages. Eleven years on, mind you.

Of course, it won't, but we have been seeing a real uptick in magical births. I shouldn't be surprised if we see more in the camps as well. After such a severe lull due to the epidemic.

How are you, my friend? And where?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-02 03:14:36](#)

Re: Order Only

I'll be back in the area soon.

Have to admit, I couldn't quite turn down Terrie's invitation to the New Year's Day special match: Puddlemere v Tutshill.

(Did you know I had a set of Tornadoes bedsheets when I was about eight?)

Oh, and don't worry; I'm not wasting Polyjuice. Terrie has a rather ingenious set of omnioculars with a matching pair of remote goggles. So I can keep out of sight, camped nearby (using Frank's excellent tent) and see what she's seeing.

It's not really as satisfying as going to a match, of course ... but it at least *feels* like doing something normal.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-02 03:22:37](#)

Re: Order Only

Bless.

Of course, you want to do normal things. It must be very difficult to have to hide all the time.

That sounds like a very useful set of omnioculars, indeed. I should think there might be other uses for such a set. If the right person were to give it some thought!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-02 03:30:22](#)

Re: Order Only

Why Madam Pomfrey! You sly little witch.

Keep that up and between you and Minerva I may lose all my illusions about the temperance of Hogwarts matrons.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-01-02 03:56:02](#)**

Re: Order Only

I haven't the faintest idea what you thought I meant, Sirius Black. Perhaps your mind is not best suited to considering the useful applications, after all.

I had in mind surveillance of buildings with part of a team outside and one person taking the riskiest part on the inside. Or spying on meetings or events when only one person can reasonably hide close enough in for a proper view of things without being detected.

That sort of thing.

Sly, indeed!

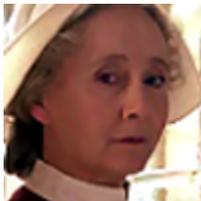
Honestly.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-01-02 03:49:05](#)**

(no subject)

boot wishes Madam Pomfrey a Happy New Year.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-01-02 03:56:59](#)**

(no subject)

Ah, Mr Boot!

Thank you, I'm sure.



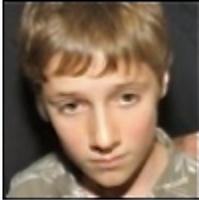
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-01-02 04:14:20](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I predict that before the night is out, Carrow will be along to snarl something threatening at you for daring to wish anyone at all a Happy Anything.

He follows you around the journals like some sort of hungry animal looking for dinner. I wish he'd fall in the lake and get eaten by the

Giant Squid. Or wander too close to the Dementors and get eaten by one of them, though they'd probably throw up what passes for his soul, it's too nasty even for a Dementor.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-03 19:00:48](#)

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

Urgh, no. He's said something to Neville. Did you see?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 19:09:05](#)

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

Yes.

What do you suppose Carrow's boggart turns into?
I think maybe it's you and Neville together, with
power over him.

[2011-01-02 16:37:00](#)

(no subject)

It seems there are too many owls being employed at the expense of the misprint in this morning's *Prophet*. Really, there's no need to panic at all. I've already heard from Mr Bole and the editor of the social pages.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

There was a simple, if grievous, typesetting error. The article was meant to read, 'Nymphadora Tonks, niece to celebrated Auror Bellatrix Lestranger and Narcissa Malfoy, announces her marriage to Junius Ponds, Jr., and informs us that she is expecting in May.' Clearly everything prior to my name was accidentally omitted.

Mr Bole assures me the correction will appear in both the Evening edition today and tomorrow's paper. But please, everyone, there's no need to send any further word of alarm.

We are all having a laugh at it, I assure you. There is no cause for concern whatever.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-02 22:02:06](#)

Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Did Bole contact you or were you forced to summon him? Truncheon's got him in the conference room now, along with the incompetent sod who edited the page. (Gives new meaning to the term 'wet', that one.)

Bole has offered to take an oath that no disparagement was intended. Also offers to let us use Veritaserum or Pensieve or Legilimency on the editorial staffer. Soon to be ex-staffer, I'd think.

We're letting them stew at the moment, so there's time if you'd care to make a request.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-02 22:33:06](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Bole's was the very first owl, as it happens. I imagine the scene at his breakfast table must have been its own two-act tragedy.

I'm quite certain Hieronymous had no involvement - he's far too aware of the potential consequences to the paper should he allow it to become a breeding ground for satire. His fault was in neglecting to conduct as conscientious a review of the copy as usual.

As for the others - let us not lose perspective. It's possible that it was a mere oversight. If Truncheon is satisfied as to that, then her dismissal without referral should serve as a more than adequate lesson.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-02 23:18:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

I'm certain Bole will be most appreciative of your good word on his behalf.

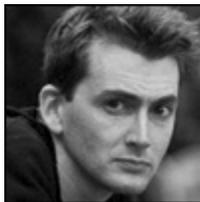


 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-02 23:30:42](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Just as he shall be of your solicitousness on ours.

Though by all means, if you think he needs reminding, feel free to impress upon him the unique position he occupies - and all our trust in how he safeguards our public faces. It leaves Narcissa and myself to play the magnanimous, self-effacing couple.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-02 23:43:33](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Pleased to oblige.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-02 22:39:18](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Yes, as Lucius says, Mr Bole immediately contacted us and promised to find out what happened himself.

I trust he came willingly with you to the Ministry?

You've made clear, I hope, that this is a cursory exam to verify that this was an isolated and unfortunate event and not, as you say, a symptom of a larger conspiracy.

Now as for the chit who could not even be bothered to consider how ridiculous the article was before it ran ... well, I second Lucius' assumption she'll be given the sack. Perhaps she would like to experience first-hand a taste of the humiliation she caused?

I leave it to you, Barty, and Truncheon's expertise.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-02 23:42:23](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Of course, Bole came in willingly. The reluctance was entirely on the part of the one he had by the ear.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-01-02 22:52:26](#)

Order Only

I bet 1000 galleons they're not laughing half as hard as me. What a thought! Remus was horrified. He's still looking a bit peaky from the shock.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-02 23:04:33](#)

Re: Order Only

I hope you can hear me laughing from Stevenage as well.

Though I'll match your bet that someone at the *Prophet* will be out of a job by tomorrow morning.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-03 01:55:59](#)

Re: Order Only

Well, tell Remus that we would vastly prefer acting as honorary uncle and auntie to your child rather than Narcissa Malfoy's!



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-03 00:58:29](#)
(no subject)

Wanted you to know that our enquiry has confirmed Mr Bole's assertion that his only fault was insufficient attention to the latter pages of this edition. Presumably the Prophet will run a tighter operation in

future.

The sub-editor charged with the society page is another matter altogether, and that interview has opened a matter of rather more serious lack of oversight on the part of management.

When we looked into her background file, it proved to have been stuffed with misrepresentations and what the young woman asserts are merely 'orthographical errors'--surely such nonsense is utterly inexplicable in the file of a would-be editor.

Least surprising untruth of the lot: she claims full purity, and yet a cursory look into her line reveals that at best she can claim to be quarter-blooded.

Mendacity on hiring parchments is not to be condoned. I trust that the sequel to this episode will underscore that crucial message.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-03 01:50:09](#)
Order Only

Oh, of course, her blood wasn't pure enough. That explains everything.

2011-01-02 18:37:00

XLIII.

What a great holiday! I'm ready to get back to a more regular schedule, though, and of course I can't wait to start in on surveillance. Not that the archival work I've been doing in the records department at St Mungo's hasn't been interesting--it was, and it was deeply important, which makes any task rewarding.



 [alt_lana](#)

Before we sweep the holidays finally into the realm of fond memory, however, I want to applaud Mr and Mrs Burdett-Coutts on the New Year's Soiree they organised here in New London. It was not only masterfully planned, it was in all ways spectacular! The Tower was utterly transformed, and they used its spaces so cleverly! Craftsfolk and vendors of all kinds were tucked into its apartments and cells, chapels and dungeons, halls and corridors and towers: there were designers and jewelers, bands and chamber ensembles, artists and performers of every kind.

The first thing we enjoyed were the ice sculptures along the approach from the Thames, which were the most magical I've ever seen. Next, we had a lovely hour skating on the moat, and when we were tired, we stopped in at one of the kiosks for pasties and piping hot tea. Later it was wassail and caroling on the green, and after that we explored and shopped and danced and had a truly magnificent feast in the great hall--there was wild boar, of course, Scottish salmon and roast pheasant, pigeon and rabbit pies, and a stew made from Our Lord's finest red deer from Richmond; there were wild peas and Christmas beans and wild mushrooms from the Forest of Dean all prepared by Fresher's Feast; there was also gobi prepared by the chef of Meerut, M Duchamp's *pommes de terre soufflées* and his *asperge béarnaise*--each dish was prepared by one of New London's finest chefs; and there were soups and fruit platters and sweets you've only dreamed of. Honestly, it was a feast for all senses!

After the last course was cleared, we all climbed to the top of the White Tower for the Loyal Toast and dancing until midnight when they set off fireworks over the river and we all pledged ourselves to give our best in every endeavour in service to Our Lord's fair realm.

Vani, it was so great to see you. As I told you then, I really love the earrings you gave me. They are so delicate and just really suit me. You have such a good eye for beautiful things!

And Sarah: my goodness, it seems to me that everyone I've come across has been talking about how incredible your work is! It was utterly nift that they invited you to set up a teaser for your exhibit. You were definitely the youngest artist they asked, and I really think it was very exclusive: they only asked the very best. I can't wait for your opening. 1 February will be here before we know it! I couldn't help noticing you'd written it in the diary you gave me. That was a perfect present, by the way: my schedule is so much more complicated than it ever was at school!

While I'm mentioning gifts, I should say that I had the most gorgeous cloak pin from Padma Patil to go with the robes her mother designed for me. I wore it Friday night, and loads of people commented. That was really so thoughtful of you, Patil. Thanks.

And Orion: you're still the best brother I have. Ha! But truly, thank you for the tickets for the Frost Fair. That's going to be utterly fantastic. I'm only sorry you'll be away at school and can't come. Maybe it will be an annual thing if it's the success it ought to be! Anywiz, Ned and I are really looking forward to it, and it was so sweet of you to think of it.

And actually, before I finish this, I should give a shout out to Mr Ned Pennifold, the best escort ever and a really, truly special friend. Ned, thank you for the present. I don't think anyone's ever given me anything quite so special before. And thanks for, well, for being you. For all of it, you know.

Now before I go all sopyy and embarrass everyone I know, I should stop.

Happy New Year to all of Our Lord's good subjects. Here's to the dawn of the best year yet!



 [alt_lana](#) at [2011-01-03 00:49:27](#)

Private Message to Shivani Johns

Now that the holidays are finished, do you think the Rowles might give you one evening off a week? It seems only fair. And certainly it would be reasonable for you to ask.

They can hardly expect an *au pair* to be on duty all day and all night

all the time. Even if they are paying you ridiculously well.

I do miss seeing you.

Shall I see if I can get you tickets to come along with us to the Frost Fair?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2011-01-03 03:56:52](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, I'm so glad you like it! I thought it was one of the prettier designs so I asked Mum a while ago if she'd make sure to set one aside once she knew what colour your robes would be.

New Year's Eve sounds about as nift as Freedom Day. I wish we'd gone out to see it all, but that would have meant going into New London three days running, and, well. Mum and Dad are a little cross with us right now. But it's okay. I'm getting a jump on planning for History Club for next term, and working on Future Interrogators and reading the books I got from friends and such.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2011-01-03 04:08:10](#)**
Private Message to Lana Sandoval

We did something we oughtn't have - but we did it for a good reason. Only now I'm not so sure. I read in yesterday's paper that there were some detentions because a few people signed rude things in the book at Black's tomb, and that one man was trying to talk people out of taking their kids inside. And that next month people who didn't go may be questioned about it. About why not, I mean.

But see, Parvati and me and Lavender, we had a clever idea how we could not have to go. And it's not that any of us were unhappy he got caught, not at all! Only. After Sanji - I just...none of us wanted to see it. The body. Only Mum and Dad found out and made us go twice. And I've had nightmares for the last three days, Lana.

Does that make me unpatriotic? I hope not. I don't ever want to be an embarrassment to the Protectorate. But now I think it was weak not to want to go, and it's even weaker to be so disturbed by the images. I mean, Yaxley took all those amazing photographs. And I know she's really talented, but...they're really gruesome. Is it wrong not to find

them glorious and I dunno, as nift as everyone seems to think they are?

I mean, I'm ever so grateful that Auror Lestrangle killed him. He was a terrible traitor and a horrid, horrid man. And his brother was a maniac. They deserved to die. But that doesn't mean, I think, that we all have to enjoy staring at what's left of him. I just want things to be nice, not ugly, I guess.

That's not bad, is it?



 [alt_lana](#) at [2011-01-03 04:28:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Lana Sandoval

Well.

Here's the way I see it. Sometimes things are ugly, but we have to look at them straight on and see them clearly for what they are so that we are not misled into romantic notions or distortions of the truth.

It's very important that people see and appreciate fully that Black is dead, that he died a violent, terrible death, and that he deserved to die, having put himself at odds with his own country in such a desperate fashion. Because there are people who would not believe him really dead and gone unless they see it with their own eyes.

When your brother died, did you view his body? I know you have some customs that are different from ours, but when there's a death does the family have time for viewing the body? Because when people do that, it helps them understand that the person is really gone, really dead.

And this business with Black is like that. People need to see. Lots of them do, anyway. And for the rest of us, it's our duty to set an example not only to those who are squeamish but also to those who would try to fool themselves into believing he's not gone. Going there and bearing witness to the victory of Our Lord over this traitor is a small but important thing we do to reinforce the loyalty of all His subjects.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-03 16:43:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Lana Sandoval

I guess I hadn't thought about it quite like that.

What happened with Sanji was...well, it was all out of sorts, you see. Because you're right, we do have ways that we take care of people's bodies, but Sanji was taken to a place where they didn't do it right. I mean, I know that Ashton-Scripps bloke was only trying to make it better, cleaning him up and all, but we're supposed to do that. The women, I mean. And he was so little. I just don't want to think about it, you know?

I guess it helps to think about it as something we're doing for others' good, to bear witness like you said. Only, aren't the ones who want to deny he's dead all mostly in the camps? They're not going to let all those muggles go to Buckingham, are they? That seems like it would be backward. I'm sure you must know how they mean to prove it to them all, I'm sure it's some clever thing they'll not be able to say is a lie or a fake.

Do I...Ought I do anything to make up for not wanting to go in the first place? A little while before we went home for hols, Hydra Lestrangle stood up in front of the whole school and said she was a failure as a subject. I mean, I don't have any idea why she felt she needed to say that, since I don't think anyone would say she's done anything wrong, but maybe it was something she hadn't told anyone about, like this? And maybe making a...what's the word...a testimonial? --Maybe that was her way of reminding herself not to be weak or of apologising for whatever it was?

Do you think it would be appropriate to do something like that? I mean, we've gone twice now, and I think I understand better why it was important to go, not to try to shirk it. But is that enough?



 [alt_lana](#) at [2011-01-04 18:26:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Lana Sandoval

I'm sorry I didn't have a chance to answer you. We started a new unit yesterday, and it's both great and terrifying and challenging all at once! Surveillance.

I think you will need to decide for yourself what's appropriate.

You could, of course, go once more to the display and pay the proper respect to Our Lord's wishes in this matter.

The important thing is that you conduct yourself from here out as an exemplary citizen, a model for others. You are in a unique position to make a positive impression on your peers, and I've always expected that you would take up the duties (and burdens) of leadership in your set.

I shouldn't compare myself to Hydra Lestrangle if I were you. Hers is a very special case and not one any of us ought to presume to understand or comment on.

2011-01-02 21:42:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_sally_anne**

Well, I understand better why Jeremy was so helpful and kind when we met my parents in the queue.

On New Year's Eve his parents went out to a party, and Jeremy told me he knew where they'd stashed some butterbeer so we got it out to toast the New Year ourselves. And we had toast with jam, we tried some of the experimental kinds and made up new names for them and it was actually a pretty good laugh.

But then he brought up my parents. He said, 'Your Mum lives with your Dad, doesn't she.' He said it really casually, but I could see this look in his eyes.

I said, yes, it's legal because they were married before a certain date and had a child, which is to say me. They aren't allowed to have any more children and Mum can't have a wand and they can't have a broomstick or a floo connection and actually there are LOADS of magical things we they can't have because there's no way to ensure my Mum wouldn't use them. And if they ever broke the rules my mum would go to the camps and my dad would go to Azkaban or possibly the camps depending on MLE's mood. And when I turned eleven and went to Hogwarts I was assigned a foster family and I'm not allowed to talk to them or go to their house on holidays or anything.

And he said, but they're allowed to live together, at least.

I said, Jeremy, you'll never be allowed to live with Maureen. The rules are different now. He started to say he didn't know what I was talking about so I told him I'd seen the bracelet and he said, oh.

He was quiet for a minute and then he said, it's not illegal to give a present to your family's mudblood. There's nothing illegal about it.

I said it's illegal if you're snogging her, you know. Are you snogging her?

He looked really cross and said no. And then he said -- he's afraid, if he asked, she'd say yes because she was afraid. Of him. Even though he would never -- but she can't know that, not for sure. She might feel

like she had to say yes. Anyway, Jeremy thinks it would be wrong to snog her if she's only saying yes because she's afraid. He only wants to snog her if SHE wants to snog HIM.

I said I agreed that this was a completely unsolveable dilemma and the only thing for it is to NOT SNOG HER EVER.

I mean for Merlin's sake even if she DID agree because she fancied him as much as he fancies her, if they got CAUGHT she'd be sent back to the camps so fast it would make her head spin. Do you think the Strettons would tolerate their son carrying on with one of the servants? Not for a minute.

And I told him, 'you know, if you want to be around her you'll have to come back here when you're done with your NEWTs. I thought you didn't want to? I thought you wanted some other job.'

He got all cross but admitted this was true. He doesn't want to work for his parents.

I asked him, why Maureen? And not some girl at school, because Merlin knows there are girls who wouldn't care about the trouble he got in our first year. It's been ages, he's stayed out of trouble since (mostly) and he's a Ravenclaw and his family has some money and they're purebloods.

He said she has the most beautiful eyes he's ever seen, and the way she smiles when she's trying not to laugh at something Gemma is doing is like seeing a sunrise, and I couldn't possibly understand because I'm just a little kid but he's in love and that's not going to change.

I said, well. You're never going to be able to marry her. And there's nowhere to go if you run away with her -- you aren't thinking of running away with her, are you? because she'd be afraid to say no, and it would put her in terrible danger if you were caught. Horrible danger.

He shook his head and said no, he wouldn't do that.

I said there are lots of people who fall in love with someone they can't have. What if Maureen weren't a muggleborn, what if she were a student at Hogwarts BUT she wouldn't give you the time of day? Or she snogged you and then broke your heart and went off with Orion Sandoval or someone. You'd have to get over her.

He said he thought he could get over her if he knew he couldn't have her because she didn't want him.

Anyway. I don't know what to think, other than that, he'd better not get Maureen into trouble by being a git. She didn't do anything to deserve getting in trouble.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-03 11:19:24](#)**
(no subject)

Huh.

Why's he want to snog her? I just don't really get that.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-01-03 15:46:41](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe you'll get it when you're older.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-01-03 18:33:39](#)**
(no subject)

I've heard it sort of works that way.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-03 15:37:13](#)**
(no subject)

I mean to say, something that could cause so much trouble, what's the point, really?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-01-03 15:47:44](#)**
(no subject)

Well all the older students seem to be obsessed with girlfriends and boyfriends and snogging and whatnot. In between fretting about their exams.

Though most of them at least they're obsessed with snogging other students.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-03 18:35:21](#)
(no subject)

I have to say I feel sort of sorry for him. Don't think you always have much control over who you want to snog.

His parents don't suspect anything?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 18:37:42](#)
(no subject)

No, I don't think so. They're very busy and as long as Jeremy is staying out of their way and not making trouble they don't notice much. He's spent a lot more time this holiday playing with Gemma and Philip, but I think they think it's because he wants to spend extra time with Gemma.

Now GEMMA might suspect but I'm not going to ask since I don't really want to put ideas in her head if they aren't there already.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-04 18:28:58](#)
(no subject)

Well I understand what Jeremy means, I mean - you couldn't say no, could you? You wouldn't really be allowed to. I mean you could but then nobody would take her word over Jeremy's, not unless Jeremy got caught doing it, and she probably doesn't know that he'd be in trouble, she probably thinks his family's like some of the others, that don't care if they mess with ~~Mud~~ servants.

I suppose he must be nicer than I thought if he's worried. I don't think most people would be.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-04 21:26:20](#)
(no subject)

I don't think he's exactly nice, it's more that he doesn't want to be awful. There are other people who don't MEAN to be awful who wouldn't think it through as far as Jeremy did, though, they'd think if a girl said 'yes' then it was fine and never worry about whether she felt like she COULD say 'no.' (And then there are people like Moebius Ollivander who are just plain awful. I try not to ever be alone in the common room with him, after what he did to you.)

It's interesting though, I think Jeremy's gotten better at thinking this sort of thing through in the last year or two. I don't know whether it's because he really thinks he's in love with Maureen, or what.

[2011-01-03 12:35:00](#)

Saw the body

My gran took me to see the traitor's body. The queue was huge, and we had to wait hours and hours. People were mostly quiet, talking a bit amongst themselves, but not too loudly. Solemn.



 **[alt_neville](#)**

I expect most people will have seen it before we get back to school, so I don't need to describe it. I guess it's enough to say that it's a fitting lesson to see what happens to Enemies of the Protectorate.



 **[alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-03 18:54:25](#)**

I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

We shuffled past the glass case, and I looked at Gran, and her face was like stone as she said in a loud voice, 'Look at him, Neville, and look well. That's what happens to traitors. Don't you forget it.' And I looked, but I didn't feel anything, not really. I'd read the descriptions and I knew it looked awful. So I just cast my eyes over it, as if it were nothing more than a plate or a cauldron or something, nothing that was human once, and we went past and then we left again. Neither of us said much after we Floo'd home.

Gran and I didn't bring Evelyn, because Gran thought she'd likely have nightmares. So I went for both of us.

It never occurred that it would give me a nightmare. But it did. A terrible one.

I dreamed about my parents and my little brother. They looked like that picture that was published in the Daily Prophet. They looked over at smiled at me, and everything was normal, but then it was as if time speeded up, and their skin cracked and split open and started sloughing up and I could see their teeth through the cracks. Their flesh shriveled up and they had this agonised look on their faces, just like they were burning up or something. And my brother started screaming as his flesh fell off, and then I started screaming myself, and then...and then I woke up.

Didn't get to sleep for the rest of the night.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 19:07:04](#)

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

You did a good job. I hope your nightmares go away soon.

Don't listen to Carrow. They won't catch your parents.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-03 19:11:38](#)

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

Yeah.

I--

Yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-03 20:55:56](#)

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

Gosh, Nev. I'm sorry.

Fred and George said you'd written, so I've just come in to see.

I don't look forward to going, but Dad says we'll have to go when we get back. Did you hear they're going question people who haven't been? Well, no one wants that, do they? So I expect we'll go Saturday.

I'd heard the queues were getting shorter, but I guess now people are saying the Ministry's going to come down on people who haven't been that loads of people who weren't planning to go are going now.

I suppose Mum will make us get there extra early on Saturday so we're sure of getting in.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-03 18:58:14](#)
(no subject)

Used to put traitors heads on pikes on London Bridge, they did, for the pigeons to peck out their eyes.

Maybe they'll do that to the next ones they catch.

You know who.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-03 19:06:31](#)
(no subject)

I expect I do, sir.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-03 19:07:55](#)
(no subject)

Well, well. I'm surprised. Maybe you are capable of learning.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-03 19:08:43](#)
I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

EAT DUNG.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-03 19:13:18](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

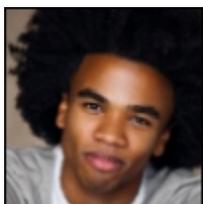
Well done, bro.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-03 19:14:07](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Anytime, Fred.

Maybe we should make a point to write that anytime he mouths off to one of us in one of our journals.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2011-01-03 19:15:17](#)

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

Nice.

It'd get pretty repetitive though.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-03 19:15:26](#)

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

True.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-03 19:17:13](#)

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

Nah.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-03 19:09:35](#)

I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Merlin.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-03 19:56:39](#)

ORDER ONLY

looks like someones feeling a bit more chipper
and he's one to talk about not learning lessons.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-04 01:53:22](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Well. We did choose not to end him then and there.

And there was a better-than-even chance he'd come back worse than before. I'll be back at Hogwarts in a day or two, though. I could make sure the bastard isn't doing any more than talking a brave game.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-04 02:25:51](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

By which you mean what, exactly?

Listen to me, Sirius Black: there will be no more folly where Amycus Carrow is concerned.

Or I will make you exceedingly sorry.

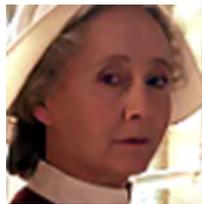


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-04 02:46:57](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Er ...

I was thinking of the ghosts, actually. Keeping an eye on him. Maybe Peeves, if the Baron could convince him to get involved. But at least they'd be able to alert you or Minerva if Carrow tried anything concrete.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-04 03:21:37](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Well, all right, then.

Carry on.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-03 19:17:08](#)
(no subject)

I noticed that, too, that the crowds are ever so quiet.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-03 20:46:14](#)
(no subject)

Sandoval says that's because they're being fully appreciative of Black's violent death and that it's important to bear witness to Our Lord's victory. I think it means people are respectful of His prowess,

don't you?



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-03 22:26:44](#)
(no subject)

Oh, definitely.

2011-01-03 14:21:00

New Year

I like the start of the new year. It always feels like a new chance, full of possibilities. This year, I think, will be quite an amazing one.



 [alt_nymphadora](#)

We went to see the body on Saturday. Everyone from work, at the Ministry that is, had already been. I felt like the last person in the Protectorate to go, but with the wedding and that, we've been a bit busy. We finally got a chance to go, though, while the shop was shut for New Years Day. It was a bit unpleasant, to be honest. The queues weren't too bad when we were there, thank goodness, and we brought chairs and a picnic to make a bit of a day of it. Some of the others in the queue came and sat with us, and we were quite a jolly group, so that was nice.

Seeing the body, though. It's hard to face, I suppose, knowing that I'm related to such a man. I never met him, of course, and I had the great advantage of being raised by Mr and Mrs Crouch, and of having Barty's very good example of how one ought to behave. But Black was brought up by the most decent, upstanding pureblood family you can imagine, and we all know how he turned out. What makes someone from a good family turn out so wrong?

Junius suggested that it might have reminded me of my own unfortunate situation and the decisions my mother made, but I think it may be more impending motherhood is making me think about how my own actions will shape my child - and what things about him or her might turn out to be beyond my control.

We'll just have to do what we can to offer the best example possible. Starting with a prenatal visit to see first hand the consequences of trying to cause harm to the Protectorate. What a story to tell him or her when he or she is old enough to understand. I think it'll become one of those moments that we all remember for the rest of our lives.

Oh, there was some ridiculous mistake in The Sunday Prophet this weekend too. I'm quite annoyed - the announcement was very clear when I sent it in. I don't know how they managed to mess it up so badly. Junius was really embarrassed to be associated with such scandal. The Prophet are lucky we don't sue for libel.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-01-03 20:40:51](#)
Order Only

Seeing the body was pretty grim, to be honest. Everyone was pretending to be unaffected, or pleased, but we were basically looking at some bloke's desecrated corpse. No one wants to see that.

There's a reason we bury the dead.

We had to be seen to go, though. We had to sign the book. There's bound to be trouble for those that haven't.

I didn't think I'd be too bothered - I know it's not really Sirius, after all. But when I was waiting in the queue, for some reason it suddenly dawned on me that it might not be Sirius, but it's still some other chap. Someone's son, brother, husband, dad. I don't know. Do we know who he is? Was he that French chap who was helping you out, Sirius? Or one of the French aurors? Or just some unfortunate, in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Whoever he was, he didn't deserve the end he's come to. After that, I felt pretty sick.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-03 22:05:12](#)
Re: Order Only

You know, we've only just woken up here to the notion that we had best make a trip down to New London to see this abomination, so Pomona and I are going to come your way on Wednesday.

We plan to Floo to St Mungo's, and I'm scheduled to take a meeting with certain of my colleagues there. Pomona's decided she could use the opportunity to make a stop or two herself.

Is there anything we could bring you?

We do have a quantity of polyjuice we've just completed, and I suppose we could leave some with you for Sirius if that seems a reasonable thing. Just to be clear: I don't believe you ought to use any of it whilst you are pregnant. Do say, of course, if you think it's not safe to bring it there, or if you'd rather not take the risk.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-01-03 22:11:02](#)

Re: Order Only

We can certainly keep hold of some polyjuice for Sirius, yeah. We're okay for everything else, I think.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-04 01:44:12](#)

Re: Order Only

Merlin, I hadn't even thought it might have been Gregoire. Possibly, I don't know. Circe, it could have been that bloke who defected, if they decided to track him down again. Mostly I hope it's simply the body of an unidentified male they happened to have at the morgue when the needed it. I guess that's preferable than to think they went out and killed someone to save face. What a ghastly thought. Ta, Dora.

I saw the article about the detentions, though, and I'm glad you made sure you went. I've convinced Terrie she needs to get there before they start combing the logs to see who hasn't paid the corpse a visit.

I thought about going myself, you know. Pay respects to whomever it is who's taking my place. Didn't seem like a risk worth taking. But I wonder - how many in the queue are there for just that? Not to sound self-important, but I mean to say, it'd be comforting to think that most people aren't really there to revile my memory, but to think about the fight we haven't won yet.

2011-01-04 10:26:00

Private message to Pansy

Mrs Stretton says I can go to your house tomorrow. In fact, she said I could go right now, if I wanted, but she wanted me to owl you and wait for a reply, so the owl is on its way but in the meantime I'm packed and could come as soon as you get this and tell me you're home and it's all right.



 **alt_sally_anne**

I'm not sure if she cares whether I come back before the end of hols or not. I thought I'd go ahead and bring all my things and leave from your house if she didn't send for me.



 **alt_pansy** at **2011-01-04 21:41:45**
(no subject)

Yes! That would be utterly brilliant. I was out riding, which is why I didn't get this until now, but come over as soon as you can and bring all your things!

Let's see if Ron and Nev are up for something tomorrow or the day after, too.

Oooh! This is so exciting!

2011-01-05 23:08:00

Private Message to Horatio Hooper



 [alt_lucius](#)

Finally getting to the day's correspondence.

Priority for to-morrow must be the delivery of the Wizengamot verdicts for Our Lord's signature. Broome expects them as soon as you have the verification from the court clerk. Kindly go in person to Rigg for his initialed copies, take them directly to Buckingham and wait for them so you can return them to Thicknesse's office. Before noon, if you please, as the sentences will need to be dispatched to Azkaban before sunset. Trust I do not need to explain the urgency.

Also, Charles said he sent his man over with two manuscripts. Why did you say nothing? I had one ready to go back to him; see to it that he receives it to-morrow as well.

Not sure what Bobolis wants but if it's anything about Kensington, surely he has his own source in the designer, being a friend of his. There's nothing to photograph yet and I would rather he not pester Narcissa. Tell him we will consider allowing him to tour the grounds once they are in flower and the installations complete.

What's this from Cuthbert? Explain.

Yes, I'll meet with Gibson. No to Umbridge, absolutely - but tell her perhaps next month (do not schedule). Offer Scrimgeour an early meeting - 7:00 if necessary, though not before Tuesday next. Campbell ... yes, but don't trouble if you need to book him out a month or more. Move nothing to accommodate him; can guarantee there will be no rush. Massopust? Not Warrington? Hm. Well, all right. Half an hour - and he comes here, not his office. Regrets for the Clarriker invitation; regrets for the Higgses; accept Drumgoole and Spinx, per Narcissa. Must remember to arrange accommodations for that week-end as well. Yes to Sedgwick, before this month's Governors' meeting, so if you need to shift something that's all right. No more than half an hour, however. Oh, and sometime in the next week, book me in at Lobb's.

I've a left boot that is too tight. Also I'll need a table with a view at *Portico* on Thursday next, for about twenty.

2011-01-06 10:14:00

Cheers, Finnigan!

It was snitch of you to have the bunch of us over yesterday. Thank Mr Rosier again, will you?



 [alt_padma](#)

I do wish the Hogwarts crew had been able to come as well. You would have liked the game we played, Malfoy especially, I think. Hooper brought it. It's called *Illusionary*. Have you heard of it? Well, you divide into teams and there's a stack of cards with words on, like 'muggle camp' and 'transfiguration' and 'London' and 'snake' and all sorts of things. And there are some props you can use, but you don't have to use them if you don't want to do. Well, each person on your team takes it in turns being the one to get the others to guess what your word is. But you have to make an illusion that illustrates your word to get them to guess, and you can't talk, of course. It was great fun. Thomas was the best at sketching the illusions in the air, of course, but Page was really good at making the props into whatever he wanted.

Well, anyway, then Thomas wanted to go skating, so we did that before tea, which was really not tea at all, but chocolate! But the game had been so much fun that we kept casting spells out on Mr Rosier's duck pond. Oh, and Hooper taught us this completely nift charm he knew, to make illusions and shapes and such out of his breath when it fogged up in the air. He must have practised forever to be able to do things like that unicorn he made for Parvati. We all tried, but it's difficult to make the shapes quickly enough. I think Lav was getting the hang of it, though!

I think Page really enjoyed getting to speak with Mr Rosier in the library while we were off touring the house again. I know I've been before but we've still not seen the whole place! It just keeps going. I can't believe you said it's smaller than your family's main castle in Ireland, though, Finnigan. I dunno what I'd do with so many rooms! But I knew we'd lose Page in the library. It's quite my favourite room of Mr Rosier's, too. I know it's not quite as large as Hogwarts' library but then, Mr Rosier doesn't need multiple copies of things or quite so many books that no one ever wants to read, does he? It was really kind of him to loan Page that copy of *Command of Thought*, as well. I'm sure it'll be really helpful for his Dark Arts unit on Curses.

Mr Rosier was right about getting to know some of the others better. I never knew Robins was so witty! Or that Cuthbert and Page would

bore us all with broom care as Quidditch strategy, ha-ha! It was loads of fun and now it won't seem like so long before we're all on the train back to school.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2011-01-06 19:48:41](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, it was well nift! Thanks Finnigan!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-07 15:58:21](#)
(no subject)

Illusionary sounds like something Nanella used to have us play, only it was without props and she always called it *Wand Charades*.

I had to send Finnigan my regrets, of course. I would have liked to have been there but the travel arrangements couldn't be made.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-07 16:04:13](#)
(no subject)

I know; we all missed you and Harry and Hydra, too.

Especially since we heard Harry got a well snitch present - and no one knows who from! Have you two figured out the mystery yet, without going into basilisk-infested chambers or forests filled with spiders or anything, I mean?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-07 16:10:51](#)
(no subject)

Professor Raz doesn't let us set a toe outside the castle without his being there, so our lives have yet to be threatened by anything much. Why, were you worried about us?

Harry got a Firebolt. They're supposed to be the best brooms ever made and the company has only manufactured a very limited number of them, mostly for star quidditchers. But Harry can't even use it, everyone's convinced it's been blighted with deadly jinxes

and hexes. Which is possible, really, because who would send Harry a Firebolt and then *not* take credit for it?



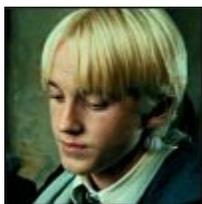
 **alt_padma** at [2011-01-07 16:55:25](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm always worried about you - you two seem to attract danger like a muggle attracts fleas. But I'm sure with Professor Raz around you're both fine. Doesn't he have any ideas about who sent it?

We were talking about it at Finnigan's, because Cuthbert said at first his grandfather thought perhaps your father sent it, to make up for being stuck at Hogwarts all holiday. But I said that didn't make any sense because your father knew very well that Harry isn't supposed to fly right now. And that's probably why the person who sent it is anonymous, isn't it? I mean, there are really only three explanations. First is because the person who sent it *knows* Harry isn't supposed to fly and is being, well, horrid about it. You know, taunting him with a broom he can't ride? And no one would want to do that and attach their name to it. That'd be mad.

But that's an awfully expensive prank. Cuthbert was telling us all about the Firebolt on Wednesday. He says it's got a diamond-hard polish and that they're hand-numbered and have unbreakable braking charms and, oh, I dunno, all sorts of nift features. Page was positively salivating at the thought! But anyway, it's well naff to spend that kind of gold on a present that's meant to annoy Harry, isn't it?

So the other thought we had seems to be everyone else's too, that the person who sent it either *doesn't* know Harry's not allowed to fly right now, or *does* know but is hoping he will do anyway because he's got the most snitch broom in the world. Which can only mean one thing. Macnair. And he must have stolen the gold, which is why it doesn't matter to him how much it cost.



 **alt_draco** at [2011-01-07 19:25:55](#)
(no subject)

Nothing dangerous has happened to me in a while, or Hydra. Wish I could say the same for Harry.

I'm sure Raz has theories but he hasn't much shared them with us, not in detail anyway. Uncle Rodolphus and his team are looking at the broom now and have been for a while. I think everyone's wondering if Macnair is behind it, though. He's probably furious he didn't get the job done the first time, the mad oaf.

[2011-01-06 15:37:00](#)

(no subject)

Oi! Weasley! Are you back yet? The dragon thingy sounds like it was dead fun. Now that Sally-Anne is with me, we can go out and all do something, and if you're back, let's sort out what we can get up to before we have to start school again.



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-06 21:37:53](#)

(no subject)

You lot are welcome to come over to the Burrow for some pick up Quidditch tomorrow if you like. We've already invited Nev and Lee, and Mum and Ginny have asked Luna to come over. There won't be enough people for proper teams, but there'll be enough to wreck some cheerful mayhem and put a good dent in Mum's cooking.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-06 21:38:29](#)

(no subject)

Gran has said that Evelyn and me can come over. Thanks!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-06 23:22:57](#)

(no subject)

That's just perfect! I'll still be pants, you know, but last year was so much fun.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-07 02:36:08](#)

(no subject)

Brilliant! I can't wait!

2011-01-07 13:23:00

Order Only: Tea with a Friend

Well, two friends, really. One of which I never expected to see again.



I made it back to Hogsmeade last night and today I went for a bit of a ramble in the forest. Just wanted to get the lay of the land - where they've stashed the Dementors for the time being, whether Carrow is still stalking them or not, &c. (and no, Poppy, I'm not planning any more visitations).

 [alt_sirius](#)

But I caught another, familiar scent and thought I'd just follow where it led. Hagrid sends his regards to everyone. He was well chuffed to see me, I think. 'Knew yer weren't dead,' he kept saying. And he showed me my old bike.

