

2011-07-01 09:40:00

Order Only: Carrow and Terry Boot

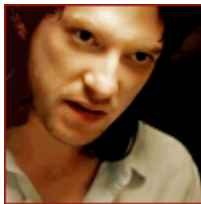
I finally received the report I was waiting for. Carrow has ensconced himself in Lincoln Castle, in Lincoln. This surprised me, because he's not in a camp, although the castle is on the outskirts of one. Then it occurred to me that he may be worried about the less-than-veiled threats he was receiving from Rodolphus Lestrange. He might feel safer with a castle's wall around him.



alt_arthur

(You may remember Lincoln Castle as being one of the locations holding the four copies of the Magna Carta--until Voldemort burned them all, that is.)

This may make our job a bit more difficult. Bill, see what you can find out about what security clearance Frank might need to get in the place.



alt_bill at **2011-07-01 15:19:12**

(no subject)

He might find the dungeons in there convenient, too. Merlin.

All right, I'll see what I can find out.



alt_frank at **2011-07-01 16:22:19**

(no subject)

good. let me know when the paperwork comes through.



alt_frank at **2011-07-01 17:15:48**

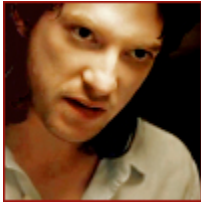
(no subject)


I'm going up to sherwood this afternoon to talk to Turner or Davidson about the connections they have in Lincoln. might be good to make contact with them as well.



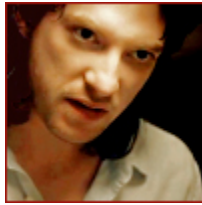
 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-01 17:27:56](#)
(no subject)


It's rather close, isn't it? I hadn't thought of that.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-01 20:27:14](#)
(no subject)

Looks like they have supplies delivered there once a week. I have the name of the company that makes the deliveries. They bring along a couple of workers each week to help with the unloading, drawn from the general labour pool. That would probably be our best shot at getting you in.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-01 20:33:31](#)
(no subject)

There are anti-apparition wards, though.

You'd better have backup plans for getting out.



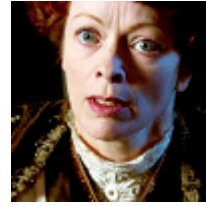
 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-01 21:10:19](#)
(no subject)

we will. thanks for the heads up.

2011-07-01 10:26:00

Grim, Grim, Grim and TRUE

Rise up, Wizards and Mugglekind! Sleepers,
Awake!



The DOGSTAR regrows its lopped limbs! Like the Tentacula, we are more vicious and more vigorous for the pruning! MLE may think they've silenced us, but we speak with many voices, and we raise them now to proclaim: Death to the Death Eaters!

 [alternity](#)
 [alt_charlotte](#)

They think we've forgotten what they are. They call themselves Councilwizards now, and Aurors, and Magical Law Enforcement. They hide behind Bureaucracy. But they are Death Eaters, still.

They still come a-killing in the night. Bringing Death at Wandspoint.

Avery, Baddock, Broome, Carrow, Carrow, Corbyn, Crabbe, Crouch, Desai, Drumgoole, Dyson, Featherstone, Gibbon, Goyle, Jugson, Lestrangle, Lestrangle, Lestrangle, Macnair, Malfoy, McGonagall, Mulciber, Mulciber, Nott, Ollivander, Pummel, Rookwood, Rosier, Rowle, Runge, Selwyn, Snape, Travers, Travers, Truncheon, Wilkerson, Yaxley. Do not their names chill your blood? Do not their deeds inspire nightmares?

They chose the Dark Mark. They serve the One we called You Know Who when he was on the rise, the One who now would have us bow before him and style him Protector.

Under the guise of enforcing law, they force their Dark Master's will upon us all. They slaughter you like cattle, torture, curse, and crush you.


Death to these Vultures. Kill THEM before they kill YOU.

Death to **Lestrangle!** Death to **Crouch!!**

DEATH ABOVE ALL to the **LORD of the VULTURES!**

**NOW IS THE TIME!
SEIZE IT AND KILL!!!!!!!**



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-01 20:37:10](#)
Order Only

Do those names chill the blood? Well. It turns the stomach at the very least to see Minerva there amongst them. Not to mention the discomfoting reminder that we've now three Marked persons amongst our happy few.

I'm not persuaded whether I should be relieved the list is no longer, encouraged that some on that list have turned, depressed that I can name some who are not mentioned, or puzzled by some of the names that are. Ollivander? Which of them is meant to be a Death Eater? Is that true?

As for the rest of it, are we truly to hurl ourselves into the teeth of the Aurors? Seize the day and die, is more like. One hopes this persuades no more minds than Miss Purkiss's recommendation that we all sit and wait for 'spring'.

2011-07-01 11:28:00

(no subject)

It's such a relief to be able to enjoy summer at last! And what a glorious morning it was to take one's breakfast al fresco. (Glorious, that was, until the journals brought such unwelcome words as those recently posted. Really, it's quite rude to ruin a perfect day with the bleating of cowards and fools.)



 **alt_narcissa**

My son has expressed a desire to spend time in New London directly following his initial CCF week, so I've been arranging to open Kensington.

Following the DoP ceremony Monday, I've also invited the new inductees to a reception at Monteith - I knew I should find the perfect opportunity to test their capabilities and this seemed just the right one.

Hydra, dear, I hope you're enjoying your stay with Harry. Perhaps while we're all in town you'll come and keep your aunt company. We could go riding in the afternoons round the parks if you like.

Oh, and Raz - speaking of keeping people company, do let me know if you'd like anything to make your convalescence more comfortable (and I do not mean the sort of companions I hear you and Barty enjoyed recently!). Once you're up to it we'll have to stage a recovery celebration so you can prove to one and all that you're quite back at the peak of health.

And that no fanatical raving will stop you or anyone else from keeping Our Lord's Peace.



 **alt_crouch_jr** at **2011-07-01 16:39:44**


(no subject)

Quite agree about the beautiful morning. I followed the memorial walk through three of Our Lord's parks this morning--the long way to the Ministry, but well worth the ramble. (Would-be assassins note: I don't make a habit of taking any single route in my comings or goings, but then if those bleating cowards were as committed to surveillance as to exclamation points, they'd know as much.)

Re. your DoP reception: is it Monteith or the inductees you are testing? I trust both groups will take pains to please you.

Re. Raz: can attest that he's on the mend. Yes. Not surprised to hear that he's still milking sympathy if you're still offering to coddle him, though.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2011-07-01 20:17:03](#)**

Order Only

I almost have to marvel at the woman's heartlessness. For her to complain that someone protesting against the regime ruins her picnic is the height of--of--well, I don't know what.

2011-07-01 20:30:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good



Dear friends:

He's off getting drunk now, so it's safe to write. I am sorry I worried you all so much. I hope you won't be too angry at me if I tell you I've had my journal back for a week. I had the ink, and I could have written. But I didn't.

 [alt_terry](#)

It's difficult to explain. But I'll do my best to tell you why. To do that, I have to be honest with you. Much more honest than I've ever been with you before, even Hermione. That's hard for me to do. But things have changed since I'm back with him, and I need to do that. To really tell the truth. What's more, I think that you deserve nothing less than the truth.

I'm sorry, but I'll warn you: it won't be easy to hear.

When I left Hogwarts, I was so angry. I was absolutely furious. You have to understand: I had never let myself get angry at him before, because it was so dangerous to do so. I mean, I had never ever even said aloud before that I hated him. At the same time, I was scared out of my mind. I still think I made the right decision to leave. But it was so terribly hard to go back to him. It had been a long time since I'd played the role of crawling boot. It was almost like I'd forgotten how. And going back to it, especially of my own free will, felt like...like deliberately crawling into slime and pulling it over me and smothering myself. To make things worse, I knew there was a real risk that he could kill me.

So for the first week, between the terror and the fury, I could barely move or speak. Fortunately, he was in a really good mood at first. Killing somebody always does that to him.

He got over it, though. The second week he just about tore me apart.

I'm sorry, I told you it wouldn't be easy for you to hear, but it's true. He hit me with a bunch of dark hexes, laid me up for three days, but that wasn't enough for him. A week after that, he beat the snot out of me. He broke every finger in my left hand, knocked out four of my teeth, and punched me in the gut so hard that I'm pretty sure he ruptured something inside me.

When I woke up, I found my journal beside me. He'd given it back to me.

Part of me wanted to die. Just to get it over with. I thought I'd never see any of you again, and I wavered a bit there, not even knowing the point of going on living. But I

opened the journal and I read it. Maybe he wanted me to read it because he thought I'd see you were getting on with your lives and forgetting about me, but of course he didn't know about the secret entries. I must have read the stuff you wrote to me over a hundred times. Telling me to hang on. Telling me that you'd stick with me, that I was still a wizard and a student of Hogwarts, and that you wouldn't forget me. Thinking through all the ways you could try to help me.

You'll never know how much that meant to me.

I waited until he was drunk and I pulled out my wand and I used the healing spells that I'd seen Madam Pomfrey do, as best as I could. And I lay there and watched him snuffling and grunting in his sleep, drooling and stinking, and I thought it all out. Thought it out as cold and as clear as I could. He'd torn me apart, but I've spent the last week putting myself back together.

It's as if there's a boot part of me and a Terry part of me. I don't think there ever would have been a Terry part of me, the wizard, the human being, if it hadn't been for you. I'd sort of flowed between the two of them at Hogwarts, back and forth, because I had to. But the time has come to choose, and I choose this:

I decided that I wanted to live. I decided to take you at your word. That you'll help me.

From now on, I'll still play 'boot,' but I know and you know it'll only be a mask. The real me is Terry. I won't call him 'Master' in my mind anymore, nor ever say it to you. From now on, he's the git, the bastard, the monster. But he doesn't own me. He never will again.

I'll do what I have to do to protect Hermione, but when it's safe to get away, I'm going to escape him. Maybe by becoming an animagus.

And if I have to kill him in order to escape, I'll do it.

Now, to answer your questions:

The bracelet you have given me has worked really well. He stripped me of everything I had the first day I came back to him and forced me to stay naked for three days just to humiliate me, but the charm you put on it worked great, and I'm sure he never even noticed it. I'm forced to sleep on the floor beside his bed every night. He keeps me with me pretty much all the time, but every Friday night and Saturday night he goes on a bender and gets stinking drunk out of his mind. There's a window in the room I can open. I can't escape out of it because it's too high off the ground, but if you send an owl either early Saturday morning or Sunday morning, I'm sure it would be safe. He sleeps until noon on those mornings and nothing short of a dragon belching a ball of fire can possibly wake him. That's the only predictable

thing about his schedule.

Here's what I need: a second bracelet like the first, yeah, and here's what I need in the beads. I need a basic book on diagnostic and healing spells. For both dark hexes and physical injuries. Like I said, I've watched Madam Pomfrey a lot over the years, and Merlin knows she's practised enough on me for me to get the gist of it. But I'd rather consult a book to make sure I'm doing it right. Particularly if I'm messing with my own insides. The thing worrying me the most right now is I do think he might have ruptured something inside of me because I can hardly walk without bending over. I managed to re-set and heal my fingers (I think), except for the fourth, because he really pulverized the bones, and I can't set it right. It'll all crooked. (Fortunately, my teeth aren't a problem. They always grow back the night after he knocks them out. It was my first sign of accidental magic when I was a kid. Some of my teeth he's knocked out over ten times.)

I'd like a second book about how to cast glamours. Madam Pomfrey used to heal me and then put a glamour over the spot so he'd think I was still bruised. It'd be a lot safer to heal myself if he can't tell I'm getting better faster than I should.

He's given me some rags, so at least I'm clothed again. The weather's warm so I don't need much in the way of clothing right now. He's not feeding me right at all. All I've had to eat since I left Hogwarts is bread and turnips and sometimes a little broth. If he goes on much longer, I'll maybe need some vitamin potions. But I'm hoping he'll eventually ease up and lessen the restrictions and I'll get to eat some of the better stuff from the kitchens.

Fixing the special ink's no problem. There's always sour wine around turned to vinegar. You can also send me George's journal in one of the beads, although I don't think I'll need it for now. But it'd be good to have it as a backup.


I just read this over and I'm sort of cringing at the thought of having you read it. It almost makes me feel a little ill, as if I'm stripping myself naked all over again, in a way.

But I'm trusting you by sending it anyway. I hope you can forgive me telling the truth and understand.

Your friend (and I really do believe that, and boy, it feels good to write it),

TERRY BOOT



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-07-02 03:59:13](#)
(no subject)

I'm so glad you wrote to tell us everything you could. And I'm so sorry you've had to go through this.

It's better for us to know than to be worrying without knowing, honest.

I think I've got one of the books that can help you. It was in my dad's collection of auror books, and it's called *Battlefield Healing*. It's perfect for this, because it's written to explain things to people who aren't trained healers, and it also tells you how to fix things when you're in a tearing hurry, or in conditions that aren't ideal.

I'll send it by owl to the Burrow and they can add it to one of the beads. (Fred and George, I'll wrap it in butcher paper and shrink it and hopefully you won't get too many questions.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-02 05:05:52](#)
(no subject)

That book does sound perfect. I was thinking about whether I could borrow something from Madame Pomfrey and use a copying charm, but what you've got is much better.


I'll check the Strettons' books for a good one on glamours. The person who'd really have what we need is Daphne Greengrass's mum, because she's in the theater, but Daphne and I aren't exactly chums. If I can think up a good excuse to ask her Daphne would know a title, though, and we could send away for it.

There's a potion called Skele-Gro that might be what your finger needs. I'm supposed to get to do some Mediwizardry with the CCF so if I get a chance to nick some, I will. We could send it with Pig -- actually, come to think of it, I could write to Madam Pomfrey and say there was a muggle who'd had a crushed finger and was there anything she could send me that would fix it. Do potions work on muggles? Well, spells certainly do, and if she gives me good enough instructions... I'll have to think about this, sometimes she's good about not asking too many questions, but not always, and if she took it into her head to talk to the Strettons that might be a problem.

Turnips are very healthful, Terry, and you can live on nothing but turnips for a surprisingly long time. But if you lose blood due to injuries (or because Carrow is taking your blood) you might get anaemic. The simplest fix for anaemia is meat but Carrow's not likely to give you any. We could possibly send you something but let us know if there's anything you just can't bear to eat.

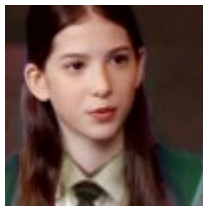
There are other things your body needs that you won't get from turnips but those won't be a problem as quickly. (There were years when I was little that I had turnips to eat and not much else, that's how I know.)



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-02 15:44:20](#)**
(no subject)

He has been taking my blood. Not so much that it's making me sick, but it worries me. I'm afraid he's using it to bind me to him so I can't escape.

I've been hungry before. It sucks, but I guess I'll get used to it again.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-02 15:50:53](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, that's the thing about living on turnips. Even when you eat all the turnips you can stand you'll still feel hungry.