He's kept her running all this time. Says it helps to keep some of the less friendly creatures out of his territory (and considering what Hagrid counts as friendly, that's saying something!). He also told me an interesting story over tea (er, birch bark tea, by the way, which was completely foul, bless him). Minerva, remember last year when we wondered if Harry's trip into the forest yielded any other secrets to the boy? It seems we were right to consider it. Hagrid told me all about how he found the kids surrounded by his Acromantulae clan and how he'd been the one to tell Harry what happened the night that James and Lily were killed. Sounds like Harry didn't take everything Hagrid had to say very well, but then Hagrid did admit that he'd no idea Harry and young Malfoy were such fast mates.

I suppose it's a very good sign that none of them - not even Malfoy - told any of you lot nor, it seems, anyone else, that Hagrid's living out there. Still. Thought you ought to know, for future reference. I brought him up to speed on all our news, of course, including Moony's impending fatherhood. I can't quite tell if he was laughing or busting out in tears behind that great bushy beard of his, Remus. Most importantly I warned him to keep an eye out for Macnair and Snape, and to let us know if ever he catches wind of them in the vicinity.

I asked him if he's heard anything from Albus, but then I wished I hadn't. I daresay he misses the man even more than the rest of us, and no wonder. As someone who's not lived near so rough for near so long, I can sympathise.

Anyway, he wanted to give me the bike, but I pointed out that I can't very well use it, and it's doing him some good, so he may as well keep it for the time being. I'm going to try to remember to check in on him from time to time - though I'm not sure we'll be able to use him for any covert operations right now. May want to give that some thought. I think I'll also give him one of the blankets, if that's all right with you, Poppy. Thanks to Alice's rather questionable sense of humour I've got a warm place to sleep, but Hagrid's little shelter (well, I say little - you know what I mean) could use a few comforts, I think. He's doing all right, particularly now that the Dementors are stationed on the far side of the lake, away from the village. Still. Everyone can use company now and then.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-08 15:51:56](#)
(no subject)

Oh, bother it, Sirius. I wasn't going to say anything. I hoped someone else would. I hate that I'm always the one harping on about safety and wisdom and thinking things through before you follow an enticing scent.

But, honestly. I'm terribly uneasy about your having made contact with ~~that~~ Hagrid. Pomona disagrees with me about this, as you may have gathered when we were all together last month, but it's different in her case. It's all very well and good for her to take sacks of flour or raisins or tins of tea and leave them out there on her way to Tilda's now and then, but it's quite another matter for you to go have a jolly chat with him.

For one thing, so far as I know, the oaf has no idea Pomona is a member of the Order now. I suppose he thinks her the last kindly soul in this castle.

But you.

He can't hold his tongue, you know. Never could. And he's not bright enough to keep a confidence even if he means to.

It scarcely matters whether he's truly a fugitive or whether MLE know full well he's in there. All he needs do is tell a centaur he's seen you, and the next parlay the Ministry sends in to treat with them, they'll have word you've been sighted alive and on Protectorate soil.



 **alt_sirius** at [2011-01-08 16:05:24](#)
(no subject)

I have a better opinion of Hagrid than you, Poppy.
And so did Albus.

You weren't in the Order in the early days. Hagrid can keep his gob shut about the important things. One advantage he's always had is that people underestimate his intelligence. And if the Ministry have already questioned him, so much the better: They've left him there all this time so they must not think he's got anything useful to add or that he's any threat without Dumbledore to give him orders.



 **alt_poppy** at [2011-01-08 16:45:21](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Sirius.

Albus was always profligate with his confidence in the least likely of us, but sometimes that trust was badly, stupidly betrayed. Not least by Rubeus Hagrid.

Honestly, give him a bit of strong drink and he'll tell you everything he knows. I can't tell you how often I had information from him followed promptly by a flush of recognition on his part and some mumble of 'Ah, er, I shouldn't a told yer that!'

Well. It's water under the bridge now in any case. I don't suppose you thought to Obliviate him?



 **alt_sirius** at [2011-01-08 17:27:58](#)
(no subject)

Yes, with people he trusts, knows or likes. Of course we've all got information out of him he shouldn't have provided. How do you think James and I heard about the replacement hoops for the quidditch pitch in time to paint them Gryffindor colours and add the giant lion's heads to them that time?

He's different with people he knows are out to get him. I've seen him keep his cool with the likes of Scrimgeour and even Bagnold

in her time.

And no, I didn't Obliviate him. I suppose if I'm outnumbered on this I'd be willing to go and do so.

I thought the Order took care of our own, is all.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-08 18:23:42](#)

(no subject)

Oh, honestly.

Of course we take care of our own.

And I've nothing against your leaving him with whatever you can take him, blankets and all. Now you've given yourself away to him, there's no reason not to do.

Except that, as you know, the Ministry have been sending occasional embassies into the Forest, so be on your guard and know that it's possible someone will have got something out Hagrid since you were there last.

For that matter, you should be wary as ever of the centaurs, I doubt they'd take at all kindly to your presence. Dawlish says they've taken shots at him more than once lately. Warnings, of course, since if they'd meant to stick him full of arrows, they'd have done so.

2011-01-08 10:52:00

It Was Wizard!

Glad you could all come.

Shame about the slush and the mud. And maybe we did stay out flying a bit too long, but you've got to admit that Mum's hot cider warms you up fast!



 [alt_ron](#)

We're standing in the queue now, but it doesn't seem so bad. I guess most people've already been here, so maybe it's lucky we couldn't come any sooner.

See you lot again tomorrow!

&DGAW&W!!!



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-01-08 18:18:27**
(no subject)

It was lots of fun. I haven't laughed that hard or gotten that muddy in a long time. And it's a good thing we were up in the air for most of it, yeah? Your broom performed fantastically, and Sally-Anne was brilliant, too! I was just happy enough to keep my seat, even when I flipped over that one time! Hah! W&W all the way for me.

I'm writing a proper thanks to your mum, but it really was ace of her to host all of us.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2011-01-08 18:28:13**
(no subject)

Yeah, the Silver Arrow's turning out to be a nift broom, isn't she? Of course, anyone can up W&W with the twins about!

We've almost got to the front of the queue, too, and the weather's holding, so it's all good!

[2011-01-08 11:18:00](#)

Daffs

This isn't a proper thank you, but Mother's got all our owls out picking up parcels from all over today. I can't complain, as some of it's for me, for school.



 **[alt_blaise](#)**

Wanted to say, though: that was one dire party you gave last night! Best one yet.

Supper was fantastic, of course. Goes without saying, really, at yours. But the games were nift and your father was so clever with the prizes. Really generous, too. And it was sorcerous that they let us alone out on the terrace with the music.

Everyone had a brilliant time. Well, you heard what Stevens and Fletcher said about the entertainments, but you probably didn't hear Vaisey tell me he thought it was up there with the best parties of the season. And he meant grown up gatherings, too.

Teddy and Greg doing party tricks? A bit dodgy, but hilarious. Moon and I were in stitches over the one with the dancing beetles. And I've never seen Dunstan laugh so much!

(And, Moon: it was great you could come, mate. You'll have to show me that gobstone blaster you were talking about. That ought to totally change the game!)

I'll send a proper thank you as soon as I can--to your parents, at least. And you, I'll see on the train. Save me a seat if you get there first. Or I will for you if I'm ahead of you.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-08 21:46:32](#)**

(no subject)

I think the time away from school must have done a world of good, everyone was in such good spirits, don't you agree? Only it's a shame that Harry and Draco and Hydra weren't available, but it really can't be helped.

I told Astoria and Queenie that they could drop in for a little while if they behaved, but when they saw Vaisey and Croaker and the rest of the fourth years who came, they were too shy and decided to play in

their rooms with Miss Jessup, instead. I was up very late last night telling them about everything that happened, for they insisted on it. I tried to reenact the dancing beetles but failed miserably - not that they knew any better!

Did Vaisey really say that? How terribly sweet of him, for I know that he made quite the social rounds over hols. I think Samantha paid him special attention throughout the evening, too - did you see her pull him aside on the terrace?

Well, I need to make one more trip to the shops for school things and then get it all ready for the elves to pack. Oh! And you'll be pleased to know that I managed to hoard away some of those lovely french macarons that were served at the party. I'm saving them for us to share on the trip up.



 **[alt_blaise](#) at 2011-01-08 22:43:12**

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

It was a shame about Harry's having to stay at the castle. And Draco and Hydra feeling they ought to stay with him. Not that they were wrong to do it, but it's just too bad they had to miss out. Let's plan something for Easter hols to do with them. Maybe a really tight group. I dunno, I was saying to Draco that it just seems the more people you invite, the more those people expect you'll include others, too. It just gets unmanageable.

Ha! I'm sure you were much more graceful than the dancing beetles ever thought of being! No wonder you couldn't show what that looked like!!

You're right about Vaisey and Montgomery. I thought he fancied Stevens, but I guess that's done with. Maybe that's why she couldn't come?

Did you see Gamp trying to dance with Fletcher? And to think Mrs Wilby used to make us all try to model ourselves after him because his form was so elegant! He must have grown half a foot last term, so I expect that explains it. Still and all, it was really embarrassing!

Those macarons were fabulous. Mother's sending some bottles of elderberry squash, and she's got the elves packing a hamper for us with all their best take away things.

So, I'll see you!



 **alt_daphne** at **2011-01-09 00:30:09**

Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Well you know I'm fine with a really tight group. Remember how generous I was at my birthday, inviting everyone to a party in the common room? Then some person stole the last slice of cake I was saving for Queenie, and that was even someone from Slytherin! It just feels more special when social groups are more select and intimate, doesn't it?

It's edifying to know that I remain more graceful than a dancing beetle, though in my lesson with Mr Krumgold he said that I need to work more on my flexibility. On the bright side, Mrs Gibbons thinks that my intonation is getting much better. All my practising paid off!

Elizabeth's letter mentioned that she was visiting relatives in Cardiff (ew, Wales, poor thing), but she might well have wanted to dodge Vaisey. I'll have to see if I can get more of that story out of her when school starts...

It's not just that Gamp's grown taller, his feet are truly massive! It's like he's got oars for shoes, so no wonder he trips all over himself.

Ooh, elderberry squash is so very exquisite, I'm getting thirsty just thinking about it! Give your Mother my thanks for her thoughtfulness.



 **alt_draco** at **2011-01-08 21:59:09**

(no subject)

Daffs had a party, did she? Wish I could have been there, but like the girl herself says, it can't be helped. Sounds like it was smashing, though.

We've been brushing up on our duelling like mad, though. Wait til you see the demonstration at the next club meeting... only make sure you

stand well back, yeah? Behind Weasley or something.

Good to know everything with Teddy's been straightened out, too. Knew we'd get through to him eventually.



 **alt_blaise** at [2011-01-08 22:25:41](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Shame you and Harry couldn't have come. It's been an odd hols all around, though, what with Harry missing your parents' party and all. Especially since your father invited us to see what the men get up to when they retire to his study. Felt like we're finally old enough to do some of the interesting things.

Mother let me call Mr Blackmun, so I've had a few formal duelling lessons myself. Helped the time pass between gatherings. Sometimes the days get long during hols, especially when the weather's naff. I can't wait to see what Professor LeStrange has taught you. I bet Weasley'll wet himself when you demonstrate. Maybe they'll let you use it on him?

And, you're right, Teddy's back to being just Teddy. It will surprise you to hear that he's spent all his time working out advance Dark Arts stuff from some book his father gave him for Christmas. Greg, too. His mother got him a tutor, since Miss Professor Carrow sent home a note saying he shows real promise. He said his parents were right chuffed about it.

Maybe we can do something really sorcerous over Easter hols. Just a few of us, you know. When you and Harry can take part. Daffs, Pansy--if she'd fall in a bit more, us and Teddy. Vince and Greg. Daffs would want Milli, probably.

She invited Moon, Macdougall and Dunstan yesterday. They were nice enough, and I think they knew they were lucky she'd thought to include them. I'd say we could include Patil sometime, except then she'd want to drag along Finnigan. Or Thomas. Who knows. She's worse than Pansy in her own way, always wanting to string along people she can lord it over.

In the end it's easier to stick with a tight group and not get dragged

down by all the loose ends. Don't you think?



 **alt_draco** at **2011-01-09 01:00:00**

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

I'm pretty sure Harry would have gone spare if Raz and Hydra hadn't been at the castle to keep him company. Can't say I blame him, but he knows that his Father's only putting his safety first, and his studies too, of course.

Teddy and Greg are both imminently talented...runs in their families, no doubt. That Nott eccentricity and lack of couth still rears its head from time to time, unfortunately. Teddy wants to do great things, though, and sometimes he just needs a reminder that to do those great things, he can't go around *disturbing* everyone.

Easter hols sounds brill. We can keep the group small, if that's the majority preference. It might be better for Harry, really, since some people act like such pillocks around him, trying to show off or brown nose. Big gatherings are good to have once and a while though...how else will you get people to do favours for you, if they don't think they have a chance of ever being your mate?

That's the thing with Patil, right? She's clever and popular, a good person to know for that, so she's worth chumming around with now and again. Finnigan's making all the right moves, but it's so painfully obvious that all the instruction is coming from Mr Rosier and Padma and now Hooper, too...he ought to try to stand out on his own a bit more, though it's probably hard to know how to best go about that when you're a halfblood.

Pansy's come around a lot, but she still has that weird attraction for misfits. I don't know, it's probably down to some fault of her Mother's, honestly. But now that she's come into money I bet she'll find that Weasley and his ilk aren't really the ticket. She's going to be dealing with a whole new world pretty soon, and it doesn't involve rolling around in the mud and retiring to some filthy hovel for hot cider.

2011-01-09 10:55:00

(no subject)



 [alt_narcissa](#)

The year is already off to a fine start, with the Twelfth Night revels ending the season in excellent form. I hear there are plans for one more celebration at the close of Black's public viewing; I suspect this has been such a festive year, all things considered, that no one really wishes the party to end.

For myself, I am rather looking forward to some peace and quiet for a while, although the girls have asked if we might resume our card parties now that I am not visiting Revati's studio every other week. I see no reason not to continue; after all, they are the most informal affairs one could imagine. We agreed to take hostessing in turns, as well. Beginning with Ygraine on Wednesday, do I have that right?

Aleta, I am thinking about the committee but I'm not sure I can really take it on at this time. I've been feeling sadly neglectful of my obligations to the Sisters in Witchcraft as it is; I doubt I could do justice to yet another undertaking at present.

Draco, have a good term, darling. I must admit it seemed strange this morning that we did not need to take you to the train, when so many others are going. But then, last year was much the same, and Easter holidays last term as well. I do hope by this Easter you and Harry are able to come home for a proper visit.

Harry, we heard about your curious Christmas present. I'm sure Professor Lestrangle and Mr Malfoy between them will reach the bottom of the matter. Whether you have obtained a fine broom out of someone's generosity or a twisted kind of malice, the broom is if nothing else a vital clue. If it proves safe, you'll be able to fly it soon enough. And if not, we'll replace it with one that is guaranteed to be pristine.

Oh, and Miss Parkinson, I shall be sending an owl of introduction on your behalf to several of the people we discussed. I'm sure many of them are already familiar with your mother's portfolio but will be happy to make appropriate adjustments.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-09 17:11:40](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Aunt Narcissa. I really appreciate all your help.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-10 03:26:34](#)
(no subject)

You're quite welcome, dear. Of course, as I said and I know your Uncle Lucius has told you, there's no need to go overboard just now. Pick one or two, set up a nominal level of gift and let Mr Baddock take care of it for you. There will be plenty of time later to assume more control of your affairs. Don't think because Lucius was managing the family's estate by the time he was only a year or two older than you that you need to take it all on at once.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-10 02:23:18](#)
(no subject)

You're quite right that people have slackened into an expectation that every day should be a holiday, when, of course, holidays are only valuable when scarce and long anticipated.

I agree: January's return to simple pleasures and intimate gatherings is most welcome. Not to mention the return to discipline and routine. And, of course, one feels the urgency of things put off during the festive fortnight.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-10 03:40:20](#)
(no subject)

We have had rather a lot to celebrate this year, you'll agree. But it's true that much remains unfinished and it's just at the point where one lets down one's guard that everything we've worked for could collapse.

Still there are always events and holidays to look forward to in the

coming weeks. Have you started thinking about Valentine's yet? Or is that looking too far in the future?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-10 04:08:12](#)
(no subject)

Valentine's?

Well. I admit I've given it a moment's thought. Or two. And I might have done even if I hadn't been prompted to it by Mother's pressing me to serve on some committee for a fundraising gala. Something about infants with heart difficulties.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-10 04:27:48](#)
(no subject)

Oh, dear, I hadn't realised that Eudora would target your mother, though I should have suspected as much. I do believe she had Mother in her sights as well and was less successful. But then, Mother has always had particular skill at busying herself with a balance of personal and charitable pursuits. It's not surprising that Norah feels she has to put a greater hand in; I hope she doesn't find the burden too heavy. Presumably that's why she requires your support?

If you're destined to be roped in, will-you, nil-you, then it's all the more important that you plan ahead. You've only four weeks and after the attention you paid to the Christmas season, it would never do to fall short so quickly.

Though perhaps the committee is something better suited to Ned? Lucius says he has a head for logistics and finance. I assume that's what they've asked you to do and not head up the decorations (though I'd pay good Galleons to see that!).

2011-01-10 11:11:00

The house is quiet again!

And Arthur and I have to do all the chores ourselves again now. I'd gotten rather spoiled, not having to get up first thing in the morning to milk the goats. (Oh, well, at least that means there's a bit less whingeing.)



 [alt_molly](#)

We had a whirlwind of activity the last couple of days before taking the children to the train. We hosted a party of pick up Quidditch for a number of the children's friends on Friday. Luna came over a bit early to help Ginny and me bake biscuits. It was so lovely to see her again.

On Saturday, we went to London to see the traitor's body. We got rather a later getaway than I had planned, however, and the queue was so long that we weren't able to get all the way through before the queue was stopped for the night.

George and Fred, I found a beater bat under Fred's bed; I don't know whether it's Fred's or George's, but I'll send it by owl this morning. I'm sure you'll want it. Ron, I have that packet of extra socks that you forgot on the wardrobe, and I'll send those along, too.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2011-01-10 18:03:09**

Order Only

Frank and Alice: Evelyn and Neville were two of the ones who came over on Friday. They both enjoyed themselves hugely, I think. I watched the Quidditch a bit through the kitchen window. Evelyn is turning out to have some respectable Chaser skills, considering she's so young. Flying continues not to be Neville's favourite thing, perhaps, but he was willing to give it a go, and didn't mind when his team was soundly trounced, and took the teasing from Ron and the twins good-naturedly.

He did look a little peaky, I thought. Nothing to be too concerned about, perhaps, just a little pale, as if he's not been sleeping well. When I said something about the dark circles under his eyes, Evelyn asked him if he has been having nightmares 'again.' He shushed her, looking none too pleased (I suppose he was a bit embarrassed), but denied any problem. He certainly ate with a good appetite, like any growing and healthy teenage boy.

I do like them both. So polite. Augusta has obviously raised them well.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-10 18:25:06](#)

Re: Order Only

Thanks for the update, Molly, dear.

We got a letter from Augusta that mentioned something similar -- that our Neville hadn't been sleeping too well. She'd worried that it was something to do with seeing the body, and felt rather badly about taking him there, but couldn't see any way round it. She also thought it might have something to do with Carrow, too, especially after what he posted in the journals. And now that he's back at school, I'm not going to rest easy on that account until summer hols.

I'm glad they were both able to have some time with friends before term started, though.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-10 18:14:20](#)

(no subject)

It's mine. Thanks, Mum. I'll need that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-10 18:52:12](#)

(no subject)

Oh. All right.

Hadn't missed them yet.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-10 19:16:08](#)

(no subject)

I'm not surprised in the least.



 **[alt_percy](#) at 2011-01-10 19:15:29**
(no subject)

I for one will not miss the goats in the least.

And I do not whinge.



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at 2011-01-10 19:16:55**
(no subject)

You were whingeing plenty in the queue on Saturday when we weren't moving fast enough to suit you.



 **[alt_percy](#) at 2011-01-10 19:17:33**
(no subject)

That's different.



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at 2011-01-10 19:18:02**
(no subject)

Oh, of course. Entirely different for Big Head Boy.



 **[alt_percy](#) at 2011-01-10 19:19:40**
(no subject)

We were expected to get through the queue. We had a duty to do so, and we didn't live up to it.

I swear, sometimes Weasley disorganisation absolutely infuriates me.



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at 2011-01-10 19:20:32**
I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Who says that delay wasn't carefully organised?

Prat.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-11 05:14:59](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Well, he's not likely to admit that in public even if he knows.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-10 19:23:09](#)
(no subject)

Oh, dear, Percy. I am sorry you're still cross about it, but there was that Floo call that went on a bit longer than I expected, and...well, nobody can doubt that we were in the queue. We signed the book and everything. Of course no one will hold it against us if we didn't have enough time.

Really, no one could have foreseen what happened with the goats.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-10 23:27:59](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Ha!

Y'know, I really thought maybe we hadn't done enough to slow things down. When we first got there, I mean, and it looked like the queue wasn't so long as everyone had said.

But then, who knew the queue wrapped all the way round the building like it did? Or that it wound around so many times once you'd got inside that first big room? That was the lucky bit. Otherwise, all the goats in Devon wouldn't have been enough.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-11 05:15:43](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

What happened with the goats, exactly?

And who made it happen?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-11 14:20:56](#)

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

Oh. It was the twins' idea, really.

So they should tell you. I just sort of pitched

in.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-10 21:06:12](#)

(no subject)

One would think that after so many years you'd be used to it, dear.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-10 21:06:36](#)

(no subject)

At least I was able to buy a post card.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-10 21:07:33](#)

(no subject)

A post card? Somehow we missed those.

Yes, that's a souvenir to treasure.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-10 21:11:11](#)

(no subject)

For your information, it's a post card of the Lord Protector, and it shows the ceremony, when the case was unveiled.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-10 21:13:11](#)

Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Have you both taken leave of your senses? Do you want doubts to arise about our family's

loyalty? For Merlin's sake, watch what you say in the journals.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-10 21:15:02](#)
(no subject)

Well...yes. There is that.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-10 21:18:09](#)
Private message to Molly Weasley

Oh, about Luna. I was going to mention it when I sent my usual letter this week, but I've heard she ran into a spot of trouble on the train and got hexed. Some other girls being spiteful, I'm afraid.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-10 21:19:00](#)
Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Oh, dear. Hexed how? Is she all right? Have you seen her?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-10 21:22:20](#)
Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

I heard about it from Penny.

The hex made her lips swell up enormously, like sausages. It didn't seem to bother her much, according to Penny. She went off to dinner that way when she got off the train, serene as ever.

Madam Pomfrey must have sorted her out eventually, I presume.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2011-01-10 21:24:12](#)**

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Oh my goodness.

I swear, sometimes I think there isn't anything as nasty or spiteful as a teenage girl.

Did Penny know why it happened, what prompted it, I mean? Luna didn't mention anything on Friday about having any troubles with anyone.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2011-01-10 22:06:55](#)**

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Don't know. I'll ask Penny about it, next time I see her. Perhaps she's heard something more about it by now.

2011-01-10 20:05:00

(no subject)

Mondays, ugh.

I had a pretty good hol, except that I accidentally left my journal on the bed here in the dormitory. Sorry, Whitacre, I really wasn't ignoring you! So I've got a load of catching up to do but it won't be right away.



 **alt_michael**

Bitsy's got a small army of those Sing-Ami things. I brought home the one she sent me and it taught the other ones all the rude lyrics that Capper gave it.

We went to see the traitor, of course, and we ran into Tamblyn and Begy as well. Mum let me go with them to get snacks while she and ~~my step~~ Dad stayed in the queue. Bitsy wanted to come too, so we brought her and Tamblyn bought her a lolly. I think she's decided he's her favourite person ever. She even drew a picture when we got home of all of us looking through the glass and she put Tamblyn in it, too. When I asked her why she put him in she said because she was going to marry him!

I guess I'm missing home a little now that we're back. I mean, I'm looking forward to YPL this term, and Sons of Wizardry. Master Gibbon is wiz-cool. I dunno about Divination, though. Palms? All I could tell about Hopkins' palm was that it was sweaty. And I'd forgot Professor Carrow would be back in Transfiguration. I guess I didn't do so well on that essay we had just before hols. I couldn't really get the right flick to make my bucket into a bird. Anyone care to practice a little before Thursday's lesson?



 **alt_ron** at **2011-01-11 03:24:26**

(no subject)

I'll practice with you if you want. We spent a lot of time practicing different transfigurations while we were home. Shoes into hedgehogs, for instance, but I can do the bucket into bird one, too. And I bet it wouldn't be hard to show you.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2011-01-11 14:34:25](#)
(no subject)

Oh, er, cheers, Weasley. But Carmichael already helped with it, and Moon. I guess it's easier to revise within your own House, innit.

[2011-01-10 22:48:00](#)

I have felt cold all day

And I STILL feel cold.

Are they not heating the castle as much as they used to? I think of the Slytherin common room as about the cosiest spot in the world, and I was cold there, too.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-11 04:59:09](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Are you still up too, then?

You could come over for a sleep-over if you'd like. Pye is warm, and we can double on blankets.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-01-11 05:13:26](#)**

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

Yeah, I haven't really felt sleepy even though I'm tired.

I'll be right over. Sebastian cuddles but he keeps, like, one ear at a time warm.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-11 05:17:08](#)**

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

Haha, I figured as much. Pye is a fantastic foot-warmer.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-11 14:31:56](#)**

(no subject)

Yeah, I agree. It's bloody freezing here!

I don't think it was this bad before hols.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2011-01-11 14:36:50](#)
(no subject)

How can a dungeon be cosy?

Our common room's right cheery and it's warm enough.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-11 17:26:38](#)
(no subject)

Do you picture the Slytherin common room all dingy and dark and miserable? It's much less draughty than most of the castle, actually, and there are rugs and fireplaces and lovely places to sit and it nearly always smells of things like tea and toast.

What Weasley said about the Dementors makes sense, I've been feeling cold even right next to the fire.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-11 15:43:48](#)
(no subject)

I know just what you mean. I'm wearing two of my uniform jumpers today. I just can't stop shivering.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-11 15:45:42](#)
(no subject)

Many of the students are finding the return to Hogwarts, with its proximity to the Dementors, a tad bit challenging.

Hot chocolate is available at breakfast, and it will certainly help fight both the sensation of cold and the emotional effects.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-11 17:27:01](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Well that makes sense.

I had hot chocolate with breakfast and it helped some, thank you.

2011-01-11 10:31:00

Order Only

I've been thinking of you, Sirius, and your decision to give Hagrid some of your warm gear. Are you all right, still? We can't help but notice that the Dementors have responded to the return migration of our children by pressing closer and closer to the school again. Is this affecting you, as well? Surely there's no real need for you to remain here with the weather so cold and those bloody things freezing the marrow in our bones.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Things here are just as you'd expect: I'm up to my haunches in homesickness, sleeplessness, and the dire dumps. There are the usual January cases of frostbite, breathing difficulties, and other complications from the cold--last night, the tears were practically freezing on children's cheeks. Pile on top the Dementors' pernicious multiplying effect: children come in shaking and chattering with anxiety; they don't eat properly and then have no inner fuel to maintain their body temperature; they pace their dormitories because they cannot sleep and wind up chilled to the core.

Returning to school after the excitement of the holidays dampens everyone's spirits. We don't need the guards of Azkaban lurking about to make us all feel blue and snappish, so naturally I'm seeing an appalling number of hex injuries and not a few Muggle-style bruising.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2011-01-12 00:52:05**
(no subject)

I'm well enough, Poppy. Spending more time as Padfoot, but that's not just because of the cold. It's easier to pass the time.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2011-01-12 02:22:19**
(no subject)

Sounds as though you might be feeling a bit blue, yourself.

I'm sorry if that's the case.

2011-01-12 13:17:00

Private Message to Shivani Johns and Sarah Yaxley



 [alt_lana](#)

I'm really sorry, but I'm not going to be able to make it for supper tonight. Vani, I can't believe you've got a night off, and I can't get free to meet up! I can't say anything much about it, but I got a really plum assignment this morning. Out of town. ('Ipswich', you know!) So I won't be back.

Oh. If you haven't seen it, you should get a copy of *Londinarium* before it sells out. It's got a piece about the New Year's fest, and it mentions your display, Sarah! There's a spread of pictures from Diarmid McCulloch's nuptials, too--some really amazing photos of him! Does he really think it will last with Dymphna Calhoun, though? Imagine. She must have had forty lovers in the last two years. Oh, and Sarah: it looked like there was an interesting bit about the Protector's War in an article on the Campbell-Parkinson wedding. I don't know whether your father's mentioned or not: I haven't got all the way through the article yet, and I won't have a chance while I'm out here.

Anywiz, I'm really sorry not to make it tonight. Have a great time without me, and choose a date for next time. I promise- well, of course, I can't promise, really, but I'll do everything I can to make it then!

[2011-01-12 14:00:00](#)

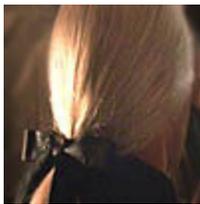
Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

I was tied up this morning or I'd have seen this sooner. Have either of you seen the newest edition of *Londinarium*? Specifically the piece on the Campbell wedding.

Lucius: can you verify that the information about Parkinson was authorised by someone? If not, I'll be happy to bring Bobolis in for a conversation about his sources and his presentation of the facts. More if you think it necessary.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-12 20:30:21](#)
(no subject)

Haven't seen it, why? I can send Hooper for a copy if needed.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-12 20:36:23](#)
(no subject)

I'd advise it.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-12 20:48:27](#)
(no subject)

Bobolis wasn't at the wedding, though. He must have spoken to Campbell or to Rosa about including it in his article.

I would hazard that Rosa must have been the one to provide details, in that case.

Your morning must have been diverting if it kept you from your periodicals.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-12 21:04:04](#)
(no subject)

Well, yes. Rosa is undoubtedly one of the sources: she seems to have provided generous documentation of her nuptials and honeymoon with Campbell, as well as a deal of material about her past. It's the latter for which there ought to have been authorisation and corroborating sources.

My morning was replete with challenge and reward. Most satisfying, in fact.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-12 22:02:52](#)
(no subject)

Good! It seems you're getting your wish for a return to discipline and self-motivation in the new year, then.

I've more information about the article. Ygraine had a copy, of course; Bobolis sent it with his regards. She let me read the note. He thanks Claudius for his 'invaluable contributions' and promises to spend more time at a later date on Claudius' well-documented rôle in the Midlands Campaign. Ygraine predicted he would be in quite a mood when he reads the article, since he evidently thought it would glorify him rather than focus on poor Tony.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-12 22:12:11](#)
(no subject)

It's not only self-motivation, but yes. Quite.

I suspect that Bobolis will find several less than pleased with his angle of presentation.

You haven't read the whole piece, then? I think, really, you should. At your earliest opportunity.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-12 22:17:44](#)
(no subject)

Indeed.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-12 22:36:32](#)
(no subject)

You've taken the opportunity, then?

Is it your view that MLE should pursue the matter?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-12 23:19:32](#)
(no subject)

Much as I would like to see him thrashed, no. Aside from Narcissa's information, I've confirmed that he also spoke with Alecto. Also, looking it over more closely, everything in the article is either a matter of public record from the tribunals or can be corroborated by Alecto and Claudius' testimony. There's no slander; just a taste for sensationalism.

Have you seen Yaxley? Suspect he will not be best pleased, as Narcissa reports, and not only because his part in the battle was downplayed in favour of Tony's tragedy.

I am most perturbed by the intimation that I declined to be interviewed, when his request was vague and misleading at best. I've got Hooper tracking him down now and I fully intend to impress upon them both the importance of clarity when requesting an audience or a comment.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-12 23:25:13](#)
(no subject)

Carrow.

Ah.

Well, then. If none of it was unauthorised or misrepresented, I

suppose you are right and he's stayed just his side of the journalistic line once again. He does skirt it dangerously. And infuriatingly.

We'll forgo the entertainment, then.

Shame.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2011-01-12 23:34:48**

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

If you like, you're welcome to come along to St James' while I ... discuss with him his tendency to take liberties.

Or we could leave off the additional threat your presence would doubtless communicate and wait for him to over-step himself. Certain he will, one of these days.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#) at 2011-01-12 23:53:34**

Re: Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

Doubtless you're right.

As I've told Narcissa, it's gracious of you to spare him the additional threat. This time.



 **[alt_narcissa](#) at 2011-01-12 23:38:06**

(no subject)

Really, I'm not at all sure what you're so fussed about, Barty. Perhaps it's a bit heavy on the rhetoric but there's nothing objectionable. Rosa making a fool of herself; that's neither new nor

our concern.

Unless I missed something that has you particularly upset?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-12 23:52:50](#)

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

It seemed to me that the account of Parkinson's death not only put Lucius in an awkward light, it hinted that Parkinson had been both unwise in allowing himself to be lured into a trap and not entirely effectual in his fight, however unfair the odds. Meanwhile, certain others appeared to far better advantage (which makes a good deal more sense now we've gathered who provided Bobolis with his information).

I agree that it is a loyal account, on the whole, but you'll forgive my thinking that Lucius might take particular exception to some aspects of it.

As it is, he's graciously agreed to attend to the matter privately and not subject Mr Bobolis to official scrutiny. This time.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-13 00:22:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I think you'll find that if Lucius objects, he is perfectly capable of taking it up with Ganymede himself. And of making the danger of crossing him well understood.

And if my husband finds himself in an awkward position with regard to Tony --

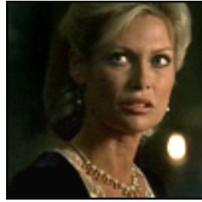
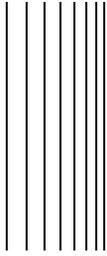
Well. I'm sure he's grateful you pointed it out to him.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-13 00:32:27](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

If he chooses to be annoyed instead, of course, that's his prerogative.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-13 00:40:56](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

You're kinder than I, dear. I would say it's his own lookout. But then, it's an old disagreement of ours, nothing to trouble you.

2011-01-12 15:42:00

Private Message to Horatio Hooper

This month's issue of the *Londinarium* came out to-day. Kindly go and pick up a copy.

When Bobolis asked for time, did you happen to verify what he wanted? Thought it was Kensington; seems that was incorrect. In future you would do well to obtain complete information before determining whether one could entertain the request or no.



 **alt_lucius**

2011-01-12 17:18:00

Private message to Pansy Parkinson



Little Bit,

I've no time to use owls, even Valerian, or your stationery parchment. There's something you need to know.

 [alt_lucius](#)

Your mother allowed Ganymede Bobolis to run an article about her wedding and honeymoon, but as is so often the case with him, he used the material as an opening to write about her previous husband as well. It goes rather into detail, particularly about his death at the Battle of Leicester. Most of the story you know, but - well, there are things I had rather you were spared until you wanted to know about them.

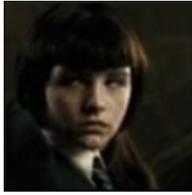
I doubt many of your schoolmates already have the piece. However, surely within the next day or two you will have access to it and the news will circulate. I will deal with Bobolis; you, however, must shoulder the consequences of his revelations. The article cannot help but garner you some notoriety.

I leave it to you whether you would prefer to read it so you know what is being said, or shield yourself behind the defence of not having seen it first-hand. You should know that he was clever enough to toe the line concerning you and there is little to no mention of you directly. I assume he thought by so doing he would not incur my displeasure, a miscalculation I shall soon correct. Had I known his intentions I should have advised him against his course.

Nonetheless, what is done cannot be undone, only addressed as best we can. To that end, I must go for now, but I am here if you need me and I am, as ever,

Your servant,

Lucius



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-13 01:06:24](#)
(no subject)

Thank you for letting me know, Lucius.

I read this earlier, but I didn't quite know what to say.

I guess I still don't. But I thought you should know that I'd gotten your message.

Everyone else will read it at school, and it's not right that they'd know more about my own father's death than I do. I'd rather hear it from you than read it in a magazine, though, because that's not right either.

What does it say?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-13 01:26:34](#)
(no subject)

~~You want me to~~ Yes, well.

As I said, it spends a great deal of column-inch telling the, er, *intimate* details of the Battle of Leicester. You know that your father was separated from the main force and fell victim to an explosion.

What you do not know ... What I never wanted to tell you, until you were ready ... is that the blast did not kill him right away. He was not in pain - the Healers saw to that - but it was ... some time ... before the end.

The article also lists several of the others involved in the Battle and I think you will be ... surprised to see some familiar names.

What more do you wish to know?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-13 01:35:56](#)
(no subject)

oh.

oh.

how long is some time?

and are there any photos of it in the magazine?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-01-13 01:46:50](#)**
(no subject)

Photographs of - Merlin, no. No, though there are some photographs of your father and Mr Baddock and myself in our salad days.

As to how long, I'm still not completely certain. By our best estimates, about three hours. It was over an hour before the fighting ended and we could police the area for the wounded, you see. From then, it was at least another two hours or so before he

I've already made it clear to Bobolis that the article was a mistake on his part, at least the sensational way in which he shone a spotlight on your father's tragedy. This is not the way you should be learning of it, Little Bit. He was a hero and a loyal servant to Our Lord. Remember that.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-13 01:58:48](#)**
(no subject)

I see.

and I will. remember.

2011-01-12 18:40:00

(no subject)



 [alt_penelope](#)

That was one of the more entertaining prefects' meetings so far this year. I suppose it's bound to happen when the term's just started and there's not much for us to do.

Just a few things for you lot in Ravenclaw to remember:

1. This is a school, not a duelling camp. Usual rules about magic in the corridors apply. If you're practising in the common room, please be sure not to hit any bystanders. Er. By-sitters. You know what I mean.
2. Please remember that curfew is still 9:00.
3. The bathrooms are common space. Clear up your personal items when you're done. I shan't call anyone out but you know who you are. Lucky you don't get your shampoo transfigured into marmalade or something (and please *don't* take that as a suggestion, any of you!!).
4. Remember that try-outs for the play are this Friday. Everyone's welcome. YPL meetings and such will resume shortly and look for the announcements on the bulletin boards in the common room.
5. The Prefects have already noted slightly higher incidents of homesickness compared to previous terms. We've got chocolate and we're making sure all the common room fires are being kept toasty, which should help dispel the effects of the Azkaban guards. If you're feeling particularly down, come see us or the matron. We're also giving some practical lessons on the Patronus charm - next week, I think (isn't it, Weasley?). Well, there will be a notice when we've booked it.

Oh, and Pennifold, I'm nearly done with the article if you want to read it next. I guess you'll have to go a little more careful now you've got an heiress to look after and all!

2011-01-12 21:00:00

Private Message to Melinda Pennifold

Melinda.

I saw from Clearwater that you're getting a copy of that magazine that has an article in it that has things written about my father in it. Lucius told me some, but I'd like to read it for myself if you could hand it over. I'll be quick, and I'll give it right back to you once I'm done.

I'd really appreciate it.

Thanks.



 [alt_pansy](#)

[2011-01-13 14:38:00](#)

(no subject)

Bloody Erebus, Longbottom. It never stops for you, does it?



Surprised you could show your face in lessons today. Guess that's really why you're in Gryffindor, innit? Parents like that, you'd have to be well courageous just to get out of bed of a morning.