If he's taking your blood we should get you something. There's a potion called blood-replenishing potion that would work best but I don't know what I'd tell Madam Pomfrey to get her to give me some. It would be easier to send you meat. Preserved meat, so it wouldn't go off while in the post. I'm pretty sure there's something the Strettons let their muggles buy with their scrip that would work, and I should be able to lay hands on it and send it to you. It won't taste very nice but it'll be a chance from turnips.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-02 22:33:45](#)**
(no subject)

That would be good, if you could send some. It would help a lot.



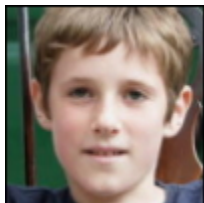
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-03 05:10:00](#)**
(no subject)


Alright.

I filched some mutton liver from the Stretton's kitchen. Mutton liver tastes foul but there's nothing like liver for anaemia. (Well, other than blood-replenishing potion. But liver is the next best thing.)

I went looking through the Stretton's books -- they don't have anything on glammers but they have loads of books on food, everything you could ever imagine doing with food. So now I have a bunch of knut-sized pieces of dried concentrated compressed shrunken liver that won't ever spoil. Eat just one at a time. When you swallow it it should sort of expand in your stomach a bit so you won't be as hungry PLUS it's liver. And if you can get it down without chewing you won't even taste it (but if you have to chew that won't mess anything up. Other than you might gag. Unless you like liver more than I do.)

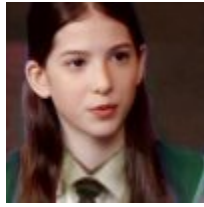
DO NOT eat more than one of those liver-knuts at a sitting. You could have probably three in a day, one for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. But. They expand after you eat them. If you ate them all at once you could actually MAKE YOUR STOMACH EXPLODE which would be really bad. There were all sorts of warnings about this on the spells and I thought it was worth the risk, you're not stupid.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-03 16:29:11](#)**
(no subject)

One thing about having experience being so hungry that you're practically starving is that you learn not to care too much about taste. As long as it's food, you eat it and be grateful.


So I won't care what it tastes like, but I'll be real glad of it. Thanks ever so much.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-03 05:10:28](#)**
(no subject)

Oh and someone will need to send me Pig so I can send the liver-knuts to Fred and George to send to Terry.



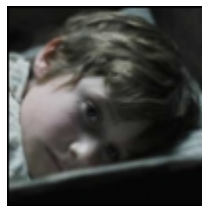
 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-07-03 16:40:38](#)**
(no subject)


I'll send him to you after supper.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2011-07-03 19:21:31](#)**
(no subject)

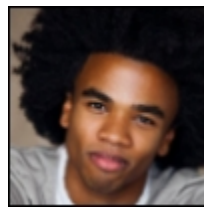
We got the healer's book from Nev this morning. It's too late to send Pig for this week so we'll aim to have Pig trained and get the bracelet with all the stuff loaded into the beads to you next week, Professor.




 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-03 19:25:30](#)**
(no subject)

I'll hang on till then.

My gut hurts a lot. But I reckon I don't have any choice.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2011-07-03 19:38:13](#)**
Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

If you have the healer's book do you think you can give him the information over the journals?

I mean if he's hurt real bad to the point he's bleeding inside or something, he could die waiting for us to send the owl.

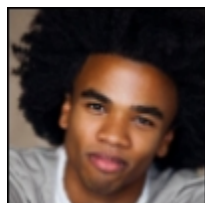



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-03 19:39:58](#)**

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Don't you think we know that?

We looked over the book. The diagnostic spells are complicated, and it relies a LOT on the illustrations to make the instructions clear.



 **[alt_lee](#) at [2011-07-03 19:40:32](#)**

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Can your Dad get the stuff to him?



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-03 19:43:21](#)**

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Don't think that'll work, because he's not in a camp. And how could we explain to Dad that we want him to risk running afoul of Carrow just to deliver a manky looking string bracelet to Terry?

Bugger Carrow anyway.

(Just hang on, Professor.)



 **[alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-03 19:44:38](#)**

(no subject)

If you see Carrow getting real drunk any night this week, so you think he'll sleep in the next morning, let us know.

If you think...if you think it's important enough to risk Pig's making the delivery, even if we're not sure he's quite trained enough.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-02 17:35:21](#)
(no subject)

We just want to say how proud we are of you, Professor, and how touched and, well, honoured we feel that you trust us enough to tell us such difficult things (Oh, and also how much we want to chop Carrow up and feed the little bloody bits to a dragon, but let's just focus on you right now, okay?)

Where exactly in the castle are you staying? Does he keep you right beside him during the day? What's he spending his time doing? Do you have much freedom to move around? Are there any times that you can get outside?

It worries us that you're forced to use your wand even if he's asleep or drunk if you're right there in the room with him. Does he live in one room, or does he have a suite of them or something? It would be good if there was a way to turn your wand invisible, but we don't know of any way offhand. That might take more research, but we don't have any books here that could help us with that.

Maybe a trip to Diagon Alley is in order. Best not to take Mum along, because she'll wonder what we're doing in a bookstore during the summertime.


There are also sleeping charms. If you put a spell on him when he's already sleep so that you can guarantee he'll sleep for another twenty or thirty minutes for sure, that would be good. You could put a vibrate charm or something on your wand to give you a five minute warning.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-02 18:16:29](#)
(no subject)

It's a little thing, but we'll also put a cheering charm on the bracelet before we send it. Something to help things from seeming too hopeless.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-02 19:17:25](#)**
(no subject)

He works at several different places, depending on his whim.

He has rooms in one of the modern prison buildings, and that's where we're sleeping. (The one we're in is called the Victorian prison building.) He keeps me pretty close during the day, and generally I'm in the room with him if he's alone. If he is doing something with a prisoner, sometimes he'll have me wait outside, but I'm not supposed to stray out of earshot.

Mostly, the prisoners are either there, in the Victorian prison building, or in the Georgian prison building. Sometimes he takes the prisoners to a place called Cobb Hall, which is a tower built into the outer wall. I think he does that when he's experimenting with the really dark spells on them. He'll take two or three prisoners and shove them down into the oubliette in the floor below, and allow them up one by one through the day.

Sometimes they're not alive by the end of the day.

When he works in Cobb Hall, he doesn't usually have me in there with him (maybe he thinks I'll get dangerous ideas). I'm allowed to walk on the outer castle wall then, but it's wide out in the open, with good views from the street, and he can stick out his head outside anytime and yell for me, so it wouldn't be a good idea for me to get an owl there.

Sometimes I'm allowed to walk on the wall on the other side of the East Gate, between the Gate and the Observation Tower. Once in the evening he allowed me to walk around inside the Lucy Tower. It's full of the graves of people who were hanged in the castle, centuries ago. It's actually kind of nice and peaceful in there.

He has a suite of three rooms together. He locks the outer door of the suite at night and sleeps with the key under his pillow. Like I said, I sleep on the floor right by his bed.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2011-07-02 19:19:36](#)**
(no subject)

Well, he may lock the door with a key, but you've got a wand. If we can figure out a really good sleeping spell for you to put on him so you can be sure he's really conked out, you can open the door with 'Alohomora.' Then you can sneak out and maybe snatch some food

from the kitchens, or practise your animagus magic or whatever else you need to do.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-02 19:21:22](#)
(no subject)

...

I can't believe I didn't even think of that. Wow. Do I ever feel stupid now.


It's real strange. Being back with him, but being in the mindset that I'm not going to obey him just because he tells me to.



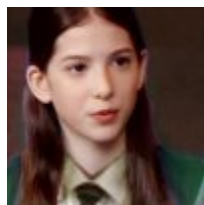
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-02 19:22:47](#)
(no subject)

Well yeah, and you don't ever want him to CATCH you disobeying him. But as long as you can fix it so you're sure he doesn't catch you, we think you should make it a point to obey him as little as possible.



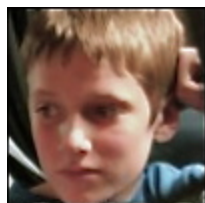
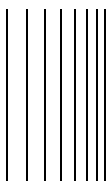
 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-02 22:39:06](#)
(no subject)


I'll need you to tell me the RE-locking spell, too. So he doesn't suspect I've been out of the room when he wakes up.



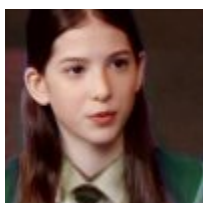
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-03 04:58:42](#)
(no subject)

It's 'colloportus.'



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-03 19:22:30](#)**
(no subject)

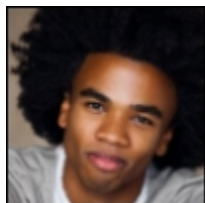
Thanks.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-03 16:17:45](#)**
(no subject)

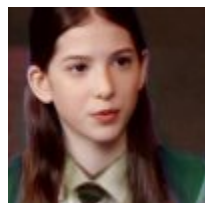
I asked Daphne about theatrical glamours and she recommended a book called 'Creative Theatrical Glamours' by Roberto Gorson.


It wasn't hard to give Gemma the idea of putting on a play for the family and now she thinks it was completely her own invention. I've already had Mrs Stretton's assistant owl for the book, though I don't expect it'll arrive until I'm off at CCF. Once I'm back I'll copy out the spells for bruises and so on, either in the journals or for Pig to deliver. If that's not good enough -- perhaps Lee could send for a copy? Or the Twins?



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2011-07-03 20:59:29](#)**
(no subject)

I have some pocket money and my family was going to be going to Diagon Alley this week anyway to do some shopping. I can duck into a bookstore and get it if they have it in stock. That way we could send it along to Terry if we send the owl next weekend.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-04 01:14:50](#)**
(no subject)

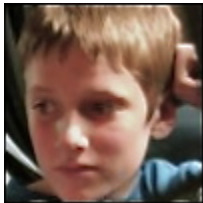
They definitely have it at Madame Pettiworth's Fine Books. I don't know if Flourish and Blotts has it or not but they might. If not you could see if they could recommend one -- you could probably buy one and no one would care or remember.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-07-04 09:36:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh Terry I'm so glad you're all right -

I won't, I mean, I understand all about what you mean about 'stripping naked,' I won't say anything about that, except I never wanted you to be hurt, I'd rather be hurt much more than you, that's all. It isn't fair that you're out there sacrificing for me like that.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-04 17:07:45](#)
(no subject)

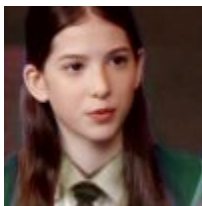
(Wish I could say this to you privately. But anyway...)

I am all right. I will be all right. I'm pretty tough, you already know that, and what our friends will be sending me will really help.

I'd rather not have to go through it either, of course, but ~~you couldn't have possibly I'd do anything~~ I'm willing to do it.

Surely we'll figure out something eventually so you won't be at risk anymore. And then I sure won't stick around. I'll get away somehow.

~~Maybe someday we can~~



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-04 20:58:24](#)
(no subject)

Terry.

I talked to Madam Pomfrey, both about treating a broken bone that wasn't set right, and about internal injuries.

Unfortunately I couldn't get her to tell me anything specific. ~~You really need a proper~~ She did say that Skele-Gro wouldn't help you unless you removed the bones first, and you definitely wouldn't want to do THAT. Honestly I'm a lot more worried about the pain that's keeping you from standing up properly. I could tell you a pain relief charm that will make you feel a bit better but here's the thing, you

shouldn't use that charm and then walk around straightened up because probably if your body is saying 'hunch over, don't stand up straight' it's because standing up straight would make the injury worse. Do you see what I'm saying? So I'm going to tell you the charm because I think you have a right to be able to use it. But don't use it unless you really need it. It's 'remedia dolor' and you point your wand at the place that hurts and if you do it right it takes away most of the pain. It wears off after a while, or if you want, 'finite incantem' stops it. You might use it before you go to sleep at night, if Carrow's asleep or not there. You'll sleep better and it'll wear off before you get up in the morning.

Healers don't use this charm much because they know how to actually FIX what's WRONG and if you cover up the pain they have a harder time knowing what's wrong and whether they've fixed it properly. I tested it on myself just now and it works a treat on a bruise, though. (I slipped while running today and knocked my knee. I'm at the CCF camp right now.)

I wish we could even just get you to Mrs Weasley, if we can't get you Madam Pomfrey. Fred and George, maybe you could pry more information out of your mum than I got from Madam Pomfrey? I think I might have gotten more from her if I'd been talking to her in person. Anyway, your mum knows a lot of healing spells even if she isn't a HEALER.

2011-07-01 20:57:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_pansy](#)

I got Pig back. I'm letting him rest up a bit before I send him off to Carrow in the morning. He doesn't act like he needs it, though.

I've cut out an article about the arrests with the Woods and typed a quick letter saying "serves them right, wrestling in the mud." I signed it "An Admirer".

Ugh.

I don't think we ought to send him right back to Terry. Not until we make sure that he can follow directions about not being seen after he delivers something. I'll work with him for a bit, and then we can practice with Lee or something. Because he'd be someone new. Or we could send him back to the Weasleys, because there's always a ton of people around, and they can send owls to one another so it'd be faster to see if it worked.

Should I work on having him learn to hide until he's wanted for a reply? Because if Terry can write in the journals, I don't think he'd need it, and it'd be riskier to have Pig around -- there's more that could go wrong.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2011-07-02 04:21:43**

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and Sally Anne Perks

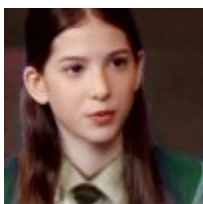
You're right. We shouldn't send him back there right away. If nothing else, it'd be bad if Carrow did see him a second time because there aren't a lot of owls that look like Pig. Or act like him. So he'd recognise him right off, probably. Too likely. Don't you think?

Sure, you can send him back here and the twins can work on him while we're gone next week.

Speaking of which. Sort of. After next week, Mum says we can have you all over. Jeremy, too, I bet, Sally Anne, and y'know, if Maureen and Gemma wanted to come again or you needed them to so the

Strettons would say it was all right, that'd probably be fine, too. Mum doesn't mind, at all.

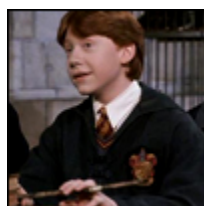
Anywiz, she said maybe midweek, so Wednesday or Thursday, I guess. D'you think you'd be able to come? I'll let Neville know, too, soon as you say whether you could come then.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-02 15:40:50](#)

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and Sally Anne Perks

You must mean Wednesday the 13th, right? Because next week we'll be off doing CCF stuff. I think the Strettons will let us come. Either Wednesday or Thursday should be fine.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-02 15:48:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and Sally Anne Perks

Right. Like I said, Mum says we can have people over after next week, cause that's when we're all away. I mean, I guess the twins or Gin could have someone next week, but Mum likes the idea of having it all be the same day, and we like having enough people so we can play Quidditch.

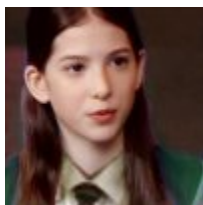
So, yeah, whatever date that is, but the Wednesday or Thursday after we're back.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-07-02 16:12:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and Sally Anne Perks


I'll check and see if I'm free or not. I'm pretty sure I would be, though.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-02 05:08:04](#)
(no subject)

Now that Terry's replied maybe we don't need to send poor Pig to Carrow. We know when to send him so he's not seen.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-07-02 06:05:44](#)**
(no subject)

On the weekends would be best, yeah, I saw.


I'll work with him a bit, and we can test him on the twins and Ron later this week, and maybe try next weekend, or the weekend after that.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-02 05:08:18](#)**
Private message to Pansy

Did Sirius answer your owl?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2011-07-02 06:04:33](#)**
Re: Private message to Pansy

He did.

He said the Doris business is pure nonsense, and I shouldn't pay it any mind. That he thought she'd picked up on the lyrics and was using them to try and be like him, but that she didn't really know him at all. Just like you said. And that I ought to keep right on asking questions, only he didn't think I was quite ready to hear his answers.

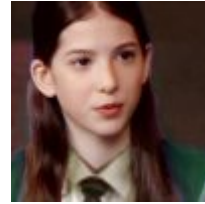
Which is also pure nonsense, of course, but whatever.

He also said I could write him again, but that I ought to be cautious, because he is supposed to be dead and all.

But yeah. He did write back. Really and truly.

[2011-07-02 23:38:00](#)

*Private message to Daphne
Greengrass*



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**

Gemma has taken it into her head that she wants to try to put on a play (for the family) and of course the part she is MOST interested in is costuming and theatrical glammers. Could you recommend any books that would explain some simple glammers? Nothing super fancy because it has to be something I can manage. She wants to do a theatrical version of that book about the girl who got kidnapped from her wizard parents and hidden in a muggle home (it's set a hundred years ago) they're all cruel to her because they think her powers make her dirty and disgusting, and then the truth is revealed and so on, you probably know the one. So we're thinking fake dirt and bruises for the first half so she looks suitably pathetic. And then I already know how to do something glittery for the second half that she'll like.

We'll see if she actually has the patience to REHEARSE. Did I mention it's really the glammers she's most interested in?

Anyway, do you know a good book? We can send away for a copy if you can suggest any titles.

Thank you so much! I thought about just waiting to ask you on Monday but if you can tell me now I can probably have it sent while I'm off at the CCF training camp (which will console Gemma a bit given that I'm about to leave for a week.)



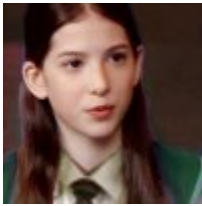
 **[alt_daphne](#) at [2011-07-03 16:00:11](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, doesn't Gemma sound sweet, wanting to play-act for the family. I'll do my best to help but I really don't know how good I'll be, since I've always been invested in the acting side of things as far as theater goes. You see, in theater there's usually a whole different group of people who manage the glammers and costumes. Still, I did do my own glammers for Moon's play, and helped quite a few others with theirs, so I should be able to recommend *something*. Let me see...

Well, Erme's book of glamours in the era of oppression is spectacular. He designed theatrical costumes for characters like Holda, Marie Laveau, Hecate, Circe...all of them are simply scrumptuous. That book's just fun to look at for the pictures, though - the glamours themselves would be impossible to replicate without years and years of practice.

So I guess just go with something like *Creative Theatrical Glamours*, by Roberto Gorson. It's very simple, but still a well-regarded book.

I hope I've helped.



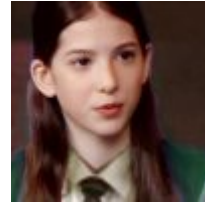
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-03 16:12:05](#)**
(no subject)

That sounds absolutely perfect. Thank you! The Erme book does sound fun to look at, perhaps we'll send for a copy of that, too.

2011-07-03 00:11:00

Private message to Madam Pomfrey


I don't know which adults are going to be there for the CCF training week. I was just wondering if I will see you?



 **alt_sally_anne**

Thanks,
Sally-Anne



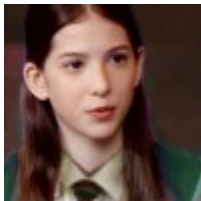
 **alt_poppy** at **2011-07-04 12:31:04**
(no subject)

Miss Perks, so nice to hear from you.

Congratulations on your acceptance for the Combined Cadet Force training.

I will not be on staff for that event and have not heard many details of the planning.

I do hope you enjoy the time there and benefit much from the programme.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-07-04 15:13:14**
(no subject)

Thank you.


I'm sorry you won't be coming. I had questions about how you'd heal some things. They're things I've seen in the past you see, and I was wondering how hard they are to heal if I run into them again.

The first is if someone has an injury somewhere in their stomach from a fall or a blow, and you don't know what it is. I'm sure you could heal that in a minute but is there anything that could be done with just basic healing charms that might help, at least a little? If it was going to be a while before we could get to help? A lot of the time injuries will get better on their own eventually but I would think if it wasn't getting better on its own that would mean something was really wrong. Hypothetically.

The other is broken bones that won't set properly. If a finger got really badly crushed, say in an accident with equipment, and the bone was staying crooked, would Skele-Gro fix it?

Thank you. No one's hurt at the Stretton's, don't worry, I'm just thinking about how sometimes I've run into muggles here who are injured or sick and it would be very nice if I could help people who need it.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-04 19:31:42](#)

(no subject)

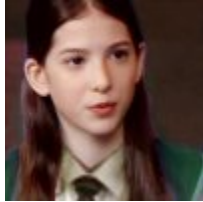
Your interest in hypothetical medical cases is admirable. I'd suggest, if you have time and inclination, that you might find Dillinghurst's *Diagnostic Puzzles* an interesting read. The cases she describes are sometimes a bit extreme, but they illustrate a great range of circumstances and challenge the budding Healer to think with the sort of logical precision necessary to identify the relevant information whilst eliminating the extraneous in a patient's presentation in order to reach a clear diagnosis for even complex or obscure maladies.

There is, however, a difference between honing one's diagnostic skills and offering to treat people suffering severe injuries or ailments. In the first case you mention, an internal injury that is not healing on its own requires treatment by a trained Healer. It would be most irresponsible to attempt to treat such a patient, even, I dare say, to alleviate pain because doing so could interfere with diagnosis and treatment when a Healer arrives.

Exception might be made if there is no possibility at all of reaching professional help. In that most dire case, it would do no harm to relieve the sufferer's pain by means of a palliative charm or a pain relieving draught.

Improperly set bones are, again, a matter for specialist care, and Skele-Gro would do harm rather than good (unless you began by removing the bone altogether--which would be irresponsible in the extreme!). There are certain potions one might brew to reduce pain and to encourage the body to slowly absorb any bone fragments that may be contributing to the problem, but this is not magic to be performed by the untrained lay witch or wizard.

I expect that bone setting and fracture care will be among the topics you might address during your August fortnight, but I do not know that for a fact.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-04 20:43:12](#)
(no subject)

That sounds like a very interesting book. Thank you for the recommendation.

I am really looking forward to the August training. What worries me a bit is whether the Strettons will ask me to Heal their muggles, when they are sick or injured, once I have a bit of training. I don't want to make someone worse by accident, but I don't want to leave someone suffering who isn't going to get any other sort of care, either.

Perhaps when I get back to school you can talk to me about how trainee healers are supposed to deal with that sort of problem? Where they don't really know how to fix something, and know that a real Healer would, but also know that the patient is not going to see a real Healer? Because surely that happens. And how do you say to someone, 'I'm so sorry but I might make you worse instead of better.' And what do you say if they say afterward, 'I would rather take that risk and have you try.'

[2011-07-03 21:24:00](#)

Private message to Lucius Malfoy




 **[alt_selwyn](#)**

I'm looking through the lists of students likely coming for the year from Beauxbatons and Durmstrang. Are you aware that Beauxbatons is planning to bring a Veela? Or part-Veela, I suppose. No word on whether they have any house-elves in their student body. Or half-trolls. Is this really something we wish to condone?

The student from Britain -- Justin something? -- is rather interesting. Has his mother explained why she relocated to France so abruptly, just as Our Lord was rising to his full power?




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-07-04 02:39:40](#)**
(no subject)

Dominic.

Thirty-three days you've had the list; you're just arriving at its review now?




 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2011-07-04 02:43:51](#)**
(no subject)

Count yourself lucky if your clerk does a better job than mine of keeping the most urgent matters on top.

For that matter, I was more than a little distracted by the Dogstar raids. The latest round of threats resulted in owls from Rowle, Desai, and Jugson. I suggested they might do worse than to emulate your wife's example and step up their personal training, if they're actually worried.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-07-04 03:10:44](#)**
(no subject)

My clerk has numerous failings but as for proper prioritising, he has certainly learned the painful lesson. More than once.


But that explains the delay of the last week, not the last month.

Though Rowle ought to be accustomed to his name in the papers by this time. And as for Desai, she has no reason to trouble you with complaint.

But speaking of distraction - it would seem you have missed much of the correspondence regarding Miss ... ah, Miss Delacour. Froissart's verified the bloodlines: One-quarter Veela. The grandmother, apparently. Diplomatic relations with the Veela tribes are touch-and-go, so I'm told, which is the only reason the girl was not rejected.

As for the boy - am still peeling back the layers of that story. The mother is some sort of Squib, per the genealogy review that Beauxbatons conducted before considering the boy's admission. Explains the flight, at any rate. Pontner thinks the lad will be useful - once we get him within the wards - at furthering the political agenda in France.




 **alt_selwyn** at **2011-07-04 03:11:08**
(no subject)

Mm. Far be it from me to launch a bludger toward that set of goals, though I seem to recall you had ideas about newspaper articles lauding the hometown boy returning, and for the son of a Squib who fled Our Lord that seems like a somewhat risky strategy?


Regarding the Veela -- you realise she's going to be a catastrophic distraction. Which may well be their aim, if the champions from the other school are male.



 **alt_lucius** at **2011-07-04 03:27:54**
(no subject)

I had, before the extent of the family history came to light. Pontner's strategy combines techniques - holding the mother for the boy's good behaviour while simultaneously using him as an argument to Rousseau for the greater co-operation and alignment of laws which have been on the table for some time.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-07-04 03:37:41](#)
(no subject)


Ah, I see. That makes rather more sense.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-07-04 04:02:45](#)
(no subject)

Pontner already plans to bring him to the Cup as well - and I think he's talking to your Massopust about a journal for the boy. Publicity campaign, he calls it, so the lad can be coached to write suitably complimentary entries about our methods compared to those of his 'home.'




 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-07-04 04:04:58](#)
(no subject)

Excellent. I can have the journal department send one over as soon as the lad arrives, if that's helpful.

Will Pontner be hosting them personally? Better him than me. I can't imagine how awkward it would be having a Squib as a houseguest.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2011-07-04 03:15:25](#)
(no subject)

Also, I'm not quite sure I follow the rationale here. How does the French government's desire for a treaty with the Veela require us to admit a Veela girl as, in effect, a Hogwarts student for a year?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-07-04 03:35:32](#)
(no subject)

Their desire for maintaining their treaties translates to a need for token acceptance. If the girl - and there's a sister, as well, though she's too young to be considered as a champion - if the

girl is acceptable in all other criteria (and Froissart was clear that all her professors believe her to be the favourite), then for the Protectorate to reject her on the basis of an impure bloodline would be tantamount to a signal that we do not value the indigenous continental tribes. Besides, it's not as if her race were anything truly dangerous, or even effective against any of Karkaroff's or ours.

Except, as you say, as a distraction. But the Veela will likely be more of a distraction to the judges than the champions, if you provide any example.

But then you have always been partial to blondes, haven't you?




 **alt_selwyn** at [2011-07-04 03:43:05](#)

(no subject)

I've always been partial to purity.

Beauty never hurt, though.



 **alt_selwyn** at [2011-07-04 03:46:12](#)

(no subject)

And regarding the Veela, it's well-known that they hold particular influence over teenage boys. I think this is more than likely a ploy to distract the other champions at crucial moments.



 **alt_lucius** at [2011-07-04 03:57:13](#)


(no subject)

Well, there's no guarantee the girl has inherited any of her grandmother's abilities. If so, then I suggest you keep Chloe foremost in your thoughts anytime you need to visit the school over the coming year.

However - the counterargument we have already heard from the French delegation is that she need not be a beauty to distract the males who may be competing. Teenaged boys, after all, can be 'distracted' by nearly any female presence, regardless of powers of attraction.

Believe me, I have been round and round the issue already and have little hope of changing the roster now.




 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2011-07-04 04:06:02](#)**
(no subject)

Ah, I see.


Well, if we must, we must.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-07-04 04:00:03](#)**
(no subject)

Anyway, a champion who is distracted at a crucial moment like that *deserves* to get a hexing.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2011-07-04 04:06:19](#)**
(no subject)

Excellent point.

2011-07-04 05:37:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

It's very early in the morning and Harry and Hydra are both gone finally, so I'm able to write.



 [alt_hermione](#)

I wasn't allowed to spend nearly any time with Harry and that's why I've been so quiet. When we got home I was in trouble as you know, and then Hydra came. Then I was expected to clean for Harry in the early mornings and then go work with the other Muggleborns at Buckingham all day, and then help him again at night, but so late that there wasn't anything we could do.

Now that they're both gone, Harry off to the training and Hydra back home again I suppose, I can breathe a little bit more freely, even though it still isn't like it when it's just Harry and me, because I don't have to report to work until breakfast is served at eight o'clock. I can skip my own breakfast if I want and write. Or I can get up extra early and not have to skip breakfast at all, although that doesn't always answer because if it's anything like last year sometimes people stay up late and late and late and then I have to stay up too.

Things here have been fine. I was sorry to hear about Oliver. I didn't hear until very late because of the way things have been but Harry finally told me. It seems like it would have been a nice place.

I'm glad that Terry is all right.

2011-07-04 05:50:00

Order Only: Buckingham

I finally have a chance to tell you all about Buckingham lately, because now Harry and Hydra have both left and I just have regular duties instead of everything all together.



 [alt_hermione](#)

There was a big argument about whether I would go along on the training and then they decided I wouldn't, but maybe I'd go on the second round. I don't know why they thought that. But I suppose there will be plenty of ways to find out what's happening at the training but not many ways for you all to find out what's happening at Buckingham, even though Professor McGonagall is going to be in London or the London area anyway.

Only, so far there isn't very much to say, except about Harry and Hydra, which I don't see why you would be very interested. I haven't had a good talk with Harry in a week but he was - I don't think he knew what to say about Sirius and everything, he was fighting with Draco about what had happened at the end of the year, and who to trust, but once he said something about how he was so glad to know for truly real that he had people who cared about him, which I think meant Snape and also you Sirius, although not Macnair because he still is scared of Macnair and that's fair enough, isn't it? Only then I couldn't push him to talk about it more, and anyway I'm not sure that I should say more if he had told me what he really feels except that I know that he doesn't know what he's doing, he seemed very uncertain, especially when Hydra came.