 **[alt_zacharias](#)**



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-13 21:09:56](#)**

(no subject)

Shut it, Smith.



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2011-01-13 22:56:03](#)**

(no subject)

There's a surprise.

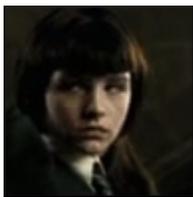


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-13 21:12:46](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

What's he on about?

People've been giving Nev the evil eye all day.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-14 16:02:41](#)**

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

Sorry. I put up the journal yesterday.

Have you read the article yet?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-14 16:31:27](#)

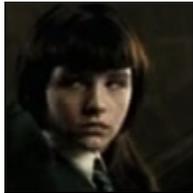
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yes.

I guess it kind of makes it more real. What happened to your dad. Knowing more details about it, I mean.

Not sure what to say about the rest of it. I mean about what they were fighting about at Leeds or Leicester or wherever it was.

But you knew most of it already, didn't you?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 17:32:21](#)

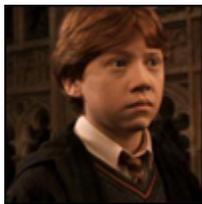
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I knew that he'd died at Leicester, in an explosion, while he was fighting.

I didn't know

I thought he'd died right away.

And I didn't know the names of the people in the fight. The ones that killed him. Moody and Shackbolt.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-14 22:17:38](#)

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

And, yeah.

I'm really sorry, you know.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 22:02:28](#)

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

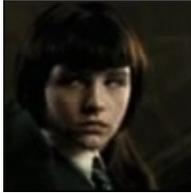
can we go for a walk and chuck things in the lake after dinner?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-14 22:17:04](#)

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

Yeah, totally.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 22:29:43](#)

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

thanks fishface.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-14 15:26:36](#)

(no subject)

As far as I'm concerned, they gave up the right to be called my parents.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-14 15:37:42](#)

(no subject)

Glad to see you're being sensible, Longbottom.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-14 20:09:02](#)

ORDER ONLY

Oh, my dear, sweet, lovely boy. I'm so very sorry.

[2011-01-14 09:12:00](#)

The article

Yes, I've read it. So everyone can stop asking me or hinting about it, all right?



 [alt_neville](#)

No, I'm not going to tell you how I 'feel about my mum' now. I don't owe anybody any explanations. And anyway, I don't have a mum. I just have my Gran.

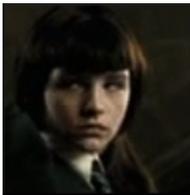


 [alt_neville](#) at **[2011-01-14 15:23:28](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Parkinson...blimey. I just don't know what to say. If you ~~We could~~ You know I don't

Guess I'll see you in Charms today. Maybe I'll think of something to say by then.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2011-01-14 15:27:41](#)**

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

I don't know what to do either.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **[2011-01-14 15:44:26](#)**

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

It's a tough thing for both of you, right enough.

Our brother Bill works in the department of Wizarding Communication, and he sometimes talk to us about his job and about how it involves public relations. Maybe that's what you both need right now.

Nev's in the worse position here, really, because...well, it's obvious, isn't it? But you're the one who can help him the most, Parkinson. If you are seen to be talking to him, as friendly as ever, then others will follow your lead.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 15:51:41](#)

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

His mum wasn't the one that actually
you know

that's something.

And you're right of course you're right. I am just not feeling very friendly right now.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 15:55:51](#)

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

That came out all wrong.

I hate this.

It's not *your* fault, Longbotom, and I do know that. It's not even really your mum's fault.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-14 15:57:19](#)

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

I hate it, too.

[2011-01-14 09:43:00](#)

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Bobolis gave me a copy of the *Londinarium* because there's a photograph of your mum in the robes she bought from mine.

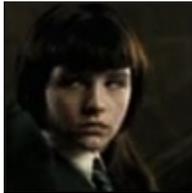


 **[alt_padma](#)**

And I read the article.

Are you okay? It's really horrible, how your dad died. I'm sorry.

Are you going to try out for the play? I think if you wanted, you could maybe ask Karoline if you could audition later, you know, when you're in a better frame of mind.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-14 15:38:35](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. It is horrible.

I didn't

They didn't tell me everything when I was little, you know? Just a "he died in an explosion while fighting" but now I guess get to read all about it in a stupid magazine, right?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-15 00:17:22](#)**
(no subject)

And thanks for saying about the play. I don't think I'll go for it, it just wouldn't feel right. But I guess I can help out with the music or something.

Your mum's dress really did look great. And it got credited in the photo. Which is something.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-15 00:17:36](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, and if you could do me a favour, Patil, I'd appreciate it if you'd tell Bobolis for me that I'm not hacked off at her or anything just because she's related to that editor.

[2011-01-14 13:02:00](#)

(no subject)



 [alt_pansy](#)

The article in the *Londonarium* was a piece of sensationalist trash. The death of my father was awful enough without the details being exploited for a cheap bit of sentiment and to make a few galleons. There were details that I didn't even know, because the people that cared about me thought they would be too horrible for me to hear. Well, I know about them now, and so does everyone else too. It's not right that a daughter should read about her father's last moments for the very first time in a magazine. It's not right that someone should *exploit* his last moments. He doesn't deserve that. I hope that Ganymede Bobolis realises just how very angry I am. He ought to be ashamed.

When I got the key to my family vault, one of the things in it was my father's ring. I put it on a gold chain and I've been wearing it ever since, because I thought it would be nice to have a remembrance of him close by, and to honour him. He was a hero who sacrificed his life so that I would have a better future. I am proud to be his daughter, and I hope that he would be proud of me too.

Longbottom's mother fought against my father. She wasn't the one that killed him, but she was there, and is a blood traitor that deserves whatever she has coming to her. But I want to make this very clear -- I don't blame Longbottom for the actions of his parents. I'm not a hero because of my father. Longbottom's not a blood traitor because of his parents. We can both look at what our parents have done and learn from it about the sorts of people we want to be. I believe that he deserves a chance, and that my father fought for the right of all witches and wizards to have a better life, including him. And that's honestly all I'm going to say on the matter.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 20:01:32](#)

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I just had to say *something*, Lucius.

I was just so angry.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-14 20:42:32](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Invariably that is when it is better to do nothing.

I've been in Court, Little Bit, and only just seen this -

Give me a moment and I shall -



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-14 21:17:49](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I have issued a statement to remove pressure from you, Little Bit.

For Merlin's sake, keep to your declaration and say nothing more.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 21:20:15](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Thank you, Lucius.

I'm sorry. I ought to have run it by you first.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-14 21:30:33](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Yes, in future. And if not myself, Mr Baddock.

No harm done. But -

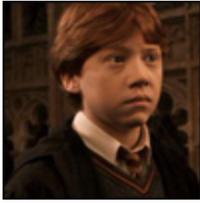
Blast. Excuse me.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 20:01:56](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

there. that's done.

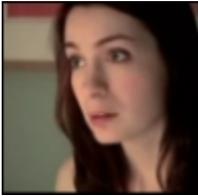


 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-14 22:19:14](#)

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

Good on you.

He'd no right, publishing that rubbish.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-14 20:04:00](#)

ORDER ONLY

Does anyone read the *Londonarium*?

Oh dear.

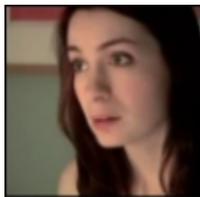


 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-14 20:05:18](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

bastards didn't even wait for a week after the term started.

which fight is the story about, do you remember?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-14 20:06:52](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Leicester. I think.

Leicester was bloody awful.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-14 20:20:58](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

from what I'm reading so far it could be a good deal worse

she could do any number of things to make life hard for our boy, but she hasn't, least not that we can see.

and they could have pinned it on you outright like when they said you killed emmy, but doesn't look like they fingered you for this one.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-14 20:24:50](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Did you see what he wrote?

It's breaking my heart that he has to say those awful things, and I know he doesn't believe it, not for a minute, and it must hurt him to write it just as badly as it hurts me to read it, but oh my goodness, Frank.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-14 20:28:12](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

where are you?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-14 20:28:37](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

The greenhouses.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-14 20:29:02](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

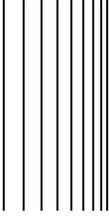
be there soon love.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-14 20:39:43](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

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



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-14 20:42:26](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

like I said earlier, molly, could be a good deal worse.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-14 20:11:12](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

Alice and Frank, I'm so sorry. I would have liked to have been able to give you a warning, but I was tied up in meetings all day yesterday and didn't know about the article until today. I've gotten a copy and am skimming it now. Hang on.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-14 20:14:36](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

Don't worry about it, Bill. I'm sure now that we're newsworthy again, we've got to expect this sort of thing cropping up.

Just let us know what you find out.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-14 20:22:29](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

The organising principal is the whole issue is about the big weddings of the year just ended. In the middle of a puff piece about Rosa and Prospero's wedding, new beginnings for the widow with the tragic past, etcetera, there's a side article that goes into the heroic death of her first husband.

...

Oh, what rot.

A group of brave warlocks, including Mr Lucius Malfoy, Mr Claudius Yaxley, Mr Thorfinn Rowle, Ms Alecto Carrow and Mr Anthony Parkinson, were engaged in suppressing widespread resistance fighting in Leicester, Northamptonshire, and East

Midlands. The resistance unit was led by Mad-Eye, along with several of his former students, all of whom had escaped when the corrupt Ministry fell. The known fugitives Alice Longbottom and Kingsley Shacklebolt were among them. Apparently you lot separated a few of the warlocks and lured them to an area replete with ruins. The warlocks found themselves beset by a number of spells which Moody had laid in advance of the attack. Moody and Shacklebolt triggered numerous explosions. One of these caused a castle wall, to topple, trapping its victim underneath before he had time to Apparate away. Parkinson's spine was crushed by the blow. He bravely continued to attempt spells in self-defence but was rendered helpless when Moody snapped his wand and left him to die, still pinned under the rock.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-14 20:26:19](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Next: (I'm summarising here):

'Within minutes, Our Lord's reinforcements arrived and turned the tide of battle. Shacklebolt, Moody, Longbottom and their minions retreated into the forest nearby and escaped, despite pursuit.'

And then...

Ms Carrow, Mr Malfoy and several others remained with the main force to finish putting down the muggle hordes and bring Leicester firmly under the Lord Protector's control. It is reported that due to the severity of the blast, Mr Malfoy had initially thought Mr Parkinson killed outright. Mr Malfoy declined to be interviewed, but according to accounts of the incident, he was seen duelling Moody himself, and is believed to have injured his unworthy opponent, as well as single-handedly subduing over two-score muggles in his vengeance....



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-01-14 20:26:55](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Now there's heroism for you.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-14 20:29:08](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Indeed. It then goes on:

'However, when searching the field over an hour later, after the end of battle, Mr Malfoy discovered to his great horror that Parkinson was still struggling for breath and fading in and out of consciousness. Healers were immediately dispatched to assist him; they quickly determined that due to the wizard's grievous injuries, he could not be moved. They endeavoured instead to help make his final minutes comfortable and free of pain. Mr Parkinson told his Healers he did not wish his wife to be summoned, not wanting her to see him in such a state. He died nearly three hours after the initial explosion. Witnesses say that Mr Malfoy did not leave his side. Mrs Campbell told the Londinarium that Mr Malfoy came himself to inform her and present her and her young daughter, Pansy, with the recovered pieces of his wand. Mr Malfoy, of course, was and remains Miss Parkinson's god-father, as well, and has exhibited the utmost responsibility toward his duties in the place of his fallen comrade.'

So that's the gist of it. You're a cowardly lot who fight dirty, apparently. Unlike your noble opponents.

I'll send an owl to Ron, if you like, try to find out from him how Neville and Evelyn are doing.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-14 20:30:23](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

thanks man

much appreciated.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-14 20:44:05](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY

Well, it's the least that I can do.

I'm really sorry, Frank. I hate like poison

getting blind-sided by this. I need to cultivate some new sources, obviously.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-01-14 20:49:49](#)**

Re: ORDER ONLY

I was in another area altogether. I remember hearing the explosion, of course, and Moody saying after that a Death Eater had been killed. It was all so...

It was all so sudden, one minute fighting alongside someone, the next instant seeing them

I haven't thought about Leicester in a long time.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-01-14 21:09:31](#)**

(no subject)

Thanks, Parkinson. I--

Thanks.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-14 21:50:52](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

if anyone hexes you over this, you be sure to let me know.



 **[alt_amycus](#)** at **[2011-01-14 21:13:29](#)**

(no subject)

Quite the naff duellist, your father was. Such a thing to take pride in!



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2011-01-14 21:16:51](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Eat muck.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 21:25:51](#)

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

I think he's being sarcastic.

I don't really care one way or the other.

Was that enough, you think?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-14 21:31:32](#)

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

Well, we think you did a bang up job. But then we're Gryffindors, and we're not especially known for subtlety. What does Perks think?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 21:34:19](#)

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

She helped me write it. We must have gone through ten drafts. The first one was a lot more screamy.

It was her idea to call it sensationalist trash.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-14 21:47:07](#)

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

Well done, Perks. We'll call upon you any time we need to make a statement to the press.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-14 22:35:16](#)

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

All Gryffindors should employ press secretaries. That way you'd have someone to be tactful for you. Actually your whole House could use a Public Relations department.

It probably would have been more tactful to let Mr Malfoy see it first but Pansy didn't want to wait. Things are difficult enough for Neville right now as it is, and you had a good point

about how Pansy was the one in the best position to say something.



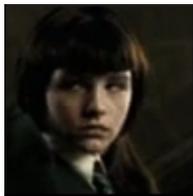
 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-14 21:54:44](#)

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

I read it, too. The Headmistress sent me back to the staff room to fetch her tartan shawl, and the magazine was on one of the tables, so I nicked it and read it this morning.

And I've been thinking, and remembering something I overheard once...it might not even be true anyway. I remember Master's sister talking to Master about that night, once when they were talking in his quarters a couple of years ago. I just put what they said that night together with what I read in the article. She was talking about how she took out a wall, trying to get at that bloke, Mad-Eye Moody. And then later on she made some comment about how 'Tony' was always so slow. She must have meant your dad, right, Parkinson?

But if that's so, then she's the one who made the wall collapse on your dad. And what she meant was that he was too slow to get out of the way in time.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-14 22:12:01](#)

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

...what?

I don't

that's just

this is all a bit much right now.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-14 22:25:37](#)

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

Are you sure about that?

I mean, you said yourself it was a long time ago you heard whatever you heard. And-

It's just, I mean, right now-

Really?

Miss Professor Carrow said that?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-15 00:04:50](#)

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

If you overheard correctly, that certainly changes what I think about Alecto Carrow.

But it doesn't change what I wrote about my father. At all.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-14 21:16:58](#)

(no subject)

Have a care, Carrow.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-14 21:18:58](#)

(no subject)

Oh, you know very well how much care I can take when I bother to do my very best.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-14 21:25:23](#)

Order Only

Oh, go on and keep twitting him, Carrow. With a little luck, you'll piss off Malfoy enough that he'll finally take care of ridding the school of you once and for all.



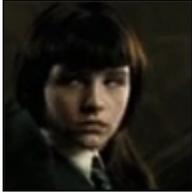
 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-14 22:17:37](#)

Private message to Pansy

Pansy, I'm sorry about that article, I really am. They oughtn't have written it. Your Father being a hero is something to be proud of though...at least there's that?

Look, I know you make a fair point about Longbottom, and I might

agree except that I know what I saw at the beginning of the year when he was taking the mickey on the Razzer, and he's got another side to him, he really does. You should be careful about trusting him.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2011-01-14 22:48:38**

Re: Private message to Pansy

Draco,

I really, really appreciate what you're trying to do. And it's not that I don't think you shouldn't feel the way that you do... but I really am not up for this sort of talk today.

I'm just worn out. I need

Well, I really just need you to be my friend right now.



 **[alt_draco](#) at 2011-01-14 22:51:20**

Re: Private message to Pansy

What if I told you

All right, Pansy. I'm around tonight if you need anything.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2011-01-15 00:06:32**

Re: Private message to Pansy

Thank you, Draco.

That matters a great deal to me.

If you're up for some guitar, I'd like very much to hear some of your music.



 **[alt_draco](#) at 2011-01-15 03:57:39**

Re: Private message to Pansy

Sure, come find me whenever you're up for it. And don't forget your guitar!

2011-01-14 15:45:00

Miss Parkinson's Statement

In follow-up to Miss Parkinson's emotional but well-conceived statement regarding this month's *Londinarium*, I would remind the wizards and witches of the press that she is not yet of age. Any requests for further comment should come through her legal counsel, to wit: Mr Aristotle Baddock.



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_lucius](#)

I should also like to state that while I find no obvious inaccuracies in Mr Bobolis' account, the inclusion of such intimate details in such a bald manner indicate a desire to over-step the line of journalistic objectivity in favour of titillation. Nor is this the first time he has shown a taste for stories that skirt the sensational. It is perhaps fitting that his anniversary issue should contain the same kind of scurrilous content as his inaugural one, more suited to the tabloid than the gentrified periodical he claims to publish. But he and I have already discussed his liberties at length, as well as the duplicitous manner in which he avoided gaining my input.

Finally, it should go without saying that I shall be very displeased with anyone foolish enough to provoke further public commentary or any kind of spectacle concerning Miss Parkinson's past or present - including that accomplished by disturbing or dishonouring her father's memory. I trust you will all consider carefully your actions in that regard.

[2011-01-15 21:53:00](#)

School play!

Does anyone know when we're going to find out what if we got roles in "The Fall of the Ministry?"



 [alt_seamus](#)



 [alt_padma](#) at **[2011-01-16 05:52:13](#)**
(no subject)

It's the *Liberation* of the Ministry, Seamus! 'Fall' was Karoline's working title.

And she said she was surprised at the number of people who auditioned, so she thinks it's going to take a couple of days. I actually heard her and some of the YPL counselors working on the casting decisions earlier tonight. I think it'll be Monday, probably.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **[2011-01-17 01:53:47](#)**
(no subject)

Oh Merlin, of course I meant liberation! I heard her talking about it when she was writing it, though so it stuck in my head.



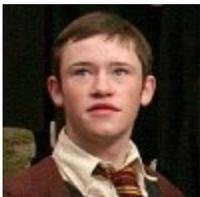
 [alt_padma](#) at **[2011-01-16 06:05:56](#)**
Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

But I'm glad you asked about that because at least it'll give everyone something else to chatter about besides that article about Parkinson's father. Really, it's so horrid. Trapped under a huge boulder for hours? And to have to read about it in a magazine - of course, I think she'd be quite right to be well upset with her mother for never telling her, or even Mr Malfoy - except I don't know if it's in her to be well upset with Mr Malfoy, I mean, that's...well, I guess if she were really, really hurt it wouldn't matter that he's *Mr Malfoy*, would it? but you know what I mean, right? I saw someone's journal saying it wasn't Bobolis' fault for not knowing she had no clue how her dad died, and I guess it's reasonable that he couldn't have known, but really, he talked to her mum; it stands to reason he should have asked if he could print

that awful story without disturbing Parkinson like that. Don't you think?

Anyway. Karoline says that loads more people tried out for the play than she was planning, and a bunch of them were older students, who aren't even in the YPL, so she had to go and ask Professor Sinistra if she ought to cast them anyways or if she should tell them to scarper off because they're not really in the programme. So I guess they have to decide. But I sort of hope they tell the older students to get their own project if they want one, because then we'll all get better parts, right? I mean, have you seen what she's got written for Auror Crouch? It's brill. And there's a really amazing scene between Mr Baddock and his first wife. I rather wonder what Ptolemy has said about that, though. It's sort of like Parkinson's problem, reliving her dad's death. Only in his case I think he knows all about it already so maybe he actually told Karoline all about how it happened, and he's okay with her putting it in.

But yeah, I think maybe Monday. Maybe sooner, if she can figure it out before then.



 **alt_seamus** at **2011-01-17 02:15:11**
Re: Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

Yeah, it's really awful. Though I don't think she ever knew him, right? So it was her father but in some ways it was like hearing about something horrible happening to a stranger. But Mr Malfoy was involved, or at least he was there, and she DOES know him really well.

I heard that about the older students. Figures they'd horn in and ruin it, we're not going to get nearly as good roles as we would if we were only competing with people our own age. I was hoping to get a good part but I'll be lucky to have any lines at all.



 **alt_seamus** at **2011-01-17 02:24:06**
Re: Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

Did you see Ginny Weasley had turned her hair black? I heard she was trying out for the part of Bellatrix Lestrange. I don't think she'll get it. Even if she weren't a Weasley, she's only a second year and that's

pretty much the best girl's part in the play. Unless you like playing villains, I guess, in which case I guess it might be Alice Longbottom.



 **alt_ernie** at [2011-01-16 18:17:25](#)
(no subject)

Did you try out for that, then? I didn't. With work and everything else, I don't think I'd have time for learning lines too.

It sounds good, though. What part did you go for?



 **alt_seamus** at [2011-01-17 02:21:43](#)
(no subject)

I did try out, for whatever role they'll have me in I guess. They had me read Sirius Black's speech but they had a lot of the boys read it. It's a long speech and he's really evil so it lets them see if you can act at all. Then they had me read with a group and I got to read the part of Cornelius Fudge that time.



 **alt_sirius** at [2011-01-17 04:54:20](#)
Order Only

Liberation of the Ministry? They've got to be joking, right?

I'm guessing it's a farce. Or would be if anyone who was actually there were to read it.



 **alt_poppy** at [2011-01-17 15:40:18](#)
Re: Order Only

I anticipate that it will be tooth-gratingly awful. Be glad you will not be expected to see it.

The only thing that could make it worse would be an announcement that they'll bring the traitor's remains up here to serve as the Epilogue. Fortunately, no one seems to have thought of that yet.

I don't suppose we could be so fortunate as to have a well-timed

outbreak of something nasty--shigellosis or conjunctivitis, perhaps--
to prevent my attending.

[2011-01-16 18:53:00](#)

Private message to Ginny Weasley

Dear Ginny,

I don't believe we are very well acquainted, so I hope you don't mind if I call you Ginny. Only I wanted to let you know how impressive I thought your audition for Karoline's play was. Certainly your audition was the best of the 2nd years, though Luna Lovegood's was certainly not without flair. I thought it also quite bold of you to read the lines for Auror Lestrage since so few people under the age of fifteen did, thinking they had not enough bearing to pull off her impressive and imposing demeanor. The black hair was a brilliant touch, as well. Have you had any acting or dancing lessons before?



 [alt_daphne](#)

I don't know about you, but I'm simply about to burst, waiting around to hear the results of the casting call! I really don't doubt that I'll get a part, and I am quite convinced that you will, too. Did you have a favourite audition? I thought my sister Astoria did well, but she's so slight and small that I can't imagine what role she could secure. Electra Bobolis was quite splendid, but she needn't be so smug about it, don't you think?

Anyway, that's all I wanted to say! I hope you have a lovely evening.

Daphne Greengrass



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-17 05:38:47](#)
(no subject)

Daphne?... Miss Greengrass?,

Yes, you may call me Ginny. I was very surprised by your message, and didn't know how to respond. Please forgive the delay, and thank you for your compliments. No, unfortunately I have never had lessons of any kind. I wish I could have, but being the youngest of seven my parents can't... Anyway I find that much of my acting a dancing abilities come to me naturally. I tend to just dance around or recite in the mirror at home and have always had a thing for imitations.

As far as my audition when I read through the script, I felt if I was going to do it at all I might as well do it properly and try for one of

the most beloved characters.

I, too, cannot wait for them to post the parts. I will be happy to play almost any part as I don't think they would allow 2nd years any major roles. I know you will be a definite pick for the play, you recited ever so well. In fact, I would have to say that your audition was my favourite. I think there is much I could learn from you, or at least from watching you. Your sister did very well too. In my opinion, Bobolis' smugness is a sign of poor showmanship; therefore she is not that great of an actress. Over all, it was a decent turnout for auditions.

I hope your week goes well.

Ginny W.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2011-01-17 06:18:57](#)**
(no subject)

Call me Daphne, of course. I suppose it is rather a rare thing, isn't it, when Slytherins send private messages to Gryffindors out of the blue? But I find it's good to think ahead on these things, because if we both do end up with parts, then it would be nice to have someone to help us learn our lines, yes? I've taken lessons in singing, dancing, and acting from the time I could walk, practically. I'd be happy to share a tip or two with you sometime, though I do agree that you have a natural proclivity toward performance that will be of great help to you when you get your part.

Well, I only hope that Finnigan is right and they post the results tomorrow. I'm going to go down a check first thing before breakfast.



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2011-01-17 06:37:24](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, I guess it is a rare to receive a private message from a Slytherin, though I didn't think on it that way. It is sad that its rare though. But very few Gryffindors know how to act properly. I have been trying hard to curb my temper, so its getting better. I do agree, that it would be nice to have someone to learn lines with, and would be great to work with you. I would love to know if I've made the cut or not. Maybe I will go down early too. It is a stressful situation.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2011-01-17 06:54:43](#)**
(no subject)

I think there are plenty of fine, upstanding Gryffindors, it's just that the ones who aren't so fine tend to really stand out.

Perhaps I'll see you early in the Great Hall, then.

2011-01-17 09:08:00

Cast List; Rehearsals

Hello!

We'll be putting up the cast list notices at lunch, but meanwhile I wanted to post it here for everyone, as well as for the benefit of parents and guardians who may be wondering.

Thank you all for coming out. As we said earlier this week, the response was far better than we imagined and you all made these decisions very difficult for us. Please don't feel discouraged, especially you younger students, if you didn't get the role you wanted! If this project is successful, which I'm sure it will be, there will be many opportunities to come. Also, Kathryn, Karoline and I will be talking to some of you about serving as understudies for some of the larger roles, just in case someone should have to drop out.



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_penelope](#)

As everyone who auditioned knows, I shall be stage managing the production. Please come to me with any questions you have and I'll either answer or direct you to the person in charge, such as the prop-master or costumer, to answer your query.

Before I list the cast (there are rather a lot of you), some announcements:

1. Everyone is expected to commit to the rehearsal schedule and come on time when called. Not everyone will be needed at every rehearsal, but of course, as we get closer to the performance, we will start running whole acts and the whole show and we will need everyone. Bring your homework so you can be working when you're not on stage. Our Professors are aware of your participation, but will not accept play rehearsal as an excuse for late assignments!

2. The first rehearsal will be this Sunday at 2:00 in the large classroom on the 3rd floor, where nearly all our rehearsals will be held. (Any rehearsal not in this location will be marked on the schedule.) Everyone is to attend. We'll hand out the scripts, read through the whole play, talk about the set and other elements, and go over some terminology that may not be familiar to anyone who has never been in a play before. (I know that's most of you, but don't worry. We're all on this journey together!) We'll also hand out the full rehearsal schedule, so you'll know exactly when we need you to come.

But in general, rehearsals will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from the end of lessons at 4:00 until supper at 6:00, and on Sundays from 2-5.

3. The performance will be the Saturday after we return from Easter Holidays. That whole week, you will have to be at rehearsal EVERY NIGHT, starting right after lessons through to curfew. We will break for supper, of course. Also, we may go a little later than curfew some evenings, but as many of us are prefects, we will get everyone back to the common rooms as soon as we can. (Again, 'I was up late rehearsing' will not be an acceptable excuse in class the next day!)

4. Nearly all the YPL counselors have volunteered to help on the production. A few were interested in trying out, so they are not taking on production roles, but the rest of us will be making sure that the show comes off without a hitch. Here are your staff:

Karoline Moon - Director
Kathryn Pyle - Assistant Director
Melinda Pennifold - Duel Choreographer
Penelope Clearwater - Stage Manager
Leonora Jenkins - Costumes
Cedric Diggory - Props
Julius Avery - Set design, Stage Crew
Xi Chang - Set design, Stage Crew
Duncan Urquhart - Lighting
Mary Bletchley - Makeup
Ptolemy Baddock - Dramaturg (meaning he is our historical consultant)

Any members of the YPL who are interested in helping on any of these areas, such as set construction, painting, props, etc., may volunteer at the next YPL meeting, where we'll be talking about all that. I am also looking for an assistant stage manager and we will need a few more crew members to help during the performance.

Now, without further ado, the cast:

Lord Marvolo, *The Lord Protector* - Karoline Moon (Y6)
Bellatrix Lestrange, *a Hero* - Electra Bobolis (Y7)
Rodolphus Lestrange, *a Hero* - Aurelia Archer (Y5)
Lucius Malfoy, *a Hero* - Terrence Higgs (Y5)
Dominic Selwyn, *a Hero* - Vesta Chambers (Y6)

Claudius Yaxley, *a Hero* - Euterpe Bobolis (Y5)
Bartemius Crouch, Jr., *a Hero* - Daphne Greengrass (Y3)
Gaudeamus Avery, *a Hero* - Cassandra Calderwood (Y5)
Aristotle Baddock, *a Hero* - Orion Sandoval (Y7)
Serena Baddock, *his Wife* - Martha Yaxley (Y7)
Anthony Parkinson, *a Hero* - Chastity Derwent (Y6)
Alecto Carrow, *a Hero* - Gemma Bundy (Y6)
Amycus Carrow, *a Hero* - Eric Bundy (Y5)
Rabastan Lestrangle, *a Hero* - Horace Moon (Y4)
Augustus Rookwood, *an Unspeakable* - Lettice Frobisher (Y5)
Pius Thickenesse, *an Interrogator* - Jane Bradley (Y5)
Amelia Bones, *an Auror* - Valerie Dunstan (Y4)
Albus Dumbledore, *a Fool* - Eustace Evan (Y7)
Sirius Black, *a Blood-Traitor* - Harry Marvolo (Y3)
Millicent Bagnold, *Minister for Magic* - Nadine Rohani (Y5)
Alastor 'Mad-Eye' Moody, *a Madman* - Hermes Tamblyn (Y6)
Kingsley Shacklebolt, *a Blood-Traitor* - Blaise Zabini (Y3)
Frank Longbottom, *a Blood-Traitor* - Theseus Cox (Y6)
Alice Longbottom, *his Wife* - Demelza Robins (Y4)
Emmeline Vance, *a Blood-Traitor* - Luna Lovegood (Y2)
Mafalda Hopkirk, *a Patriot* - Belinda Dunstan (Y3)
Rufus Scrimgeour, *a Patriot* - Draco Malfoy (Y3)
Cornelius Fudge, *a Patriot* - Samantha Montgomery (Y4)
Dolores Umbridge, *a Patriot* - Lavender Brown (Y3)
Proteus Prewett, *a Patriot* - Maurice Scroops (Y1)
Regulus Black, *a Rogue* - Seamus Finnigan (Y3)
Walburga Black, *his Mother* - Josephina Gamp (Y6)
Norah Crouch, *Mr Crouch's Mother* - Cho Chang (Y4)
Francis Pearson, *a Janitor* - Ginny Weasley (Y2)
Nagini, *a Snake* - Padma and Parvati Patil (Y3)
Moody's Mad Cat, *just as mad as Moody* - Ron Weasley (Y3)
Hoots, *an Owl* - Christophanus Clarriker (Y2)
Jupiter Tigworth, *a Portrait* - Romilda Vane (Y1)
Adminius Twee, *a Portrait* - Hydra Lestrangle (Y2)
Susannah Kettleburn, *a Portrait* - Evelyn Longbottom (Y1)
Aurors / Wizengamot Guards:
Astoria Greengrass (Y1)
Igraine Archer (Y1)
Lavinia Levingworth (Y1)
Thalia West (Y1)
Wizards and Witches of the Wizengamot:
Sally-Anne Perks (Y3)
Susan Bones (Y3)
Cressida Bole (Y2)

Hannah Abbott (Y3)
Norma Stein (Y1)
Kelley Drumgoole (Y1)
Elizabeth Stevens (Y4)
Delia Forney (Y1)
Victoria Catchlove (Y1)
Linus Moon (Y3)
Octavia Anderson (Y5)
Gareth Archer (Y2)
Brendan Mackrell (Y1)

Thanks again, everyone, and see you Sunday!



 **[alt_penelope](#) at 2011-01-18 01:18:08**

Private Message to Dean Thomas

Oh, I knew there was something I was forgetting!

Thomas, I know you didn't try out, but were interested in helping. Only Karoline wondered if you'd be willing to be Antonin Dolohov instead? Let us know before Sunday, all right?



 **[alt_dean](#) at 2011-01-18 01:23:58**

Re: Private Message to Dean Thomas

Er, um- Sure! How could I dare say no. It would be an honour to portray a hero of the protectorate.



 **[alt_penelope](#) at 2011-01-18 02:21:30**

Re: Private Message to Dean Thomas

Oh, excellent. That will really help us out. Cheers, Thomas!



 **[alt_hannah](#)** at **[2011-01-19 16:52:34](#)**
(no subject)

I can volunteer to help with props and costuming and such. I think Megan, Eloise and possibly Susan can help as well.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2011-01-19 17:44:21](#)**
(no subject)

Well done, Abbott! As I mentioned, we'll send round some sign-up sheets at the next YPL meeting.

2011-01-17 11:16:00

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA!!!

How wizard is that?!

Mad Eye's Mad Cat!!

Did you see the lines I get? 'Grrrrrrrrrr!
Argggggggghhhhhh! Awwwwwwkkkkkkkkk!
[Dies.]

I'm going to be the best dying cat you've ever seen!!

(And I don't have to worry about memorising too much, either. That's the best part.)



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-01-17 17:25:00**

(no subject)

You should use Pyewacket as a character study!

And you get eaten by the Patils, too. That ought to be fun.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2011-01-17 17:31:32**

(no subject)

Ha! I totally could! We'll have to get together so Pye can show me how to sound like I've got a hairball stuck in my throat!

Actually, that part with the Patils sounds nasty. I hope they don't actually have to touch me. Why do you think they cast the two of them to play that one part? If it was meant to be a runespoor, there should've been a third person playing. Or. Oooh! They've probably already bitten off the third head! I'd totally believe that.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-17 20:37:31](#)
(no subject)

Well, the snake has to be really long, so with the two of them lined up, they could make it look really nift.

Pye seriously makes the funniest noises! And he does this little backing up thing and bobs his head when he's got one, and after he acts all embarrassed, because he knows it was horribly undignified of him.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-18 01:15:40](#)
(no subject)

Only you would be happy about being a dying cat.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 01:30:26](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it's going to be a very dramatic part!

You pleased about your part, then? Ought to be. Not too many second years got cast, did they?



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-18 03:34:05](#)
(no subject)

Yes I am happy enough that I did get a part with line. But please don't embarrass yourself- or those of us who take this seriously- with your take on being dramatic. When the time comes, please die with dignity. Although I find that might be hard considering the manner in which your death will take place, but I am sure you could find some from somewhere.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-18 04:51:03](#)
(no subject)

I thought you'd read the script, Ginny? He's not SUPPOSED to die with dignity. He gets chased around the stage while his tail's on fire, it's about as undignified as it gets.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-18 04:55:28](#)
(no subject)

I didn't read any of the mad cat's parts. And clearly you don't know Ronald and well as you might think. He can blow even that direction way beyond proportion.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-18 04:54:48](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

'Die with DIGNITY.' Honestly.

At least you got a speaking part. I get to be a Witch of the Wizengamot and say things like 'nooooooo!' and 'boo, hiss!' when everyone else does. Borrrrrrrrrrrring.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 11:49:58](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Heh.

Yeah. If Ginny'd got my part, she'd look down at her flaming tail, put her hand to her brow, and slide gracefully to the floor. She might even say, 'Please, Mr Snake, allow me to faint before you devour me!'

Some nonsense like that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 11:52:27](#)

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

I know, right?

Honestly, if I have to do it at all, I totally want a comic bit. And Mad Eye's Cat? Perfect!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 12:28:29](#)

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

Sorry you didn't get a speaking part. If you wanted one.

But then you'd either have to play someone dead evil, like Auror Lestrage, or worry they'd cast you as a traitor because they think you are one. Better to just be part of the Wizengamot, really. Don't you think?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-18 18:49:43](#)

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

I did want a speaking part, but oh well. Maybe your sister will quit in a huff and I'll get to play the janitor.

I wouldn't really want to play Auror Lestrage, it seems as if it would attract her attention and I really prefer to avoid having her notice I exist. It might have been fun to play someone who gets a death scene. (Like the cat!) I wouldn't have minded playing a Blood Traitor; no one's likely to say anything considering Harry and Blaise are playing Sirius Black and Kingsley Shacklebolt. It would have been odd playing Neville's mum, though. Have you read those bits? She's a maniac who loves it when people cross her because then she has an excuse to kill them. Not a very bright murderous maniac though, considering at one point she's standing over someone she's disarmed and instead of killing them she makes that speech about hating blood purity.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-18 18:50:54](#)

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

I mean, in the play she's a maniac.

I don't know what she's like for real but I doubt she's anything like she is in the play. Anyone that dim wouldn't have been able to go off and hide, like she did.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 19:04:18](#)

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

No, I haven't read it yet. Just the bits they told me to read in the audition. It was a bit of one of Moody's things and one from one of the portraits. I didn't read for the cat, but I'd loads rather play that than any of the other parts!

What did they have you read?

And did they ask you to sing? That was the bit that made me nervous.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-18 19:07:27](#)

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

Yeah, they had me sing 'Our Freedom,' I hadn't sung that since primary school.

They had me read the Delores Umbridge part. Also one of the portraits.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 19:24:36](#)

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

Oh, yeah. The twins used to change up the words on that one! And it would make Percy so cross. We were just talking about it again, because they were threatening to sing it while we were queuing to see the body. Percy was fuming!

They made me sing the first verse of 'We Shall Rise'. For the audition, I mean. And my voice cracked right at the part that

goes up just before the chorus starts.

That's probably why they thought I could do the cat!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 20:05:42](#)

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

The twins've done new words for 'One Nation, Strong and Pure', too. You should ask them about those.

Heh.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-19 03:19:42](#)

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

Okay, I'll bite. My mum told me the original words once, the 'God Save the Queen' version, but I don't actually remember any of them.

What did the twins write? Does it still have the word 'puissant' in it?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-19 03:46:27](#)

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

Oh, yeah, I'd heard that about the Muggles using the same tune for a song about their queen. Don't why, actually. It's not that great a tune. But, yeah, it totally does say 'puissant'! When they taught us that, I remember the teacher asking if any of us knew what that word means, and of course, none of us did.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-19 03:55:30](#)

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

Bloody hell, now that stupid song is in my head and I can't get it out.

I'm going to write all the lyrics and try to stick it in YOUR head, you know that's how you get a song out of your head,

right? you get it stuck in someone else's?

One nation, strong and pure
With magic shall endure
Long may we reign.
Sign of most puissant pow'r
Ever to grow and flow'r
Now and in every hour,
Long may we reign.

I thought it was 'pleasant' power when I first heard it.
Puissant? Who uses words like that?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-19 04:09:08](#)

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

Oi! No fair!

It's not going to work, though.

'Cause I'm singing,
Tra-la-la-boom-dee-aye
Wind blew your pants away!
And while you wondered where,
It blew off all your hair!
That's how you get a song out of your head! Put a new one
in!!!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-19 04:11:15](#)

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

We like our version better:

The scent of strong manure
In your pants shall endure.
Long may it stain.
Smell of most puissant pow'r,
The stink shall grow and sour,
Though you may wash or show'r:
Long may it stain.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2011-01-19 04:12:08](#)

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

Wicked. I hadn't heard you lot sing that one yet.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-19 04:14:06](#)

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

Added bonus: It makes Big Head Boy turn positively green every time we do.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-19 04:17:23](#)

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

Yeah. He doesn't like songs about pants.

Can't think why.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-19 04:13:48](#)

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

Now that?

That's poetry and no fib.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-19 04:15:00](#)

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

HAHAHAHAHAHAHA!



[alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-19 04:17:41](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Whoa. That's--uh--that's--



[alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-19 04:20:16](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I had to put down my journal and stuff my fist in my mouth. And the Headmistress just looked over her glasses at me the way she does and said, "*Just why are you making those extraordinarily peculiar sounds?*"

I had to tell her I got a frog in my throat.



[alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-19 04:21:40](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You need to laugh more often, Professor. If you do, she'll eventually recognise the sound for what it is.



[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-19 04:19:39](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

That's...

That's the most juvenile thing I think I've ever heard.

It also made me almost spit tea all over my desk from laughing. It's a good thing Milli and Daphne are both out right now or they'd want to know what was so funny and I couldn't very well tell them, could I?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-19 04:23:12](#)**

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

Everyone will think you're so very loyal when you're walking down the corridors humming this all day tomorrow!

See if you don't.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-01-19 04:26:40](#)**

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

I'd hum it along with you, Sally-Anne, except I'm not sure I could do it without breaking up laughing. And that might sort of give the wrong impression.

[2011-01-17 11:19:00](#)

Congratulations!

Daphs, that's excellent you got Auror Crouch. Really brilliant. And Draco, Scrimgeour should be a good role. Really distinguished and commanding. I can totally see why they thought to cast you for him.



 **[alt_blaise](#)**

And Harry! We'll make awesome traitors together, mate. Sirius Black, though. Phew! You must've been brilliant to land that. We'll have to practice being villains. Maybe I ought to grow a mustache for Shackbolt. What do you think?

Guess not everyone was as pleased with their parts.

And then there are the ones that are too dim to have noticed they should be embarrassed. Can you see Weasley over there? Looks pleased to bits. Ha!



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-01-17 17:27:05](#)**
Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

I guess Stevens wasn't too happy being stuck in the chorus. I'd have expected a Slytherin to take the disappointment with a bit more dignity, though!

What were you writing to that Weasley chit last night? Having a bit of fun? I see she's down as a janitor. How appropriate!



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2011-01-17 18:56:22](#)**
Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Didn't you see her go all out for her Auror Lestrangle role? Black hair, even! It got me to thinking about this summer when she wrote all though private messages to Hydra Lestrangle and Narcissa Malfoy, and how the only brother she seems to spend a lot of time with is the Head Boy. I thought she might appreciate some companion options other than him and the rest of the Weasley lot, so I offered to give her some acting tips some time. Do you know that she told me most Gryffindors don't know how to behave properly? Of course, she might've just been putting on a show, but we'll see, won't we?

Do you think it would be too forward of me to ask Auror Crouch for advice on how to best portray him? I know that he's awfully busy, and I don't want to be a bother, but it could be helpful knowledge to have.



 **[alt_blaise](#) at 2011-01-17 19:24:58**

Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Well. She'll certainly be a project for you. It would be interesting to see whether you could get her to really turn on the rest of them. Don't be too disappointed, though, if she turns out to be just another Measley.

I think if you were to write him the right sort of very careful letter, he ought to be flattered. But do tell him that you know he might not have time to answer.

Perhaps he'd agree to speak to you by Floo, so you could do a bit of an interview with him.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2011-01-18 00:29:42**

Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

One can't be disappointed if one's expectations aren't very high!

I'll start working on a letter tonight. I might have you look at it, to see if it's all right. Or maybe I'll see if Harry or Draco can have a quick glance, since they've actually spent time with him before.

Weasley's reaction to being cast as a doomed cat was just so *embarrassing*. Delightfully so.



 **[alt_blaise](#) at 2011-01-18 01:26:11**

Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Point taken.

You can run it past each of us. But I agree, it might be a good idea to ask Draco, especially.

So very true.

I do wonder what Patil thinks about being cast as a snake. And having to 'eat' Weasley. Pity she can't sing. I guess that really didn't leave them much choice where to cast her.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2011-01-18 04:28:15](#)**

(no subject)

For Shackbolt? Shave your head is more like it. Have you seen photographs of him? Completely bald.

Anyway, you're too right some people aren't pleased - and not just because of their parts. Yaxley was giving poor Karoline an earful tonight about how she's cast her opposite Sandoval! And Weasley? If I were Karoline I'd take Pearson away and give it to someone who'll appreciate it, especially giving a 2nd-year a chance at a speaking part.

I'm just glad so many 3rd-years are represented, with all the competition, you know? And I'm glad there's not *too* much music in, or I know I'd have been stuck in the chorus where I can just mouth the words! Karoline's asked me to understudy Bradley, too, which should be fun.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-01-18 12:13:57](#)**

(no subject)

Last night I did some reading up on Dumbledore and his band, and it was truly illuminating. I think I'll have to do a bit more reading, though, to begin to see what motivated them. Vainglory, obviously, and blood-thirst. But I'm sure each of them had a particular ambition or misapprehension that drove him forward into treason. I haven't found Shackbolt's yet, but I plan to ask Professor LeStrange what his view of it is. And Miss Professor Carrow, as well. She fought him more than once, so I'm sure she has a unique perspective if she wouldn't mind sharing it with me.

I think I'll look quite striking bald, don't you?

I must say, I think you and your sister are taking a mature view of receiving an unconventional part. Daphs and I were talking about

how much grace and coordination it will take to manage Nagini properly: brilliant to cast twins there, really. Have you taken dance, at all? You do carry yourself well. Both of you.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-18 15:49:33](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I'm sure Miss Professor Carrow could tell you all sorts of things. I think Ptolemy Baddock volunteered to be the historical consultant because they want to make sure we don't pester the real people too much. And because he grew up with so many of them, right? Like Mr Avery and Mr Yaxley. Plus I guess it would be a little weird to be *in* the play when one of the most dramatic moments is your own mum's death. That would be really hard, I think. Though Karoline said she asked him and he thought it would be brilliant, and even told her things that aren't in the history books about it.

Still, it's a bit odd, isn't it, considering what just happened last week. I think Parkinson and Baddock have talked before, but I wonder if it would help her to cope, hearing from him about losing his mum in the war? He wasn't much older than she was when the first Mrs Baddock died.

Anyway, I'm not sure if bald will be a good look on you. Though it might make you look older.

We've learned traditional dances, of course - Sattriya and Bharata Natyam mainly - but nothing like ballet or anything. Mum and Aunt Sivarti and Naniji are all well strict about posture.

But it sounds like we'll have some opportunities to work in dancing with Nagini, particularly when we chase Weasley about. We've already started thinking about what charms we might be able to use to create the effect of swallowing him up.



 [alt_blaize](#) at [2011-01-18 17:51:24](#)
(no subject)

I don't imagine Baddock can tell me much about the traitor Shackbolt, though. And really, no one could except one of the teachers. It's not like anyone would admit it if their parents used to

have Dumbledore and his bloodtraitors to dinner on Sundays.

You're right, though. It's tricky putting on a play about stuff that happened to people's parents. None of us can remember much of it. Even the seventh years. Of course, now we're old enough to understand, and this is a brilliant way to get us to learn about what happened and the reasons for it. So much better than any lecture Binns would give. Not that he ever talks about anything that happened in the last hundred years.

Just wait and see if you're not bowled over by my rakish good looks when I've shaved for the part. Daphne says it'll be dashing.

You should do a presentation for YPL sometime about your traditions and the dances. That would be really interesting. And there's no substitute for good posture: it's the mark of good breeding.

Luckily, it sounds as if the business with Weasley is the least of your part.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-19 14:34:42](#)
(no subject)

Well, if you're serious about shaving your head, you know some people who know the charm for it.

2011-01-17 11:31:00

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson



 [alt_harry](#)

This is going to be strange but

What do you hear when the Dementors come? Is it hearing about your father dying?

I promise I won't make fun of you if it is. I just need to know what other people hear.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-01-17 17:22:15**
(no subject)

Hey, Harry.

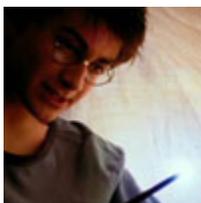
I don't really hear anything at all. I just feel cold and empty and sad.

I'm not sure if it's *them* that make me do it, but when I'm like that, I can't stop thinking about Regulus. I just

it's like my stomach just drops and I feel like it's only just happened. And it *keeps* happening, over and over. I think it's probably different for everyone, though, what we think about, you know? Sort of like boggarts, except for sad things instead of the things we're afraid of.

I was so little, I don't think I have a very clear memory about when I heard my father was dead. I remember wearing black, and seeing lots of adults crying, because that doesn't happen very often, and I remember *missing* him, but that's it.

What do you hear? Do they talk to you? If you don't want to say, you don't have to. I'd bet Professor Lestrangle knows a lot about that sort of thing, too. What they do to people, I mean.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2011-01-17 19:09:14**
(no subject)

Okay.

I remember something really bad happening when I was a tiny baby. I think it must have been before the

Lord Protector adopted me. I think I know what it was. But I wanted to know if somebody else remembered something like that. Or if I'm just a freak.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-17 19:26:23](#)
(no subject)

Like I said, it's probably different for everyone. I think that hardly makes you a freak. As an official member of the Strangest People in Year Three, I'm pretty qualified to say so, you know.

And if you think on it, we're both remembering something bad. I guess it's easier for me to remember Regulus because I was right in the middle of it, and with my father, I was just sort of told after it happened, and it was a long time ago, which is why I'm remembering one and not the other.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-17 19:28:41](#)
(no subject)

The really bad thing...

Is it what we talked about that one time, in the Forbidden Forest? You think?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-17 19:41:48](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

You understand why I can't talk to Father about it. Not that I would. But.

I don't know anybody else.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-17 20:02:18](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Harry. You remember that?

I'm so very sorry.

And of course I understand why it'd be something you couldn't talk to Him about.

Do you want to

Well, you know Draco, don't you? And you know me. And neither of us will breathe a word about it. Ever. To anyone.

2011-01-17 16:32:00

*Private Message to Rabastan
Lestranger and Minerva McGonagall*



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Can either of you confirm you've had a look at the script for this YPL play? If so, I'll leave Professor Sinistra undisturbed. If not, or if there's anything you deemed questionable, perhaps I should ask to see it.

No one wants to get overly worked up about a school play, but the topic is obviously one that demands appropriate treatment.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2011-01-18 00:26:11**
(no subject)

As soon as I heard I was "featured" in it I asked for a copy of the script. Still have it, in fact, if you'd like for me to send it your way. It's all very celebratory and Protectorate focused, if rather on the hammy side.

Harmless, I'd say, though you might say otherwise.

There's a little girl who's been cast as you, you know.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2011-01-18 01:17:50**
(no subject)

I expected it would be harmless, of course. But if you've got a copy, I think I would like to take a look.

Seriously. I boggled a bit when I saw the cast list, but it appears it's a matter of there being more girls than boys willing to flaunt themselves on stage--not that they're taking the piss in my particular case. I did note you're not going to be done by a girl wizard, though.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2011-01-18 02:10:45**
(no subject)

As you like. I'll send it off first thing in the morn.

The girls have been in near hysterics and vapours over this whole production, declaring that they'll

simply perish if they don't get a part. Yes, I'm to be portrayed by Mr H. Moon. He's only fifteen and spotty, but quite popular, from what I've observed. Then again, so is Miss Greengrass, the lass portraying you.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-18 12:00:42](#)
(no subject)

Thank you.

But can she scowl properly?

What about the one who's to play Mother? I can't think why they'd include Mother at all.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2011-01-18 13:49:46](#)
(no subject)

She's not very scowly, no. Not in the classroom, at least. I think they wanted to have a part for every last person who tried out, because honestly, Mad Moody's cat? I'm rather surprised that there weren't parts for a massive ball of lint, or a Sunday roast.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-18 14:11:41](#)
(no subject)

Would have given the cat something to do: gack up the lint or drag off the roast.

Not very scowly, though. Disappointing.

[2011-01-17 22:56:00](#)

Well...



 **[alt_ginny](#)**

This weekend has been a tense one. I am happy that the cast list has now been posted. I thought that I might not get a part at all, considering that there was a lot of good talent. I did audition for the role of our beloved Auror LeStrange. And so I thought that I ought to do it properly, It is only the best female role in the whole play. I knew I wouldn't get that role because of my year, however I would have never thought that I would get cast as the JANITOR. That is so not on.

A janitor? Really? hmph!

I started to get very upset, but I did take out the script and read over those line. I guess I can forgive that error in someones judgement because there is much humour in the part. Anyway I will play the part, and do it well no matter what.

I should be happy that I wasn't cast as an animal or a traitor. Especially since some of us don't have good since to realise that a mad, dying cat is not a great part. I hope he doesnt ruin the play with his " very dramatic part". And make the rest of us look bad.

I'm looking forward to the rehershing the play with people who are serious about performing, and possibly as an oppportunity to become aquainted with those in other years and houses. This should be very interesting.



 **[alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-18 04:09:07](#)**

Private Message to Ginny Weasley

I'm glad you had a look at the readers' copy of the script, Weasley. We'll be handing out the real ones on Sunday, of course, and Karoline is still refining quite a bit.

But honestly, you've no call to be upset. We were all really impressed with your audition. If you look at Pearson, he's got quite a lot of business, not just in the one scene, but in that one particularly, and

we really needed someone who could do it justice. It's like the Gravedigger in *Hamlet*, after all - it may not seem like a big role, but it's necessary comic relief and believe me, if you do it right you could steal the whole first act, if not the entire show.

I do agree with you about Ronald, but - well, of the three animals, the mad cat is really the one where he could do the least harm. We think.

Anyway, we've also had you in mind to understudy one of the other roles. I'm not sure which yet, although I think Karoline said either Alice Longbottom or Millicent Bagnold. Rest assured no one has made an 'error in judgement.' If you think that, then I'm sure there are plenty of other girls who would be happy to play the part.



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2011-01-18 04:23:01**

Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley

I don't mean to sound ungrateful. I am happy to be one of few 2nd years to be offered a speaking role. And please don't make me understudy a blood traitor. I am sure I can do justice to role I was given. I am looking forward to rehearsals. I will see you on Sunday



 [alt_penelope](#) at **2011-01-18 04:40:10**

Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley

Again, it's not a question of you doing justice to the role or not - it's a question of our confidence in your ability to step in to another pivotal role if needed.

I can see that you're going to have a lot to learn about theatre, Weasley, but one thing I think you'll find is that you'll have an easier time if you don't take casting decisions so personally. Roles are not the people who play them. And often it takes a much better actor to play a villain or a fool than to play a straight dramatic character.

But if you don't want it, we shan't force you.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-18 04:46:25](#)

Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley

I understand what you are saying. I shall be happy to step up in anyway needed of me.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-18 11:40:44](#)

(no subject)

I think they've done an excellent job with casting, Weasley, and questioning it is not going to win you any friends.

If you take my meaning.

You should rethink your evaluation of what it takes to play bloodtraitors, too: it's no stretch to understand and play a loyal character's patriotism (though there certainly may be other challenges to many of those loyal roles), but the need to enter the thoughts and probe the madness of a traitor is what makes those parts so plum. I expect, too, that the Patils will find their representation of Our Lord's familiar a challenging physical turn, so I shouldn't condemn animal parts out of hand. There's a reason Karoline's included them.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-18 15:44:40](#)

(no subject)

Blaise, may I call you Blaise?

I do understand you very well. Very well. Please believe me when I say that I understand the artistry behind it all. It was foolish of me to write the way I did in my state of being upset. Also I believe that you misunderstood me when I was spoke of animals. I was speaking of a certian one. The others I do see the reasons for.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-18 16:11:29](#)

(no subject)

Stick with Zabini, I think.

If you don't mind.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-18 15:46:56](#)

Private Message to Blaise Zabini

I know what you think of me. But I am not my brothers. Please don't let the name Weasley allow you to disregard who I am. I take all things in school and for the Protectorate seriously.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-18 16:08:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Blaise Zabini

It must be difficult to come along behind such a large pack of siblings.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-01-19 04:05:14](#)

Re: Private Message to Blaise Zabini

You have no idea.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-18 17:18:13](#)

(no subject)

Don't worry; I'll have a talk with Ronald.

And you'll do splendidly in your part. Don't forget that the smallest cog in the machine can still be critical to make the Protectorate run smoothly.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 17:29:23](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oh, joy!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-18 18:40:02](#)

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

Just don't let him have any 'talks' with you right before you go on stage.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-18 18:47:16](#)

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

Wha-

I told him over hols that if he ever puts his hand on his wand again while he's talking to me, I'll hex

his

he'll regret it.

[2011-01-17 23:10:00](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Hey, Marvolo,

Will you be willing to give me and Parvati some Parseltongue lessons?



 [alt_padma](#)

Actually, everyone's expected us to be really annoyed about being Nagini, but I talked to Karoline and she said there's quite a lot to being the snake. For one thing, she's on stage whenever the Lord Protector is, which is quite a lot, and there's to be very complicated fighting. And there's the whole bit where we get to kill Weasley at the end, which you have to admit is pretty satisfying.

Anyway, she also asked me to understudy Bradley as Mr Thicknesse, so that'll be all right.

But we'd love to make the snake as realistic as we can! Are you up to showing us a few phrases?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-19 23:22:14](#)
(no subject)

Sure, I guess. I'm not very good at it. Maybe you'll be better. You can practise on Snake.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-19 23:27:13](#)
(no subject)

Oh, go along, I'm sure you're fine. It's brilliant you're offering Snake to practice.

Anyway, we only need a few phrases - and we don't need to *really* be able to talk to them, but I think it would be utterly snitch to make it sound at least a little authentic.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-19 23:29:31](#)
(no subject)

Well I really don't understand why nobody else ever learns it. It seems like it could be dead useful for lots of people. I mean it's really hard. But so is Arithmancy.

What kinds of phrases do you think? Nagini doesn't really say very much to me. She doesn't have a thing she says all the time. She just talks every once in a while.

2011-01-18 00:04:00

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Congratulations on getting the role of Mr Crouch. I know you will be great in it. I'm afraid that some of us will not take the acting seriously and should perhaps be removed. But I guess if we give people the chance to slip up, then we wont have to worry about calling on them again. What are your thoughts?



 [alt_ginny](#)



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2011-01-18 14:00:31**
(no subject)

That's absolutely right, I think it best to give everyone my sincere well-wishes and allow them to fail and succeed on their own. I'm not worried about a few people ruining the play when so many others are dedicated to working hard and making sure that the production is an honour to the Protectorate.

I guess I'll be seeing you in rehearsals, then! Thank you for your congratulations, and congratulations to you, as well.

2011-01-18 20:10:00

(no subject)

Mordant, it's useless to think for a moment that you've got him fooled, so I shan't even bother with an owl. But I don't want you to think your efforts are in vain: It sounds just the delightful sort of affair he'll despise. Of course we wouldn't dream of missing the fun.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Oh, and Eudora, I haven't forgot. Mariposa will be sending you the list of dates and proposals for the Sisters in Witchcraft for the spring term. I think, given the excitement this week over the newly-formed dramatic society at Hogwarts, several of the suggestions will be perfectly suited to the programme and complement the regular YPL tremendously.

Now, as to the upcoming calendar, I can honestly say I am, for the moment, ahead of the curve. I've even responded to several invitations for events *after* Easter! But I have no expectation of remaining caught up for long, especially since I am sure these few letters on my desk are but the beginning of a spring deluge. I have noted a definite trend toward birth announcements, which I should be surprised to see abate soon.

Meanwhile, do allow me a day or two to gloat before burying my blotter once more.

There is one small matter that still needs attending. However, I have a plan for that - and I daresay I shall be successful.



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2011-01-19 03:45:55**

(no subject)

I've no doubt you'll succeed whatever the venture. So long as it's not another lengthy project, my love. Otherwise next time you complain of the mountain of owls you've not had time to address I shall be forced to remind you of how relaxed and happy you are when you can say that you are not over-extended.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-19 04:20:41](#)
(no subject)

Hm. When, in the last ten years, have *you* been less than over-extended? In the last fifteen, even?

But that aside, this is really just a very small thing that needs attending. More of an errand than a project, really. And I promise it shan't interfere with any of the long-term commitments we've already got for spring.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-19 03:52:54](#)
(no subject)

...

Quite.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-19 04:22:27](#)
(no subject)

And no, I have no intention of stopping his plans, either. Or telling you just exactly what's on the agenda. That would be terribly unfair to Mordant when he's gone to the trouble!



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-19 04:28:22](#)
(no subject)

No, of course, you won't.

I'll have to suffer this birthday like all others. Can't possibly be as frustrating as last year, though.

That's something.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-19 04:56:26](#)
(no subject)

Birthdays are invariably frustrating, dear, and each one worse than the last, you'll find.

You've only yourself to blame for the particular brand of torture meted out by friends, however. And on that note, I think I'll retire and let you work yourself into fits until the surprise reveals itself.

2011-01-18 21:54:00

ORDER ONLY



 [alt_alice](#)

Now that we're past Christmas and New Years and back to our usual schedule, everything is progressing quite nicely at Moddey Dhoo. Our two newest additions are settling in, and today the sun was shining and the snow was lovely, so the children had quite a lunch hour spent out of doors. Katherine McGivern ended up coordinating the construction of an entire zoo of snow sculptures, and they took us around to the different animals to show them off before everyone went back to classes. The sphinx in particular was quite impressive! Divyesh is proving to have quite a talent for Transfiguration; he's working right alongside Alec in his schoolwork in that area, and we expect him to pass Colin right by in another few months. The winter greens and potions ingredients in the greenhouses are thriving (including the fluxweed), and Stephen continues to dicker with the Wolfsbane potion to see if he can't make it a little more stable and decrease those side-effects Remus wrote him about.

It did Victor so much good to see his daughter at the holiday party. He's so proud of her and glad to see her more settled with the Sherwood group. Lucinda has really grown up so much in the last few months into quite the self-possessed young woman, and I know they are lucky to have her.

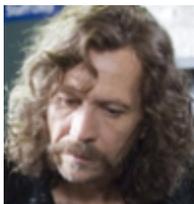
And it's hard to believe, but our Kevin is 18 months old now, and is chattering away - his favourite things to say right now are "want up," "sweeties," and "Play, daddy, play," and he says them all constantly. It's funny when he gets them mixed up -- just the other day he looked at me and said, "sweeties up," and then looked so very confused!

Other than that, things are fairly routine around here. There's always work to do, and lessons to sort out. The only trouble is that I haven't been sleeping well the last few days, and I suspect it's because I've been thinking a lot about Leicester. I hadn't thought of it for such a long time, and then, all of a sudden, it fell neatly into my lap and it's like it only just happened. I remember the sound my shoes made in the mud, and the Killing Curse that hit the Muggle man who was running alongside me, ~~and that woman, the one that they~~ and poor Sturgis calling out as they took him away to do Merlin knows what to him until he told them what they wanted.

I even remember the explosion that killed Parkinson – from where I was, it was a bright flash followed by a thumping, cracking sound – but it all happened so fast and in the middle of so many other things that I’m not sure I even asked anyone about it after all was said and done. It was chaos. And Moody – Merlin, I didn’t think he’d pull through, he was bleeding so badly after his duel with Malfoy. Kingsley, do you remember how much he swore while we patched him up? I don’t think I could have managed it by myself, between his jerking around and my hands shaking as badly as they were.

When I dream, though, I keep seeing Sturgis. The look on his face. No-one deserves what happened to him. I’d no idea he was still alive until he showed up on the list of those that escaped from Azkaban this summer. And for a little while, I thought if only we could get to him before they did... well, I’m not sure we could have ever made up for what he’d gone through, but it was almost like he’d got his second chance. When he was Kissed, it was like losing him all over again.

Goodness. I didn’t mean to be so maudlin. I think I’ll ask Stephen to make me up a little Dreamless Sleep for tonight.



[alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-19 04:15:19](#)

(no subject)

What side effects? Glad the fluxweed is taking hold, though.

And I'm sorry, Allie, you're having trouble. Sturgis. I haven't thought about him in a long time, either. Yeah, it's hard to lose someone twice, no matter what the circumstances. I know how worried you all were when I was captured, and I daresay Sturgis knew as much then as I did when Bella got her hooks into me.

You know, one thought that occurs to me though, with all this play business, and the children suddenly looking into all our pasts a little more closely, is that the Players had better make certain they've got enough Polyjuice and that their current disguises are good enough to fool even a brother.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-01-19 04:36:47](#)**
(no subject)

I agree.

From what Stephen tells me, isn't anything to be concerned about, just that the recovery time isn't as quick as it ought to be, and he thinks it's something to do with the ratio of the base ingredients or somesuch.

And it's a very good thing Moddey Dhoo wasn't up and running back then.

I'll be fine, love. I just need a good night's sleep.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-01-19 17:55:39](#)**
(no subject)

My memories of Leicester are a bit spotty. So many actions; they all ran together. And I did get hexed good. Benjy remembers a bit more--and perhaps coincidentally, suffers a bit more from nightmares about it, although he hasn't admitted to any in the past year.

I've had a few talks with Davidson about his background in the SAS. I remember one of our late night conversations went into what Muggle soldiers call 'PTSD.' For the life of me, I don't remember what the acronym stands for, but it's what the muggles called 'shell shock' after the world wars. Davidson says that Muggle healers were becoming more knowledgeable about the damage that the constant stress of war conditions can cause for the human mind: memory problems, hyper alertness, sleep difficulties, changes in mood. I was curious to know what they did to treat cases, once a case has been identified, but he couldn't help me much with that. As an officer, he was trained to help spot cases, but then they'd be referred to their healers, so that wasn't his specialty.

Still, it gave me much food for thought: we wizards really are accustomed to solving our problems with a spell or a potion, but since Muggles for so many years didn't have recourse to those, they had to learn about underlying causes and design treatments that might take awhile to implement.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-19 21:31:20](#)
(no subject)

They have a name for it? I know the whole business left its mark on me in more ways than one. And you're right -- there's potions to help you sleep and calm down, and charms to make you feel happier, but it doesn't ever get rid of the reason behind the bad dreams or sadness, does it?

Short of *Obliviate*, I don't think there's anything we do that could.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-19 22:21:24](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, now that Kingsley mentions it, there is a name. Post-traumatic strain disorder - or is it stress? Well, something like that. Outside the wards the Muggles have been talking more and more about that, especially after the Americans decided to invade one of the middle eastern countries where they get all their petrol. Anyway.

They don't have a cure, from what I understand. They just talk about it. To their psychometrists.

As if talking will make it go away.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-19 22:30:25](#)
(no subject)

I don't know how talking about it like that would help either. Dwelling on it can't be healthy.

And what a silly thing to invade another country for.

2011-01-20 14:12:00

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

Lucius, has there been any movement on the tournament negotiations? I only ask because a little bird told me they were nearing completion. It would be *most* useful to have as much advance knowledge as possible of the numbers of attendees and the specifics of the courses, assuming of course that all goes well. The castle's magic is not quite as responsive as one might wish; it will take some coaxing to prepare for the sort of spectacle that has been suggested, with such long-term visitors.



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2011-01-20 19:36:45**

(no subject)

Yes, in fact, I had planned to send you an owl before the end of next week, myself.

I've a Floo call scheduled for myself, Fudge, Rousseau and Froissart on Monday. I believe Selwyn and Lewellyn-Davis are speaking with Igor and Propopov early next week as well. Certainly the hope was that we would have news in time for next Thursday's Governors' meeting.

Speaking of the Governors' meeting, I plan to arrive thirty minutes ahead of schedule to consult the book. Kindly have it ready for review. Fudge wants to be able to announce that the theories are working and mudblood births down, despite the alarming number of new infants born in the camps in recent months. Do you know nearly all the camps in the west country have requested additional staff to accommodate the birth rate? Sometimes I wonder if we're wise to allow them the freedom to mate.

In any event, I shall need to verify whether the birth rate of mudbloods has in fact lowered compared to that of the muggles.

Oh - and I presume that you assisted Barty in his quest to read that ridiculous play for himself? I almost dug out my Governors' copy again to re-read it myself, if only for the humour of it. If he's still searching, I'll give it to him to-morrow. At least it's a comedy.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-20 19:52:24](#)
(no subject)

Excellent. One less thing for me to worry about, then
- until Thursday, at least.

Of course. I don't think you'll be concerned - the rates are lower than ever, despite the baby boom. They must be making up for the stress of the illnesses. I wonder whether the population is merely evening itself out?

As for Barty, no. I see no reason to end his agonies. You know perfectly well that he'll only fuss about his own portrayal - no sense of humour, that one.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-20 20:01:15](#)
(no subject)

Fudge will be pleased, then. The successful curbing of the muggleborn population is, after all, integral to his platform - and his measures of improvement for the administration.

Ah, but you see, that's why giving him the script is a perfect distraction for him. He'll scowl himself into fits and we'll have the real entertainment of watching the process. I've already made sure that his friends have some choice material for his birthday tomorrow - though they did not get it from me, of course.

In truth, the thing I worry about most is that too many of your pupils will decide to come to us for 'realistic' coaching as to our own younger selves. Fortunately, Narcissa warned your Professor Sinistra of as much. But in Barty's case that poor girl might find herself at the business end of a wand. Greengrass, isn't it? Well. Whether they are near the mark or far from it, either way, the performance ought to be diverting.

[2011-01-20 15:40:00](#)

ORDER ONLY: Children

We have a situation with regards to infants.

Lucius Malfoy had not asked for the book in ages. I didn't look at it. He asked me to view it after the next Governors' meeting, and I looked at it. There are six new names.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

Baby Lee, Hampshire (Not named yet, apparently. Extremely unhelpful. Not even sex indicated.)

Honour Miliband, Kent

Robert Pigott, Lincolnshire

Michelle O'Neill, Devon

Bellatrix Pevloe, Essex (One wonders about her parents - I suppose we will find out.)

William Somerville, also Devon.

I have no earthly idea how long they have been there - since last time I checked, some of them, perhaps.

I hid them all. Then I thought better of it: we can hardly save them all by the meeting-time, when Lucius sees the book, and if we fail to save one, they'll know I've falsified the book when the child begins to manifest their powers.

Merlin. A pretty puzzle.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-20 21:57:12](#)

(no subject)

we'll each go singly -- arthur, me, alice, kingsley, if sirius is available, we'll use him too.

it's only been a few months since we went after the last two, we still have time before they manifest -- I've never heard of it happening before eight months, so even if we're being careful, that gives us at least three more months to get all of them and we can do it in one if bill gets paperwork sorted out by then

give it a chance, minerva

how long before the meeting?



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2011-01-20 22:47:59](#)**
(no subject)

The meeting is next Thursday.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-20 22:51:40](#)**
(no subject)

well you've got till then to make up your mind one way or the other

but as I said earlier, we've still got months to get all of them before manifestation becomes a problem. and if you name them, they'll notice if they go missing.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2011-01-20 22:54:49](#)**
(no subject)

But if I don't, and they manifest, what defense could I possibly have?

You will pardon me for fearing for my neck.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-01-20 23:07:10](#)**
(no subject)

No, Frank's right. They don't track the deaths of muggle infants, do they? But once Malfoy knows whether they're magical or not, they'll be marked. And harder to reach.

I say erase them all. Let him think they're eradicating the anomalies and give us time to get to them all. I'm definitely up for it. I can even risk an owl to Terrie if she can help - none of these are in Hertfordshire but she's bound to have friends in the other camps who are sympathetic.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-20 23:08:12](#)
(no subject)

I suppose you're right.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-20 23:11:28](#)
(no subject)

yes. if we put all six on that book, there's no way in hell we're getting all six of them out.

I think they'd even notice if we put two on there as insurance, and both of 'em turned up 'deceased.'

if it comes down to it, and we do miss one, we could falsify the birth records so it looks like they were born after malfoy's appointment. a baby at six months and a baby at nine don't look too different.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-20 23:12:52](#)
(no subject)

They don't when they're malnourished, in any case - and these are sure to be.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-20 23:12:09](#)
(no subject)

A week.

Well.

That might be time, mightn't it? And you needn't decide about the book until Thursday morning, surely.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-20 23:15:50](#)**
(no subject)

we could reduce the gamble a good deal by going straight for the two in devon

and then prepare to go oldest to youngest



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-20 23:33:37](#)**
(no subject)

might not get all of them in a week, but we'd have a better shot of getting the rest in the time left if we get some out of the way right now



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-20 23:18:58](#)**
(no subject)

I know it's one hell of a risk for you, minerva.

you also know that I'm a stubborn bastard.

and this may be the stubborn bastard speaking, but I'm not going to let it get to the point where you will have to worry about taking the fall for this.

and this isn't like last year, because the camps will be a hell of a lot easier to get into than they were when everyone was getting sick.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-01-20 23:53:25](#)**
(no subject)

Stephen has been told, and is assessing how much polyjuice we have at Moddey Dhoo, as well as starting a new batch in case we run low.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-01-21 00:12:15](#)**
(no subject)

I regret now that when Pomona and I travelled south last month, we delivered some of our latest batch to Remus. We were supposing that Sirius would be headed there soon.

Nonetheless, we have some on the shelf here, and Pomona volunteers that she could deliver it wherever it's wanted.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-21 00:29:41](#)
(no subject)

Good, Poppy. At this point we aren't in crisis, but it does take a while to brew, so if we do run low before the next batch is ready, we will let you know.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-21 00:47:58](#)
(no subject)

I was there for a brief visit, Poppy, and restocked myself.

And I can leave tonight if necessary.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-21 00:51:40](#)
(no subject)

Easy, love. We can't do much right this minute. Once we have the paperwork, though, be prepared for all speed ahead.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-21 03:16:47](#)
(no subject)

No, I don't mean that I've already got two paws out the door, Allie. Just that I'm ready whenever Bill is.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-01-21 03:52:59](#)
(no subject)

Well, good then!

2011-01-20 15:57:00

Private Message to Norah Crouch

Yes, Mother. Pennifold took your owl while I was out this afternoon. I've only just returned.



Yes, Maebh's arrived.

 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Yes, we'll be on time to supper. No later than half-seven. I promise.

No, there's no need for you to prepare the guest room: Maebh's accommodations are arranged already. For that matter, you needn't have mine prepared, either. Really, I don't know why you've put yourself to such unnecessary trouble. I was certain I'd made this clear when we spoke last weekend.

Nonetheless, thank you, Mother. I do appreciate your wanting to have us. Maebh made a point this afternoon of saying how much she is looking forward to seeing you.

And she's most apologetic that she couldn't make it tomorrow on the actual day. Her work is unforgiving in that regard, but I assured her that you have long experience accommodating family members whose schedules must be worked around. I trust you will be as gracious about that as I've led her to expect.

Now. Don't spend the rest of the afternoon fussing. I don't want you exhausting yourself. I'm certain the new girl is quite capable of managing all the preparations. I had the strongest assurances not only about her cookery skills but her ability to handle many things at once. Please, Mother. If you tire yourself, you won't be able to enjoy the evening. And that will weigh on all of us.

So. We'll see you in a bit.

2011-01-20 23:41:00

Order Only

Hello. I'm in bed with a nice cup of tea, so it's time for a quick update of this little book.



 **alt_nymphadora**

The shop's doing alright. We're not exactly overrun with customers, but there's a steadyish stream of people popping in throughout the day and we seems to be managing financially.

We had a visit from a Ministry inspector on Tuesday, which was probably courtesy of my dear foster brother. Incidentally, I always wanted to call him Farty Grouch when we were kids, but I never had the guts. Probably just as well, he probably would've just retaliated by pushing me down the stairs or locking me in the attic until I starved. I did carve it in tiny little letters into the under side of his bedside table though, over time. Took ages, but it was worth it. Stuck up git.

Anyway, the Ministry chap came in and nosed around for a bit. He was from the Department of Magical Businesses or something like that, and said he was there to do a surprise inspection of the shop, make sure we were working within our licence conditions, not cheating the customers or secretly selling prohibited or black market items. He was a bit stuffy at first and we had a heart-stopping moment when he wanted to look around the back office, where the door to the beergarden/cafe is. It was the middle of the day, so the place was set up for the cafe, and there were a few muggles and muggleborns out there, servants from the big families who come in to rest their feet and have a cup of tea and slice of cake free from the oversight of their masters.

Remus had given them the Secret Sign we worked out, which involves a flick of the wand in here to flash some sparkly lights out there. They never make much noise anyway, trained out of it I suppose, so they went silent pretty much instantly.

The inspector looked around the back office and asked a few questions about the finances and where we get our stock, but he didn't seem to pay any mind to the door at all. We have a few boxes and things piled in front of it, to make it look unused, since it opens outwards. I don't know if that fooled him, or if he was just more interested in our books, since he's from Magical Businesses, but

whatever it was, we were very grateful.

He didn't stick around for long after that, and we all breathed a sigh of relief once he'd apparated away. Everyone cleared out in drips and drabs, but fairly quickly. The place was empty within the hour. I think they were all a bit spooked by it. Shame really, as it's been going pretty well with the cafe. The beergarden's been a bit quieter, but it is winter, so it's pretty cold and gets dark so early. We've had a few small groups in though, making their own heat and light. It's lovely sitting out there and chatting with people, although of course I still have to pretend to be Mrs Ponds and can't tell them anything I know about or from the Order.

It's frustrating. I want so much to tell them not to give up hope. And I can, but it's an empty wish when they don't know why I'm saying it.

So that's what's going on here. I had a check up at St Mungo's this morning too, and everything's fine. The maternity ward was heaving though. Great big pregnant women and tiny new babies everywhere. The healers looked rushed off their feet. And that's just St M's. Can't imagine what it's like over at St Gerard's with the posh ones. I hope things have quietened down by the time I have to go in. I don't fancy my chances up against a crowd like that, and I don't want to give birth in reception!



 **alt_alice** at [2011-01-21 16:26:24](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad to hear that everything's going well with you, and that the inspection went off without a hitch. I'll send along some leftover tea that Molly gave me to help with my morning sickness -- I had it something awful for Kevin, and you might use it to settle your stomach.

Frank and I have been talking, and it certainly makes sense that there'd be a baby boom after such restricted travel and close quarters last year. Goodness, though, it was quite a shock to get six names from Minerva. That's almost as much as are in Neville's year in Gryffindor.

I think a friendly face and a place to rest is more than they're getting anywhere else, which is probably more meaningful to them than you think it is. And as frustrating as keeping quiet is, you can bet that if they need to think up places where they can go if they need help,

well, you'll be one of them, won't you? And you'll have more resources to be able to actually do some good than if you really were just a shop working in isolation.

And if you do end up getting more unwanted attention from the Ministry about the beer garden, I'm sure you and Remus have plans in terms of what to do, but I can't imagine you'd get any more than a fine and a stern word. They know that these sort of businesses are bound to crop up, and if they're smart, they'll realise that tamping down on them only makes people more likely to meet in secret (and be dissatisfied enough to do something about it).