He likes Hydra a lot and I do too, I mean she isn't a bad sort, and he didn't mind having her along even though I think he probably got tired of it because she can be very uncertain about herself and then she's boring boring boring, only he doesn't realise that they're trying to throw them together in case maybe someday they might date. It's really obvious but he hasn't a clue I think. Of course I didn't see them when they were with her mother or anybody else who might have thought of it but I don't know what else to say based on everything that happened, what the Lord Protector said when he cursed me and everything, and anyway Hydra says that she's being told that she should prepare for being a good wife and mother, which is silly because we're only fourteen or thirteen and she's younger, only I suppose people got married when they were fourteen in the dark ages didn't they?

Anyhow I should be able to overhear more now because I'm to be waiting on people like all the other muggle-born servants starting today.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-07-04 16:13:35](#)**

(no subject)

glad to hear you're doing okay, kiddo, and thanks for the update.

he's got a lot to chew on, no mistake -- and it's a good thing you're around to provide him with some perspective and direction when he is ready to talk.

sirius and me'll be checking on Terry in a few days, so we can let you know first-hand how he's doing. I'm going to give him a portkey like yours.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2011-07-04 17:27:57](#)**

(no subject)

I am glad to hear from you, Miss Granger.

I may possibly be able to see you, but I won't be able to make contact, of course. I can only ask that you remember - what I say and do relating to Death Eaters is not, and will never be, myself or representative of my true feelings towards you or anyone else.

2011-07-04 13:08:00

his house

I've been at Buckingham this week to visit with Harry. I suppose I might be back later in the summer, when he's not doing CCF and I'm not doing YPL, either.



 **alt_hydra**

It was a very nice time. We did a lot of exploring, because with 775 rooms you never really run out of places to explore. A lot of the rooms we weren't allowed to go into, of course, but there were still lots of other places left to look. It was loads of fun, and I wasn't even worried about running into a ghost, because Harry said that there's really only supposed to be one at Buckingham, and he only shows himself at Christmas-time.

And there's no Chapel Royal at Buckingham, so no Bloody Mary.

Exploring got dull after a while so we usually went out to the Mall and Saint James Park. They made it so that it was only open to people with security clearance, so we were able to go flying. We went to Duck Island, too, because there's supposed to be wild puffskeins there but we never did find any. And then we were using *accio* to float up fishes out of the water, only long enough so we could see what colour and shape they were, but after a while we decided that might be cruel so we stopped.

I tried to make sure Harry was happy and waited on properly. He seemed to be, so I think it went well.

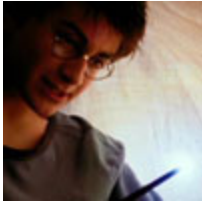


 **alt_hydra** at **2011-07-04 19:33:45**

private message to Harry

Actually, you didn't seem happy all of the time.

From,
Hydra

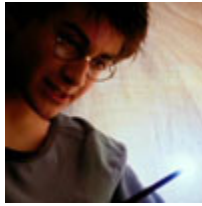



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-07-05 09:19:02](#)

Re: private message to Harry

Well I wasn't.

I wish Hermione could have come too. And it wasn't fair for Father to cruciate her. And then we barely got to talk about it at all afterwards. Because she had to act like a Mudblood. And Buckingham is boring.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-07-05 09:19:26](#)

Re: private message to Harry

I mean I did like your visit.

I don't mean I didn't.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2011-07-05 13:06:29](#)

Re: private message to Harry

I knew what you meant, it's alright.

Mummy says I should watch people at Buckingham and be inspired into servitude, which I think means I should figure out what I can do for the protectorate one day.

All I really saw was a lot of people bringing your Father important messages. It might be better to do something for the Protectorate but away from Buckingham.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2011-07-05 21:06:12](#)

Re: private message to Harry

I think it would be better to do something for the Protectorate but away from Buckingham too.

I don't know if I'll ever be allowed to, though. I guess you don't know if you'll ever be allowed to either.

2011-07-04 15:44:00

Order only: Frank and Sirius

Frank, I've sent off a packet to you with the parchmentwork you'll need to get into Lincoln Castle. The weekly deliveries take place on Wednesday morning. All the instructions are in the packet. With the use of a judicious confundus charm or two, I don't think it'll be a trouble for you to take your big, friendly black dog along with you.



 [alt_bill](#)

Best of luck finding the boy.



 [alt_frank](#) at **2011-07-04 21:45:56**

(no subject)

thanks, man

we'll be ready to go.

sirius, mate, you want to meet up at sherwood tomorrow night? we can check with davidson, see how snape and macnair are keeping, and take off first thing in the morning.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2011-07-04 22:44:31**

(no subject)

Yeah, I

I can get there if I leave first thing in the morning.

Maybe I might leave a bit sooner than that. After dark.

2011-07-04 19:31:00

A busy day!

I'm off visiting the CCF programme this week (I am not directly in charge, but I'm handy to help sort out housing and food details, and that sort of thing). Everyone seems to be settling in well enough. Students have a very busy and full schedule in front of them, but I'm confident that they'll thrive.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

I've spent the past several weeks catching up on all manner of things that needed doing, including an extended visit to my parents, for a little bit of a breather before the complexities of the YPL activities. Mum and I had an extended conversation about some of the research she's been doing: I could not persuade her to post some recipes, so I'll be doing so myself as I get some time.

I've had a couple of days in New London, mostly taken up by meetings, but I'm looking forward to a bit longer in between the YPL visits, and am looking forward to seeing some more of the sites. I'm almost wondering if I should take up a lease on a flat for the next month or two just to make it easier to manage.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2011-07-05 15:22:52**

Private message to Aurora

Rory-

A lease on a flat where? You don't mean New London, do you? Don't be silly, you can stay at Spencer House whenever you like, remember?

-R.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2011-07-05 21:12:07**

Re: Private message to Aurora

Raz -

If you're still sure it's not a bother - I know your own plans got thrown for a loop with everything that happened, and I wouldn't want to complicate things.

But .. thank you. If you're sure it's all right, I'd love to come stay between the YPL trips. (Do you have the dates? I can dig them up at some point, though not right now: there's a lull while everyone's bathing, and then it'll be chaos again soon.)

Harry seems to be doing well enough, though various students (not Harry, though) are quite cranky about having to share living space. I'm alternating between appearing not to hear it, and intervening when it's actually relevant (mostly the former.)

-R



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2011-07-06 02:42:17](#)**

Re: Private message to Aurora

Of course it's no bother. It WOULD bother me if you went to all the trouble to let a flat, unless of course

-

Well, if you've found a boyfriend or would for some other reason prefer to be alone, just tell me you've already signed a lease and I'll leave off. And with no hard feelings, either - promise.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2011-07-06 03:17:17](#)**

Re: Private message to Aurora

Oh, Merlin, no, nothing like that. Just wanting to make sure it's not a bother or won't cramp your own style.


My own schedule's likely to be a tad erratic, if the cursed meetings keep going as they're going. (Tonight's was particularly bad: political debate, as much as a planning session, and very little got done, but I had to sit and smile through it.)

Besides, I'd tell you if I found a boyfriend. Though where I'd have the time to find one, I have no idea, given that the only time I've had to myself was those few days at my parents. I fear their orchard does not grow eligible bachelors - or ineligible ones, for that matter - on its trees.

At any rate, I'll plan to show up at Spencer House on the 22nd for a few days (we've the camping trip to deal with before that), be

off with the YPL from the 25th to the 29th, and then come stay for a bit at night, though I may be off to the CCF camp during the day. (I'm rather hoping not: I don't feel like I'm doing much, and I do have some reading and discussions I'd like to have with some colleagues in New London if I get the time.)



 **alt_penelope** at [2011-07-05 17:05:14](#)
(no subject)

Thanks again, Professor, for recommending me for the full summer-long paid position. It would have been an honour just to be able to help out the programme, but given that all the internship opportunities would have meant missing some of the activities, it's very kind of the YPL to create this position as an internship of its own.

We're off to a very good start, as well. There was a bit of bother this morning when a couple of the students who were supposed to help make breakfast proved not to be very early risers, but once we got that sorted all has gone smoothly.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2011-07-05 21:14:22](#)
(no subject)

Miss Clearwater -

You're quite welcome, of course. With all your hard work on the play, I was sure you'd be in good form to handle the different challenges of this summer's programmes, and I was glad to put in a good word. I'm also quite pleased that the Ministry recognised the usefulness of having a full time intern, to aid scheduling and other commitments.

This morning was rather a rush, wasn't it? I hope that'll get better, but I know that a busy schedule makes that a tad challenging. I know you're likely on top of the wake up charms and such, but do let me know if you have any ideas: I'll be around through this evening, but I believe in a meeting again after everyone's eaten.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-05 20:48:21](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad to hear you were able to manage a visit with your parents.

I gather that the CCF event is off to a solid beginning. I trust you are well pleased with what you are seeing there.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2011-07-05 21:21:46](#)**
Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

Poppy -

Quite pleased, given that some of the material is quite new to me - and some of it, I'm not sure I'd have chosen to teach to students this age, but the Ministry feels it knows best. I do what I can to make various points about what they've covered in classes and what's several steps ahead of them. At the same time, after the past year (and the previous one, for that matter) it's hard to argue that more defense training, and even offensive spell work wouldn't be useful.

Your colleagues from St. Mungo's who are teaching strike me as very competent, though, which is reassuring, in case anything does go off.

Mum sends her regards, and I've a few more things for you to look at from her research when I see you next. (They take some explaining, or I'd just owl them.)

Having time with her was very good - after such a horrible end of term, it was good to be somewhere less demanding for a little bit. I did take a day or two to go walking in the area, with our old tent, and that was good too, to actually be alone for a bit. I spent a slightly absurd amount of that time in tears, but better when by myself than earlier, I suppose.

2011-07-04 20:50:00

(no subject)

CCF camp is well snitch.

We started off the day in New London but then they moved us out to the country site, which they did with portkeys but they're not telling us where it is for security.



 [alt_zacharias](#)

The beginning of the day was some talking about what we'd be doing this week and then when we come back in August, and what we're meant to do in between those times. We're all going to get exercises and I guess they'll be sort of individualised so we can each work on our weaker points. So after the lecture part and being introduced to our instructors, they brought us to our portkey locations and on the other side, we had to take a big long hike to our camp site. And once we were there, most of us wanted to just be done for the day, but no, there was a whole other obstacle course we had to go through because luncheon was on the other side of it.

It was a pretty good lunch, though maybe that was mostly because we were so hungry by the time we got to it!

Then we all had to clean up the dining hall. Oh, and I should say that this camp is sort of like a training facility with different buildings and a big field and the obstacle course like I said, and I guess there's some forested areas nearby where we'll be going on nature hikes and other exercises. And when we come back, they said we'll have some nift war games in the forest, too.

After cleaning we were all allowed to go to our barracks to unpack for an hour. One thing that's interesting is that there's really one big dormitory for the boys and another building for the girls, I guess. And we've got washing up facilities in two more buildings.

Which means that we're all in a big group, and I guess the last time we had to bunk in different groups to our Houses was that first summer and this is feeling much the same. I'm bunked next between Finnigan and Malfoy, with Marvolo right across. There's also a little curtained area in one corner where our counselor sleeps. (I don't really know Urquhart well but he seems a decent enough chap.) Only it's not really like we're in separate rooms or tents or anything, and there's only 9 of us, anyway, so if I wanted to talk to Ernie he's still in

the same room, just not right next to mine like he is in our Hufflepuff dorm.

Well anyway, we spent some time settling in and then they called us back out so we could fix our own supper. No elves! Each of us had a job to make the meal. Then we ate and they had us clean again. But they said that from now on, we'll only be responsible to make three more meals all week - and we'll take it in turns depending on our timetables. (I feel sorry for whoever has to help with breakfast tomorrow!)

After supper we had to each say one thing that we couldn't do during the testing exercises that we want to be able to do by the end of the programme. And by then it was time to wash up and get ourselves ready for bed. They've given us an hour's time for reading and such.

Well, they're telling us it's light's out because we've got another long day tomorrow (and this one was plenty exhausting!) so I guess I'd better shut this up for now.

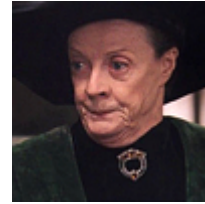
[2011-07-05 13:14:00](#)

Order Only

Well, it's done.

Welcome to the fold, young men.

I said it to your faces, but I shall say it again: this was a difficult decision to make. Do not make us regret it.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)**



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-05 20:16:09](#)**

(no subject)

Well, then.

So be it.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2011-07-06 22:29:26](#)**

(no subject)

I would ask if this comment were *entirely* necessary but for some of the fascinating reading I have been doing very lately. Apparently you have established something of a precedent for this type of contribution.

However - and this pertains to all who can now read these words - I am not here to attempt to be liked. I am here to do work. I can only hope that this dire pronouncement will be the last of its kind as we move on to far more important matters.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2011-07-07 00:31:49](#)**

(no subject)

Well, your *personality* hasn't changed a bit since you were eighteen - I can say that much for you, young man!

To be honest, I find it rather charming. I'm pleased I am not in the line of fire, of course.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-07 03:14:47](#)
(no subject)

Nor will you be, Headmistress, so long as you hereafter desist addressing me as "young man." Delightful though it is that it offsets the new moniker Mr Black has bestowed upon me, "Severus" will do.

Having had the opportunity to read some of the goings-on within your organisation this year, I would appreciate another audience with you sometime in the near future. My schedule is, by matter of course, open.




 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-07-07 12:49:20](#)
(no subject)

Severus, then.

'Audience'? You make me feel like the Supreme Mugwump! Of course I will come, though it may take some doing to slip away. It isn't at all easy, when one has meetings from dawn till dusk. Look for me in animal form.




 [alt_macnair](#) at [2011-07-07 02:20:16](#)
(no subject)

She's pretty much like that in person, too.

More irritating to have to read it, though.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-07 18:41:54](#)
(no subject)

Severus. It's no secret that I spoke against trusting you--or Walden Macnair. I can see vanishingly little in your past deeds, affiliations, or places of residence to recommend either of you to us. My view was and is that you represent a risk we can ill afford.

However, mine was not the only voice in the conversation, and my recommendation did not carry the matter. So here you both are,

and I hope sincerely that neither of you prove my misgivings well-founded.



 **alt_severus** at **2011-07-07 01:21:52**

Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey

Madame Pomfrey:

At this, the beginning of this particular professional relationship, I wish to make one thing clear: I will accept your learned input as pertains to my research, but no further. As I am doing you the favour of considering you a colleague, you must do the same, lest we be rendered unable to accomplish our goals without needlessly distracting personal debate.

2011-07-05 16:05:00

Private Message to Sarah Yaxley and Shivani Johns



 [alt_lana](#)

So, Vani, we want to know. Did he CALL you? You were completely shameless, you know, giving your Floo address to a waiter. Mama would be beside herself if I ever did that, though I must say he was well fit. I want to hear every, every, every detail of it if he did call. What did he say? What did he ask? How long did you talk? Did you agree to do something with him? WHAT? Tell, tell, tell!