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-01-21 19:54:52](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Alice. I'm not feeling too bad at the moment. It's all quite tiring, of course, and I've had some very odd dreams recently! But the tea is nice and soothing anyway, so do pop it over if it's just lying about unwanted.

You're right, of course. I can tell from their faces, the way people start to relax after they've visited a few times and remain safe and comfortable, that it helps them. I just know how much it meant for me to know the the Order was there, and I wish sometimes that I could shout it from the rooftops. I'm not going to, of course! But I wish I could. That was one of the great things about Sirius' Grim Truths - at least people knew they weren't alone.

Don't worry about the beergarden. We have plans upon plans upon plans. Well, one of us does! The other just sits and nods when it's her turn to contribute something. I don't think the Ministry would be too bothered if they did find out we were making a bit of Galleon from the muggles and muggleborns, but with ol' Fartypants in the mix, he could always brief someone to come down and find an excuse to have us both thrown in Azkaban, if he really wanted to. We've got a plan for that though. I think that one involves apparating off into the woods, splitting up, sleeping in hedgerows and surviving off nuts and berries, or something like that. Sounds like jolly fun to me, but I really hope they wait until I've had this baby. I don't think I could manage sleeping in a hedgerow looking like I do right now!



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-01-22 00:10:13](#)**
(no subject)

Hedgerows are bad for the back, aren't they? Even when one isn't all bumpy in the middle.

And I should think that if it comes to that, you'd sleep in a wonderfully comfortable bed right here, thank you very much. And no nuts and berries nonsense either.

2011-01-21 17:10:00

BREAK through!

Sometimes you try hard to learn a spell. And you can't get it. And then you get it! And it might not be perfect. But that's OKAY. Because once you can do something it gets easier after you do it alot.



 [alt_harry](#)

I had that today!!

The Razzer is a great teacher. I'm so glad he kept working with me. Even if I'm not all the way there yet. It's not like trying to do a Wronski faint or something which is hard, but which I just got the hang of automatically. It's not like Parseltongue either which I don't think I'm ever going to learn any better than I know now. Cause Snake doesn't think I can. I don't remember if this ever happened like this before. I PRACTISED a lot and it WORKED.



 [alt_blaise](#) at **2011-01-21 22:26:45**

(no subject)

Where did you go off to? I was just pulling out that parchment you asked for at the end of Charms, but when I turned around, you'd disappeared.

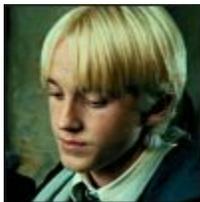
Anyway, if you still want it, I'm in the common room.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2011-01-21 22:45:29**

(no subject)

Nowhere. Sorry about that. I'll be right there.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2011-01-21 23:49:23**

(no subject)

He is a brilliant teacher, but I'm still no where near being able to do it myself, I can tell.

It looks cool, by the way. Well snitch.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2011-01-22 00:42:56](#)**
(no subject)

No, I bet you are! You just didn't stay over hols is all.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2011-01-21 23:50:13](#)**
(no subject)

Three words:

Told you so.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2011-01-22 00:03:45](#)**
Private Message to Rabastan

Are you able to make it to Town? There are crinolines. Best hurry before they're all taken.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2011-01-22 00:11:54](#)**
Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Should be able to get away after curfew, which of course means I'll have lots of catching up to do.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2011-01-22 00:14:38](#)**
Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Mordant says to tell you it's a one-drink handicap for every half-hour you miss.

He's also told me to put my journal down and join
the fun.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2011-01-22 00:16:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Oh bloody Erebus. I'll be there as soon as I can.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-22 00:43:19](#)

(no subject)

I guess so!



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-22 00:01:08](#)

(no subject)

It's satisfying when hard work pays off, isn't it?

Congratulations, Harry, dear. You'll be able to climb back on a broom before you know it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-22 00:07:13](#)

(no subject)

That's wicked, Harry! I'm glad all that work over hols has paid off.

Which one did you learn?

Or is it a secret?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-22 00:42:36](#)

(no subject)

It's a secret!!!

But it's completely wizard. I'll show you once I have it perfect.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-22 17:07:55](#)
(no subject)

I can't wait! I'm sure it's absolutely snitch. And that really is just fantastic, Harry.

2011-01-21 22:01:00

A very busy week!



 [alt_sinistra](#)

First, I want to again thank everyone who has stepped forward to take part in the play. It's a huge undertaking even to get this far, and I want to say that I am most impressed with the work and thoughtfulness that has been shown so far, even when people might have been disappointed by their part. (A particular thank you to Miss Clearwater and all of the other YPL counselors who have been so helpful in figuring out the casting and details, as well.)

I did want to mention a few reminders.

1) Please remember that the Liberation of the Ministry that had a great deal of meaning for all of the adults now alive. Miss Moon has been extremely careful in her research and presentation, working with only the clearest sources and descriptions from those involved.

I know that it may be tempting for some of you to elaborate on the motivations of the characters you are playing, or even to ask the people portrayed for advice. However, please remember that these kinds of actions may be anywhere from a bother to quite rude for those people.

If you do have a question about a particular action, motivation, or any other related topic, please direct your questions to Mr Baddock (our dramaturg), or myself. If clarification is needed, we will see to the appropriate contacts and questions in a way that allows those who have already given so much for our Protectorate to live their lives with the privacy they deserve. Failure to abide by this will lead to your part being given to your understudy.

(Naturally, we recognise that some will have social contacts with various figures portrayed through the journals, by owl, and during the Easter holidays, but we expect you to be considerate and polite about this particular topic as well. The same, naturally, goes for Professor Amycus Carrow, Professor Alecto Carrow, and Professor Rabastan.)

For those wishing to continue participating in YPL activities beyond this year, know that your behavior in this matter is a factor in whether you will be allowed to do so: consider it a way to show the good sense and graciousness that sets an example for younger students and all

others in the Protectorate.

2) Students are also expect to keep up with their work in all academic areas. A significant downward shift in the quality of your work may lead to your part being given to your understudy. (Those with upcoming OWLs and NEWTs should also take extra time to plan ahead.)

3) For those of you with smaller parts, I know that some of you have already been approached about the possibility of understudy roles. We will be discussing this in further detail on Sunday.

4) Upcoming YPL events:

You are all reminded that tomorrow, we will be gathering for our first YPL meeting of this new year, which will talk about other wizarding societies. We will be fortunate to have guests who travelled to France two summers ago as part of a move towards greater cooperation with French wizards, and we will also be talking about other areas as well.

In February, we will be having a visit from one of the top theatrical troupes. They will be sharing a number of approaches to support dramatic moments on stage. I've just learned that we will be fortunate enough to have several stay over night to work with our stage crews on Sunday, during the rehearsal period, as well. Naturally, I expect you all to be courteous and respectful of their time, but we anticipate having a chance for those interested to talk with them outside of the YPL and rehearsal times - perhaps a small gathering on Saturday night.

5) I naturally expect to be at rehearsals, but if you need to find me for other matters, I have picked up the research project again. Interested students may sign up for times on my office door, or find me out on the telescope any night we've some clear sky.

6) Finally, I believe I've corresponded with all those depicted who might wish to see a copy of the play, but if any of those depicted have additional questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Miss Moon and I both recognise the challenges of an event of this kind, and we are doing everything we can to ensure that those depicted feel comfortable with the setting. Of course, if you would like to attend the performance, we would also be glad to make arrangements.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2011-01-22 04:27:43**

Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

Raz -

In regards to my Sunday, any chance you'd be free for a drink after this first rehearsal? I expect it to be fairly ghastly. If you're not up for a cold walk to Hogsmeade, I've a few bottles I got given by relatives for the holidays I've yet to open up in my room, and even some biscuits and such to go with it.

(Is it a good sign or a worrying one when your relatives start giving you large amounts of alcohol, I wonder? At least this time, there was no question but that I got to sit with the adults, not the children, when we did the larger family gatherings.)

I also see you've been quite the success with Mr Marvolo - I look forward to whatever you can share about his breakthrough.

- Rory



 **alt_rabastan** at **2011-01-22 04:46:58**

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

A drink anytime, might not be sober by then tho. at a birthday to-do for Barty tonigh, they forced me to catch up.

Gah could really use a biccie right now. Sorry. I can barely see my book.

Rory Ror, might you bring me a restorative potion tommorow you angle?..



 **alt_sinistra** at **2011-01-22 05:06:44**

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle

Absolutely.

But if you're that badly off - have someone put you up for the night. Sounds like you're in no fit state to apparate back and walk back through the grounds. (And I'm sure that the alcohol wouldn't help with that relentless cold from the Dementors, either.)

If you do come back, I've a restorative potion handy, and I'll stop by at a reasonable hour for hangovers in the morning to see if you need anything else.

[2011-01-22 04:14:00](#)

prvt msg to Mord. Travers

Home.

Ms Galore? Golightly? ws v satisfactory.

You shd watch yr back.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **[2011-01-22 17:55:44](#)**

Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

B.

I can see your private messages this morn, think it's cos of the abbreviation. Might want to take care of that.

-R



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **[2011-01-22 23:02:13](#)**

Re: Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

Yes, well.

Should have locked the book away before I made an idiot of myself.

Let this be a warning to you.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **[2011-01-23 04:12:57](#)**

Re: Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

Oh it is man, believe me.

I was somehow lucky enough to plan ahead and have potions and tonics waiting for me when I was finally able to return to the castle. Don't feel too bad at all now, and hopefully you don't, either.



 **[alt_narcissa](#) at 2011-01-22 19:00:47**

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

I'm sure she was, dear.

Are you able to move yet? More to the point, will Maebh still welcome you after she's seen your back-to-back incoherent attempts at privacy?

Promise you shan't make Mordant too regretful. After all, it was a glorious evening. I thought the switchback with the exit hidden behind the mirror was a highlight of the maze, personally.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#) at 2011-01-22 23:00:29**

Re: Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

The evening did have its high points. Among them the switch back in the maze. Yes. For that alone I would have to concede that Travers concocted a worthy surprise. That doesn't mean he should expect no reprisal. The best gifts are those well-revenged.

Maebh's fine. She was sorry to have missed it all.

I should rather have liked to see her measure herself against you: she has rather a different training regimen, of course, and I wonder what she'd have made of that particular course. It was certainly well-suited to your strengths.

Were you as aware as I was of the appreciative assessment you were drawing? Not that any of them had grounds for surprise, but I suppose you've firmed up several technical points that you once handled by natural instinct rather than with trained precision.

I was impressed.

Forney said she was going to ask you who your trainer is.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-23 05:35:13](#)

Re: Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

We'll have to make more of an effort to include her in future, if her tastes lie in that direction. Oh - that reminds me. I sent her an owl earlier this week. I know it's frightfully late in contacting her, but after last night I'm more convinced than ever it's the perfect plan. Could you be a dear and remember (at some point) to ask if she's had a chance to review her registrations for that weekend? The 25th to the 27th, it would be. Only if it's not too much trouble for her, of course.

I admit that I was far too focused on not embarrassing myself against so many professional trackers to pay much attention to anything but the challenges ahead of me - and the hexes flying all round! But Lucius certainly noticed. He said he even had to jinx Yaxley for making an 'ill-timed' attempt to execute a switching spell between my robes and the costume of one of Mordant's hires, to make me more of a target. I'm not sure I could have fought them all off had he succeeded.

But if *you* were impressed, then it was worth it. I feel less a slouch for not getting you a better present, in that case.

Forney. She could do with a personal trainer's attention, I think. Whatever shall I tell her?

2011-01-22 04:20:00

prv msg to Maebh

Will

ltr



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

2011-01-22 10:59:00

*Private Message to Draco Malfoy and
Hydra Lestrangle*



 [alt_padma](#)

D'you reckon one of your parents will tell Mr Crouch that those messages aren't actually private? I mean, I think someone ought, but I'm certainly not going to be the one to do it!

And did you see that your uncle wasn't at breakfast? And Professor Sinistra called him Professor Rabastan, just like some of us do? Are they.. I mean, I heard they gave each other Christmas presents and all. Do you think they really are in love and going to get married?

I think that would be really wonderful for Professor Sinistra, don't you? She's ever so nice. She'd be your aunt then!



 [alt_draco](#) at **2011-01-22 18:01:23**

(no subject)

Razzer left him a private message, did you see? I bet he's telling him that he mucked up the spell.

Yeah, I saw he wasn't there. There was some big party last night for Mr Crouch's birthday, so they're probably all going to be sick as crups today.

I really don't know that he and Professor Sinistra are *in love*, but they're definitely good friends. People have always talked about the Raz like he'll be a bachelor forever, but he's always had girlfriends. Professor Sinistra doesn't seem like the type who would just be another girlfriend, though.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2011-01-22 18:54:14**

(no subject)

Oh, good that someone's told him. I mean, I suppose the best thing is to be polite and pretend not to have seen it at all.

I'm not sure why grown-ups like making themselves sick like that. It can't possibly be that much fun when you're doing it, to be worth all

the trouble after, can it?

And no, I don't think she'd be much happy with being just a girlfriend, but I dunno, they do seem to have a spark whenever they're together. And she looks at him like she fancies him. Besides, eventually nearly everyone has to get married, don't they?

Talking of that, I was surprised to see Mrs Rohani at the YPL, though. I guess I don't really think about our traditions as all that foreign, since we have such an active community here in the Protectorate.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-22 22:57:35](#)

(no subject)

I'm certainly not going to let on that I saw anything.

I've had a brandy before - it's quite nice. I don't know that I like enough to make myself sick on it, though.

The thing is, as long as Raz keeps showing up on those most eligible bachelor lists, the more people will keep reminding him he needs to get married. I wouldn't be surprised if, one day, the Lord Protector himself told him to do so. Now, I don't know if anyone's expecting Professor Sinistra to get married, but that doesn't mean she wouldn't like to. I don't think we ought to speculate about the way she looks at him, though. There was a time when I knew two people, and I was absolutely positive that one of them liked the other, romantically, you see, and it turned out that I was completely wrong - they were just friends. So you never know.

I don't think of you as foreign, I guess, but when you bring up Lakshmi and such, I don't usually know what it means. Not specifically, anyway.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-23 00:58:48](#)

(no subject)

That's right, and you said your father let you try whiskey too but you didn't care for it nearly as much? Or was it wine and you did? Our dad mostly prefers beer, which I think is utterly horrid.

Oooh, now you've made me ever so curious who they were! But you don't have to tell me. If it's important I'll figure it out. There are so many possibilities though! But I know what you mean. Loads of people think Page and I are more than just mates, too. But if eventually he has to get married, then he might as well marry someone he likes. Don't you think?

And well, it's like Mrs Rohani explained. Lakshmi and Vashti and Shiva - that's like when you lot talk about Merlin and Erebus and Morgana and such. They were all great magicians because they're descended from the gods. And some of them are gods, too, only not like muggles thought about god. They're real, only we can't see them unless they want us to do. But they're the ones who decide who's going to have magic and who's not, before you're born, I mean, and they guide people to their ancestors after death, and things like that. And they had all sorts of adventures a long time ago.

Zabini says Parvati and I should show people more Indian dances and stuff sometime. We're thinking about incorporating some dance styles into Nagini. I think it would be well snitch. I'm not sure about a whole presentation on it, though. I mean, we don't know as much as someone like Mrs Rohani.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-23 03:31:22](#)
(no subject)

Whiskey burns more, mostly, but brandy's a little too sweet. Something between the two might be best.

Ha, you won't figure it out, believe me. So you and Page aren't more than mates, then? Didn't seem like you were, but I wasn't to know.

I liked the bit about karma. It seems a little like what goes around, comes around, right? Dharma sounds good, too, like duty and whatnot, if I was following what Mrs Rohani said.

If Nagini dances then I've never seen it. Which doesn't mean that you shouldn't do it, just that if you care about being authentic, it's something to think about.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-23 03:46:59](#)
(no subject)

Well. We'll see if I figure it out or not. Anyway, Page definitely says he wants to be more than mates. And I do, too, in a way, but I can't, you see. Because of - well, because.

And no, it's not that Nagini dances or we're being authentic about that (although Marvolo's giving us Parseltongue lessons, isn't that nift?), but you know the bit where we kill Measley is one of the only musical parts of the show. And also we thought that incorporating some dance into Nagini's movement would make us look less like two girls with a snake illusion round us and more like something that's not human at all.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-23 04:00:51](#)
(no subject)

Really now. Well, what did he expect?

I just want to see you eat Measley, to be honest, but if you want to dance while you do it, all the better. Either way it'll probably be the funniest thing I've seen all year.

2011-01-22 11:51:00

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



Something to bear in mind:

The journals may know who you're writing to even if you say 'Aunt Midge' instead of 'Mildred Jane Elizabeth Smythe of Hertfordshire Downs' but you'd better spell the 'private message to' bit all the way out or EVERYONE will see.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I wonder who'll tell him? It certainly won't be me.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-01-22 18:12:21**
(no subject)

I've been thinking.

It probably matters to spell out this thing all the way too, properly.

Because if you don't, well, people will see the message, and they'll also see what you've written on top, and even really stupid people will wonder why that's being written and might sort it out or try writing it themselves.

And I know it's not like we're going to get drunk any time soon, but we might be really scared or unable to write because we've been cruciated, or something else awful, and

I guess we shouldn't risk it at all if we don't think we could write it properly. For safety. Because that would be really, really, really bad if we messed it up.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-01-22 18:14:25**
(no subject)

Maybe we could have a code word? That we could use if we think we can't spell out Solemnly Swear properly? That way, somebody else could do the spell for you, and you could say what you needed to then.

Because if you write an answer to someone that did the spell, it

works fine, and you don't have to re-write it.

What would be a word you could write really easily, but isn't used often? So people would know that you meant it, and weren't saying it by mistake?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-22 18:17:57](#)
(no subject)

Everyone figured out the black/red/blue code and everyone figured out the fish code and I think making up another code would be borrowing trouble, honestly.

I think we're all clever enough that if someone's hurt and scared and somehow doesn't seem to be able to write things properly someone will turn on the lock and ask what's up.

There's two layers of protection with the lock, both the words and the ink, but the ink wouldn't keep, oh, Padma Patil from seeing it, so.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-22 18:19:21](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I figured as much. But it's still scary to think about everything hinging on proper spelling.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-22 18:20:46](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

Lucky Vince will never be on the lock. He's UTTER PANTS at spelling.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-22 18:24:13](#)
(no subject)

Haha, I think he spells everything how it sounds. Like he says it out loud first.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-22 21:18:45](#)
(no subject)

Millicent Bulstrode too!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 02:41:45](#)
(no subject)

And Harry's just awful with apostrophes! It's like he never has the time to write them out!



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-23 03:05:38](#)
(no subject)

I know! I've told him and told him, and he tries sometimes, really he does. But he just doesn't think about it, he writes too quickly to put them in, even though he's not so bad a speller or anything, and then he says things like "Well but that's why I have you around, to check," and then he doesn't have me check at all, for things like journal entries! It makes him look so stupid.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-22 22:26:50](#)
(no subject)

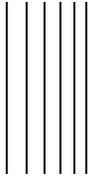
Ha! Yeah.

But I think about it every time I write it. 'Cause, like, what happens if you write 'I Solemnly Swear I'm Up To No Good' instead of, y'know, 'I AM'?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 02:41:13](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm not about to test it and see!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 03:49:47](#)
(no subject)

And don't you dare either, tunabrain.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-22 22:28:00](#)
(no subject)

I know, right?

He must be dead embarrassed about it!

2011-01-22 16:34:00

Private Message to Norah Crouch

Mother.

Yes. I'm here. In Snowdonia. Safely.

Yes. I waited to Apparate until I was able to do so. Safely.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Yes. I recognise that I was shamefully inebriated last night. And that I brought embarrassment to you. I regret that you were bothered.

Yes. I've apologised to Maebh. She was far less concerned than you imagine. What did she say to me? 'I'm sorry to have missed the festivities: I should truly have liked to see you beyond your limits. One day!'

No. I don't expect you to understand. Content yourself that I've found the right person in Maebh. I hope you can do that.

2011-01-22 18:20:00

A Quiet Day

Realising to-day that while I have used the journals for various communications of late, it has been quite some time since I had any leisure to simply update.



 [alt_lucius](#)

Magical Commerce met Monday; nearly all signs of last year's drop in trade seem to have faded and all sectors report traffic back almost to the levels they were at before the illness struck. Crispin appears to be settling in to his new duties well enough. He reports a number of new licence applications for these so-called reduction ... clinics, spas, some of them call themselves clubs or hotels. Every one of them has its own 'guaranteed' method to produce results, naturally. But it is difficult to conceive a better solution when so many wizards have become enamoured of the pies, pasties and various other concoctions made almost entirely from transfigured foods. Suet and fat, most of them; no nutritional value whatever. Have banned Hooper going to the vendors he prefers as he had gained at least a stone since starting with me just over two months ago. At that rate he should have been able to sink a frigate by summertime.

Fudge's anniversary luncheon went well indeed. His address on the WWN is scheduled for early February and ought to be enlightening as well as affirming. Our nation is strong thanks to the measures which Our Lord Protector has adopted.

Speaking of the WWN, heard that the second broadcast channel has been picking up audience. Peale's last report claimed that the new original content - a serial drama and an interview show - have been among the most popular offerings, judging from the post he has received. Of course, the music, particularly the newer music, had a considerable jump in popularity over the holidays, but has dropped off now that the students are back at school. He's asked to monitor it again during the Easter holidays to determine whether they are correlated.

(Incidentally, Draco and Pansy: Saw Nolan last week and he asked me to be sure to remember him to you both, and to tell you not to be too discouraged. His suggestions come from experience. Any idiot can

collide words until they scan and rhyme; it takes something altogether different to write a song that captures the attention of an entire country. And he said by all means to keep working on material.)

Everyone at the Elysian was talking about Hogwarts' foray into dramatics, even on Tuesday when Ari and I were there. He, of course, knew that Ptolemy read many of Miss Moon's early drafts and had already made several suggestions to her, resulting in the script that the Governors approved before the project went forward. Still, he was not certain he would attend - and small wonder, as the closer of the first half dwells on Serena's murder. Believe we have all been thinking of the past more often of late, thanks to the *Londinarium* article. Moody and his minions have much for which to answer, when we bring them to justice. Leicester was particularly difficult for more than one reason but it was not the only day we sacrificed heavily for the privileges we all now enjoy. One cannot regret the cost in light of the eventual victory, but I do wish I had been able to ~~finish~~ capture him either on the day we freed the Ministry of Bagnold and Dumbledore or on that day Tony died. It's fitting Miss Moon assigned him a cat as a familiar: The blackguard has at least as many lives as one, despite how often we whittled away at him.

But I confess it was a great pleasure to run the Ouroboros' course last night with so many others. In a way it was more like the days of old when we were the few who had the courage to follow through on Our Lord's magnificent plan. Certainly, we did not chase quarry near so ... appealing ... as the creatures Travers arranged for us yester-night, nor so willing victims. Must say that Narcissa's training regimen has been nothing but good for her. She kept pace every bit as well as Malvasius and Forney, even Bella at times. (Not that Narcissa was ever less than skilled in duelling, but the course has some sections that are calculated to be challenging even for warlocks in their prime.) I daresay she surprised quite a few members of MLE - and I hope made them fear for their profession, if they can't surpass her!

The only drawback to such a spirited celebration was that neither of us cared to go further than Kensington at evening's end, nor even today. We have remained in Town and in a state of utter relaxation - necessary, but something of a lost day. Not even sure what we were supposed to do this afternoon, but whatever it was, our apologies. I trust that the event took place without any notice that we were not in attendance. I do recall we had seats for the opera this evening, but we both agree that's out; we shall re-arrange to attend another performance.

To-morrow, we do not have the luxury of late lie-ins and lazy afternoon teas, however. That much I do recall without consulting my books.

Oh, and Barty - assuming you've any time for journals outside of throwing yourself on Ms Drumgoole's mercy: Should she refuse to forgive you, perhaps the hair ornaments Gaude gave you will convince Miss Golightly to return with you to the ring.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-22 23:50:19](#)

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

It was 'Golightly', then? I may have given her the hair bobs already. I confess I'm not certain of some details.

And yes, yes, I'm aware how utterly entertaining it is that my part is to be played by girl. You'll be pleased to know that Maebh has made a meal of that point as well.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 00:40:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

No idea, Barty; I'm working off your information from this morning. But I believe she was the blonde. Had to be: Mordant called the ginger one 'Kit Vesper' and the brunette was using 'Xeni Lynd' for a monniker. None of the others needed distinction, nor did they merit it.

Nonetheless, I heard Claudius and Malvasius making plans to use their pensieves before retiring for the night, I assume to make sure they can produce the memories at an opportune moment. Confident you could acquire the phials ... if you've any interest in recalling the details, that is.

Surely you were not too far gone to remember Truncheon and Mordant re-enacting page 46 of the script for you? Complete with falsetto.

I mention it only because I know you'll want to be precise in your vengeance.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-23 01:29:42](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Quite.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 00:47:15](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Besides - it's not as if you're the only one to be played by a young woman. It's not surprising that more witches were interested in the project, though I daresay Miss Moon's original intention was for a smaller cast.

Merlin, even Rod's being played by a witch. It's only the timing, Barty, or they'd be taking the piss out of one of the others. Well, the timing and that you rise to the bait so temptingly.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-23 01:31:49](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Indeed. And it remains to be seen whether any of the wizards have talent sufficient to their roles.

You're to be played by one of the Higgs, yes? I wonder.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 01:41:34](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Oh, I think your expectations are entirely too high, Barty. I'm fairly certain the whole enterprise will be perfectly dreadful with perhaps one or two glimpses of true skill at theatrics. But it keeps them engaged and undeniably provides the YPL with appropriate material - on a number of levels, in fact.

If it were not being played on the same day as a Slytherin Quidditch match, we might have been able to avoid attending. Though in truth I think Narcissa would want to go, if only to applaud Draco. Personally I can think of few evenings less

pleasant or desirable - one of Dolores' holiday parties, perhaps - but one must show support as Governor if not as Councilwizard.

But I hardly expected you to be reading your journal at this hour. Or is your hostess occupied with her patrons?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-23 02:29:32](#)**
(no subject)

Oh! Thank you for passing that along.

So I guess he didn't end up using it after all, then?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-01-23 02:35:51](#)**
(no subject)

My understanding is that he felt he did not have the right band for the song, or that the song needed sufficient rework for the bands he had at his disposal that by the time he could produce it, the moment would have passed.

He did make a point of saying he thought the lyric clever, Little Bit. And I think he appreciated the information you've passed to him, regarding the musical tastes of your peers. (Well done, that.)



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-23 02:40:19](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that's something. And he's the sort of person that wouldn't just say that sort of thing to be flattering, either, I don't think. I'm glad he thought that it would be worth my while to keep working at song-writing, and I really did appreciate his taking the time to hear us.

And it is nift to think that survey of mine really did some good!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 03:04:43](#)
(no subject)

And I understand about Mr Baddock not wanting to see the play.

I've talked to Ptolemy about it some, and it is sad, what happened to his mum. But he's proud of her, just like I'm proud of my dad. And he's glad that she can be remembered for what she did.

He was awfully kind after the article came out, too. Everyone at school has been really decent, actually. And Chastity Derwent also made a point of coming up to me after she got the part playing my dad, and she said she'd try and do his part justice.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 03:12:28](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

But they could hardly do otherwise, could they? Unless perhaps they were foolish enough to attract entirely the wrong sort of attention.

Don't worry, Little Bit. I don't think any of us who were there that day expect the play to be accurate - and in fact, Miss Moon has taken pains to put humour and a touch of farce into a situation that, at the time, was anything but funny. Oh, the facts are there, and I know she relied heavily on the histories and our testimonies afterward, particularly in the war crimes tribunals, but overall it is not meant to be an historical representation any more than, say, Shakespeare's histories are strictly speaking a perfect account of what happened.

But I'm sure no one would choose to interpret any of us, living or dead, with less than respect.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 03:20:26](#)

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Everyone except Mr and Miss Professor Carrow. They've been saying things, and I'm not quite sure what to think about it.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 03:23:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I can imagi

What sort of things?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 03:37:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Just

Well, Miss Professor Carrow is taking over the Duelling club from Professor Acton, and when I said I was looking forward to the next meeting, she said that I shouldn't expect to get much out of it, because I'd most likely be slow on the draw just like my my Father.

And that it was a good thing I wasn't interested in Dark Arts, because father certainly didn't have the constitution for it.

And what Mr Professor Carrow said in my journal, well.

They didn't think very highly of him, did they?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 04:06:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Hold on, I thought Raz Professor Lestra - oh. You mean assisting with duelling? I see.

I shouldn't worry about what the Carrows think. About your father or anyone else.

But if either of them murmurs in your ear again, do tell me what they said.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-23 04:51:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I shall.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-23 03:41:35](#)

(no subject)

'Do his part justice'?

Well, that won't take very much effort on her part,
will it?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 03:54:09](#)

(no subject)

Considering your own part in the events of the actual battle for the Ministry, you had best be very, very considerate of your next words.

Though perhaps not quite so inaccurate as one might suppose. A hero bested by a fool, isn't it?



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-23 04:01:29](#)

(no subject)

Justice would be to bow out altogether and wait it out like he did.

(Have no idea what you're blathering about, Malfoy. But I suppose you mean you've actually taken the time to read the bloody thing.

I have better things to do.)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 04:22:10](#)

Private Message to Amycus Carrow

One of those better things really should be contemplating the wisdom of calling a patriot's loyalty or his sacrifice into question.

Another of those things ought to be watching your mouth - and your sister's - around Miss Parkinson. Or you will discover just how good a duellist *I* am, Carrow. And unless I misremember, you do not want to test me on that score.

I certainly have the constitution for the Dark Arts, as you well know. Nor have I any qualms about using them on a drunkard or his slattern, so take my advice, Carrow: Fuck. Off.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-23 04:27:16](#)

Re: Private Message to Amycus Carrow

Showing your true colours, peacock?

Threats are for the weak.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 04:30:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Amycus Carrow

Threats? Yes. All the more so when levied at children.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-23 04:08:24](#)

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Did he only mention the lyrics? What about the tune itself?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-23 04:26:12](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

I didn't ask. I got the impression both would have needed a little rework.

But he definitely meant to encourage you both to keep working.

Is a continued partnership a possibility, then? For a while I thought you might have given up on her.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-23 14:18:55](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

We will, then.

We're getting along quite well, actually, but she still thinks Weasley and Longbottom are good company, and I don't think anything I say will change her mind.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-24 02:31:19](#)

(no subject)

The cast of the *Liberation of the Ministry* held their first read through this afternoon. I did not audition myself (being very aware of looming N.E.W.T.s), but I came to hear the first rehearsal, partly out of curiosity and partly to show support (my girlfriend Penelope Clearwater has been heavily involved in the planning stages and will be acting as the stage manager). Of course our students are novice actors, and some are better than others, but the seed of something quite splendid is there, I think. Karoline, Penny and the rest of the planning team were quite relieved and excited afterward.

Naturally, the students are also all quite inspired by the fact that we feel so privileged to be depicting such stirring and pivotal events in our history.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-24 03:06:44](#)

(no subject)

Oh, it's certainly a project with a number of laudable goals, Mr Weasley, not least of which is to imbue its participants with a palpable sense of the importance of those events. And of course the Governors have all read Miss Moon's script and approved it or the effort would not have been encouraged by Professor Sinistra. And I've no doubt that she has cast the show as well as possible given the amateur pool at her disposal. But as you say, the performance is bound to be ...

uneven - and of course, as with any school undertaking, professional quality is not strictly speaking the point, nor should it be the expectation of any spectator.

Nonetheless, what has most people talking are the choices of who has been cast to play whom - particularly when there were clearly not enough willing young men to fill all the available parts. We are also intrigued to see so many fifth-years and above wishing to participate - helping support the project, one could understand, especially those of you who are already involved in counselling the YPL students, but taking an on-stage rôle is another thing altogether. It was the Governors' understanding (and I believe Professor Sinistra's as well) that the majority of participants would be the YPL members.

In your case, it seems to me quite sensible that between a counsellor's duties, NEWTs, and the obligations of Head Boy, you chose to hold yourself apart. I shouldn't wonder if several of your classmates find themselves regretting their commitment as term continues. Of course, it is up to the individual student to decide his own capacity for himself, though one hopes that if something has to go, these extra-curricular activities would be dropped before they take a toll on one's academics.

Remind me again, Mr Weasley, what NEWTs you hope to achieve?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-24 17:10:19](#)
(no subject)

I must say, it would be exceedingly interesting to see a professional theatre company undertake to present the historical events our students will be depicting. Well, that may be one point about amateur productions: they may tackle subjects first, but later, more professional productions can then more fully polish and develop.

I, too, have wondered about the level of commitment that several of my age-cohorts have chosen to undertake, but certainly the Professors have made it clear that of course schoolwork must come first.

Aside from the core subjects, I am attempting to achieve a NEWT in Arithmancy and Ancient Runes. I have been studying Dark Arts

with Miss Professor Carrow as an independent study...it is a trifle irregular, a kind accommodation she has made for me (perhaps because of my position as Head Boy) and so it is unclear whether I will be allowed to attempt the NEWT in that subject, as I am not formally enrolled in the class. The Professor has forwarded a query for me as to whether I will be allowed to test to the NEWT examination committee, and we are awaiting their decision.



 **alt_lucius** at **2011-01-25 01:21:25**
(no subject)

I think Miss Carrow may be overly cautious. Anyone may sit the NEWT exam provided an application is received on time. It is generally not advised if one has not had the requisite number of years of instruction. You may be asked to complete a practical OWL, however.

There have been numerous cases in the past where students have sat for OWLs without having ever set foot inside a formal lesson.

The NEWT examination committee is under the Division of Magical Education. Perhaps your brother could pick up a pamphlet or two for you; I believe he works just down the corridor, in Communications.

[2011-01-22 19:06:00](#)

Order Only: Identification is ready

Dad is pretty sure he has pinned down the location of one of the Devon babies, William Somerville. A baby by that name was born in Torridge about four months ago. We're less sure about Michelle O'Neill, because O'Neill is a more common name thereabouts. There are three Michelle O'Neills in Devon. One was just born in the camp of South Hams, so Dad has a strong hunch that she's our girl. The other two are age nine and age fourteen. We think that if either of those two were the correct Michelle O'Neill, Minerva would have seen their names in the book quite awhile before now.



 [alt_bill](#)

I have documents prepared for entry into those camps (Torridge and South Hams) for two. Frank, do you want to make the run with Dad? When can you go? Dad said he can do it if you go anytime from tomorrow through Wednesday. If it has to be after that, he has month end reports and meetings, which would make it more difficult for him to get away, but I assume Kingsley can substitute if need be.

(Also, I think we do need to ask: assuming we can get all six of the babies spirited away, is Moddey Dhoo prepared to take them all in? I mean, do you have the staff and enough supplies to take on the responsibility of adding that number to the nursery?)



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-23 02:23:15](#)
(no subject)

The Michelle O'Neill must be the baby, Bill. I certainly don't like to spread it around, but the book is always updated when children are less than a year old. I can't remember when it was updated for a child who was older than a month, in fact. Usually, I believe, it happens at the moment of birth, though of course I haven't hunted down near-term women to find out.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-23 03:17:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, that keeps it simple, then.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-23 02:36:22](#)
(no subject)

I'm ready to go tomorrow, for sure.

we've told everyone what to expect, and it'll be a bit of a stretch, no mistaking, especially so soon after taking two in, but we're preparing for all of them. we've got some in the nursery that are old enough to move into the dormitories so that'll make room. and babies don't eat a lot. nappies are another matter altogether. might have to make some new ones to keep up with demand.

we also might need to hit up Sherwood for an extra hand, otherwise jacinda might go spare, even with all of us taking shifts to help her out, that's still a lot to juggle, and we might need someone else full-time in nursery.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-23 02:42:58](#)
(no subject)

I suppose your Victor would simply hate it if his daughter had to come home for a while, eh?

I can move out if I'm needed, as well. Nothing else to do at the moment.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-23 02:52:11](#)
(no subject)

heh, that's an understatement. though getting her away from john might be hard doing. perhaps she can convince a muggle at the camps who isn't attached to anyone to come down -- perhaps someone with no family who's tired of camping it rough.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-23 03:07:45](#)
(no subject)

Frank and Dad are going tomorrow to Torridge. I can get the identification for South Hams to

Kingsley, and you two can pick up Michelle, whenever you like. Kingsley, when would be good for you?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-23 03:13:21](#)
(no subject)

I'll pick up the identification parchments if you'll leave them at our designated drop point. What time can you get them there? I'm free anytime the next three days; we don't have to be in Yorkshire for our next performance until Wednesday.

Sirius, ordinarily I'd use Emmeline for this, but it would be good to see you again, my friend, and so sure, why don't you come along on the second team.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-23 03:14:27](#)
(no subject)

I can have them at the drop point by say 10:00 am tomorrow.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-23 03:14:48](#)
(no subject)

Right. Sirius, when would you like to move out?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-23 03:17:22](#)
(no subject)

I'll make it partway tonight. Meet you in South Hams around half-eleven? Figure if we go in at the lunch hour we might have less to worry about.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:45:45](#)**
(no subject)

Excellent. That'll work. With a bit of luck, Moddey Dhoo will have two new residents tomorrow night.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:52:01](#)**
(no subject)

We'll be waiting for them!



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2011-01-23 02:52:17](#)**
(no subject)

Frank, tell Jacinda I think I can get some more cloth nappies on the barter network, and I'll send them along. Do let me know if there is anything else: gowns, crib linens and so forth.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:23:20](#)**
(no subject)

that'd be ace, molly. gowns we've got enough of for sure. they grow out of them so fast we've always got loads of second-hand available. same with bottles.

I'll ask her if there's anything else we're running low on.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-01-23 02:59:22](#)**
(no subject)

I know there are several young experienced mothers with the Sherwood band, and Davidson might be able to suggest a likely candidate or two. Lucinda could interview them before they even set foot in the sanctuary, so you'd be sure to be comfortable with whomever they suggest. And if they have a kid or two of their own that you could squeeze into one of the dormitories, they might really appreciate the opportunity to settle someplace like Moddey Dhoo.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:24:00](#)**
(no subject)

see now that'd be just the thing.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:04:32](#)**
(no subject)

Tomorrow works for me. Sunday's good for this because there are less administrative staff around. Bill's given me the identification for Torridge, so we'll start with William. I can be at the rendezvous point at 9:00 am tomorrow.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:24:18](#)**
(no subject)

right. meet you there.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-01-23 03:51:46](#)**
(no subject)

Bill, that is good to hear.

Thank you so much for all your work.

2011-01-23 10:23:00

*Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.
and Maebh Drumgoole*



Good morning, lovebirds!

Maebh, we don't know each other very well yet, but I thought you both might be interested to hear that Norah has been a busy little billywig since last evening. Barty, whatever did you say to set her off? I received an owl from her, I'm sure not two hours after I saw you had written to her in the journals. It was two pages of parchment, equal parts jubilation and probing for anything I might know about your plans. And from what I hear on the Floo, I'm not the only one she's contacted.

 [alt_narcissa](#)

I'm off to the WI luncheon later today and I'm sure I'll be confronted with any number of busybody witches who'll want to know what's really going on between you two. Rest assured, your privacy is safe with me - I'm sure it's none of my business what you're up to - but if you don't want your banns read into the *Prophet's* society column before week's end, you'd best tell her to pull up on her broomstick. Say the word and I'll quash any rumours that reach me as well.

After all, if there's any truth in her presumption, I daresay neither of you would want Our Lord to think you'd made your choice without His blessing.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2011-01-24 04:20:41**

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

No.

No.

No.

There is no date set. Yet. And certainly there will not be without Our Lord's approving the betrothal.

Mother-

To be honest, I think I should request her St Mungo's records this week.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-24 13:44:14](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Are you sure it's wise to let Maebh think that you and I have secrets? She's not a jealous type, is she? After your comment about how she wished to test herself against me....

Well. Don't worry - it's far from the first time your mother has leapt to a conclusion regarding your future. Everyone's used to it by now. Though it's sad to think the best way to allay the rumour is to make her look somewhat ridiculous; I tried to sound rather as if she may simply know more than we do at present.

As to the question of her health...is it bad as all that? Do let me know if there's anything we can do from here.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-24 15:54:12](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I don't believe Maebh is the jealous type, no. At least not in the usual sense. And she's realistic about the fact that we have separate lives--hers in Wales and mine where my work takes me. I rather think she likes the idea that there are things still to discover about me. And about my associations.

Well, indeed.

I'm not certain. She's always used her frailty as a trump card, you know.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-24 22:26:05](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Well, you know her better than I, though I hope you'll help me correct that in time.

Now, what day is best for you for lunch? And where?

You can tell me all about it then.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-24 22:32:38](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Wednesday, if it could be late. Say one o'clock.

Thursday is open for now.

Have you been to Meerut, recently? Desai says it's worth a visit.

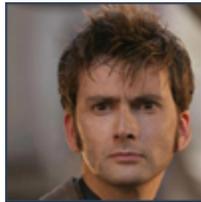


 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-24 23:15:58](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

No, I can't Wednesday, not that late. Thursday, then. Half-twelve suit you?

Meerut sounds fine, if Desai recommends it.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-25 03:31:25](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Sorry. Yes. Half-twelve on Thursday at Meerut.

I'm looking forward to it.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-24 13:32:56](#)

(no subject)

I'm sorry I didn't get back to you earlier. Maebh showed me the western range of the reserve today. It was rather glorious.

Honestly. Mother.

Maebh thinks her very sweet. In fact, she's gone out of her way to be really lovely to Mother.

And, of course, Mother's not wrong about my intentions, though she's leagues ahead of us schedule-wise. So, yes, do please do what you can to squash the gossip as the whole matter will take time, and it would be grossly premature to run announcements of any kind.

Maebh, I trust you'll agree when you see this. I do apologise for Mother's getting ahead of herself.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-24 13:39:00](#)
(no subject)

Well, don't despair just yet. In the absence of instruction, I made certain to deflect all inquiries and, where necessary, implied that your mother's actions may be explained by an understandable eagerness to see you cared for and happy.

Showed you the western range? Is that what the young people are calling it these days?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-24 15:59:00](#)
(no subject)

Mapping the terrain.

Taking the lay of the land.

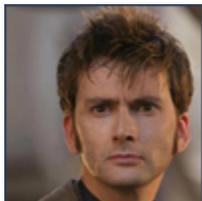
Surveying the contours.

Euphemisms abound.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-24 22:24:01](#)
(no subject)

Quite.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-24 22:29:11](#)
Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

By the way, I've just spoken with Maebh. She says she's worked out the difficulty with your February dates--she'd had Nott booked in with a large party, but she's persuaded him to change

his plans.

She's sending you an owl with details.



 **alt_narcissa** at **2011-01-24 23:13:09**

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

It's sweet of her to trouble, though I don't like to think she's disappointed Theo. I'll have to console him with something. No matter - it's worth it if we'll be able to take in the vistas and,

ahem, mount the summits in good company.

[2011-01-23 14:06:00](#)

Order Only: Not a hitch

Kingsley and I made it inside and found young Michelle. It took a little talking to the parents, but Kingsley has her safe and sound and is on his way to Moddey Dhoo with her as we speak.



 [alt_sirius](#)

I've stayed behind in the nearby pub to see if I can learn any good gossip from the workers.

Frank? Arthur? How did yours go?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at **[2011-01-23 19:44:33](#)**

(no subject)

I'm here safely at the Sanctuary and have turned her over to Jacinda. Stephen has weighed and measured her and puts her a little over ten pounds and twenty-two inches. He says with the old charts that would have put her at about the tenth percentile for a baby three months old, but of course children in the camps run much smaller now. But she's healthy and her colour is good, and she's looking around as curious and bright-eyed as we could wish.

Haven't seen Frank and Arthur yet, but expect to very soon. Victor and Arabella have asked me to stay for dinner.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **[2011-01-24 03:35:51](#)**

(no subject)

Good!

I had supper at the pub. Heard that I'm still alive, which is good to know. I wasn't aware that I could pass through walls, however, before now. I don't think I'll try it just yet - not on a barman's assurance, anyway.

Let's see. People were talking a bit about transfigured foods and the difficulty getting fresh ingredients, still. I suppose that's a perennial conversation topic. But this time there was a good deal of discussion of some new transfiguring methods, using fats and all the bits of things no one normally uses to make into delectable

treats. Sounds a bit like muggle fast food industries, if you ask me - burgers and chicken nuggets and things like that, sweetened and salted so you can't tell they're absolutely awful.

Then one bloke says to his companion that his wife has gained so much weight on the stuff that she's thinking of going to one of the reducing spas. (I shan't repeat what he said about her outgrowing her robes.) His mate tells him the spas are all fake, but no, this chap says, he knows two or three women in the office who've gone. They all come out mysteriously self-controlled, apparently. No cravings or anything - and if they do fall off their diets, another treatment gets them right back on track.

Didn't Malfoy say something recently about the job his old clerk went to do? Regulation of Commercial Enterprise? I'm sure there was something in there about just these sorts of businesses, but I can't recall what. I mean, other than obviously, the transfigured foods are making everyone gain weight and these new places are designed to help people lose it again. Funny. I always thought exercise was the best way.

Well, anyway. Back to the gossip. Oh, there was one other thing I thought was rather funny: People were trying not to laugh at Crouch's foul-up yesterday morning, but all promising to watch their letters very carefully when addressing private messages. And Bill, you'll be happy to note that there's a very healthy sense of resentment that Ministry can read any of the private messages whenever they like.

Then there was the really interesting part. I'd been there for a couple of hours when a young woman came in, went up to the bar, and showed the barman something on her wrist as she ordered her drink. Very subtle she was at it, too, I don't think I'd have seen her myself if I hadn't leaned out from my corner to signal another round just at that second. Anyway, the barman served her, then handed her a key with her change, and quick as you like, she went down the corridor to the ladies' ... and never came back. I sat nursing my pint for a good hour. Never saw her return. The bartender cleared her drink away, too, more than half full, and long before that hour was up. Not sure whether it's ours or theirs, though given the way the talk ran in that place, I'm betting they've got some kind of smuggling operation going. People or goods? Maybe both.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-24 18:06:07](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Sirius. Interesting. I'll pass this along to my analysts. Where was the pub, exactly?

There was a memo passed around the office this morning regarding some letters that have been sent into the *Daily Prophet*--and then quashed by the editor rather than being published--complaining about the Ministry's apparent willingness to snoop into the so-called 'private messages.' Your pubmates obviously aren't the only ones upset about this.

(Of course, all the letters sent in were either anonymous or had obvious false names. People complain, but aren't yet brave enough to do so openly. Which is a good thing, because they probably would attracted some uncomfortable official attention had they been foolish enough to use their true names.)



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-23 21:02:46](#)
(no subject)

Thank goodness.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-24 03:12:42](#)
(no subject)

Minerva, have you decided about the other four? Do you plan to blot them out of the book?

Remember, as Frank said, we can erase them now and still go and get them anytime in the next couple of weeks, whenever Bill can get us the papers to get in and out.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-24 04:50:37](#)
(no subject)

They've been erased, sirius. I know my duty



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-24 04:52:33](#)
(no subject)

though it isn't pleasant to trust so much. I trust you always --- but not to trust like this, where it isn't just you who is to determine if it works or not.

I'm turning in.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-01-23 21:14:37](#)
(no subject)

Frank and I have made it safely with young Wills, although it took us awhile. In fact, we came perilously close to resorting to doing a memory modification because the parents, particularly the father, were quite frightened and extremely reluctant at first. Frank patiently answered every question, however, and after they read the letters sent by the children and spent an hour or so agonising, they agreed to let the boy go.

I was struck anew as I am every time we bring a new child to Moddey Dhoo: these parents are so very brave. It humbles me, the trust they have placed in us. The fact that so many have agreed to do so is a testament to how very grim their lives really are.

Stephen is looking Wills over now, but all seems well so far. What a set of lungs he has on him!

2011-01-23 17:36:00

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

I've forgotten where you are right now, and you aren't in any of the places I thought you might be. Are you napping? You aren't supposed to do that.



 [alt_hermione](#)

In any case I finished copying out your paper for Dark Arts. I was going to come give it to you but I can't find you.

And remember, tomorrow you have Transfiguration, Defence, Potions and Dark Arts in that order, and you don't have any electives, so you shouldn't be napping then either.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2011-01-23 23:18:05**
(no subject)

It was only a short nap. I won't tomorrow if I don't have to.

I'll come down to the common room in a second.

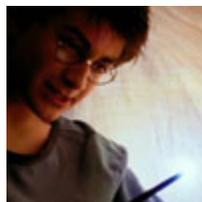
Also do you see how my apostrophys are today? They're good, aren't they?



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2011-01-23 23:19:34**
(no subject)

Too bad they weren't better yesterday, when you were writing the Dark Arts paper. Two feet of parchment and you didn't use a single one!

Also, it's 'apostrophe,' not 'apostrophy.'



 [alt_harry](#) at **2011-01-23 23:21:11**
(no subject)

Well yesterday you weren't telling me about it. Also yesterday I didn't nap at all. So I was very busy. Too busy for apostrophes.

[2011-01-24 11:11:00](#)

The play!

Yesterday afternoon was the first rehearsal, so it was the first read through. It was also the first meeting for the production crew, just to let people know the sorts of things they'll have to do. Meghan and Eloise are still rather cross that they didn't get a part, not even in the chorus/Wizengamot like Susan and I did, but it sounds as though the stage crew will have plenty to do, preparing costumes, scrounging up and making props and the like.



 **[alt_hannah](#)**

It was quite interesting to hear the play for the first time. We've studied the events in History of Magic, of course, but still I didn't know about some of the events depicted. It was really quite moving and thrilling. A few of the girls were actually sniffing a little at the end of Act 1.

Some of the people cast are already so good! (Terrence Higgs, for example, as Mr Malfoy! And Electra Bobolis, I'm sure, will just be fabulous as Mrs Lestrangle.)(Well, and some are so bad, mispronouncing everything, but I won't name names there. They'll certainly have time to improve.)

But the best part was probably the look on Ronald Weasley's face when he realised for the first time that he actually had to sing.

It's going to be ever so much fun.

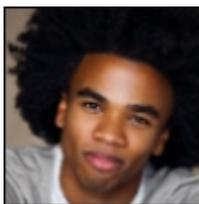


 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-01-24 17:37:32](#)**

I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

I wish the whole thing would just go away.

Evelyn's in it. I hope it won't be too awful for her.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2011-01-24 17:38:26](#)**

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

You think some people are going to be making nasty comments to her?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-24 17:38:48](#)

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

Probably. Theseus Cox is going around telling everyone that he's going to base his 'interpretation' of Frank Longbottom, blood-traitor, on an imitation of me.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2011-01-24 17:39:16](#)

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

Ouch.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-24 17:39:28](#)

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

Yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-24 18:25:07](#)

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

Sorry, mate.

If you want, we can hex you the afternoon of the play so you'll have to go to the hospital wing and miss it.

Actually. Maybe we could hex each other.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-24 17:41:50](#)

(no subject)

Our ickle Ronniekins, singing?

I hope the ushers provide ear plugs for the audience for that point in the production. That would be quite thoughtful.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-24 18:22:24](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oi!

Shut it, you!

If you wanted to help, you could just kill me now so I wouldn't have to go through with this.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-25 14:47:13](#)

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

Where's the fun in that for us if you're not around to torture?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-25 00:36:25](#)

(no subject)

Professor Binns covered the Battle for the Ministry with you?

Or were you all talking about it in a lesson and ignoring what he had to say?

Anyway, yes, it was really a good first read, wasn't it? I thought Sandoval and Yaxley did quite well, especially, considering how much they objected to having to play a love scene, even if it is tragic.

Did you hear Weasley's trying to find out if he has to do it? And after he was sooo chuffed to be the cat in the first place? But it's all right. The more naff he is the bigger the applause Parvati and I will get when we kill him!



 [alt_dean](#) at [2011-01-25 04:35:52](#)

(no subject)

It's too bad you all don't kill the cat early on in the play. At the very least it would make Ginny feel better. It would also save time in getting rid of a useless charater and a very bad performer.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-25 14:22:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, it's lucky he doesn't even show up until Act II. I guess they wanted to limit the amount of damage he could do.

As far as I can tell, Ginny Weasley doesn't have any reason to complain. She's got one of the funniest scenes in the show, and it's practically all hers. And then she's got some hilarious physical stuff later on. I mean, the only thing she could possibly regret is having Ron for a brother in the first place, and that's nothing at all to do with the play.

There are plenty of girls who'd have given their wands for such a juicy role.

By the way, did you hear that Vesta Chambers resigned already? I guess she thought her part had more lines and she was disappointed at the reading. And Stevens says if they don't move her up from the Wizengamot she'll probably quit as well.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-25 14:56:45](#)
(no subject)

Well, of COURSE Professor Binns covered some of this. There's no need to be shirty. I'm not saying he didn't. But not everything. Or were some of those bits Karoline Moon put in it what d'ye call it--artistic

licence?

I hadn't heard that about Weasley. Well, I suppose he was so taken aback about the singing that he wasn't at his best, but perhaps once he's accustomed to the idea he'll throw himself into it more and it won't seem so awkward.

But you're right: it's obvious it'll get lots of applause once he gets it in the neck!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-25 16:12:15](#)
(no subject)

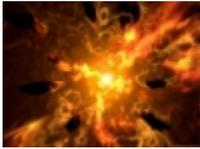
I'm not getting shirty, Abbott. But it's rare enough for Professor Binns to cover anything even remotely in the 20th century! I'm just not sure how you got him to talk to you about something that's only a decade old! Lakshmi, if we could figure out how to get him to teach recent history like that, we wouldn't need to work so hard on History Club!



 [alt_luna](#) at [2011-01-25 15:11:24](#)
(no subject)

It was rather good. But it doesn't even mention the Rotfang conspiracy.

And the whole thing could use more sparkle fairies, too.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-25 15:12:33](#)
(no subject)

Or fireworks.

Most things can be improved by judicious inclusion of fireworks.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2011-01-25 15:59:53](#)
(no subject)

We're going to have fun in the chorus together, don't you think?

I'm happier with that than having a speaking part, since we get to do the most singing and that's what I like best.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-25 16:03:25](#)
(no subject)

You're a much better singer than I am. It's a good thing there are other people to drown me out!

But yes, it will be fun.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2011-01-26 15:54:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh come on, Han, I can hear you behind me and you're not that bad at all!

Did you see the noticeboard by the Great Hall at breakfast?

You and I and a bunch of other people are to be understudies!

I hope I won't have to take a speaking part, but I feel like I'd better start learning it off just in case.

Mrs. Black doesn't really have too many lines though--mostly things like "Hex him, Lestrangle!" The only trick is going to be remembering when to jump in.

2011-01-24 11:44:00

*I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good:
Hermione?*



 [alt_terry](#)

I hardly ever see you anymore. Are you even going to the secret classroom or trying to keep up your studies? ~~And when I do see you, all you talk about is that stupid~~

I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I should probably put this under a Private message. But I'm never going to use that stupid Private messaging system, even if I use it with this lock too, because master's name has to go on it, and even if he can't see it I'll be hexed before I ever address anything to him.



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2011-01-24 21:10:37**
(no subject)

I am - it's just - you got so far ahead of me over the summer, and now Harry's letting me take all his classes right alongside him, and he's ever so busy, and I don't think he really would mind, only I can't tell him about the secret classroom, of course. He needs me with him practically every minute of every day, lately. He isn't smart, you know, not like you are, and he has a hard time living up to his Father's expectations, and I wouldn't think it was all right for him to have me help him so much except that it's almost like being a Hogwarts student.

Anyhow, you have the Headmistress to help you learn all the time!



 [alt_terry](#) at **2011-01-24 23:14:55**
(no subject)

He needs you? Right, like all masters need their mudblood servants! The same way that Master always insists that he needs me?

You were the one who always told me we're meant to be more than just servants. Can't you think of yourself for once, instead of him?

And--the Headmistress help me learn? What are you on about? I can sneak looks at the books in her library, sure, but since when is she ever going to give me lessons?!



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-24 23:18:16](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry, I'm making a right mess of this. I sound almost like I'm scolding you, and that's not what I meant to do at all. It's just that I miss--well, I miss learning with you.

That's all.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-25 16:33:37](#)
(no subject)

I miss you, too, Terry.

Maybe you're right and it's like the Carrows. But he's just our age. It can't be exactly the same.



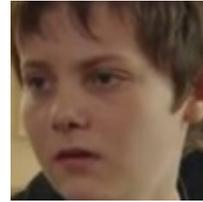
 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-25 20:24:28](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, well...don't forget that Master was once our age, too.

2011-01-24 18:41:00

(no subject)

Padma? Do you think you could look over my Transfiguration essay before I copy it over? I mean, I'm going to copy it out again, anyway, but this way if there are any things I ought to change, you could tell me?



 [alt_michael](#)

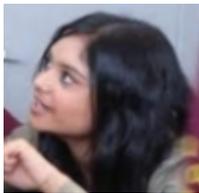
If you're not busy, I mean.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2011-01-24 23:46:41**

(no subject)

You've not finished it yet? Blimey, Corner. It's due tomorrow.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2011-01-24 23:48:09**

(no subject)

Maybe for you it's due tomorrow, Smith. For us it's due Thursday. Professor Carrow reminded us in today's lesson.

And yes, Corner, I can look it over, but not until later. Find me in the common room, all right?



 [alt_padma](#) at **2011-01-24 23:53:52**

(no subject)

By the way, is there some particular part you're having trouble with?



 [alt_michael](#) at **2011-01-25 00:59:03**

(no subject)

I guess...how the object can be twice the size without needing twice the volume? I mean, that's maths, isn't it? (Then again, I'm pants at maths.)



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-25 01:00:09](#)
(no subject)

No, it's not maths, but it is commutative theory. It's easier to explain in person, though.

I'm on my way back from Future Interrogators and we can talk about it.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2011-01-25 01:01:23](#)
(no subject)

Right, I forgot about Future Interrogators. I thought you were with P somewhere else.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-25 01:14:53](#)
(no subject)

Honestly, Corner.

No wonder you didn't come out for the play. Can't handle it this year, can you?



 [alt_michael](#) at [2011-01-25 01:23:58](#)
(no subject)

Wot? Of course I can handle it. I've got til Thursday!

And plays are for poncers.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2011-01-25 01:39:56](#)
(no subject)

Too right.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-25 03:53:25](#)
(no subject)

Really now, I thought you were more discriminating and cultured than that, Smith. I'm quite sorry to see that I was wrong.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-25 01:40:14](#)
(no subject)

And yet you need Patil to fix it up for you? Tell you what things you ought to change? You'd better hope Professor Carrow isn't reading this.

Patil know you think plays are naff? Besides, who are you calling a poncer? Draco? Harry? Sandoval? (I'd take a look around if you're in your common room right now.)



 [alt_michael](#) at [2011-01-25 01:46:41](#)
(no subject)

I don't think asking the year's top student to look over my essay means I'm not up to it, or that Professor Carrow would think so, either.

Plays are all right for girls. You'll not catch me in front of a load of people like that, wearing makeup and singing and stuff. That's well naff! Give me fantasy Quidditch or Exploding Snap over that, any day. Or camping. Something well rugged.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-25 02:08:09](#)
(no subject)

So you think we don't like Quidditch? Draco and Harry? Do you even watch them play? Oh, but you just like fantasy Quidditch. Right. Because that's WELL rugged! Snap, too.

I'd have thought a Ravenclaw would have made a better job of side-stepping, Corner. You didn't just ask Patil to look over your essay. You asked her to tell you what to change. In Slytherin House, we do our own work.

And whatever you think of plays, this one is our chance to show our loyalty to the Protectorate. That's what you're calling naff.



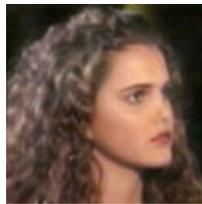
 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2011-01-25 02:12:58](#)**
(no subject)

No, Slytherins would rather sit round twisting other people's words to say whatever suits them. Or get someone *else* to do their work for them!



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-01-25 02:20:15](#)**
(no subject)

You take that back, you dirty lying worm.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2011-01-25 02:24:51](#)**
(no subject)

Oh for -

Zabini, that's enough. There's no need to challenge Corner to a duel or anything.

And Corner, it's your choice to participate in the play or not, but you might want to think twice about your reasons. As to your last comment, for your sake, if you're going to make accusations like that, I hope you have some evidence you can proffer - and if so, you should speak to Professor Slughorn about it at your earliest opportunity.

Now both of you, I'm sure you have some more productive way to spend your time.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-01-25 02:29:10](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Clearwater. You're right, anything would be a better use of time than conversing with the likes of him.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2011-01-25 03:49:13](#)**

Private message to Blaise Zabini

Hey, let's talk before light's out, yeah? I'm not going to stick my broom in it now that Miss Perfect Prefect has shown up, but Corner's out of line and we're going to set him right.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-01-25 03:56:56](#)**

Re: Private message to Blaise Zabini

Too right.

I'm done here anyway. Be there soon.

2011-01-25 14:12:00

Private message to Draco Malfoy

Pansy's birthday is on Thursday. I was thinking that maybe after the rehearsal it might be nice to surprise her with a small party in the Common Room. Do you think that would be fun? Would you be able to come? It'll have to be after the rehearsal or Milli's practically the only who'd be there.



 **alt_sally_anne**

We'll have to get cake from the elves -- her mum never sends one -- but that shouldn't be too hard. ANYTHING but chocolate. I was thinking lemon or orange would be really nice.



 **alt_draco** at **2011-01-26 03:21:03**
(no subject)

I've already been making plans, actually. Harry and Blaise have been helping, and my Mother, too. Don't bother with the elves, I've got both cake and food coming in from New London.

You can spread the word to everyone else, though, while keeping things fairly quiet so that she's still surprised. Slytherins only, if you don't mind.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-01-26 03:35:19**
(no subject)

Oh, excellent. I'll let Daphne and Milli know. Will it be Thursday after the rehearsal or earlier/later?



 **alt_draco** at **2011-01-26 15:34:25**
(no subject)

After rehearsal. You might want to skip dinner in the Great Hall, actually. There'll be better food here.

[2011-01-25 20:04:00](#)

Twee

Well I've been practising for the play a lot, even though I only have a few lines, I want to make them good.

Not very many second years got parts with lines, so I feel that I've been given an important job.

It's a little strange to be in a play that has characters based on so many people I know, including my parents. It doesn't really feel real, which I guess it isn't, it's make-believe. Still, it's based on real history, and the valor of all the people who helped to topple the Ministry, and the wickedness of some people who tried to prevent it, like Dumbledore.

Draco, you must be ever so excited to be understudying for Dumbledore, he's the best villain in the whole play!

Only I don't understand what that boy Corner from Ravenclaw was doing today.

I thought he said that plays were for girls, but then when I saw him at dinner his hair was curly and long, and I think his eyelashes were, too. Does that mean he decided to join the play after all, as an understudy, maybe?

I liked the glitter in his hair, though.

I'd like to learn a charm like that, one that lasts all day.

Every time I've made my hair glittery it's gone in less than an hour.



 **[alt_hydra](#)**



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2011-01-26 03:24:46](#)**
(no subject)

It's a bit exciting, but I'm focusing on Scrimgeour the most, of course. Still, I've got this fantastic, evil laugh that I plan to use if I get to go on stage as Dumbledore. I can't practise it too much, though, or it makes me lose my voice.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-26 03:27:18](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oh, come on. She doesn't really think Corner did that to himself, does she?

I mean to say, I'm glad it wasn't me they hexed this time.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-26 03:29:47](#)
(no subject)

He's got a lot of nerve joining the play after taking the mickey on everyone else involved, but I doubt that's what it is. After all, I didn't see him at rehearsal today, did you? Possibly he just likes the way his hair looks in that style. It was quite fashionable, really, but I thought the glitter was a bit much.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2011-01-26 03:34:41](#)
(no subject)

Well, Jeremy thought somebody probably hexed him to get him back, but I was waiting to make up my own mind after getting more information. I don't understand why it's bad that plays are for

girls?

People say quidditch is for boys, but lots of girls play it anyway and no one much minds, so why can't boys do things that are girl things, like plays, without there being a fuss?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 03:35:52](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's the point, isn't it? It isn't just for girls, so saying it's just something girls do is plain silly.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2011-01-26 03:38:07](#)
(no subject)

He said poncers did plays, too.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 03:43:08](#)
(no subject)

He meant silly boys that want to dress up like girls and things. Like in the old Shakespeare plays.

But Shakespeare actors weren't all poncers.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-26 03:37:22](#)
(no subject)

What a brilliant point! There's absolutely nothing wrong with things that are for girls, nothing at all. But truth is that plays aren't for girls, they're for people of both sexes, which is why they always have both male and female parts. Corner was just being ignorant.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 03:38:55](#)
(no subject)

And of course, in Shakespeare's time, it used to be all boys with some dressing up to play ladies parts. Now that sounds like it'd be really hilarious!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-26 03:44:00](#)
(no subject)

Girls weren't even allowed on stage! Well, certainly muggles didn't allow it. Wizarding productions weren't nearly so silly and strict about such things.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 03:47:00](#)
(no subject)

Naturally!

I do think it will be a marvelous challenge for you to play someone like Mr Crouch, though. I mean, even though it's a shame there weren't enough boys to take all the male parts, I think if there's anyone that would do a

good job at taking on a part that's so different from them, it'd be you.



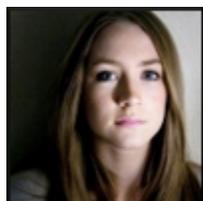
 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2011-01-26 03:53:37](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Pansy. It means a lot to have you say that. I'm trying to be very respectful, of course, because Hydra's point is important...these are real people, and even though I don't know him, I have a feeling that Auror Crouch cares very much about how he is portrayed.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-26 03:56:13](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it's obvious you've had training. I think the only reason you didn't get a much bigger part is because there were older students angling for them.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2011-01-26 03:39:03](#)**
(no subject)

Aren't you playing a male part, though? I guess that means more girls tried out for the play than boys.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2011-01-26 03:40:32](#)**
(no subject)

There are a good number of ignorant boys at this school, it would seem.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-26 16:55:43](#)
(no subject)

Well, I think hexing him like that was a downright cowardly thing to do!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 03:36:37](#)
(no subject)

I don't think he did that on purpose. Someone probably wanted to have a laugh. Or teach him a good lesson about how it isn't smart to call someone names, unless you want to be called them yourself.

You ought to be very pleased with your part! After all, only a few second-years got one. If you want to read your lines with me, I'd love to practice with you.

Do you want to play with hair charms this weekend? I'd bet we can find out all sorts of fun ones, and you'd look absolutely darling with curls.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2011-01-26 03:45:55](#)
(no subject)

I'd like to read lines together, yes.
Hair charms, too!
I've only done my hair in curls for special occasions,
~~Mummy say~~ because it isn't very practical,

otherwise.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 03:51:13](#)
(no subject)

Of course it isn't for every day. But it is a fun way to practice charms, and we can try all sorts of things that would be just silly. I want to see if I can work out this charm in *Witch Weekly* to put a streak of colour in my hair.

[2011-01-26 09:48:00](#)

Angelina?

Sorry about what happened in Care of Magical Creatures today.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)**

We thought the rat would make you laugh, not make you scream so much. Although we'll admit we didn't expect it to do that.

Really, you just about made our ear drums bleed.

Anyway, since Professor Brutka's giving us detention, please don't feel you need to punish us, too.



 **[alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 18:01:18](#)**
(no subject)

What'd you do to her?



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 18:42:03](#)**
(no subject)

Well, some of Professor Brutka's rats are rather...unusual. There was this one that had this knack of polka dancing. We thought we'd give her a laugh by putting it on her shoulder.

Didn't go over quite the way we planned.



 **[alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-26 18:43:17](#)**
(no subject)

You two really are brainless. Of course any girl is going to scream if you surprise her by putting a rat on her shoulder.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 18:45:14](#)
(no subject)

Not Angelina! She's made of tougher stuff than that. Anyway, that isn't what set her off.

It was when our rat jumped off her shoulder and started trying to eat her rat that the shrieking started.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2011-01-26 18:48:55](#)
(no subject)

Really? That doesn't sound like a normal thing for a rat to do. Even a magical rat.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 18:50:25](#)
(no subject)

No kidding. Professor Brutka came up and petrified our rat to stop it and then--well, it was dead weird. Our rat turned into a heap of corn.

And then Angelina's rat ate the corn.

That made ALL the girls start shrieking.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-26 18:52:48](#)
(no subject)

Ugh! We've been talking about magical rats in third year COMC classes, too, but they've never done anything like that!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:00:46](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Professor Brutka took one of them, ran it through a bunch of spells afterwards that showed us the transfigurations that have been put on these rats, back and forth. The theory's a bit advanced to explain it, has to do with the third law of commutation, but he explained that they've had so many transfigurations put on

them already that their underlying magical structure's now a bit dodgy.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2011-01-26 19:02:35](#)
(no subject)

Poor rats.



 [alt_hannah](#) at [2011-01-26 19:09:55](#)
(no subject)

Poor Angelina!



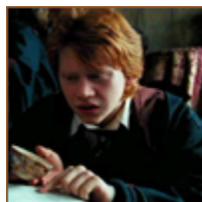
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:10:14](#)
(no subject)

Poor us, you mean. We're the ones who got detention, remember?



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-26 23:23:55](#)
(no subject)

Oh, please do us a favour and give it a rest. As if you've ever not deserved a detention.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 19:11:31](#)
(no subject)

They'd been transfigured?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:13:37](#)
(no subject)

Looks like it.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-26 19:14:20](#)
(no subject)

That's not part of the fifth year curriculum.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:16:48](#)
(no subject)

Well, we don't think it was Professor Brutka who'd done it. He didn't sound like he approved of it.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2011-01-26 19:43:34](#)
(no subject)

The diricawl has no business holding up his beak about what he doesn't understand.

Considering the little matter of theft of property from the pure.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 19:45:28](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Guess that settles it.

Yikes.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-26 19:48:00](#)
I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Bloody hell! Fred and George, don't answer him!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:49:02](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Don't worry, we're not that stupid.



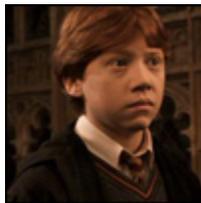
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-26 19:15:59](#)**
(no subject)

Wait. Wait. Wait.

He told us they were experimental rats and that's why we were measuring them and taking their vitals and all to compare with normal magical rats and non-magical rats, but I figured he meant they were a new, y'know, breed that they'd used magic to try to enhance or whatever.

Not that they'd been used for experiments!

That means they're probably-



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-01-26 19:16:59](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

That means they're probably Carrow's rats.

Like Sebastian.

Uh. I wonder if Sally Anne knows...



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-01-26 22:18:12](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I do now.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-01-26 22:21:49](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

And I thought surely they were Carrow's rats. Wasn't it obvious?

How awful one of them turned into corn.

I really hope that doesn't happen to Sebastian. It was the petrification that did it? Was it just 'petrificus totalis' or some

other hex? Ugh. Maybe I should ask Professor Brutka if there's anything I can do. He seems decent, I don't think he'd tell Professor Carrow I have one of his rats.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 23:12:25](#)

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

Um.

Aren't you a little more worried that Sebastian might turn out to be a carnivorous, attack rat or a cannibal rat like the one Fred and George had?

I mean, maybe Pansy should be worried for Pyewacket! Or maybe you should be worried about letting him ride around on your shoulder like you do. He could bite you in the neck like a vampire!

You don't let him sleep with you, do you?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 23:18:05](#)

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

Pye could tell if Sebastian were to go all wonky like that. Because he's a kneazle, right? And he seems to like Sebastian just fine.

I think it might just be that he'd be that way with other rats? Perhaps because he'd been training them to... you know...

ewww. The whole thing gets me shuddery. Any ways, maybe it was just habit.

Still.

Gross.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 23:21:17](#)

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

Well. I guess it could be good to keep him. That way, if Patil ever decides to curse you with an invasion of rats, Sebastian can just kill them all and protect you.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-26 23:23:24](#)

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

Of course I let him sleep with me. He's my pet. He's never acted odd, though no one else in our dorm has a pet rat.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:52:58](#)

(no subject)

Yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 18:56:29](#)

(no subject)

It did wot?!

We've been studying those rats, too, but it's funny. He hasn't let us handle them much. Not one a piece, anywiz. We were in groups, and the rats were in their boxes while we measured them and took their temperatures and fed them.

Cheese. We fed them cheese.

That's just-

Ew.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-26 19:02:04](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Took us all by surprise, believe me.

Dunno, seems like Brutka suspected something was off about them, though. He did say we shouldn't let them get near each other.

Didn't tell us why.

[2011-01-26 11:24:00](#)

A Few Changes to the Cast

Hello, again!

I really only want to update the cast of *Liberation*, but this is the quickest way to get a message to all of you.



 [alt_penelope](#)

First up, again, thanks and my apologies for leaving out Dean Thomas (Y3) from the original cast list. As you all learned on Sunday, he's agreed to undertake the role of Mr Dolohov.

Next, I think we've approached everyone we had on our list to act as an understudy. Please remember, if you've agreed to understudy, it's your responsibility to keep track of the blocking (i.e., movement) for that character (as well as your own), and to be working on the lines in case you're needed. We certainly don't want to lose our fine cast members, but we don't want you to be caught out short, either, if you're called to serve. For those of you who have been assigned understudies, we expect you to help them out. It's not a comment on your ability or our confidence in you; it's merely a precaution since your roles are so pivotal that they can't be replaced at a moment's notice.

Which brings me to my next announcement. As I said, we don't want to lose people, but it's bound to happen: a few students have already left the cast. Vesta Chambers, Elizabeth Stevens and Octavia Anderson have all decided to drop out for personal reasons. As there are so few boys already participating, we really wanted to bring up one of the lads from the Wizengamot chorus to play Vesta's part, so I hope you'll all welcome and congratulate Mr Linus Moon, who will now be our Mr Selwyn!

Finally, as I mentioned on Sunday, we really could use a few more wizards in the Wizengamot - especially with Moon moving up. First-through third-year YPL boys, I'm looking at you in particular! I know you've heard the rumours about wearing makeup, but it's not like that at all. All actors wear some to be seen under the lights. There's no truth whatsoever to the idea that men who are theatrical are all, erm, effeminate. Please consider joining this effort and supporting your fellow YPL members in the project!

On a Prefect note: Whoever jinxed Mr Corner yesterday, you're not helping.



alt_ron at 2011-01-26 16:59:50

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hang on.

Does she mean I'm going to have to wear make up, too? Not just my cat costume?

And I have to sing?

Oi, Parkinson. Perks. I'm blaming you for this, you know. 'Oh, Ron, you really should go out for the play. It's really important that you show you're loyal and that you support the YPL (and like to wear makeup and sing). And we PROMISE it'll be really fun!'



alt_pansy at 2011-01-26 18:57:50

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

It will be! You are such a boy, honestly. Admit it -- being a villainous cat with a wonderful death scene will be dead fun, and you'll be absolutely hilarious.

And I'm right, aren't I? You saw how they took the mickey out of Corner for making fun and not joining in.

Trust me. It won't be silly if everyone is doing it, and it's just so people will see your face from the stage. It's not like you'll be wearing hair ribbons or look like a French courtesan or something.



alt_ron at 2011-01-26 19:52:09

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

Yeah, they did make a meal of what happened to Corner, poor sod. But now, y'know, it feels sort of like I'm falling in with them or something.

I don't know.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-26 19:59:16](#)

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

Well, all sorts of people are doing it, like Bones and Abbot and Evelyn and Sally-Anne. I wouldn't call it "falling in," just "being smart," because really, you'd get more attention for NOT doing it.

And yeah, Moon wrote it, but at least it wasn't Patil, right?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-26 20:08:47](#)

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

I guess.



 [alt_millicent](#) at [2011-01-26 20:29:49](#)

(no subject)

come on clearwater.

evrybody knows that theeatre is where shirt lifters go.
it isnt a secret.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-26 20:49:14](#)

(no subject)

Really.



 [alt_millicent](#) at [2011-01-26 21:00:16](#)

(no subject)

what.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-01-26 22:33:34](#)
(no subject)

Oh, nothing. Only that I was so looking forward to eating supper with you, as usual. If you wanted so badly to sit alone, you could have just said so.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-26 23:21:28](#)
(no subject)

Bulstrode, that is exactly the sort of destructive comment we do not need, discouraging young men who could find it a very rewarding enterprise.

And for Merlin's sake, I hope you take better care in your spelling when you turn in assignments to your professors!



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2011-01-26 20:48:40](#)
(no subject)

Too right, Miss Clearwater. During my sixth year we did a fantastic play set in the days of King Arthur, and Ev my best mate and I had a brilliant time learning the fight scenes. No one really cared about the stage makeup, though of course that was the 70s and Diamond Dragon had his first record out, so the style was a bit...different than it is now.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-26 23:19:23](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Professor.

I wasn't aware that there had been dramatics at Hogwarts so recently, sir. But in any event, that's just what we've been trying to tell the younger lads.

[2011-01-26 11:28:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

That owl this morning was from Mother. She says she'll be happy to send her lightcaster so we can use it for the party. It's quite small, but she said she was going to have the elves pack it up specially and deliver it directly rather than sending it by owl. Which is good because if we start getting heaps of parcels delivered, everyone will know we're up to something.



 **[alt_blaise](#)**

Warrington was brilliant yesterday, didn't you think? I especially liked the long eyelashes. And the expression on Corner's face when someone gave him a mirror to look in!



 **[alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-27 02:21:44](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks, mate, it's going to be well snitch. Oh, and I told Perks that it's Slytherin only, thanks. She seemed to get the picture.

Ha, too true! He must've come up with the eyelashes on his own, all I suggested was the hair - unless it was you who suggested the eyelashes?



 **[alt_blaise](#) at [2011-01-27 02:42:37](#)**
(no subject)

Good about Perks. She generally falls in where she should, though you can't trust what she really thinks.