Oh. I have news to share. I stopped up to Borough Market after I saw you on Saturday and I ran into Jeanette Derrick. Well, I hadn't seen her since Christmas at least, and you know how she'd put on such a hideous lot of weight after she left school? Well. She's fit as ever again now. Says she's been going to a spa called Formulaire in Chelsea, and she can't say enough about how much she loves it. I mean to say, she seemed a bit too mad about it, really.

But I have to tell you--told her, too, not that she listened a bit--I've been hearing some perfectly chilling things about those places. The ones like that where they take you in and put a kind of Imperius on you to keep you from eating more than they say you ought. First of all, some people who take those treatments have done really boggling things because the curses sometimes break down unexpectedly and leave them craving lunatic food like cream pastries with grilled tomato.

But. It's way worse than that. I've heard--and from people who should know--that some of these spas are using their sway over clients to take bits of hair or nail clippings or samples of saliva or blood, and then they sell those samples out the back of the spa, as it were. I hear there's a really brisk black market in that sort of thing.

So don't, whatever you do, let anyone you know go in one of those places. Derrick, of course, wouldn't hear a word against her place, but then she wouldn't, would she? Not if they have her under Imperius to want to come back twice a week. Honestly.

Anywiz, when are we going out again?

I hear Inveigled are playing Little Venice Saturday night, and you can

book supper on a swan boat from Regent's Park landing. What do you say? Orion's going, though I don't know if he'd be keen on joining us. The boats take up to eight in a party, so it costs less per head if you fill out the number.

2011-07-06 11:06:00

Order Only

For Mercy's sake. I'm as skittish as a bird in a room full of bludgers.



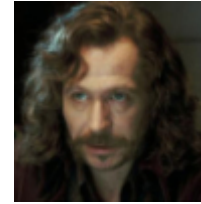
Frank, Sirius. As soon as you are able, do please let us know that you've made it in and out of that castle safely.

 [alt_poppy](#)

Merlin knows I need to be doing umpteen things this afternoon, and 'check your book for news, recheck, check once more, and again once more' are nowhere on the list.

2011-07-06 13:51:00

Order Only: Terry



 [alt_sirius](#)

Well, we found him.

Merlin. Hermione, your friend is certainly one stubborn little cuss. He wouldn't come with us, no matter what Frank and I tried to tell him. Though, to be fair, I think we might have convinced him to go, but we were interrupted.

Let me back up and tell it in the right order.

So, first, last night, Frank and I arranged to 'borrow' the cart with Carrow's food deliveries and Frank got us in with only a mild Confundus. I caught Terry's scent just about immediately once we came through the gatehouse, and then we saw him walking on the wall. We headed straight up there.

He recognised Padfoot and I'm pleased to say he seemed genuinely happy to see me - but then he got very nervous about seeing Frank. Of course, Frank was polyjuiced. We ducked down behind the wall and I transformed, and introduced him to my companion. Frank reminded him about having met him before - something I'd quite forgotten about - and we added that we'd both been responsible for kicking Carrow's teeth in last year. At last he visibly relaxed in front of us - and then we noticed what was wrong.

He'd been beaten. Savagely.

We healed him as best we could - my guess is that he had ruptured something internally - and Frank had to rebreak one finger so we could set it properly. I don't mind telling you it crossed both our minds to go and find Carrow then and there. Must have shown on our faces because Terry immediately told us not to pay Carrow another visit. He also wouldn't settle until we put some glamours on the wounds to make them look like they were still healing at a normal pace. Frank set them to fade over time and that calmed him down considerably.

He apologised to me - to *me!* - for not coming with me that day when I tried to rescue him, the day Carrow left the school. He stammered something about Alecto hurting Hermione. I guess they've brainwashed him pretty well on that score. Frank and I told him he shouldn't have worried about that, that we'd never have let them hurt

her. Showed a little pluck then, he did, and asked how we'd have managed that.

Well, that gave Frank the opening to give him the portkey - though we also offered that he could come with us right then and there, if he wanted. He shook his head, said Carrow'd already taunted him about some kind of tracking spell. Frank pulled out his wand to check, and the bastard hadn't been lying. He's done something to Terry - blood magic, I think, and it keeps tabs on the kid.

We gave him the portkey anyway, told him to hide it, and told him about our friends in Sherwood forest, so he can find them if he needs to do. The tracking spell's a problem, but Frank and I figure we'll know if he activates the device and we can make sure that if Carrow follows, he's never coming back. (I also reminded him that the tracking spell might not hold if he can master the Animagus transformation. After all, changing seemed to break a few enchantments placed on me when Bellatrix was on my tail.)

Well, Terry got a funny look and he showed us a bracelet round his wrist. We hadn't noticed it until he pointed it out - and that's after running two checks over him for health and then that charm - but he told us his friends made it for him. (And he looked sidelong at Frank when he said it, Alice; I'm sure he meant to include Neville in that statement, but didn't want to admit it straight out.) He showed us the bead that conceals where he keeps his wand and said he could get another one to hide the portkey.

'Sounds like you have some good friends,' I said.

'Yeah. The best,' he told us. Then another one of those sideways looks, this time at me. "I've kept *your* secrets. And I've kept *their* secrets. The thing is...some of them are starting to be some of the *same* secrets.'

While I was still trying to decide what to say to that, Frank asked what he meant. Terry talked about keeping his wand hidden and learning magic and such.

'But my loyalties to *you* don't conflict with my loyalties to *them*,' he added.

I gave his shoulder a squeeze and told him no, I didn't think they did.


I think he was about to say something else, and Frank and I were

gearing up to try again to get him to come with us right then and there, but just at that moment we heard Carrow give a massive shout for Terry to come attend him. He transformed in an instant - fear, first, and told us to move, not to get caught - and then somehow he made himself look stupid, vacant and a little dead inside. I guess he's had to learn how to mask his real cleverness over the years with that murdering son of a bitch.

There wasn't any point arguing with him, not with Carrow bellowing that he'd have Terry's head on a platter if he didn't jump to. I reminded him to keep practising and transformed back to Padfoot. All we could do was complete the delivery and bring back the cart.

Luckily, the pub where we got it has a fully stocked cellar. Frank and I are agreed on the single best way to spend the rest of this afternoon. It's that or talk our way back into that castle to thump Carrow again, despite what Terry asked us.



 **[alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-06 18:24:04](#)**

(no subject)

took everything I had not to bring him with us right then and there.

carrow be damned.

the trace be damned.

his own wishes be damned too.

we let a child go back to his abuser, and I don't know if there is enough alcohol in the world to make me forget what we've done.



 **[alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-06 18:26:18](#)**

(no subject)

poppy, I'm pretty sure it was his spleen. ruptured. and a rib cracked. nasty infection, too.

after we were finished his diagnostic charm came back green again, but I'm only good at rough patching-up, and I hope I caught everything.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-06 20:18:01](#)**
(no subject)

You did all you could, Frank. And the diagnostic charm is a sound indicator, so I believe you can set that one worry aside.

The blood magic seems the more looming concern. What might it empower Carrow to do beyond tracing the boy? And would killing Carrow actually free him? I have only the roughest, most general knowledge of what is possible with blood magic, but I fear that it deepens the tie between them. Certainly it Darkens the bond with which he holds the boy.

I'm very glad you did not tempt Fate and attack Carrow today. Who knows what might come of that now.




 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-07-06 19:47:04](#)**
(no subject)

A blood magic trace?

I hate to say it, my friends, but the boy's probably right: if Carrow's slapped one of those on him, we couldn't have risked having him come with you. Too dangerous, both for us and maybe for him.

I'm no expert on the cruor veneficus class of spells, though. That's really dark stuff. Emmeline might know more.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-06 19:48:26](#)**
(no subject)

Dangerous for him...you mean, more than just he might get caught if he tries to get away?



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-07-06 19:53:35](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe. Carrow could have laid some specific parameters within the architecture of the spell. Something like that the kid's insides will curdle if

he gets more than a certain distance away from him. It can vary tremendously, depending sometimes on the power of the wizard.

And no matter how little we think of the man and his morals and methods, I'm sure that there's no doubt that he has enough power to make his spells pack a hefty wallop.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 21:18:15](#)
(no subject)

My father once told me a story about a warlock who bound his bodyman to him with blood magic. I remember that the servant rebelled anyway and tried to kill his master. He failed in the attempt; the master killed the servant for his betrayal, and then the master died himself, moments later.


He also told a story about two friends, so close they decided to bind themselves as blood-brothers when they went to war together. They survived the battle but later fell out over a woman. One of the blood-brothers came close to killing the other, but couldn't do it at the last moment and walked away instead. Years later, his blood-brother fought a duel and lost. Hundreds of miles away, the other warlock died instantly.

They were cautionary tales, he said, about why this type of magic is not to be trusted.

I don't half suppose Carrow's bright enough to realise how dangerous it is.

But I dunno. There are lots of different spells he could have used. Carrow doesn't seem the type to have made Terry his equal by exchanging and sharing blood.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-06 21:51:38](#)
(no subject)

If it is possible, I wouldn't put it past Amycus Carrow to have used the boy's blood to weave a curse that would injure the boy should he either rebel or try to escape. In fact, I'd think it exactly the sort of thing he would do.

What worries me is that he might also think of binding the child with a curse that would kill him if anything at all were ever to befall Carrow himself. Something like your first example (if it could be designed to avoid reciprocity).

Carrow's not the sort to leave his belongings for others to enjoy. As it were. Frankly, I've long wondered if he and Alecto have bound themselves with that sort of death pact. Did you have a chance to observe them together when you were in the castle, Sirius? It's unseemly in the extreme.

Your final point is a good one, though: mixing his blood with the boy's might, in fact, transgress Carrow's personal boundaries.

Or it might not. So much that we find taboo means nothing to him; I can't say with any surety where he draws those lines in his own sensibilities.



 **alt_frank** at **2011-07-06 20:52:17**
(no subject)


one idea we had was to get carrow in a trap
take terry with us see if he'd follow

be ready for him once he showed up

but we didn't have enough bloody time

and the trace might've hurt him if we had taken him along



 **alt_sirius** at **2011-07-06 21:20:04**
(no subject)

We're not drunk enough. I'm not, anyway.

Bugger the drinking. I only have a handful

but



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-07-06 21:26:15](#)**
(no subject)


sneaky bugger.

better than bashing our heads against the wall

which was gonna be my suggestion

bring it over here



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-06 21:51:12](#)**
Private Message to Sirius Black


What, exactly, are you two getting into now?

And Sirius, please, keep an eye on my Frank.

I know he tends to beat himself up over this sort of thing, and I hope

Just keep an eye on him, please.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-06 22:09:03](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sirius Black


he's ok

bett'rn ok

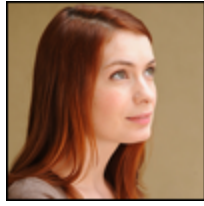
should get him looped m'roften

need supper



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-06 22:31:58](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

leas he's not punching anythin



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-06 22:41:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

Oh, so he's told you about that?

Well, lucky for you. And that hotel owner. Seeing as the most punchable things he has around him right now is your face and the walls.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-06 21:56:32](#)

(no subject)

What on earth?

Sirius Black. If you are endangering your lives by ingesting some mind-altering substance, I'll have your hide. Both of you! I absolutely forbid you to do any such thing!

At least go somewhere safe first. (Tell me you have done. You're not out in some pub someplace with a crowd of people, are you?)



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:07:31](#)

(no subject)

Safe's'ouses, Poppi

Took room f'night.

locked. in. saving poljuce.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-06 22:15:42](#)

(no subject)

two beds

good thing

sheets not so clean


we'll manage



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-06 22:25:52](#)
(no subject)


Well, I certainly think it's a good thing the boy can't see you now! From what Fred and George say, he's had to clean up enough after Carrow's gone on a bender that I'm sure he'd be less than impressed with your mood-altering binge. Really!



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-06 22:28:06](#)
(no subject)

just twist that knife a little more, why don't you



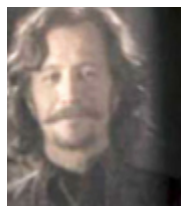
 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-06 22:29:24](#)
(no subject)


sorry.

sorry. I know you mean

different


but I think I've got quite enough guilt for one night right now



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:30:37](#)
(no subject)

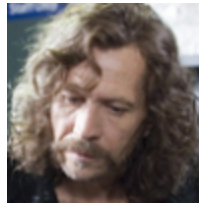
struth.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:33:29](#)
(no subject)

oh leave off

or nex time *you* can leave him to rot with that fucking maniac.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:34:48](#)
(no subject)


sorry hermione



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:33:58](#)
(no subject)

sorry, molly



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-06 22:15:01](#)
(no subject)

haha wot


like booze?

cause thats what were having.

don't worry were not gonna try and go back there and kill him if
thats what you mean

wed splinch ourselves



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-06 22:21:27](#)
(no subject)

You are a poor liar, Frank Longbottom. And
worse when you are intoxicated.

Adding tablets or capsules or anything else by
the handful on top of the amount of alcohol you appear to have
ingested is idiocy. Just the sort of idiocy the two of you seem to
indulge nearly every time you are allowed to bludger off on a
so-called mission.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:23:40](#)
(no subject)

Oh for
s'not a capsule.

Or a table. t.

s'organic. Oregano. Heh.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:29:54](#)
(no subject)


n'we're grown. men.
best way to avoid goin back therre

an to bury the

whatsit

failure.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-06 22:38:12](#)
(no subject)

A pair of grown men, are you?
Well.

Endeavour not to choke yourselves on the smoke, then. Or set
off the fire wards.

Or set your bedding alight.

Dash it all. We ought to lock you up and not let you out at all
ever.



 **alt_molly** at [2011-07-06 19:58:56](#)

(no subject)

Oh, my.

I'm sure it must have felt dreadful to walk away without him. But you did find him, and you gave him the portkey. Surely it counts for something that you have given him hope, and some relief from his pain. If only for now.

Oh, I wish I could tell the twins. They've been so worried about him.



 **alt_bill** at [2011-07-06 20:08:53](#)

Private message to Molly Weasley and Arthur Weasley

Mum, Dad, I know you've said Fred and George have made friends with the boy.

I'm wondering. Do you think they're the ones who gimmicked up that bracelet for him? And if they were, do you reckon they know what Terry's using it to hide?

That's edging into some real dangerous stuff. It's one thing for us adults here in the Order to run risks. It's another thing if they're doing things like creating charms to help hide wands for muggleborns.



 **alt_molly** at [2011-07-07 02:37:54](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley and Arthur Weasley

Goodness.

I mean, they would maybe if they could. But honestly, Bill! With their marks in charms class? I hardly think so!



alt_bill at 2011-07-07 02:40:33

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley and Arthur Weasley

Well, they're really the most likely, aren't they? I mean, from what you've said, they may be the kid's closest friends. Who else could it be?



alt_molly at 2011-07-07 02:42:34

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley and Arthur Weasley

They--

Oh, I--

oh dear



alt_alice at 2011-07-06 21:49:06

(no subject)

I'm so sorry to hear you weren't able to do all you'd hoped for.



alt_severus at 2011-07-06 22:36:43

(no subject)

Or, instead of your given choices of attempting a conflict or drowning your reasoning abilities, you could return to familiar ground to further strategise without the double impediment of drink and temper.



alt_alice at 2011-07-06 22:44:47

(no subject)

I would have to agree with you on that point, Severus.


And it is certainly the most logical choice.

But this sort of thing will not be solved in an evening, and planning while in the heat of the moment is an equally poor choice, so if we

can't remove the temper, I suppose we can't begrudge the drink. At least not for now.

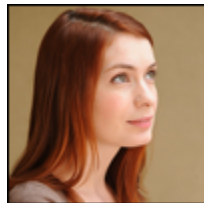
How have you been keeping?




 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-06 22:56:14](#)
(no subject)

It is the potential combination of planning and drink which disturbs me. It has been many years since I have witnessed Mr. Black in particular under the influence of ... well, it was a fascinating cocktail of intoxicants, but regardless, I can still imagine with great vividness how the conversation would proceed. It would begin with "we should do something" and end in an embarrassing headline.

I have been keeping as well as one can under twenty-four-hour guard in the forest. I see you are well.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-06 23:01:17](#)
(no subject)

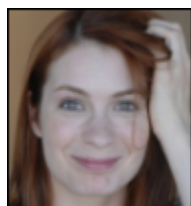
Oh, I'm sure there will be much planning, but I am also equally sure that there will be no acting on said plans until a good bit of sobering-up happens.


I am well, yes. It hasn't been an easy ten-odd years, but I dare say it's been a good deal easier on me than it has on you.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-06 22:48:00](#)
(no subject)

Get bludged, grandpa.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-06 22:48:36](#)
(no subject)

I think you're getting bludged enough for the both of you, love.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-06 22:55:18](#)
(no subject)

Charming.




 [alt_macnair](#) at [2011-07-07 02:31:08](#)
(no subject)

You got lucky when you thumped him before.

Of all my former associates, Amycus' brand of depravity exceeds that which you could possibly conjure up in your imagination. I saw how he looked at that ~~mad~~ kid when I was at Hogwarts. Seen what he did to others he looked at that way, too.

Instead of slipping him a portkey, might be more kind and merciful to slip him something that would take him quietly during sleep.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-07-07 02:48:53](#)
(no subject)

You could make an argument that way, yes, of course.

I would hope that our brand of 'mercy' would contain a little less of that taint of despair. Or what in Merlin's name are we doing this for?

He hasn't given up on himself, and so I don't think we should give up on him. At least not yet, until we've explored all the possibilities we can.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2011-07-07 02:56:09](#)
(no subject)

You'd despair too, if you'd seen Amycus Carrow at his worst.

Never said that my years with them would provide you with that kind of information that's comforting to hear.



 **alt_hermione** at **2011-07-07 12:46:14**
(no subject)

He is stubborn!!

I'm so sorry you couldn't convince him to get away.

He's being so stupid about Alecto Carrow. If nothing else she can't get at me here in Buckingham, not without getting in serious trouble, and I don't think that Amycus Carrow would do that, the only thing he loves is his sister, that's what Terry always says, but then Terry isn't exactly a Slytherin is he? Or a Gryffindor even. He just wants to be left alone to study and figure out how to fix things on his own, which is admirable I suppose but not when it means staying with someone who's hurting you!!!

2011-07-06 17:50:00

Private Message to Padma Patil

pull-ups 50
push-ups 35
sit-ups 102
distance 2mi / 25 min
speed 100yd / 22 sec
standing target 6/10
moving target 3/10



 [alt_padma](#)

Single Attack Defence 10 defended, 30 allowed, 10 null
Low Visibility w/Obstacles 5 defended, 10 allowed, 10 null
Broomback 1 defended, 8 allowed, 1 null

By August:

pull-ups 100
push-ups 100
sit-ups 250
distance 5mi / 25 min
speed 100yd / 18 sec
standing target 10/10
moving target 10/10

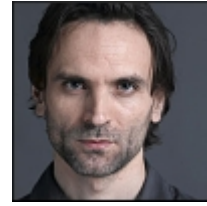
Single Attack Defence 50
Low Visibility w/Obstacles 35
Broomback 6

Ask Finnigan to borrow a broom.

[2011-07-06 20:18:00](#)

Private message to Barty Crouch Jr.

Barty - The most peculiar tales have reached my ear of late. Wondering if you, in all your investigatory glory, can verify. (Would ask the Missus, would she be bothered to answer.) Word has it that those spas who are helping women watch their waistlines are also skimming off with various bodily fluids and effluvium, then turning them over to the back door for a pretty profit. Can't imagine the goods are going to the brothels, but such things do have other uses...



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)**

As you know, my growing collection brings me to more than a few back doors. Met more than my fair share of scrap dealers, too, but in recent years they've become less common, not more so. There's not some kind of new movement afoot, is there?



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:04:09](#)**
(no subject)

No, I think it's no more than an unsavoury rumour, but it is circulating vigorously.

Quite right about the brothels not wanting raw material from that source: can't imagine there'd be many clients returning if the reward for all their galleons was an evening with some puffy, middle-aged matron.

Agreed, though. There are certainly uses for such things, but my files confirm your sense of the matter: it's not particularly on the rise.

All well in your shop, then? Any interesting items aside from the ones you've looked at for us? (There's a black market that's causing concern. Feel sure you'll hear more in that regard soon.)



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:12:13](#)**
(no subject)

Odd rumour, that. Were one spa in particular being singled out, I'd say it was a rumour borne of simple competition - but that doesn't seem to be the case.

I've always got an interesting trinket or two, though these days not much in the way of time to spend on them.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-07-07 03:29:58](#)
(no subject)

I'd say the rumour's aimed at the industry.

Not the best investment, reducing spas. If you take my meaning.

[2011-07-06 21:38:00](#)

Well

Wednesday night already. That's good. It's going fast, too.



And most of it's dead interesting. I like that you can come out on top at some of these things even if you're not fastest or strongest, but because you can see a different way to get something done. That's just like chess, and it's really wizard.

 [alt_ron](#)

But, um. Guess I'm a little soft in the middle. Not sure I'll be able to sit up tomorrow at all!



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2011-07-07 02:49:47](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

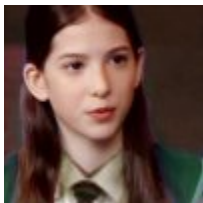
Ouch.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2011-07-07 03:25:09](#)**

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

DOUBLE ouch.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **[2011-07-07 03:35:20](#)**

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

That spell I told Terry works well to make strained muscles stop hurting.

BUT it doesn't do anything to make them not all weak and wobbly anymore. That's more annoying than the pain honestly (at least it is for me).

I thought the pull ups were worse than the sit ups but my middle hurts a lot worse than my arms, I wonder why that is?

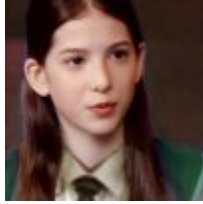


 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-07 03:39:58](#)

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

Remind me what it was? The spell. I'd look back, but

gosh, I'm just bludgered.

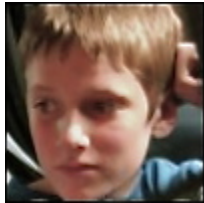


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-07 03:44:56](#)

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

It's 'remedia dolor' and you point your wand where it hurts.

Be careful you don't use it and then hurt yourself worse by ignoring the pain. It should be safe on strained muscles but if you use it on a broken bone or something, you have to be careful to keep still even if it's stopped hurting.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-07 04:13:44](#)

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

That spell did work really well, by the way. Thanks.

You'll probably find that if you've used your muscles really hard, they'll hurt a lot worse the second day after than the first day after. It always worked that way for me, anyway.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-07 04:31:06](#)

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

Oh, something to look forward to!


There's apparently a spell that actually FIXES sore muscles but the Healers who are hearing teaching mediwizardry won't tell us what it is. They said you can't use it if you want to get stronger, anyway; it's your body fixing the muscle that makes it get stronger.



 [alt_linus](#) at [2011-07-07 03:32:16](#)
(no subject)

Speaking of chess, if you're still up, I have a miniature wizard chess set Mum packed in with my things in case we had any spare time. The thought of spare time is a laugh, of course, but with Finnigan tossing and turning and my arms still burning from trying to do that pull-up I can't get to sleep at all.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-07 03:38:27](#)
(no subject)

Maybe tomorrow, actually.

I'm just dead tired.

It's wizard you brought your set along, though. We'll totally find time tomorrow.



 [alt_linus](#) at [2011-07-07 03:44:29](#)
(no subject)

Tomorrow, then!!! Meantime, if my light's bothering you, let me know. It's the charm Dad put on my favourite books so I'd stop making my eyes worse reading in the dark.



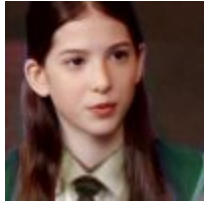
 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2011-07-07 03:57:41](#)
(no subject)

Well, it's bothering me, Moon! I'll never get to



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2011-07-07 04:21:56](#)
(no subject)

LINUS MOON IS MY HERO




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-07 04:36:15](#)
(no subject)

Why, did he shut off his light?


I can't sleep. I can't even blame it on someone having a light on. I just can't get to sleep.



 [alt_linus](#) at [2011-07-07 11:47:22](#)
(no subject)

He fell asleep with his journal open. I couldn't resist!!!




 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-07 14:48:50](#)
(no subject)

Ha. Just saw this!

You're a bit of all right, Moon.

Did you hear them say we'd get free time this afternoon after the obstacle course? The quicker you get through it, the more rest time you get. So if we can bang our way through it, we should have time for a bit of chess!



 [alt_linus](#) at [2011-07-07 15:06:17](#)
(no subject)

Ta, Weasley! See you this afternoon, if I'm still alive.

2011-07-06 22:38:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Frank Longbottom



 [alt_alice](#)

You two have been awfully quiet.


Though I suppose that's for the best, with all the disapproving clucking coming your way.

I know that was hard for you, dearest. Very hard.

I'm reminded of that letter we just sent off to Neville, and the advice we gave him. Easier said than done, I have a feeling.

That little boy might be in a world of misery and hurt right now, but think what a difference it's been to three years ago? He has friends, real friends, and he has Sirius, and now he knows he has you. And it does not have to end here. We know what we're facing now, with his trace, and how to get to him at the castle, and he has his portkey. We can go back. We can regroup. There will be other chances.



 [alt_frank](#) at **2011-07-07 03:00:22**
(no subject)

you should've seen his face when sirius said I was nev's dad.

and he showed us that bracelet, and I just knew that he was a part of it. nev. and why wouldn't he be? damn straight.

when I was checking him over for what that bastard did to him

he was shaking like a leaf.

fuck.

he'd have run straight off if I

thank merlin for our kids.

for our kids at moddey.

they aren't afraid. you can just open your arms and they won't be

scared if you give them a hug and no-one's ever hurt them before and no one will not on my watch. and I think about colin, and what he'd be like if he were forced into that shithole, or our danny, working like a dog in the camps instead of with us, or any one of the people we've got there, because besides you and me they'd all get an automatic ticket to slavery, and it still isn't enough.

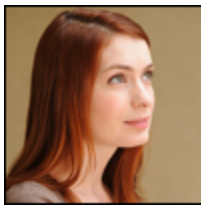
and here I am useless as fuck needing to get pissed because I can't handle the idea of what that poor kid has to go through every goddamn day of his life, and because I know that it was my fault he's still there. my fucking fault he's there to begin with. and don't try and soften it, because that's the way it is.


when we left nev and evie behind, we left them in a safe place. with mum. and I thought that was hard.

jesus.

when are we going to stop talking and start doing shit? when are we going to take all of those motherfuckers on and face them and fight them and blast them to fucking pieces? I'm tired of hiding. I'm so goddamn tired of only saving a few and letting the rest suffer, and pretending it's okay.

because it's not.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:01:47](#)**

(no subject)

Sounds like you've been doing a lot of thinking these past few hours, love.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:02:18](#)**

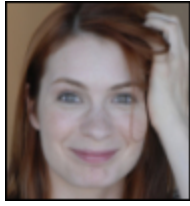
(no subject)


thinking

drinking

whateveryoucallitwithweeding

yeah.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:03:38](#)**
(no subject)

Toking, love.

I didn't think you were the type?

Just an observation. I'd suggest you drink plenty of water before you go to bed. And no, beer doesn't count.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:05:29](#)**
(no subject)

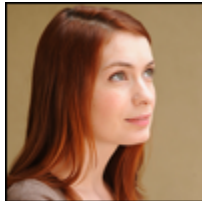
no


not usually

a little that summer I left school

it's been a while.

took the angry right out of me, at least for a bit. so that's something.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-07 03:11:23](#)**
(no subject)

You're right.


We do need to do more. And now that Sirius is back, and all that worry with Severus is sorted out, we've got much more ability to do them.

And there's Sherwood. You can start lending a hand more regularly there. I know they aren't to everybody's liking, but you can work with them.

We've got a little under a year before the next Solstice, and that also gives us a lot of options. Fixing up a whole fleet of boats, for one.

There's no end to things we could do.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-07 03:13:32](#)
(no subject)

I think that's the problem.

that there's so much out there to do that it's

overwhelming


and if we aren't doing it all, we're automatically failing because there's someone out there getting hurt and we can't save all of them

but today?

i just wanted to save the one.

and I couldn't even do that.

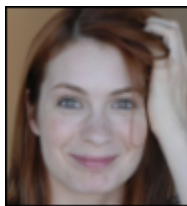



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-07 03:13:57](#)
(no subject)

I know.

I'm sorry.


I love you.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-07 03:15:04](#)
(no subject)


Now you drink your water and get some sleep, and when you come home, there will be literally dozens of hugs just waiting for you.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-07 03:15:42](#)
(no subject)

I don't deserve you.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-07 03:22:21](#)
(no subject)

Oh, sweetest man.

You might feel as though you don't, but you do.

You very much do.

2011-07-06 22:44:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Doing a lot better



 [alt_terry](#)

Just wanted you all to know I'm doing a lot better today.

I can stand up straight now without pain. Got a fix for my finger, too. Had to get re-broken, but it's set right now, finally, and it should heal all right.

(I'll still be glad to get those books, when you think it's safe to send the second bracelet.)




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-07 04:32:51](#)
(no subject)

You are?

Well, good. It's not just the spell for pain, someone actually healed you properly?



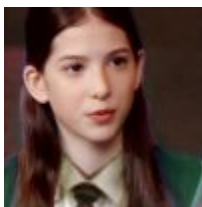
 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-07 11:58:25](#)
(no subject)

Um. Yeah. Someone did.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-07 13:54:23](#)
(no subject)

Well, good on him. Or her. Or them.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-07 04:34:51](#)
(no subject)

Was it Madam Pomf

It surely wasn't Carrow. Is the person who healed you going to be able to protect you from Carrow?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-07 12:03:23](#)
(no subject)

No, it wasn't M--it wasn't the git.