Wasn't me. I think Warrington's got some promise. And a bit of flair, too, maybe.

[2011-01-26 17:11:00](#)

Marvolo?

I wanted to alert you, in case you planned to head to dinner early, that I am sending your servant back to the Slytherin common room, so you might want to meet her when she gets there. She is rather upset (although she is no longer, at this time, in any pain, and she rejected my offer to accompany her to the hospital wing, saying there was no need). You should be aware that Professor Amycus Carrow was quite furious with her for some reason, but she refused to tell me the reason why.



 [alt_percy](#)

I did not attempt to remove the lettering as the Professor has placed it there himself, and therefore no doubt it is best to let it stand. For the time being.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 01:28:57](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Oh, no.

Hermione? Are you all right? Hermione?! What did he do to you?

Pansy or Sally-Anne, have you seen her? It says she was going back to the Slytherin Common Room.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-27 02:40:10](#)

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

I don't know, I haven't seen her. I was at dinner, and when I got back, they were both upstairs.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 02:45:40](#)

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

Hermione?

Hermione, please!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-27 02:48:29](#)

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

Easy now, Professor. Percy may be a pompous Big Head, but he never would have taken her back to the Slytherin Common room instead of the hospital wing if there was any question she was going to be all right.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 02:49:49](#)

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

But he hurt her. He did hurt her, didn't he? And he...he marked her? Oh, what did he do?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-27 02:53:37](#)

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

Guess it's, uh, his favourite word. For folks like you and her. On her forehead.

Percy says it's not permanent, though. It should...should fade. Eventually.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2011-01-27 02:54:43](#)

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

Percy says he probably used a spot of Crucio, too.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-27 02:56:20](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good / Private message to Lee Jordan

Shut it, Lee. You are NOT helping.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2011-01-27 02:56:55](#)

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good / Private message to Lee Jordan

Uh. Oh.

Sorry.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 03:00:00](#)

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

...



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-27 03:01:56](#)

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

She'll be all right, Terry.

Guess she's had it happen to her before, hasn't she? And she knows it doesn't mean--well, that it isn't true.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 03:48:58](#)

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

I'm all right.

I know it isn't true. Harry's fixing it, anyway. Or he'll take me to Madam Pomfrey if he can't.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-27 05:19:55](#)

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

Ugh. I hate Carrow.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 03:49:52](#)

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

I'm all right.

He just - he hurt me and he covered me in mud and he wrote 'mudblood' on my head but Percy stopped it from hurting and he made sure I got back to the common room and Harry's taking care of me now.

You've had much worse. I know you have.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 05:08:49](#)

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

You should go see Madam Pomfrey tomorrow for sure. So she can make sure that it won't scar.

I'm ever so sorry.

But why'd you go anywhere near Master?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 14:08:43](#)

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

Harry forgot to write his essay.

So he wrote it really quickly, and then sent me to go turn it in just a few hours late.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 15:10:08](#)

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

So it was Marvolo's fault. And he sent you because he was too much of a coward to face Master himself.

It's hard to believe he was ever sorted into Gryffindor.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-27 15:12:44](#)

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

That's a mite harsh, Professor.

You've been afraid of Carrow before. We know because you've told us. With good reason, we might add.

But that doesn't make YOU a coward.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 15:13:29](#)

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

Maybe.

All right. Yeah.

But he still sent her instead of going himself.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 15:22:27](#)

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

It wasn't like that at all. He had to be in class.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 17:42:11](#)

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

Lucky him.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-27 03:30:11](#)

Private Message to Percy Weasley

Rumours are flying around the Tower. What happened to her, Perce?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-27 03:36:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

The professor took exception to something she brought him from Mr Marvolo, as I understand it. An overdue assignment, I believe.

Well, I gather he was in a tetchy mood today anyway.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-27 03:39:52](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

Oh, is that what you wrote to the Headmistress about, then?

I have early rounds tomorrow. Want to meet before breakfast?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-27 05:04:12](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

Well, I wrote to the Headmistress about something else. While out on rounds, I got called over by Alecto Carrow, and between you and me ONLY, Professor Amycus was, well he was totally pissed.

On firewhiskey, I think. It was rather revolting. It took the two of us to get him up to the hospital wing.

He won't be teaching tomorrow.

That's not to be spread around, mind.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-27 05:04:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

And yes, I'd like to meet for breakfast, definitely.

2011-01-26 21:02:00

(no subject)

The bouldy diricawll and the cursssed bat

goin behind my BACK

filth evrwyer

still cn b ground underfout



 [alt_amycus](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2011-01-27 05:38:13**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

EAT DUNG YOU MISERABLE BASTARD.

That IS strangely satisfying.

Oh AND I'M GLAD I STOLE SEBASTIAN FROM YOU. IF HE EVER
TURNS INTO AN EVIL ATTACK RAT I HOPE HE STARTS BY
GNAWING OFF YOUR EARS.

2011-01-26 21:06:00

Private Message to Headmistress McGonagall



Professor,

I was out on Prefect rounds, and Miss Alec Carrow heard me me passing and called to me. She was in her brother's office, and he was, uh, in quite a bit of...distress. In bad shape, so to speak.

 [alt_percy](#)

In fact, I'm quite sure that Professor Amycus Carrow will not be in any shape to be teaching classes tomorrow. His sister agrees.

We're taking him to the Hospital Wing.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-27 04:00:16](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Tertius.

2011-01-26 21:53:00

Order Only: Minerva

You will certainly need to make some provision for Carrow's lessons tomorrow. Perhaps for the rest of the week, given how long it took him to recover the last time he was in this dire a state.



 [alt_poppy](#)

I've knocked him completely senseless, since that was the only treatment that would prevent my murdering him in cold blood. I make no promises for Alecto's continued health if she does not desist from shrieking instructions at me.

Oh, for mercy's-

Well.

There's that taken care of.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at **2011-01-27 03:59:05**
(no subject)

What has happened? Another bender?



 [alt_molly](#) at **2011-01-27 05:14:54**
(no subject)

I was out and about today running errands for the barter network and just checked my journal late tonight and saw this. Is poor Hermione all right? Oh, that wretched Carrow! Both of them.

What are you going to do, Minerva? You've got a Board of governors meeting tomorrow; you can hardly cover the Transfiguration classes yourself.

Well, maybe it's a good thing that the board is meeting tomorrow. You can ask again for permission to sack him!



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-27 14:13:28](#)
(no subject)

I've set Professor Brutka to the Transfiguration lessons. He has only two lessons of his own to teach today, and they are more easily cancelled.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-27 15:49:34](#)
(no subject)

Quite.

It took a well-cast harpy hex, but I sent Alecto on her way, so she at least should be fit for her lessons this morning. She shan't be interested in returning to this ward until it's worn off, either, so there's no worry she'll insist on keeping vigil at his bedside.

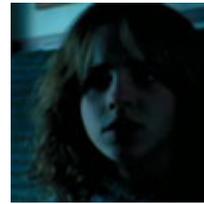
Amycus, however, will not be leaving here today. And it may take longer. I'm sure I can't predict his restorative progress.

2011-01-26 22:33:00

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

I think you should be finished napping now.

I would like it if you could come see me. In my cubby.



 [alt_hermione](#)

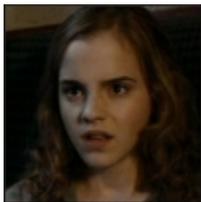
Professor Carrow didn't like how you turned in that parchment so quickly after saying you couldn't.

I need your help.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-27 03:36:45](#)
(no subject)

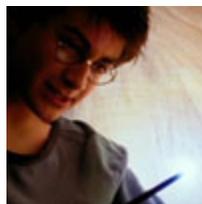
What happened? I'm coming. I'm sorry.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 03:38:07](#)
(no subject)

He hexed me. I need you to take it off.

I didn't mean to worry you, only, nobody else was going to take it off for me, and I just wanted to go back to my cubby. ~~to cry.~~



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-27 03:40:36](#)
(no subject)

What did he do to you. Exactly.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 03:42:24](#)
(no subject)

He made me covered in mud and he wrote 'mudblood' on my forehead.

It's bleeding a little bit. But Mr Weasley the Prefect said he didn't want to do anything except make it stop hurting. And you probably shouldn't tell that he did that. He was very worried about getting into trouble.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-01-27 03:43:13](#)
(no subject)

that is
merlin

I'll be right there and then

Sorry. I don't like it when he messes with you. Im sorry. I shouldve been in the common room earlier.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 03:48:09](#)
(no subject)

It's all right. Just please come quickly now.

2011-01-26 23:21:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good - Private message to Ron Weasley



 **alt_sally_anne**

Pansy's birthday is tomorrow. I just wanted to remind you so you can wish her many happy returns. Draco's arranged sort of a party for her in Slytherin House tomorrow night right after rehearsal but I was thinking perhaps we could get together for our own little celebration on Friday or Saturday? (Though I have Sisters in Witchcraft early Saturday afternoon, it would have to be later.)



 **alt_ron** at **2011-01-27 13:30:52**

(no subject)

Oh, right! Of course it is!

But

All right, then. Whenever you think you can do it, I guess.

What about tomorrow night?



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-01-27 16:02:09**

(no subject)

I think Friday night would work, we're not rehearsing then are we? Let's meet after dinner.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-01-27 16:03:10**

(no subject)

And tell Nev, would you? I didn't want to put him on the message because this way if Pansy asks I can tell her it's something about the play. I'm trying not to make her all suspicious.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-27 16:15:17](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Right.

Sure.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-27 16:16:13](#)
(no subject)

Well, okay then.

~~Have fun ton~~Have a rotten time tonight, all right?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-27 16:17:34](#)
(no subject)

Oh, we will!

2011-01-27 12:30:00

Transfiguration, whoa

We've been studying transfiguration during movement. Today was centrepe-- centriput-- whatever that force is when whatever you're putting the spell on moves in a circle. And is it simply going around in a circle or actually spinning on an axes. And what's the adjustments you need to make for a different center of gravity.



 [alt_neville](#)

Actually, I didn't get center of gravity at all. I just didn't get it, and that was where we broke off yesterday, when my apple burst into pieces, and Professor Carrow said--well anyway, he didn't think much of me not getting it.

So Professor Brutka was trying to explain it to me again today, and I still wasn't getting it. I could feel myself getting all red in the face. I figured it was more points lost for Gryffindor for sure. But then he transfigured three apples into spinning wooden tops, except that the little disk was at a different point along the stick: at the top, the middle, and on the bottom. He had me spin them and watch the motion and THEN I got what he was trying to get across, what the force was, and how the center of gravity changed everything. He had me play with making the disks bigger or smaller, too, and by the end of the class I could adjust so I could transfigure every one of them, no matter what speed they were going.

I even got a couple points for Gryffindor. Can't remember the last time that's happened in a Transfiguration class.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2011-01-27 18:42:25**

I solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

It's also a lot easier in Transfiguration 'cause I'm not flinching all the time whenever the teacher comes up behind me.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-27 18:44:50](#)

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

I know just what you mean. I just hated it whenever Master would come up behind me.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-27 19:12:59](#)

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

GOOD ON YOU, Neville. I'm glad Professor Brutka worked out a way to show you how it worked.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-27 19:46:06](#)

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

Yeah! This is the way Transfiguration class is SUPPOSED to be!



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-27 18:55:34](#)

Order Only

Who in the world is surprised that Neville is a rather good student when he isn't frightened out of his wits by Carrow?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-27 20:38:47](#)

Re: Order Only

and good on him.



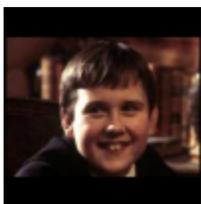
 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-27 19:19:00](#)

(no subject)

Yeah, it was loads better today.

Not just for you, either. Did you see Katrina? She got in one, and she was really chuffed about it, too. She

actually smiled. I mean, I don't think she dares to when Carrow's there.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-27 20:31:04](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, she looked really happy. It's been a long time since we've seen so many people actually smiling walking out of the Transfiguration classroom.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-27 21:11:20](#)
I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

Seamus almost sort of ruined it, though. Did you hear that crack he made? About how only babies had to resort to spinning toy tops to learn transfiguration.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-27 21:12:38](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear that I Am Up to No Good

We cordially invite Mr Finnigan to go hex himself.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-27 22:18:53](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oops.

Bundy's not very happy I said that about her, and to be honest, I didn't notice you weren't writing under

the lock.

Merlin. I hope I don't make that mistake again!

2011-01-27 15:42:00

ORDER ONLY

the new babies are settling in fine, and we're ready for the next round. any word yet on when that'll be?



 [alt_frank](#)

Kingsley, man, I really appreciate you putting in a word for us at sherwood. lucy's been in touch and she and davidson are going to get us someone by the end of next week at the latest. good thing too, because we're working double shifts to keep up in the nursery, and we still have four more to add.

and hermione, I saw percy weasley's note. you okay, kid? what did that stinking bastard do? I should have

well I should have made sure he'd never be able to hurt anyone ever again, dammit.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-01-27 21:28:35](#)

(no subject)

I've identified the location of Robert Pigott in Lincolnshire. He's in the North Kesteven camp...at least, I think he is. His name appeared for the first time on the camp census report two months ago, presumably right after the birth but the following month a line was scored through his name. But there's no death certificate number in the ledger. So there may be something a trifle irregular.

Bill says he has identification for two prepared. Do you want me to go with you? If so I'm afraid it will have to wait until after the first of the month; I have all these bloody month end reports to turn in. I swear, the parchmentwork just keeps getting worse and worse all the time.

(Do check in, Hermione, and reassure us that you're all right.)



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-27 21:30:14](#)

(no subject)

I can make the run with you, Frank, if you want to go before the first.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-28 02:14:37](#)
(no subject)

can do.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-28 03:19:58](#)
(no subject)

The identification for both of you has been sent to the drop point, Kingsley.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-28 03:20:58](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, my friend.

Frank, name the date and time, and I'm your man. My schedule is wide open the next three days. Let me know, and I'll meet you at the rendezvous point.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-01-28 03:24:45](#)
(no subject)

I've included what's known about the parents of the Robert Pigott from the ledger: John and Daphne Pigott, along with their last recorded address in the camp.

Good luck, you two.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-28 03:29:23](#)
(no subject)

tomorrow at ten works for me, man.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-28 04:02:02](#)
(no subject)

See you there.

I'll bring some of the batch of Emmeline's raisin buns.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-28 17:06:08](#)
(no subject)

That leaves three children to be rescued, then?

Have they not been located?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-27 22:07:20](#)
(no subject)

I'm fine.

He hurt me a little, and he wrote 'mudblood' on my head, but it got fixed up just fine.

It isn't like what he does to Terry. He knows he couldn't get away with that with me. He shouldn't be able to with Terry either.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-28 02:13:52](#)
(no subject)

that fu
that piece of

damn.

well, you're right that he won't be able to worm his way out of this one without getting burned. and if he gets in trouble for messing with you, at least he's getting in trouble, and any trouble he does get into can be a bit of justice for the both of you. it's not nearly as much as he deserves, and believe me, he's got a special place waiting for him in hell the next time he's in my sights.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2011-01-28 03:27:25](#)**
(no subject)

Wrote--? Blast. Not in a way that scars, I hope. Or I presume Poppy could take care of it.

Still, I am deeply sorry that you should be subjected to such an ordeal, my dear. Do be careful, and make sure Mr Marvolo knows where you are at all times, for your own safety.

2011-01-27 16:04:00

Things

Things welcome in the bottom of a bookbag

A new quill, uncrushed

Fresh parchment

Last Tuesday's essay for Charms class, with the big red 'E' at the top.



 [alt_luna](#)

Things not welcome in the bottom of a bookbag

Jam toast from breakfast

Things welcome in the common room

Crumpets and a crumpet fork

A chess board with all the chess pieces

The nubby purple afghan with the singe mark in the corner

Things not welcome in the common room

Loud conversations when others are trying to revise

Farts

Things seen every day at Hogwarts

Ghosts

Chalkboards

Girls crying over their potions or charms essays

Things rarely seen at Hogwarts, if ever

Orange marmalade

Gurdyroot tea

Celtziggles (they hate the smell of chalk)



 [alt_terry](#) at **2011-01-28 03:29:18**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

You always do make me laugh. In a good way, though.

Hope our housemates are treating you right.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-28 05:06:51](#)

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

It's a shame she isn't in the same House with Evelyn.
Because I bet they'd be pretty good friends.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 19:08:07](#)

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

I wonder if she'd fit in better in Gryffindor than she
does in Ravenclaw, or if she's mad enough that it
wouldn't really matter where she was?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2011-01-28 22:54:06](#)

(no subject)

That's a jolly clever way of putting things, Lovegood.
Almost like poetry.

Though now you've got me wanting some marmalade.

Bother!

2011-01-28 11:29:00

Private message to Harry Marvolo and his mudblood servant



Granger,

I was going to write to Harry to say that I hope you weren't too badly hurt, but then I thought that Harry might tell me that I should tell you myself, so that's what I'm doing.

 [alt_hydra](#)

So, that's all I was going to say, that I hope you're all right.

And that you can go back to serving Harry soon.

If my Mummy asks, I'm going to say that I had to write to Harry to borrow you for some help, but I don't really need your help I just wanted you to know that I was sorry to hear what Professor Carrow did.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-01-29 19:49:21](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Miss Lestrange.

I appreciate it.

2011-01-28 11:58:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hey Fisheye, Perks. How was the party last night?
The little people want to know.



Are we meeting up tonight or what? When? Where?

 [alt_ron](#)

So is it dead awesome to be fourteen or what?



 [alt_ron](#) at **2011-01-28 18:11:42**
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

I talked to the elves and got them to say they'd make lemon cake, but I guess I have to tell them where to take it. Or maybe they'll just know? I'm never sure about elves.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2011-01-28 19:06:24**
Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

HA. I talked to them too and they were happy to agree to lemon cake and I even told them where, I was thinking that empty classroom down the corridor from where we have Ancient Runes. Let's meet there after dinner. I wonder if we'll wind up with two cakes or if they'll work out that we were supplying the same party?



 [alt_ron](#) at **2011-01-28 21:21:02**
Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

Well, if they bring two, I guess we'll find out if they're nicer to Slytherins than Gryffindors. Or the other way round. Or just do the same for everyone.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2011-01-28 20:01:19**
(no subject)

Let's meet up in the classroom down the corridor from Ancient Runes, it's pretty comfortable and small and no one else is likely to bother us. We can tell people we're revising.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-29 01:03:00](#)**
(no subject)

The party was well fun, they made the common room look like a disco! And I got your card, I keep opening it up so the fish will wink at me. You really are quite clever with those drawing charms!

And it doesn't feel much different than thirteen, to be honest.

2011-01-28 12:36:00

*Private message to Headmistress
McGonagall and Poppy Pomfrey*



 [alt_sinistra](#)

I hope today is treating both of you better than yesterday. I wanted to follow up on yesterday evening, in hopes of helping you make your case more strongly, Minerva, that the Carrows have no business teaching here.

As I told Poppy, Ptolemy Baddock had come looking for me for help with a NEWT question, and we were walking back up towards the astronomy classroom, when we heard quite the commotion from Alecto Carrow's room. By the time we got there, Lucius Malfoy had obviously just gotten the better hand, and given a moment to compose himself, seemed well enough given the circumstances. (I did, of course, carefully ask if he needed assistance of any kind.)

Alecto was in not nearly as good a state: Ptolemy helped me get her to Poppy's care, but she was quite vile in her language as we did so.

By the time I came back, Mr Malfoy had left. I understand that he paused briefly by the Slytherin common room to wish Miss Parkinson a happy birthday, and to speak briefly to both his son and Mr Marvolo, and then went off with Raz for a drink in Hogsmeade.

Raz stopped by later to check in with me. While he was circumspect about Mr Malfoy's thoughts about recent events, he did want to warn me to stay well out of the way of the Carrows - not that I had any intention of doing otherwise, naturally. But when I start to worry about my well-being with them... well, I feel particularly for the children in our care. As you both know, dueling of any kind has never been my strong point, and besides that, it seems so disruptive to the learning they should be doing.

Related to that, I know you've likely seen some of the comments about Brutka's Transfiguration classes, but I've heard even more comments about it today, as my own classes have been gathering. If the students who've been struggling most needed only to have a kind word or another explanation - especially in a topic as key as transfiguration - we're certainly not doing our duty by either our students, or the future needs of the Protectorate, surely?

I do also understand there's been a certain amount of conversation

among the Slytherins about events in particular - Ptolemy mentioned it to me today as well. Perhaps Horace might have a word with them to remind them of appropriate topics for conversation and behavior?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-28 19:53:58](#)
(no subject)

Well.

I can tell you that you aren't Alecto Carrow's first thought at the moment. Not that she's having any very clear thoughts in her current state: I determined that she would require complete rest in order to heal from whatever combination of hexes she suffered, so I was forced to adopt rather an aggressive approach to treating her. But in her sleep, she has continued raging, and I can assure you that Lucius Malfoy remains utmost in her consideration.

That said, I think you would be most wise to follow Professor Lestrangle's advice: as we know, when frustrated of a desired revenge, the Carrows are apt to lash out at the weakest, most readily available targets. Do see that you aren't one of those.

And you are quite, quite right that our children should not be forced to serve as her substitutes, either.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-28 19:58:53](#)
Order Only

Minerva,

Do you think it likely that Malfoy will have any better success with Himself than he has on previous occasions?

I've often wondered whether he even bothers to make the case or whether he simply anticipates failure and holds his peace.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2011-01-28 21:37:49](#)

(no subject)

That would be more reassuring except for the part where I am nearby, and Lucius Malfoy is not, but I do take your point.

I advised Ptolemy to both keep a low profile himself around both of them, as much as he can, and of course to let Minerva or Horace know immediately if any worrying behavior comes his way, even if he's not certain.

I've a few ideas on how to keep out from under her eye (or her brother's, for that matter) for a few days, at least other than at meals, and will hope that things die down, or she gets over looking humiliated in front of a student and a colleague.

I'd say that I'm sorry I didn't hear the precise hexes Malfoy used, but on the whole, probably better that she's out of circulation for a bit, rather than having your usual efficient restoratives at her service.

2011-01-28 13:12:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



You lot are not going to believe this.

I heard from Leander Rosier that last night, when Mr Malfoy went round to Miss Professor Carrow's office, she tried to cast cruciatus on him. In fact I heard that she DID cast it on him. But he fought back and then cast it on HER and kept it on her for eons and only stopped because Ptolemy Baddock and Professor Sinistra came along.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I didn't believe a word of it because -- really? a duel? between Mr Malfoy and one of the teachers? EVEN ONE OF THE CARROWS, it's too mad to have actually happened. And Mr Malfoy seemed perfectly alright when he came by Pansy's party. Well -- although he may have been a little pale and he had a bit of tea but no cake. Maybe she DID -- but -- even if she has the proper permissions to use cruciatus (which of course she does, she's the Dark Arts teacher) that doesn't mean she's allowed to use it on someone else from the COUNCIL for Merlin's sake. On LUCIUS MALFOY.

Anyway like I said I didn't believe a word of it but when someone asked Ptolemy he didn't confirm it but he got all tight-lipped and scowled and said we shouldn't be gossiping. And when someone enquired about Mr Malfoy he said, 'Mr Malfoy can take care of himself, he doesn't need you to be concerned,' and when Alfr someone wouldn't drop it he took points and told everyone to quit talking about it.

So everyone stopped until he was gone but now they're talking about it again.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-28 19:40:26](#)
(no subject)

Whoa.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-28 19:42:57](#)
(no subject)

Wait. Hang on.

Why'd he go see her to begin with? Supposing he did. And she did. And, y'now, it happened like you said.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 19:51:06](#)
(no subject)

According to what people are saying, he went to see her because he was furious with Mr Professor Carrow but Madam Pomfrey wouldn't let him in to see him because he was too ill. So he went to leave a message for ~~Mr Prof~~ Amycus with Alecto. Which doesn't really explain why she would have attacked him if he was really JUST there to leave a message.

Unless it was a 'message.' You know, like sending Harry a message by hurting Hermione. Leander thinks that's what it was about, Mr Malfoy was furious with Carrow because of that, not because he cares about Hermione but because she's Harry's, not Carrow's, and he shouldn't be messing with her. Someone else thought it had to do with Pansy.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-28 20:02:47](#)
(no subject)

Well somebody was giving somebody a 'message', I guess.

But if she jumped him, what 'message' do you reckon she was trying to send?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 20:06:39](#)
(no subject)

'Don't you mess with me,' maybe?

It doesn't sound like she delivered it very effectively.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-28 20:09:58](#)
(no subject)

Heh.

It's sort of impossible to feel very sorry for her, innit?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 20:13:30](#)
(no subject)

Completely.

I almost wish I'd been there to see it. Almost.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 19:54:15](#)
(no subject)

Because Carrow was horrid to her after that article about her father came out.

Actually I just went back and read in her journal that entry from earlier in the month. Mr Malfoy told Carrow to watch his step and Carrow kept right on yapping.

This is the first time this month Mr Malfoy's been to the school, unless I'm forgetting something. Awfully convenient Carrow was in the hospital wing and Mr Malfoy couldn't see him I imagine Mr Malfoy thought so, too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-28 20:06:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, they both were, weren't they? Miss Professor Carrow, too. Were horrid to Pansy about it, I mean.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 20:48:02](#)
(no subject)

Did she say anything to Pansy directly, though? I thought it was just that Terry overheard her once.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-01-28 21:04:15](#)
(no subject)

I dunno. Does it matter? Whether she said it right to Pansy or not, I mean.

It's not just Terry I've heard saying that Alec Carrow's been going around talking about Mr Parkinson. I heard she's been saying stuff in the upper-level Dark Arts lessons. Using him as an example of someone who never understood this thing or never mastered that spell or was totally naff at something else.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-29 15:59:55](#)
(no subject)

Yes. She did. It was when we were leaving class after she made that announcement about her replaicing Professor Acton for dueling club, and as I was walking out, she looked down at me and

said

"I expect you'll be slow on the draw, just like Tony, so I can't expect you'll be any good. It's best that you didn't ask to be in my Dark Arts class, because I really don't think you'd have the disposition for it. it's not in your blood." And she was smiling at me the whole time.

She's the coward, and the sloppy duelist, for not admitting her part and for being so careless that she didn't care who she hit when she made that wall fall down, and it's just been torture to sit there in her class knowing what she did, and I've said that I don't wish death on anybody, but if I made two exceptions, it would be for her and her horrible brother. I hope she is sacked and I never have to see her face again for the rest of my life. And I hope whatever hexes Lucius used on her HURT. LOTS.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-28 20:50:50](#)
(no subject)

I never never thought I'd see the day that I was grateful to Mr Malfoy about anything.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-01-28 20:59:43](#)
(no subject)

I can tell you that something about Master and his sister was discussed at the board of governors meeting last night. Don't know if this was before or after Mr Malfoy mixed it up with Master's sister. But the Headmistress was muttering about some of it last night under her breath, and I overheard bits of a Floo call this morning with, I think, one of the governors.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-28 21:27:57](#)
(no subject)

Whatever happened, happened after the meeting. The meeting was around dinner time, and Draco knew his father would be stopping by the party sometime later. He thought the meeting was ending at around six, right when the party started, but he wasn't expecting him until about half past because he said his father always chats with the Headmistress after these meetings. He didn't come until after seven.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-29 07:28:30](#)
(no subject)

I told him about what Mr and Miss Professors Carrow had been saying to me about my dad., you know. Not what Terry said he'd heard, of course, but all the things they'd been saying that I'd heard direct.

It wasn't only because of me, of course, but he was awfully angry about it.

I'd bet part of it was Harry too, what Carrow did to ~~his~~ ~~mu~~ Hermione. And then missing class so many times this term. But no matter his reason, she was utterly mad to draw her wand on him, and he won't

let her get away with it. And I wouldn't be surprised if Our Lord himself doesn't get involved, and it would serve them both right.

[2011-01-28 14:21:00](#)

An announcement

My Father is absolutely fine, as everyone who was at Pansy's party knows. He dropped in for a spot of tea before he left. So you can all stop asking me about what all went on - or, for that matter, *looking* like you want to ask.



 [alt_draco](#)

Hope you had fun at the party, Pansy.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-28 21:30:29](#)

Private Message to Draco

Son,

What is this about people asking after your father's health? What happened last night? Your father's never ill, you know that.

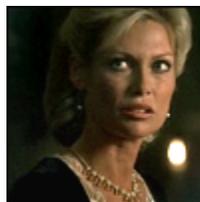


 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-28 21:38:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I was going to ask you what happened, because I have no bloody idea. Only that everyone's saying that he and Ms Professor Carrow had some kind of duel in the school corridors. All of the Slytherins in our year were celebrating Pansy's birthday when it happened, though, so everything I've heard is rumours from other houses. Ms Professor Carrow isn't teaching classes today, though, and that's definitely not a rumour.

He really did come by the party. He looked odd. Pale. Moreso than usual, I mean.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-28 21:46:58](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Don't say 'bloody,' son. It's frightfully common.

But no, I haven't spoken to or heard from your father since yesterday. He sent an owl from the *Prophet* Advisory Board that he and your Uncle Razzar would get

supper in Hogsmeade and that he expected to be quite late.

But he left before breakfast this morning. I didn't think anything out of the ordinary, even if he rarely takes an early-morning meeting on a night when he and I have not dined together, as you know. Not unless it's absolutely necessary.

If that - Well, dear, you know neither of us wishes you to disrespect your professors, even the Carrows. ~~But if that cow has hurt your father I shall personally see to it she gets her wand snapped, Dark Arts professor or no!~~

I'm sure there's a reasonable explanation and your father will provide it. Presently.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2011-01-29 06:08:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I know, but Raz says it all the time, and it's rubbed off.

I don't want to disrespect either of the Professors Carrow, but if she did something to Father then how am I going to not? Just by looking at me she'll probably think I'm being disrespectful, even if I'm being well-behaved. That's the way it is with her brother this year.

So will I get to hear the explanation, too?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-01-29 06:13:52](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Well, Mother will have to remind Uncle Raz to be more careful with his language around you, in future.

Your father's back at home, after what sounds like a very trying and most vexing couple of days.

Based on what he's told me, it doesn't sound like you'll have to worry about the Carrows for much longer. Still, please keep your wits about you for the time being. And go straight to your uncle if there's a whiff of trouble from either of them. Your father tells me they are both in accord about that much.

As for the explanation itself, I think it will be better if Father tells you that directly.



alt_pansy at [2011-01-29 01:07:08](#)

(no subject)

Loads and loads! It was so sweet of all of you to pull that together, and I really had a fantastic time. And the sheet music! I can't imagine how much trouble you went through to find all of them, and get them so beautifully bound.

It really was lovely, Draco.



alt_draco at [2011-01-29 16:36:46](#)

(no subject)

I wanted to give you the music for Christmas, but it just took too long to get all your favourite songs. Some of them had been out of print for a while, or were just really difficult to track down, so I was owling people for ages. I knew it was the only thing I wanted to get you, though, so it was time well spent.

I'm glad you liked it.



alt_lucius at [2011-01-29 15:34:40](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Thank you, son, for the attempt.

It is unfortunate that my journal was mislaid during such a critical juncture or I could have stemmed the rumours before they ran rampant. Ah, well. The Carrows' days are numbered, particularly after this stunt of Alecto's. Let it be a lesson to you, my boy: Never stop practising your duelling skills. An unprepared duellist is a defeated one.

Your mother is coming to school to-day and wants to see you if she can. Kindly do her the favour if you can work her into your agenda.

[2011-01-28 15:05:00](#)

Private message to Mr Rosier



 [alt_seamus](#)

Sir,

There are some really odd rumours going around Hogwarts today about the School Governors' meeting and the Carrows. Mr Professor Carrow went to the hospital wing yesterday and Professor Brutka taught his classes. In the late afternoon -- well, the stories disagree, but it seems that Mr Malfoy and Miss Professor Carrow fought a duel. No one seems to know for certain what it was about. The maddest story says that she was once in love with him and it had to do with jealousy (!) but there are a dozen other versions. All the stories agree that the duel happened though, and most people are saying they both cast cruciatus. (There are also claims that one or both of them attempted the killing curse, but I KNOW that CANNOT be the case because both were seen alive later in the evening!)

Anyway I guess why I'm writing to you is

I really hate how much Mr Professor Carrow frightens scares upsets makes me nervous. I'm a Gryffindor and I try to be brave and I work hard at Transfiguration (the extra books you gave me help a lot, and the tutoring during holidays) so as not to give him cause to be angry at me but he just gets

You know, I really think he's mad? Really mad, not just pretending. And he's getting madder, and so is Miss Professor Carrow, and I'm worried one of them will do something awful to me not because I DID anything, you know, because I wouldn't. I don't talk back, I always do my homework, everything I'm supposed to, but I'm afraid one of them is going to hurt me just because I'm a half-blood or maybe just because I was there when someone else made them angry. It used to be I was just worried about Mr Professor Carrow but if Miss Professor Carrow attacked Lucius Malfoy (and I really don't think EVERYONE who says so is making it up, no matter what Percy Weasley says, though I understand why he's saying so; he's the Head Boy and we're not allowed to duel in the corridors! it sets a terrible example if a teacher and a school governor did) ...if she did, she's as mad as he is and now I'm worried about her, too.

What should I do?

your loyal and affectionate foster-son,
Seamus

[2011-01-28 15:22:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

Have you heard? Chang was in Ravenclaw Corner this afternoon on account of Dark Arts lessons being cancelled. He said that Mr Malfoy and Miss Professor Carrow had a DUEL last night! In the corridors!



 [alt_padma](#)

Tamblyn said he heard that Miss Carrow tried to cast the killing curse on Mr Malfoy! But she missed and he Cruciated her to subdue her. But Dames said that's not what she heard, she heard that it was Mr Malfoy who went to try to kill Miss Carrow, on account of her talking to that *Londinarium* chap. So then we got Moon to come over, and you know she's dating Ptolemy Baddock, and he was there, but she said that he said that it was just a disagreement between them, and they hadn't had their wands out at all. Only no one really believes that.

In fact, Sandoval said that if Mr Malfoy had wanted to cast the killing curse on Miss Carrow, he wouldn't have missed, but he told Moon that it was ridiculous to say there wasn't any kind of duel, because Baddock and Professor Sinistra were there and were sending students away down the corridor in the other direction. And they wouldn't have done that if it had just been an argument. But he didn't think they were casting anything too bad - you know, just usual duelling club kinds of spells, because he couldn't credit they'd go and try to duel to the death right in school where anyone might come along!

Well. Then Laverty, she said she heard that a long time ago, Miss Carrow was after Mr Malfoy, you know, like how Professor Acton was always trying to corner Professor Raz? And she was really in love with him, but he wouldn't have anything to do with her (and can you blame him, really? I mean, who would ever be attracted to Miss Carrow?) and so she's been sending him little 'presents' for years, and finally he tried to send one back to her brother. So he took bottle of firewhiskey that she'd sent him and sent it to Professor Carrow. He didn't realise it was the same one, so he drank it, but it was *poisoned*! And that's why he went to the hospital wing on Wednesday. So when Mr Malfoy came here yesterday for the Governors' meeting, she waited somewhere between there and the Slytherin common room and she ambushed him in *revenge*!!!

I sort of want to ask Malfoy, but I know he'll get well shirty if we pry into his father's personal business. I wonder if Parkinson knows

anything about it? I mean, a few people said they heard screaming, but then, her brother's in the hospital wing, so maybe she was really overwrought? Anyway. What are they saying up in Gryffindor? D'you reckon Mr Rosier would know if she was really ever in love with him?

I can't believe it, though. A School Governor - I mean, MR MALFOY, and Miss Professor Carrow duelling in the CORRIDORS! If they weren't both so well deadly, I'd say the Headmistress ought to give them both a detention! Ha-ha!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-01-28 20:56:06](#)
(no subject)

I heard they duelled, too. Here in Gryffindor people are mostly saying it had to do with Parkinson -- you know how Mr Professor Carrow twitted her in the journals about her father? Who was Lucius Malfoy's best friend?

What I heard is that Miss Professor Carrow was being well spiteful to Parkinson -- in some of the upper-level Dark Arts classes she's been using him whenever she needed an example of a bumbler. So he went to tell her to leave Parkinson alone, but then it doesn't make sense she'd just attack him.

But, I ALSO heard it had to do with Parkinson's father but not like that. I heard Alecko Carrow was actually the one responsible for killing Mr Parkinson -- it was an accident, mind, but it was her who caused it. And, that Mr Malfoy only found out when the article ran, and so he's been plotting to kill her. But that? Can't be true, because I agree with Sandoval, if Mr Malfoy wanted someone dead, at the end of the day they'd be in the ground, not in the hospital wing!

But DUELLING. In the CORRIDORS. ADULTS. It's hard to believe but if there is ONE thing that every rumour agrees on, it's that they duelled in the corridors. Oh, except for what Percy Weasley is saying, he says there was an argument and it was JUST an argument and NO wands were used and EVERYTHING ELSE IS A HYSTERICAL FABRICATION (I think that's how he put it). But AS IF anyone believes THAT.



 **alt_padma** at [2011-01-28 21:07:46](#)
(no subject)

That's what Baddock says too, or at least what Moon says Baddock says, but well. His dad is Mr Malfoy's other best friend, so he's sort of like Mr Malfoy's nephew the way Melinda Pennifold and Parkinson are his nieces. So of course he's going to say whatever Mr Malfoy told him to say!

I hadn't heard that Miss Carrow was the one who did for Pansy's dad, though. And if she really was, then I can believe Mr Malfoy was well upset. I mean, the article said that he never left Mr Parkinson that whole time, the three hours or whatever it was that it took for him to die. And all the while the Healers couldn't do anything except wait.

And well. If something like that happened to Lav or Parvati, and I found out for sure who it was, I guess I'd be well tempted to curse first and ask questions later.

So if that's true, then maybe he really did mean to come after her. Which would mean Miss Carrow was acting in self-defence. But still...I dunno. I think you're right about Mr Malfoy: if he wanted to kill her, he wouldn't have stopped, even if half the school had come running round the corner.



 **alt_seamus** at [2011-01-28 21:03:17](#)
(no subject)

And I wouldn't ask Malfoy. And I don't think I'd want to ask Parkinson either but you could try if you want, I'd be afraid she'd either hex me or cry, either is bad. I mean, if it has to do with her dead father -- well.

Mr Rosier might know some things. Let me think about how to put it.



 **alt_padma** at [2011-01-28 21:13:15](#)
(no subject)

What about Hooper? His brother works for Mr Malfoy, right? I bet he'd know what really happened, or what might be happening. At least, if there's any,

oh, what do you call them, ~~repe~~ ~~repercut~~ repercussions about what happened, and it comes through Mr Malfoy's office.

Oh, the other thing I heard was that it had *nothing* to do with a Tragic Past at all. It was about what Professor Carrow did to Marvolo's mudblood. And Mr Malfoy was going to warn her that he's going the Lord Protector to get them both sacked.



 **alt_seamus** at [2011-01-28 21:20:20](#)
(no subject)

Oh, GOOD THOUGHT. I'll go find Hooper right now.