I'm--not sure. This person isn't here all the time. I learned something yesterday. Ma--I keep forgetting. The git had hinted to me about it, but I got confirmation yesterday. He's put a Dark spell on me. Using my blood. Not sure what it does to me, except, I think--I'm afraid it means I can't escape. If I run away, he'll be able to find me, wherever I go.

It may do other things. I don't know. I'll wait, and try to probe him a little to learn more, if I can time it when he's at the right stage of being drunk. After he gets sort of expansive and friendly and likes to talk about how smart he is. And before he turns dragon mean.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-07-07 12:46:58](#)
(no subject)

Well I'm glad that some people came and healed you.

I can't really talk about that any more, though, so let's just say, I hope that we keep finding friends in common, lots of them, lots and lots.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-07 13:44:56](#)
(no subject)

I do, too.

(There are lots of them?)

Wow.)

2011-07-06 23:14:00

Order Only: New Plans

Right. So Frank and I have been talking.

No, really talking.

Dora, we need to push forward on making that back garden at Laszlo's into a better sanctuary for halfbloods and Muggleborns. I know you've already developed a quiet reputation, but - Circe, I swear we could help people hide and get them out of the city. Like that group that young woman tried to find last summer.

And I'm going to talk to Turner tomorrow about helping more people escape the camps. *And* I think it's high time someone figured out how to get a stash of wands out of young Ollivander's.


As for you, Macnair: No, we're not going to - what's your plan if one of us gets grazed by a hex, then? Amputate? Morgana, we're not monsters. That may have escaped your notice but we try to do things round here *without* increasing the body count.

One thing's certain, we're not giving up on Terry. And we're not going to sit round anymore.



 [alt_sirius](#)



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-07 14:35:52](#)
(no subject)

I trust you'll wait until you're feeling more yourself before you attempt to travel today.

Have you any of that ginger tea? Or at least a hangover broth? I don't suppose Apparition will be kind to you if you try it.

Do you have a plan for where you'll go next?

I'm currently at Mousehole, learning the many wonders of fish oil preparations, and I plan to spend several days on the Coastal path when I've done with the course. Is there anything you need? I could easily meet you somewhere--any time after noon on Saturday.

2011-07-07 05:45:00

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

I'd say you've hooked your fish.


Heard yesterday from two separate sources:
word has it the brothels are buying clippings
and shavings from the Imperius dens.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

First Pennifold, then Rodolphus. At least Rod was wise enough to doubt the brothels' involvement. Wanted to know, instead, if it's a sign there's something brewing in the artefacts market. Who knows, perhaps he can wring gold from mere rumour. If that's what he's after.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-07-07 12:08:46](#)
(no subject)

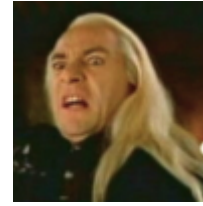
Thank you, Barty.

2011-07-07 08:26:00

Private Message to Horatio Hooper

Enough. My study.

NOW.



 **alt_lucius**

2011-07-07 09:52:00

Private Message to Percival Weasley

Weasley! If you can get to St James' square in ten minutes' time, suitably attired and otherwise presentable, I've an immediate opening. We may discuss terms after you arrive.



 **alt_lucius**

Your first order of business shall be assisting Mr Hooper to dislodge his indolent and alarmingly fat arse from your new office.

There'll be a bonus for you if you do not allow him to Floo to St Mungo's.



 **alt_percy** at **2011-07-07 13:56:29**
(no subject)

Sir...uh, yes sir.

I will be there as quickly as possible.

2011-07-07 12:13:00

Private message to Percy Weasley

Where on earth are you? I placed a quick floo call to your office--and they said you walked out midmorning without any explanation and have not returned!



 [alt_molly](#)




 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-07 17:51:24](#)

(no subject)

Don't worry, Mum. I have a new job.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-07 17:52:30](#)

(no subject)

A new job? What on earth?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-07 17:53:54](#)

(no subject)

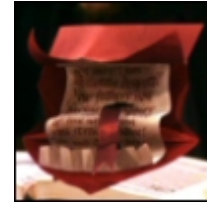
I'm going to be working for Lucius Malfoy.

Mum, I simply can't write any more now. It's my first day, and I've been sort of--sort of pitched into a mess. I'll tell you all about it tonight.

[2011-07-07 12:52:00](#)

Order Only: Arthur?!

**PERCY'S JUST TAKEN A JOB
WITH THAT WRETCHED
LUCIUS MALFOY!!!**



 [alt_molly](#)

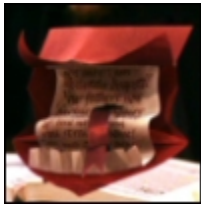


 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-07-07 18:49:25](#)

(no subject)

He what?

I don't understand, Molly. What happened to his job with International Magical Relations?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-07 18:50:14](#)

(no subject)

**He's abandoned it! And he says that
Lucius has hired him!**

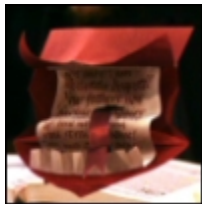


 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-07-07 18:51:29](#)

(no subject)

But how could he--

Are you sure, Molly?




 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-07 18:52:17](#)

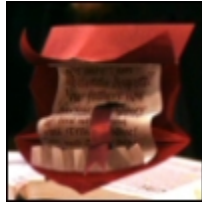
(no subject)


**The only thing I'm sure of is that he's
making a terrible mistake!!!**



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-07 18:53:08](#)
(no subject)


Lucius Malfoy? That's--that's not good news.



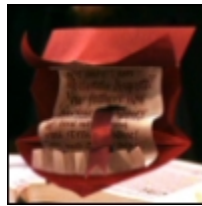
 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-07 18:53:41](#)
(no subject)


Do you think you have to tell me that?!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-07-07 18:55:06](#)
(no subject)


My goodness, I hardly know what to say.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-07 18:56:42](#)
(no subject)

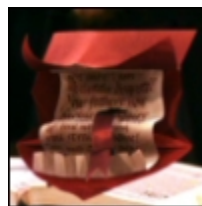
Well, I certainly can think of a few things! And if Percy were here, his ears would be smoking by now!




 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-07 18:57:41](#)
(no subject)

Mum! Mum, calm down. It'll be all right.

Percy worked for the git all last summer and you weren't anywhere near this upset.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-07 19:03:57](#)
(no subject)

But that was just an internship! It was temporary! Oh Bill, don't you understand? This is a permanent job, a permanent

foothold that horrible man will get into our family! Oozing his way into Percy's trust, being held up as a mentor, as an example! He'll smile, and he'll act all suave, and he'll simply dazzle the boy, until Percy will think--oh, I simply can't bear it.


This is an utter disaster!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-07 19:05:32](#)**
(no subject)

What's the job? Lucius Malfoy's assistant? But he has a clerk, doesn't he? Someone by the name of Hooper.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2011-07-07 19:06:42](#)**
(no subject)

He does. Or he did.

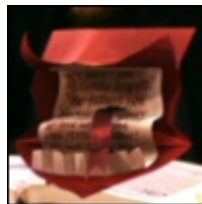
I think I remember hearing a wisp of a rumour that Malfoy wasn't very happy with the man, though.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2011-07-07 19:09:15](#)**
(no subject)

Molly, do try to calm yourself. We've raised Percy for years, and we know at heart he's a good boy. And he'll be a good man. It's too soon to simply prophesy disaster.

Perhaps...perhaps this will eventually serve to open his eyes as to what sort of man Malfoy really is.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2011-07-07 19:23:13](#)**
(no subject)

And on top of everything, I just received an atrocious bill by owl! It seems that 'free' makeover spa day that Ginny won wasn't so free when you include the add-

ons.

They charged her for a pedicure and manicure, and oh, Arthur, it's as much as we spend on food for the entire family for a week!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-07-07 19:24:59](#)
(no subject)

Oh, dear.

Well, that will be a bit of a stretch right now, I'll admit.

But we'll handle it, Molly.

We always do.

2011-07-07 14:07:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good



Blimey.

Mum just threw a teacup at the wall.

 [alt_gredforge](#)

For once, it wasn't us.

Right. Lee, we're flooing over there for a little while. No idea why Mum's in a strop, but we think it's best if we clear out for a bit.

We'll bring our brooms along. Maybe we can run some Quidditch drills.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-07 20:19:11](#)
(no subject)

It can't have been Ron's fault either. He's here.

Did Ginny do something?




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-07 20:31:19](#)
(no subject)

Guess we'll find out tonight.

Unless we can convince Lee's mum to invite us for dinner.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-07 21:57:27](#)
(no subject)

Just out of the blue?

You sure you didn't do anything? She didn't find something you'd hidden someplace, did she?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-07 22:31:58](#)
(no subject)

No, she didn't.

She mentioned she was going to the kitchen to floo Percy about something. And then it was quiet for a bit. Fred saw her sitting at the kitchen table reading her journal. Then POW!!

No idea. Maybe Ginny knows something more.

[2011-07-07 17:20:00](#)

Private message to Mr Lucius Malfoy




 **[alt_percy](#)**

I have sorted through all the piles and extracted the pending correspondence which I deem most pressing for your review. Unfortunately, there are several invitations past their RSVP date which I doubt have been brought to your attention (they have not been marked down in your calendar, nor is there any record of regrets being sent out in the correspondence log). I also discovered a rather malicious cantrip, a slicing hex rigged in the top drawer of the mahogany credenza under the north window, which I have defused. After Mr Hooper had been escorted to the street so I could not extract a proper retribution, unfortunately, but I wanted to make you aware of it. To the best of my knowledge, there is not anything else in my work space, but I do not know if there is anything else he managed to rig in yours before I arrived.

I will be here tomorrow at 7:30 sharp. Thank you very much for the opportunity, Mr Malfoy. I will endeavour to do my very best to assist you in your important work.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-07-08 03:27:56](#)**

(no subject)

There are always too many invitations for Mrs Malfoy and myself to possibly accept; don't trouble about that. Merely review; if any are from Council members or particular persons of importance then double-check with Mariposa Poddington at *Witch Weekly*. You may recall she keeps Mrs Malfoy's calendar and often knows of events to which she has committed us but that I have not added. As well as the occasional event that we need not both attend.

As for Hooper's parting gift to you: Good catch! Did you think to look for traps or find it the hard way? My private study is safe, however. I sealed the door before leaving for my appointment with Fudge. Had the day been less hectic I should have preferred not to leave him any time alone after having discharged him but no matter.

I've appointments at ten and one to-morrow as well as Court at three. Suggest you take an extended luncheon to-morrow and get to Twilfit's to spend that bonus where it will make the most impact. Three additional sets of robes ought to give you the bare minimum

for acceptability. Shoes as well, I daresay.


I've no doubt you shall perform to the best of your abilities, Weasley. Do not disappoint me.

Oh, and spoke to Pontner via Floo this evening, regarding your sudden change of fortune. Explained that I had been distracted by Hooper's rapidly declining performance and ... missed that you had found a situation. Pontner extends his compliments on your swift opportunism. Have no fear of repercussions there.

In fact, your experience at International Co-Operation, brief as it may have been, may well come in handy. We shall be working closely with them in the coming months on two separate projects sure to bring quite a measure of glory to Our Lord's land.

Get some sleep. Half-seven comes cursed early when you've been up more than half the night celebrating.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-08 12:35:20](#)
(no subject)

I did think to look for traps, yes, and I was certainly glad I did. Well, he did give me a hint, with all of his bluster about 'I'd be sorry!' As abysmal as Mr Hooper was at filing parchment work, he was apparently no slouch at setting up hexes. It might have removed one of my fingers.

I will visit Twilfit's, as you suggest, and thank you for the bonus that makes that possible. And for speaking with Mr Pontner. I do sincerely appreciate it.

[2011-07-07 17:34:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater


Penny? The most amazing thing happened. Lucius Malfoy's clerk was sacked this morning, and he immediately offered ME the job! I've already started.



 [alt_percy](#)

Will you be home tonight if I floo you?



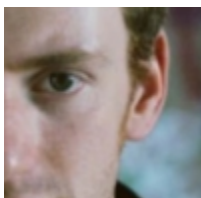
 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-08 01:56:28](#)
(no subject)


Mr **Malfoy!**? Mr *Malfoy!* That's *wonderful*, Perce! What happened? I mean, how did it happen?

You forgot though that I'm with the CCF this week and shan't be home until Sunday - then it's straight off to Cornwall with the rising 2nd-years.

I *wish* I could meet you, though! You have to tell me EVERYTHING. That's so exciting!

I'm sorry I'm so late replying but we've only just called lights out for the students, so Dunc and I have a bit of time before we've got to sleep, too.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-08 03:26:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh, of course! I'm sorry, with everything that's happened today, it slipped clean out of my mind.

It seems that Hooper, the previous clerk, was talking out of turn. Spreading gossip, you know. Mr Malfoy was most outraged and sacked him immediately. He turned to me because I'd worked for him already. I knew that internship would open doors for me, but I never dreamed it would work out this way so quickly!

Perhaps we could seize an hour or so on Sunday and I can fill you in on everything?



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-08 03:53:22](#)
(no subject)

Technically I'm supposed to be inside making sure the girls are all asleep. But they are. And it's far too nice a night not to be out in the moonlight.


Plus I was hoping you'd write back.

I knew it wouldn't be very long - it couldn't take very long before someone important noticed you, Percy. I'm so proud of you!

But Sunday. I'll have to see if I can break away from my parents. At least I had told Professor Sinistra that I couldn't go straight on to Tintagel without even stopping over at home first, or I wouldn't even be in New London between the two!


I could tell my father there's been a change in plans, though, and meet you instead. Dinner? Doesn't have to be anything fancy, just a Fresher's Feast or something from one of the stalls. The good ones, though, not the ones with nothing but that brassicrose stuff. We have to celebrate at least a little!



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-08 12:23:59](#)
(no subject)

Let's plan on some kind of dinner, yes. It'll be wonderful to see you. And yes, it's a celebration!




 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-08 01:57:33](#)
(no subject)

How much more is it than the Ministry?

You'll not get in any trouble with them for leaving so quickly, will you? Surely they'll understand if Mr Malfoy wanted you specifically.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-08 03:31:30](#)
(no subject)


Oh, it's a substantial bit more. And there's a beginning bonus because...well, he was pleased with how I routed Mr Hooper. And, well, he's being quite kind, because he realises that my wardrobe isn't quite up to the standards he expects for his clerk to begin with. So there's a bit extra which it's clear I'm to use to buy new robes and what not. I'm not sure you'll even recognise me when you get back home again!

And Mr Malfoy said not to worry, that he would do whatever's necessary to smooth over things concerning my previous position.

Bill came over for dinner because Mum told him the news. Mum seems a little--well, not exactly as excited for me as I would have hoped. I mean, it's a really brilliant position! But Dad and Bill made it clear they thought it was a good move.