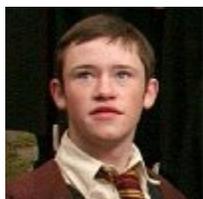
Why would Mr Malfoy have cared about a mudblood? I mean I suppose he shouldn't have messed with Marvolo's property but it's not as if he damaged her permanently, I heard there won't even be a scar.



 **alt_padma** at [2011-01-29 05:00:59](#)
(no subject)

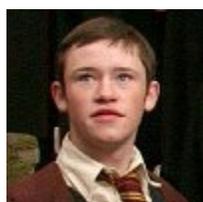
Oh and it's because messing with Marvolo's property is like messing with Marvolo, isn't it?

He's well attached to that mudblood, I mean, she goes everywhere with him. Probably even to the loo.



 **alt_seamus** at [2011-01-29 05:02:05](#)
(no subject)

He does treat her sort of like a pet, doesn't he?



 **alt_seamus** at [2011-01-29 03:57:28](#)
(no subject)

Hooper says his brother said Mr Malfoy was using a cane today to walk with and looked like his back hurt him. Also, he spent nearly all day either on floo calls or in Court.

So if Miss Professor Carrow cursed him (or hexed him, whatever it was) it sounds like she really did hurt him. Although from what

I've heard she's still in the hospital wing so she must have been worse off than Mr Malfoy by the end.

Malfoy says everyone in Slytherin knows his father's just fine but I heard people talking today and he DIDN'T look well when he stopped by the party. They said he looked ill and he didn't eat anything.



 **alt_padma** at [2011-01-29 04:51:07](#)
(no subject)

What about Mr Rosier? Did he say anything?

I saw Draco saying that, but I think it's like when grown-ups say they're fine but really they're anything but.

Did you notice how this evening so many people were writing to Mr Malfoy privately? Mrs Malfoy, even. And I don't think they'd all be writing to him if he were able to answer, do you?

You don't suppose...I mean, Miss Professor Carrow *is* an expert on the Dark Arts. Maybe she learned that spell from Auror Lestrage. The one that killed Sirius Black. That took 24 hours, didn't it? I mean, maybe.... Oh, but then we'd have heard, wouldn't we, if he'd gone to St Mungo's. They'd have made an announcement. And Draco would have been sent home, if he were really dying. And Mrs Malfoy wouldn't be looking for him through the journals.

Unless....

You don't suppose he's somewhere no one knows where to find him, and unable to write back?



 **alt_seamus** at [2011-01-29 04:57:42](#)
(no subject)

I did notice all the people writing to him but SURELY if she'd cast anything like that he's clever enough to have noticed, and even if they couldn't do anything about it, Aurors would have come to arrest Miss Professor Carrow. And Malfoy would have gone home and for that matter probably Marvolo and Parkinson

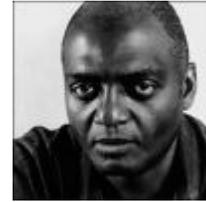
and maybe even Hydra, and none of them even sound especially worried.

I haven't heard from Mr Rosier yet, he usually sends owls. Maybe I'll get one in the morning.

2011-01-28 15:29:00

Order Only: Robert Pigott

I'll start with the good news. Robert Pigott (his parents call him Robbie) has safely arrived at Moddey Dhoo.



 [alt_kingsley](#)

Bill's identification worked as well as always at getting us in. We followed the usual protocol and avoided the camp administration as much as possible, and arrived at the cottage (well, hovel) where his parents live.

There we ran into a poser. The parents insisted that they didn't have the baby, that he had in fact died shortly after his birth.

I felt badly for them, and I thought that meant the mission was over, but Frank apparently smelled a rat and kept questioning them. After a few minutes I could see what had tickled his intuition that they were lying. We could almost smell the fear coming off of them in waves, and not just because they assumed at first we were from the Ministry.

Then we heard a baby crying, muffled but clear from the room beyond. The mother blanched, and they tried to pass it off as nothing but a cat, but Frank and I made it clear we weren't buying it, and then finally John, the father, told the mother she had to go get him. Guess they were afraid the neighbours would hear him.

They were real reluctant to let us see him. But when we did (and it took a lot of cajolery from Frank; that man could charm a Hungarian Horntail out of its den), we saw that he had a harelip. Not the worse possible case. The roof of his mouth is dented but still intact. But his lip is badly split.

The mother fed him--or tried to, because he obviously has a hard time sucking--while we told them about Moddey Dhoo. They hemmed and hawed, and you could tell they desperately wanted to ask questions, but it was as if they didn't quite dare. Frank offered the children's letters, but they just stared at them and left them on the table untouched.

"What's wrong?" Frank asked. "Why do you want everyone to think he's dead?"

"Just wizards," the father said, and then clamped his lips shut, as if

he'd said too much.

Frank looked between the two of them, clearly baffled, but I began to feel a sinking feeling as I started to see what they were on about. "We won't hurt him," I said, trying to sound as soothing as possible. "We wouldn't ever do that."

They stared us both like hares hypnotized by a snake about to strike, the mother clutching at the boy's blanket.

"But you thought we would." I looked at their frozen faces and saw I was right. They hid him, and told everyone he was dead, because they thought that wizards would kill him. Because of the harelip.

The father edged over closer to his wife as she struggled to help the boy nurse and he mumbled something about 'we know what you want him for.'

I didn't understand at first, but as I saw the realization on Frank's face, it dawned on me, too. I thought Frank was going to sick up, just sitting there. 'You figure we want him for--for dark arts.'

'Or just pieces of him,' the father stammered. 'For potions and such.' And then he turned white at the look in Frank's eyes.

Frank started to say something fierce, about him being a father, too--and then he abruptly stopped and clapped his hands to his face.

And that's the bad news. We'd been talking so long, trying to convince them, that we'd lost track of the time, and Frank's polyjuice had wore off, right there, before he could whip out his bottle to swig down another dose.

What's more, the father recognised him right away as 'that Longbottom bloke, the one on all the posters.'

We figured then that everything was bollixed up, for good and all, that we'd have to oblivate them, but then they astonished us.

They told us to take him. Because, get this, Frank was Sirius Black's friend. As soon as they grasped that, they no longer believed we were about to go boil him in a cauldron.

So we made the rings, and offered them the sketch, and now we're here at the Sanctuary, and Stephen is looking Robbie over. The boy's

underweight, obviously, but since he can take at least some nourishment, Stephen doesn't want to attempt the repair of his lip for now, thinking it's best left for when Poppy comes for a visit over Easter break.

Anyway, that's our report. Frank's still kicking himself about the Polyjuice mistake. We both are, and we'll try to make sure we don't make such a tyro's error again. But they'll keep their silence for the boy's sake, and we figure that's the best that we can expect.

And the name of 'Sirius Black' is still good for something. Enough to give Robbie Pigott a fighting chance at a decent life.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-01-28 21:54:55](#)**
(no subject)

Pieces of babies for Dark Arts??

I can't even-

And you let yourselves be seen?



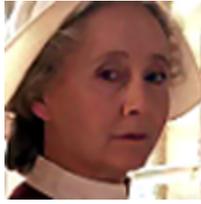
 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-01-28 22:11:29](#)**
(no subject)

Trust me, Poppy, Frank's plenty upset about it himself. Both about what the parents assumed and about the polyjuice.

My dose was still good, and I took another swig right away when I saw Frank's dose wear off. But yeah, they saw him.

They'll keep it quiet. They have every reason to do so, since we have Robbie, and it's clear they were doing everything they could to protect him.

But we don't like it either.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-28 22:21:09](#)
(no subject)

I don't doubt you were upset.

Well. You're right, of course: the parents have every reason to keep that secret.

I do hope, though, that they made no slips with their own secret and that their neighbours were truly not aware of the child's existence.

But you say he has a harelip? I will do a bit of reading up, then, in preparation for Easter. I feel sure there have been advances since I was in training and studied the restorative techniques.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-29 20:01:09](#)
(no subject)

We've actually helped them out with their story by providing them with an official death certificate. It's something they can show if anyone comes around with questions now.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-01-29 17:25:29](#)
(no subject)

Because the sprog's 'deformed,' yeah. Sweet of the Death Eaters, isn't it, to bring back such charming customs?

Kingsley, I almost missed this amid all the hubbub about Malfoy and Carrow yesterday. Still don't quite know what to make of the fact that they recognised Frank and *that's* what convinced them you were sincere.

Maybe it should be a new strategy for getting parents to agree.

Only joking, Poppy! On another topic, have you checked on Minerva? It really is unlike her to let the gossip mills rage quite so long. I'm worried you might have to fill up your ward with professors instead of students!



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-29 18:27:24](#)
(no subject)

yeah, well, don't think we'll be pulling that on purpose any time soon. Al was spitting nails over it as it is. hard case all around, though. I if he hadn't said what he had, well. it wouldn't have sit easy with me at all to oblivate em, and then what would we have done? take the kid without asking? risk not being able to fix the records in enough time to keep min and the book safe? and what would happen if the camp people found out they'd been hiding him?

least kingsley managed to keep his cover. he needs it.

still. damn.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-29 20:10:11](#)
(no subject)

How horrible! But has anyone really brought back such a barbaric practice? We know that rumours are rampant in the camps but is there any grain of truth to it?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-01-29 20:16:52](#)
(no subject)

I hate to say it, Molly, but it could be possible. Carrow was doing his little experiments in the camps over the summer, remember. And I've certainly seen sadists aplenty among the camp administrators, plenty of whom might be eager to accrue power with dark arts.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-29 20:20:53](#)
(no subject)

I'll put some of my people on it, see if I can find out anything more.

[2011-01-28 15:30:00](#)

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Lucius.

I just took a call from Stephen Rosier. It seems Hogwarts is in an uproar over an altercation you had with Alecto Carrow last night after the Governor's meeting.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

Please tell me you did NOT in fact duel Miss Carrow in the corridors of Hogwarts with an audience of aghast students? That this is surely an outrageous and invented rumour invented by fevered imaginations of hysterical adolescents?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-29 03:45:32](#)
(no subject)

Of all the days for this book to go missing! If you can believe it, Broome gathered it up along with all his stacks of scrolls and the log book for Court this afternoon. I've had Hooper going through the St James' house parchment by parchment and turning over every stone.

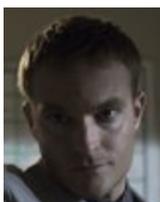
At any rate. Yes. After Minerva informed us that Carrow had drunk himself into a stupor and was thus incapacitated, I went to see Alecto to discuss with her the impropriety of her and her brother's actions of late. She must have anticipated my coming because she chose to ambush me instead. Luckily, I was close enough to the corner that I was able to use it for cover, breaking her eye contact and the Curse, and thus I was able to engage in a fair fight. I endeavoured of course to make it as quick as possible to subdue her and keep the duel from distressing the students - but at that moment, Aurora Sinistra and one of the Slytherin prefects came upon us.

I've spent most of the day controlling the damage that idiot witch and her demented brother have done, as well as preparing a full report to Our Lord, which I gave at Court. I've only just finished explaining my lack of communication to Narcissa - and I hope you can forgive me for telling her the story before picking up a quill to explain myself to you, or any of the others demanding answers.

I cannot say whether He will change His mind and come to see the overwhelming evidence that Carrow has become even more

dangerous than ever. But I hope this is sufficient proof for *you* that neither of them belong at that school anymore.

It was one thing when we were first cleansing the place. But over time their presence has become more a liability than an asset.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-01-29 03:50:29](#)

(no subject)

Alecto Carrow ambushed you? Actually tried to curse you?

This sounds quite a bit more ... deranged than anything discussed at the meeting yesterday. Was she drunk? What in Circe's name possessed her to attack a fellow member of the Council?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-29 03:55:26](#)

(no subject)

Tried?

Succeeded, Dominic. Cruciatus, in fact. Just for a moment, thank Merlin.

As I said, I can only make conjectures at this point. But I suspect she was acting preemptively in the expectation that her brother's threats had garnered my ... displeasure.

Not that she was wrong, mind. But her choice of battleground could have been much more discreet.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-01-29 04:05:04](#)

(no subject)

Well.

I have to admit, this shows that she truly can't be trusted. It's one thing for a teacher to have Cruciatus at her disposal when disciplining unruly students, but someone with such poor judgment and self-control can't be trusted not to do permanent damage. I've grown increasingly concerned about Amycus's mental state; Alecto seemed rather more reliable, but that was clearly an illusion.

Have you any thoughts on replacements? I assume you're in the process of suggesting to the Lord Protector that He might wish to dismiss both of them from Hogwarts. Do you know if He believes Dark Arts should be taught by a member of the Council? I'm not sure who would be interested if Alecto is given the sack. (Not to mention, who'd be interested AND have the time and lack of other obligations.)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-01-29 04:40:51](#)

(no subject)

I've several thoughts, though it is of course not our decision, ultimately. For one thing, Gibbon might be spared. For another, we could simply and finally clear Muggle Studies and Defence from the curriculum and leave only Dark Arts - in which case, the Razzler might like to stay on. Or someone from MLE might be convinced to take a one-year appointment, though that would only postpone the problem of a permanent replacement.

As for Transfiguration, there is no shortage of qualified candidates.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-01-29 04:43:54](#)

(no subject)

Muggle Studies does seem quite the anachronism these days. Defence as well, though to a lesser extent. It sounds as though the Razzler's done an excellent job this year. Perhaps if they ARE removed, we might consider combining Dark Arts and Defense into a single subject, with the more advanced Dark Arts material left for after OWLs.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-01-29 04:14:33](#)

(no subject)

Although I'm not convinced Amycus should be punished for Alecto's actions. Reprimanded for meddling with young Marvolo's property, naturally, but that's a rather less serious offense.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-01-29 04:27:52](#)**
(no subject)

At this point, Dominic, I think you are the only Governor who disagrees about Amycus. Before coming home to-night I was summoned (!) to meet with old Peakes. I could tell from the way he was throwing about his weight that he finally thought he had a perfect excuse to see me off the Board.

It was almost worth my pain to see him change his tune when I told him what had transpired. As I reported at the meeting, Carrow had already admitted to harassing Miss Parkinson regarding her father's death, and knew that I wanted to speak to him about it. I suspect that it wasn't only learning that Professor Brutka had rescued some of Amycus' research subjects that led to his incapacitation Wednesday night. I daresay he wanted to avoid my reprimand.

The mere fact that he has now repeatedly allowed his alcohol dependence to interfere with his duties ought to make him ineligible to continue teaching. But when it comes to threatening those children who ought to be in the top ranks of their classes

Well. Let me put it to you thus, Dominic: How long is it before Arista starts school? Would you really trust her with the likes of Amycus Carrow?



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2011-01-29 04:32:46](#)**
(no subject)

Mm. That's a fair point. About Arista, I mean.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-01-29 04:43:28](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. And one I have tried to impress upon you in the past.

[2011-01-28 16:00:00](#)

Order Only: Minerva?

There are rumblings and rumours floating around today about some altercation at Hogwarts last night, and I'm noting a plethora of Private Messages going back and forth today.



 [alt_bill](#)

Care to bring us up to speed? Have you finally managed to get one or both of those miserable Carrow creatures sacked?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-29 05:05:57](#)
(no subject)

Oh, dear, I just saw this now. I've spent the whole day without looking at my journal because I was busy with the barter network. And your father just got home from the office. He's been up to his ears all day in those wretched month end reports and so hasn't been keeping an eye on the journals, either.

I'm sure Minerva must have her hands full at the moment, ~~or~~ ~~she's~~...but surely Poppy would have said something if either of them had gotten the sack.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-29 05:31:11](#)
(no subject)

I wish Pomona would deign to pick up a quill once in a while! It would certainly be useful to get another reliable source from within the castle.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-29 05:32:00](#)
(no subject)

Mum? Seen Percy's post? Apparently we're not the only ones worried. Rumours seem to be running wild at Hogwarts, too.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-29 05:32:14](#)
(no subject)

Oh, dear.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-29 20:48:01](#)
(no subject)

Oh, bless.

It's nothing so dire. As far as I'm aware, Minerva is perfectly fine, but I rather think she's been harassed with repeated calls from various of the governors. And I know she was dreading the likelihood that He would demand audience at some point yesterday.

I can't tell you more, I'm afraid. I've got a ward full, and that does not count the two special cases--and the silencing charms their presence demands.

2011-01-28 16:35:00

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Lucius?

What in the name of Merlin is going on? I got your owl yesterday saying you'd be late and not to wait up. But you were gone this morning before I came down to breakfast at seven. Then I see Draco's message assuring everyone that you are fine - I distinctly detect Aurors' code in that 'He's fine,' incidentally.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Kindly tell me you are all right. If a single reporter comes to the Manor gates....

Ah. And our son has just confirmed that you had a row with Alecto? Really. I hope you know what you are doing, husband.

2011-01-28 16:48:00

*Private Message to Dominic Selwyn
and Rabastan Lestrage*



Dominic. I saw you wrote to Lucius. Has he answered?

 [alt_narcissa](#)

Raz. Draco says Alecto and Lucius duelled. Last I heard he was simply going to tell Amycus to rein himself in. What in the nine levels of Hell happened last night?



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2011-01-28 22:44:06**
(no subject)

Madam, I have not yet gotten a reply to my question. Which I expect is rather the same as yours, though the stories about last night's events may have reached you by a rather less roundabout route than they reached me.

I have it on good authority that your husband looked rather better after the altercation than Alecto Carrow did.

2011-01-28 19:58:00

Private Message to Mordant Travers

Call off the dogs.

Rabbit's returned to the warren.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

[2011-01-28 23:06:00](#)

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

Well, I've heard the explanation, now, though I'm not sure I believe all of it. Parts are too extraordinary *not* to be true - and they've been corroborated by other sources. And other pieces seem...conveniently coincidental.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

I suppose I should have waited longer to call on your assistance. But thank you. There was the distinct possibility that she'd used one of Bella's delayed curses or some other trick that he wasn't able or aware of needing to counteract. If he'd been alone at St James', for example, working....

But he says it was a simple, if maddening, matter of his journal being collected by Broome at Court, and then not being able to trace it back right away to the point where it went missing. I suppose it's plausible. I don't think he'd have deliberately ignored my post, not for so long, if he really hadn't mislaid the book. Easy enough to check whether his clerk really has been searching for it high and low.

At least he didn't bother to ask how you came to be at the Manor. I do feel foolish for asking you to come, now. And not a little ashamed of the way he sent you home - though of course we did need to talk privately, but he might have been more appreciative of your efforts and the intent behind them.

I hope I didn't ruin any plans you had for the evening. Or Travers, either.

I've other replies to make.

Have you given any thought to yesterday's conversation, by the way?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **[2011-01-29 20:01:54](#)**

(no subject)

Narcissa. You were quite right to be concerned. Lucius could quite well have been suffering a delayed curse; your sister is not the only one to have made them a specialty.

The matter of his journal is an interesting thing, actually. I've just been talking with Travers, who confirms that he went first of all to Lucius's clerk and found him at home in his slippers with his supper on the table, half-eaten. Hooper was quite surprised to learn we thought Lucius might have gone missing: said he'd been fine, if a bit less genial than usual, throughout the morning. As far as he knew, Lucius had gone on to a meeting at Presto and then to court, and while he hadn't heard from Lucius before leaving at the usual time, he'd thought nothing out of the ordinary.

Searching high and low for Lucius's journal was not among the evidence he offered for knowing his employer to be well and accounted for in the interval, you'll note.

As for ruining my plans--or Travers, for that matter--you needn't worry. This is the work we do, Narcissa. We were very glad to assist you. I'm neither surprised nor terribly concerned that Lucius was chagrined on learning his absence had set a search in motion. His treatment of me was well within bounds under the circumstances.

I'm mulling yesterday's other conversation, yes.



 **alt_narcissa** at [2011-01-29 20:21:45](#)
(no subject)

Well, really, I could have contacted Mr Hooper myself and learned as much, instead of using the distress signal. Though it is odd that he didn't tell Travers about looking for the journal. From what Lucius said, he realised it was missing before I summoned you. But perhaps he was simply looking for it on his own. You know how you boys sometimes are about admitting you've misplaced something. He may have wanted to avoid involving anyone else.

The days are running together for you, aren't they? You did that last week as well, saying 'today' when you meant 'yesterday' - now it's 'yesterday' when you meant 'Thursday.' Perhaps it really is love.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-01-29 20:40:59](#)
(no subject)

We assumed you had contacted Hooper, actually, but he was still Travers' first stop in reconstructing Lucius's movements.

True enough and literally so. I suppose it's a sign that I should go home and sleep this afternoon as I'm on again tonight.

2011-01-28 23:10:00

I know I've said this before

and it is quite late, but PLEASE do not spread rumours about the school's Professors or distinguished members of the school's Board of Governors.



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

Perhaps some of you may not realise that our proximity to Dementors may have a pernicious effect on some susceptible people's judgement. But if you stop and think for a moment I'm sure you will realise what your Prefects have been trying to make clear all day:

NO ONE has died

NO ONE is under arrest

NO ONE has been sacked

The school, as always, is running like clockwork

The students can confidently depend upon their Professors and Prefects to maintain order, as Our Lord Protector expects.

For. Merlin's. Sake.

Go to bed, everyone.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-29 05:23:23](#)
(no subject)

Good one, Percy. That'll CERTAINLY shut the rumours up.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-01-29 05:25:45](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Do you really think so?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-01-29 05:26:24](#)

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

Hardly. They'll just spread faster now.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-01-29 05:36:02](#)

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

Well, I don't believe for a minute the rumours that Lucius Malfoy is dead. If Alecto Carrow were going to try to kill him she'd have used the killing curse. And if she'd even TRIED to cast that on him I think he'd have killed her. They were both alive last night, so I'm sure they're both alive now.

But yeah, your brother loudly denying everything? just makes it sound more true. Too bad for him.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-29 05:23:43](#)

(no subject)

Oh, not in Gryffindor too?

What Weasley said, everyone. I've never seen so many rumours flying. And they're utter rot!

The next person in Ravenclaw who says anything on this topic will lose 100 points - all our prefects are together on this. Please, everyone - listen to the Head Boy and Girl. Stop running away with your imaginations.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-29 05:34:16](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Yes, Gryffindor, too.

I know getting up early on Saturday isn't your favourite thing, but could you meet me for breakfast? We can compare notes about strategy. If this gets much worse, I'm going to have to call a weekend Prefect's meeting.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-29 05:51:52](#)

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

It's really not.

Well, look. If Mr Malfoy himself hasn't spoken up by noon, then call the prefects together and we'll all decide how to go about it. That way we can all have a decent lie-in and you can still take charge if necessary.

Oh, who'm I kidding? They're not going to let us sleep in, are they? My lot in Ravenclaw are still whispering about it even at this hour.

I wish Professor McGonagall would say something official-sounding so everyone would shut it.

But even if she doesn't, Mr Malfoy's bound to let everyone know he's all right, right? Unless you think there's really something wrong. But - well, no one's treating either Professor Carrow like murderers. And no one's sent for any of Mr Malfoy's relatives.

Can we at least make it half-eight?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-29 05:55:40](#)

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Half-eight is fine. Getting up early on Saturday mornings isn't particularly my favourite thing, either.

I've just been exchanging private message with my brother Bill, and yes, he agrees that it would help if Professor McGonagall would say something.

I wonder what's keeping her from doing so.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-01-29 06:02:01](#)

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

I can think of five reasons. Can't you?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-29 05:36:13](#)

Private message to Percy Weasley

Sympathies, bro.

It's times like these that I don't miss being Head Boy one little bit.

Anything I can do?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-29 05:37:17](#)

Re: Private message to Percy Weasley

Oh, ha ha, very funny.

Any advice?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-29 05:38:44](#)

Re: Private message to Percy Weasley

Mmm. It would be helpful if the Headmistress would make a post, even if it's not to address the rumours but just to some innocuous announcement, so that people can see that all is well.

You haven't seen her today?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-01-29 05:40:42](#)

Re: Private message to Percy Weasley

No, I haven't. And I can't snap my fingers and make her appear at my discretion.

It would be helpful. She's usually at breakfast-- although she wasn't this morning. I hope she'll be there tomorrow. Maybe she'll make an announcement or something. She does that occasionally, about school business. You're right; that would calm a lot of the fears, I think.



 **alt_bill** at **2011-01-29 05:45:04**

Order Only: Private message to Molly Weasley and Poppy Pomfrey

Bloody hell, what is going on there? Where is Minerva?

Poppy? Can you fill us in? My analysts are getting twitchy, especially since Lucius is involved.

(Mom, read this to Dad, so we can get around that bloody two person limit).



 **alt_molly** at **2011-01-29 05:46:48**

Re: Order Only: Private message to Molly Weasley and Poppy Pomfrey

Poppy, dear, I'm worried about Minerva, too. Is she...I know she's been known to take an extra tot or two when she's under a great deal of stress. Have you seen her today?

Oh, those wretched Carrows.

2011-01-28 23:57:00

Private Message to Mr Peakes

Mr Peakes,



 **alt_dean**

Clearly you must know about the situation here at Hogwarts. I don't want to bother you with the tales of Mr Malfoy or wild rumors behind his or Miss Prof. Carrow's actions. I just want to let you know that many student live in fear while the Carrows are here. They are Mad and cannot be trusted. Professor Carrow constantly oversteps his position in harassing students, even where the Lord Protector's son is concerned.

I will not go on and on, but while they are here no student is truly safe. Sir, I believe that you will consider these things and do what is best.

Dean.

[2011-01-29 00:57:00](#)

(no subject)



 **[alt_pansy](#)**

I'm going to send out proper thank-you notes over the weekend, but between yesterday and today, I've had just about the nicest birthday I can remember. Lucius, your gift was so lovely, I really do appreciate it. I'm glad you could take the time to stop by and say hello yesterday. Of course you were all sorts of busy, but it was so nice to see you, even if it was only for a little. And Rosa and Prospero, I got your package at breakfast today, and it was nice to hear from you both. I think I recognize the pattern on the blanket - that's the Campbell tartan, isn't it? And yes, the riding clothes fit me just fine.

The party yesterday was absolutely snitch, and I was so surprised! I could hardly recognize the common room, the way you lot had the lights and music going. I have the best housemates ever! I don't think I've stopped smiling since. And today, my revision group surprised me with some cake too, and we found out that revision happens to be lots more fun when cake is involved! That's hardly surprising, of course, but it still made for a good time.

And I really ought to go to bed because it's far too late.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2011-01-29 07:14:36](#)**

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I know you must have a lot going on right now, but I wanted to say

Well I know it wasn't all on account of me

But I still appreciate it.

And I saw you after, otherwise I'd be more worried, but I do hope you are feeling better today. You did seem peaky when you came by, but of course, all those rumours are just absolutely silly. It's like people around here don't have anything better to do than to gossip.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2011-01-29 13:21:55**

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I am not sure what you or your schoolmates imagine happened but I assure you all is well. There is no cause for alarm. I think the proximity of the Dementors has caused some of your peers to run wild with all sorts of fears that have no basis whatever in reality.

It was good to see you wearing the pearls already. You are looking more and more grown-up; Soon I shall have to cease calling you 'Little Bit,' hm?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2011-01-29 15:36:45**

Re: Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Of course. I'm glad to hear.

And the pearls are just perfect. I think they are so elegant, and always in style.

I wish you wouldn't! Stop, I mean. At least not yet. And I know it'll sound fairly silly to say out loud once I left school, or got married or something, but I want you know that deep down, even after I get all old and you do stop saying it, I'll still be your Little Bit. Always.

2011-01-29 10:23:00

Rumours at Hogwarts

The rumours of my death - or any other stories circulating - have been grossly exaggerated.

Thank you all for your ... concern.



 [alt_lucius](#)

As to the preposterous allegations of which I have been informed regarding whether or not Miss Alecto Carrow and I engaged in a duel on Thursday, I should like to remind you all not to believe everything you hear. Miss Carrow is still a professor at Hogwarts, as is her brother Amycus. Until such time as the Board of Governors may decide to change their status, both of them are still due the respect of that position.

Finally, as many of you know, Mrs Malfoy comes up to the school today to oversee the Sisters in Witchcraft programme. I caution you all to exercise restraint over your curiosity and accord her the same respect.

Hooper, I shall require you to-morrow. Eleven o'clock should be fine.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2011-01-29 17:27:53**

Order Only

Too bad.

I suppose it's too much to hope they'll chuck all three of them - and Malfoy off the Governors and all?

I'll settle for getting rid of the Carrows, I guess.

2011-01-29 15:39:00

ORDER ONLY: Indisposition

Last night, as the chaos broke loose, I was unfortunately indisposed. The situation was well in hand by the time I was capable of doing anything to alter it.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

This morning, as one might expect, my time has been entirely taken up by the aftermath.

It is hoping for too much to suppose that Lucius Malfoy might be removed from the Hogwarts board of governors. I almost think it is hoping too much that Amycus Carrow be removed. However, I shall try - and try, and *try*. I have an audience with the Lord Protector this evening. I believe, too, that now that he has seen the Carrows' insanity first hand, Malfoy might finally come round to actually supporting my position. Previously, he gave it lip service (as Poppy has noted) without ever actually taking the matter to the Lord Protector.

I am somewhat *grateful* to Alecto for her display of temper. Without it, we should never be able to prise the Carrows out.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-29 21:50:33](#)

(no subject)

I'm glad you're on the mend, Minerva. We've been quite rather concerned.

Keep trying. Honestly, sometimes those two seem like s nasty wart or carbuncle you think you'll never rid yourself of, but surely it must be Possible!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-30 04:46:55](#)

(no subject)

How did the meeting go?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-29 21:53:07](#)
(no subject)

Keep us apprised of further developments and good luck with your meeting.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-01-29 22:02:13](#)
(no subject)

As much as I am in favour of getting Carrow away from the children, what about that lad, Hermione's friend? Would he go too?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-01-30 01:54:23](#)
(no subject)

Oh, surely not!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-01-30 04:41:12](#)
(no subject)

I hate to say it, but Remus has a point. If Carrow is the boy's legal owner, he could insist the boy come with him if he goes. Minerva, is there anything you can do to pry that ownership away?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-01-30 04:58:18](#)
(no subject)

or a way to grab him?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-30 05:13:50](#)
(no subject)

I would hope in this case possession would be 9/10th of the law.

Ugh, except I hate to talk of possessing a person..

Seriously, though, Minerva, I would keep a portkey ready for the boy. Obviously, you can't give it to him at this point without raising questions in his mind that you're not prepared to answer. But have it ready.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-01-30 13:50:21](#)
(no subject)

I'm afraid it might not be that easy.

As I read it, Carrow's simply obsessed with possessing the boy. I can't see him just shrugging his shoulders and accepting it if Minerva shows him a piece of parchment saying he's no longer legal owner. And if we port him away, how would Minerva explain his disappearance? Carrow's had plenty of opportunities over the years to obtain a sample of the boy's blood, and Merlin knows he's a specialist in the sorts of dark spells that could be used to track him. For that reason, I don't think it'd be safe to take him to Moddey Dhoo. Not as long as Carrow's alive, anyway.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-30 15:13:27](#)
(no subject)

This is precisely the problem, Kingsley.

I am trying my best - trying my very hardest - to make the boy's life livable while I can; but Carrow is mad, and he is obsessed with the boy.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-01-30 18:14:49](#)
(no subject)

Minerva...of course you are doing the best you can by the boy. If it were not for you and Poppy, his life would be a litany of horrors. But you have made a difference to him, even within the constraints in which you can safely operate. Don't forget that. I am sure he must be very grateful. I know that the twins are, since they take a special interest in him.

[2011-01-30 18:35:00](#)

Scheduling

Just a reminder to everyone in the play: You don't need to come to rehearsal if we're not working on a scene that you're in. That means this coming Tuesday, we only require the portraits, the owl, and Pearson.



 **[alt_penelope](#)**

Thursday's rehearsal will be Scene 4. We'll need everyone on Sunday, of course, as you're all in the final scene of Act I.

I'm still looking for a willing volunteer to be ASM. But we were glad to welcome a few more young wizards into our company on Sunday. I guess we owe Master Gibbon our gratitude for helping there and encouraging the Sons of Wizardry to come forward as a group.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-31 00:06:34](#)**
(no subject)

If you're still looking for an assistant, I'd like to give it a try. Karoline has all the music well in hand, and I really would like to help out.

Would it be mostly taking notes and running errands?



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2011-01-31 00:11:28](#)**
(no subject)

Well done, Parkinson! Yes, I heard that you'd talked to Karoline. I guess you didn't realise this was originally a musical and she decided - with Professor Sinistra's advice - to remove most of the music after all.

Actually, there's more to it than that. Yes, there's the responsibility to help with blocking and line notes, but during the performance you'd actually be in charge of one of the wings - that's the area to one side of the stage. You'd ensure that people are ready to go on and that they have their props and things. And that they're quiet and can't be seen, of course.

If you're really interested why don't you come to rehearsal on Tuesday and we can chat?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-01-31 00:16:06](#)**
(no subject)

That sounds like something I could do, yeah.

I'll be there.

2011-01-30 19:07:00

Private message to Padma Patil

So, I heard back from Mr Rosier today.

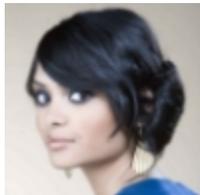
He said that he hoped none of us had aspirations to become reporters because the theory about Miss Professor Carrow being an old flame of Mr Malfoy's was the funniest thing he'd heard yet about the situation.



 [alt_seamus](#)

He didn't tell me what it was about, though.

He also said I should steer clear of the Carrows as much as I can. Don't come early to class but don't come late. Sit near the back so I'm near the door. Also -- last year he gave me a ring with the Rosier family crest on it. It doesn't quite fit me but he said I should take it to Professor Acton, she'll use a charm to adjust the size so it fits me properly. He wants me wearing it all the time. I think he thinks wearing it will remind the Carrows he's my foster-father and they should mess with someone else.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2011-01-31 01:37:42**
(no subject)

Well, of course they were never an *item*! What I said was that she was after him. But I guess that's well ridiculous if you think about it.

I guess we'll have to use the same plan, only neither me or Parvati has a nift ring like that.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2011-01-31 02:03:43**
(no subject)

Yeah.

Sit near the door and try not to attract attention in that class. You're pureblooded but then, so is Mr Malfoy! And he's a school governor! And --

Do you think Mr Professor Carrow is mad? He really has been acting stranger this year.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-31 02:16:25](#)
(no subject)

I think...I think Professor Carrow has always been a little bit mad. Only...well, like Mr Black - Parkinson's Black, I mean, not the other one - he always seemed to hate himself. Professor Carrow's not like that at all. He never seems to think he's done anything other than what's necessary. Like, he's always right.

So I think he doesn't really seem to care whether other people think he's out of his mind. And that's what makes him more frightening this year than before. Before, he didn't really care but he was at least well aware of who was and who wasn't loyal. Now it's like anyone could get on his bad side.

But I think Miss Professor Carrow was really protecting him. Have you noticed how upset she gets whenever he's ~~drinking~~ argumentative with other professors?

Oh, by the way, do you and Hooper want to triple with us on Friday? Only Page has been moping because Hogsmeade's not for ages.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-01-31 02:20:56](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that's the thing about Professor Carrow. He was never the sort of teacher you wanted to get on the bad side of but now, I worry he'll mistake me for Longbottom or something.

About Friday, I think that'll be fine. I wish we had a Hogsmeade weekend sooner, I feel like I just want to get OUT for a day. Though the weather's so miserable -- ugh. At least there's the play, the rehearsal for that have been fun so far.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-01-31 02:30:47](#)
(no subject)

That's right - you and Harry have that big opening scene together. Is he doing anything special? For the traitor, I mean. ~~At the read-~~

~~through he was so boring~~ They gave you both rather big parts, for 3rd-years, I mean.

Does Page...remember how you said Hooper said that Page thought I was too young? I guess I wonder if he thinks we ought to be able to act like more than mates, still, or if he's still a little cross that we can't. I mean, Valentine's is coming and I don't want him to think I don't like him. So maybe on Friday we can all meet but try to split off, if no one's around?



 **alt_seamus** at **2011-01-31 03:04:13**
(no subject)

Harry's a little ... wooden? I don't know. I'm hoping Moon can help him out. I'm really honoured to have such a good role and I really hope I do it justice.

Anyway about Friday, no problem.

2011-01-30 20:29:00

Private Message to Dominic Selwyn and Stephen Rosier



To answer both your owls: Yes, much better, thank you.

 [alt_lucius](#)

Heard from Minerva this afternoon. She met with Our Lord and although He was somewhat becalmed by then, He still wishes to see Alecto and Amycus Himself before delivering a ruling. She seemed confident that He would find them just as unbalanced in His presence as they have been lately at school.

He indicated to her that He would, if so, entertain the notion that they would not return next term. Believe His strategy is to ... remind them both whom they truly serve.

Cannot say I would repeat the last three days, had I the chance to do them over, but if that is what it has taken to reassign them both to something more suitable Well.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2011-01-31 01:37:31**

(no subject)

Hmm. You're likely correct about Our Lord's intentions. Do you think He'll actually reassign them or merely reinforce that they need to exert more self-control?



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2011-01-31 01:43:30**

(no subject)

I think that is up to their sensibilities, Dominic. I do expect He plans to push them to greater self-discipline - if they comply and present no further incident, then He may well feel that His influence over them warrants no further action.

And He may be right. We have spoken before of Minerva's limitations in her control over the staff. Perhaps what has been needed all along is a strong dose of Our Lord's inimitable authority.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2011-01-31 01:56:06](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I will trust the matter to His hands, then, and hope for the best.

2011-01-31 09:34:00

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo
and Minerva McGonagall*



Headmistress McGonagall,

Do you really believe that the Professors
Carrow are going to be sent away?

 [alt_hermione](#)

I am very worried. About Terry Boot as well.

Sincerely,
Hermione Granger



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2011-01-31 14:40:57**

*ORDER ONLY: Private message to Harry Marvolo and
Minerva McGonagall*

I would've used Order Only the first time, except
Harry asked me whether I was going to ever ask you
about it, because he thought that since I used to be
your Mudblood maybe you would do more for me than you would for
him. Or for Terry who is yours now.

Well he didn't put it quite that way, but that's what he meant.

I told him don't be silly, I'm a Mudblood, of course you would do more
for him than for me or Terry.

But he said 'I don't think she likes me very much,' which I said 'I'm
sure that's not true,' and he said 'you don't know. She doesn't ever
hover. She acts like I'm like everybody else, except to my Father,' and
I said 'well don't you want that,' and he said 'YES, only sometimes it's
nice to have people do what you want, and she won't maybe,' and -

Well anyhow the point is he wanted me to send you a message so I
did and I had to do it where he could see or else he would know.

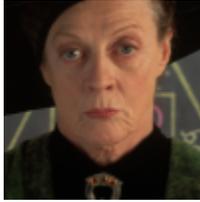


 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-31 15:38:37](#)

Re: ORDER ONLY: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Minerva McGonagall

I quite understand.

I hope my answer was satisfactory to him?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-01-31 15:37:43](#)

(no subject)

Miss Granger, I believe that Harry's Father will ultimately determine that.

Privately, I am sympathetic to your master's concerns,
and yours.