I think Ginny's just excited because she thinks it means she'll get more of a glimpse of Mrs Malfoy.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-08 03:55:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's even better, though, the money. Because then we can really save up for a flat once I'm done school.

I'm sure your mum's just worried because you left the Ministry so suddenly. She'll come round once you tell her that Mr Malfoy smoothed it all over for you. Anyone would have done the same, given the chance.

2011-07-08 09:57:00

Percy

I want you to know that I truly am happy, and very excited for your opportunity.



And no worries, there will be no repeats in behaviour from last summer. I realize the error in that step and I hope I have been successful in improving my flaws, at least a little. I hope that this will be all that you want it to be.

 [alt_ginny](#)

Ginny



 [alt_percy](#) at **2011-07-08 15:06:30**
(no subject)

Thanks, Ginny.

[2011-07-08 11:03:00](#)

Order Only: Percy

It is indeed true. Percy is now Lucius Malfoy's new personal assistant/clerk.



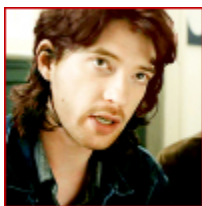
 [alt_arthur](#)


Molly had managed to calm down enough by the time Percy came home for supper that I think we were successful in keeping our true opinions from him about his new post. At least he seemed blissfully unaware as he told us about it.

I don't think we'll be able to regard this as a new pipeline of information in any way. Lucius Malfoy sacked his former clerk for talking out of turn about news he had learned as a function of his duties. Apparently his retribution went beyond merely forcing him to turn in his keys and ushering him from the office. In fact, Percy was offered a bonus if he managed to prevent the man from flooing to St Mungo's for his injuries. This, of course, made a deep impression on Percy.

On the other hand, I fear that if Lucius Malfoy's influence on Percy continues to grow, this may mean an increased security risk for Molly and me.


I can only hope that we won't have cause to rue the day this ever came to pass. Not just Molly and me, but Percy as well.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-08 16:29:09](#)
(no subject)


I've offered to meet him for lunch once a week. If he can't offer me tidbits--and I think you're right, he'll be conscientious about keeping his mouth shut concerning Malfoy's business--at least it will give me an opportunity to monitor him. To see if, well, Lucius' hooks are getting in so deep that we need to worry.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2011-07-08 16:30:10](#)**
(no subject)

I think that would be very wise, son. Your mother and I believe he would more freely talk with you than he would with us.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-08 16:43:15](#)**
(no subject)

I'd say it's hard to believe that it would take very long at all before Malfoy shows his true colours, no matter how ingratiating he may try to be at first. He's sure to betray his own cruelty. Not that you'd want Percy to experience it first-hand, of course, but it'd be a rude awakening if he thinks he'll be able to beard the mantichore in his den. But if he's already *seen* the price of failing that bastard, and he's still excited and eager to join the man's staff, well. Yeah. I think Molly's assessment yesterday wasn't too far off the mark.

Just watch yourselves, both of you. Bill, you too.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2011-07-08 19:27:55](#)**
(no subject)

That's hard, my friend.

I won't be foolish enough to tell you not to worry; you're quite right to be concerned.

But I also I know that the values that you and Molly share have always guided you in raising your children. You'll just have to trust that those same values will guide Percy to walk the right path, no matter how beguiling a temptation Malfoy presents. Good luck to him, and to you both.

(And yeah, Bill, keep a sharp eye on him. For all our sakes.)

2011-07-08 16:36:00


I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good



 [alt_gredforge](#)

Terry, we've been working with Pig ever since we got him back from Perks, and we've got your new bracelet loaded up with all sorts of goodies to send to you. There're the liver bits from Perks, and Neville sent the healer's book and Lee gave us the book on glamours last night. And we've added a few other surprises. Just give us a quick word tonight if you think the git's soused enough that he's gonna be catching up on his ugly sleep tomorrow morning. Once you give us the go ahead, we'll send our little messenger on his way to you.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-09 03:03:13](#)
(no subject)

V. quickly. Yes, it'll be safe. He's been drinking since supper. Already spewed, but good sign: he went right back to the bottle. He'll sleep till noon for sure.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-09 03:05:17](#)
(no subject)

Right then. Leave the window unlatched and look for Pig in the morning.

[2011-07-08 22:00:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Harry Marvolo



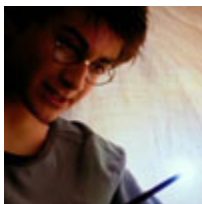
 **[alt_blaise](#)**

Well, we can all feel rather pleased about how the week's gone, can't we? The leadership seminar was swell. And the introduction for the orienteering exercises made that sound dead snitch. Something to look forward to when we come back, for sure.

I admit, though, I've work to do on all the obstacle flying and the low visibility and moving target drills.

I've been thinking, and I'm going to ask Mother if Mr Blackmun and I can't go out to Eccleston and set up a proper training course in the grounds at Eaton Hall. I'm sure she won't care if we do, so long as she doesn't have to go there. She thinks Chester's a terrible bore, and she hates the country, basically.

You'd be welcome to come out. Or are you planning to stay in New London and use the course at the Ouroboros? Think about it, anyway. It could be nift to get away from parents and all, and it'd be wizard to design our own course, don't you think?

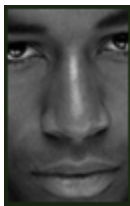


 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2011-07-09 12:01:19](#)**

(no subject)

Really good, yeah.

I'd love to come. But don't know if Father will let me. We have to bring Granger if he does let me. She's been sitting in the castle this whole time and I don't like leaving her there. Well you know why. Think that would be all right?



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-07-09 12:31:25](#)**

(no subject)

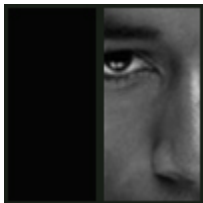
No problem, mate. I hope your father thinks it's a good idea. Maybe remind him how important it is for you to top the standings for CCF and say this way you'd be able to match us at training?


And obviously you should bring your servant. Both of you can bring whatever staff you want. I mean, we'll be sending elves and some Mudbloods to open up Eaton Hall. Can't run a place like that without them, can you?



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2011-07-09 14:40:09](#)**
(no subject)

Sounds good, mate. We'll be off to New London soon - Mother's going to open up Kensington and I'll probably have a party there, I just haven't decided when. I also have a few other social obligations to keep, but obviously staying on top of training is top priority.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2011-07-09 14:51:36](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I've got to go back to Wilton Crescent for a few days at least. Tailoring appointments and the like. And Mother has some soiree or other next week she wants me for.

But I think I could get her to pack me off by next Sunday. It irritates her to have me just knocking about, and she dislikes feeling she ought to think of things for me to do for her.

2011-07-09 13:05:00

Order Only: Sirius

So, Sirius, was that all just blather the other night or are you ready to back up your big ideas with real help in making Laszlo actually useful?




 **alt_nymphadora**

Where have you scarpered off to, anyway?

I think it would be brilliant if you'd come here and stay. Every family needs a dog. And you'd be useful as a security system, too. We could trust you to sniff out the inspectors when they come round.

And then we could get down to some proper planning for ways to build up our business here.



 **alt_sirius at 2011-07-09 20:29:36**
(no subject)

Course I meant it, Dora. You've made the place a genuine success as an informal pub; time to use that cover to conceal some real mischief and take the next step.

As for where I've been, I said I would be talking to Turner and I have done. We've got some ideas about getting more people out of the camps - and wands, too. From inside the wards, since it'll be six months before we can meet Aleks again.

I can head down to London tomorrow - I'd love to stay at least for a little while. Bill, if you're able to stop in at the shop this week, we could talk some about Turner's and my ideas. And ways to reach those Muggleborn railroad blokes, too.



 **alt_nymphadora at 2011-07-09 22:29:17**
(no subject)

Muggleborn railroad?

Oh. Sorry. I want to hear about the Muggleborn smugglers, too. That's what you meant about the people that woman was trying to reach last summer while the

Hogwarts children were here, isn't it?

That was the one thing you wrote the other night that I just wasn't sure about. And, after all, it did seem you were a good ways into your cups by then and not making absolute sense.

At any rate. Good. I'm holding you to this. Not just big talk, but real, solid action. That's what's needed.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-10 04:01:31](#)**

(no subject)

That's what I meant - the smugglers. Don't suppose you'd know the reference, but in the United States, during their muggle civil war, some of the slave abolitionists started up what they called an Underground Railroad - a system of safehouses and waystations where they would harbour and aid slaves making their way from the south to the north. Seems like that network we heard about last summer is the same sort of thing, only from the camps to ... well, I'm not sure where.

Turner says Lucinda has a lead on a woman outside Cotgrave who may be involved with the network. I've a feeling that the ones in New London may be hard to find but if we can make contact outside of the city, perhaps we can convince them of our intentions while evaluating their effectiveness.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2011-07-11 02:12:03](#)**

(no subject)

So you're going to Cotgrave, then. Before you come to us? What do you plan to tell her? Or what has Turner told her already?

But Remus says you'll be here by Tuesday or Wednesday at the latest. That's excellent, you can tell us everything then. I think it will be tremendous to have you here. You'll be good for all of us.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-11 02:57:42](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, late Tuesday night, I think?

Turner hasn't told her anything. It's Lucinda who's managed the message network through drop points and codes. And one of her contacts in the camps told her that this witch has had labourers out to her home many times and treats them quite well. The report says that she is privately quite outspoken, too.


So, we'll check it out. (Yes, carefully, Poppy.)



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-11 02:24:41](#)**
(no subject)


I can do that. Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, I think. Would one day work better than the other?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-11 02:26:33](#)**
(no subject)


Wednesday - I've found out that we have a meeting with a woman in Cotgrave tomorrow so I'll head south Tuesday.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-11 02:31:09](#)**
(no subject)


Perfect.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-10 00:03:48](#)**
Private message to Sirius

Not that I mind the idea of having you underfoot, mind, but what about Terrie?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-10 03:52:31](#)


Re: Private message to Sirius

Yeah Like I said, wasn't half brilliant going there.

I've been a bit hesitant to say anything to you or Allie, given - well, given that when I told you both her news for me, you both seemed to think the answer was fairly simple.

It's anything but simple, though.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-10 05:00:06](#)

Re: Private message to Sirius

What happened, exactly, when you went to see her?

2011-07-09 14:06:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Pigwidgeon arrived safely



 [alt_terry](#)

and delivered the package. You're right, he's excitable and fluttered around a lot, but he was quiet as anything when he saw the git over there snoring away. Thank you so much, everyone. The books look like they'll really help. Since I've put on the bracelet, I can already feel the cheering charm.

I think what I love the most, though, is the cartoon. Lee drew it, right? Nice job with the animation. It was all I could do to keep from busting out laughing when I saw it! One of the hardest things about being here is the thought that I might never see any of you again, and so to have a picture of my friends to keep is wonderful.


Neville, Pig's on his way to you now.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2011-07-09 21:31:02**
(no subject)

Glad they arrived safely.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2011-07-09 21:35:14**
(no subject)

That small book, *Comfort Charms*, looks really good, too. Those are some of the spells your mum used on the clothes she sent me, right?

It'll be so wizard to have stuff that'll keep me warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

(Do you know, if I use that cushioning charm and he hits me, will he be able to feel it?)




 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2011-07-09 21:37:33**
(no subject)

Don't know, actually.

We can do some tests, though, and let you know.


At least it'll be safe to use and make you more comfortable if he's making you sleep on the bare floor.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-09 21:38:21](#)**
(no subject)


You're sending Pig to me?



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-09 21:39:00](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah. With a letter. You'll understand why when you get it.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-09 21:39:26](#)**
(no subject)

Um, okay then.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-09 23:27:00](#)**
(no subject)

I just got the letter, Terry.


Just--thank you. Thank you ever so much. For letting me know.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-10 00:27:23](#)**
(no subject)

You're all right with knowing it then?



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-10 00:27:45](#)**
(no subject)

Absolutely.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-10 00:28:34](#)**
(no subject)

I mean, I suspected, to be honest.

It feels good to really know.

2011-07-10 00:08:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_sally_anne**

Neville I thought you would like to know that Ron, Pansy and I all thought of you today. Our instructors here had assigned us some reading last night on new defensive and offensive spells we might work on and then today we got to do some practise duels. There was this one spell that looked really nift; if you cast it properly it would reflect a lot of hexes BACK on your opponent. Brilliant, right? Well thanks to you (and Pansy and that mishap with the blue scales) we all checked the FOOTNOTES.

The problem with that spell is that if you cast it with any other defensive spells you have to do it in exactly the right order or you'll break out in boils. Green boils. It's horrifying! Of course they had healers here but even though they'd heal the people with boils, they DIDN'T tell them what they'd done wrong. So some of them did it again.


None of us missed it and when we got quizzed at the end of the day we said we'd paid attention to the FOOTNOTE that warned about that affect and we got praised for our attention to detail.

Anyway.

I'm sorry you couldn't come. Most of the week wasn't all that much fun honestly but if today's any example we'll be learning some really interesting things in August.

You're coming to Ron's next week right? We can teach you the reflection spell and the other nift spells we learned today.



 **alt_neville** at **2011-07-10 05:50:22**
(no subject)

Brilliant! It's good to know that as a result of our unfortunate experience, you all had the chance to stand out.

Yeah, I'll be at Ron's for sure. Looking forward to it!


Did they give you the book to keep that had that spell in it? Because if they did, I'd really like to look at it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-10 14:12:43](#)
(no subject)

Yes, we get to keep it on loan at least until August, one of our assignments is to master the stuff that's in there.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-10 14:27:17](#)
(no subject)

Glad you're coming.

Sally Anne's right, most of this week was just review and sorting out people's 'strengths' when what they were really doing was finding out what you're weak on and then pounding you with drills on it.


And then there was this epic whatchamacallit test--oh, yeah, an inventory of tactical and defensive manoeuvres--I had to go get the parchment they filled out for us. It was a big course thinger where you had to hex a bunch of targets first, and then moving targets, and then moving targets while the floor shifted under you so you'd fall down and then targets that weren't just targets, but they threw hexes at you.

And then you had to run into this maze and sometimes you were crawling under stuff or climbing over it or running round corners and anything could be there waiting for you--like more hexing targets or even live MLE blokes waiting to throw dire stuff at you. And they told us you'd get more points if you didn't always just use the same hexes and parries. And they timed it, too.

And then later we had another test on brooms, which I thought was loads better, but for some people it was just hilariously terrible, I guess. Li looked like she was ready to vom when she got done.

So, yeah. They sent us home with a mountain of stuff to read. Plus we have to be massively better at all that tactical stuff before we come back in August.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-10 13:52:39](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, Zabini was too hilarious covered in boils. And so cross when it happened again! I think he must've got healed four times.


Noticed you and Pans moved away from him after the second time!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-10 14:14:09](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that sort of thing makes him CROSS and I didn't want to be in his way if he exploded! Fortunately he didn't decide I was sabotaging him or anything like that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-11 02:02:42](#)
(no subject)

I wonder if Bones still looked splotchy when she made it home? I don't think they healed her all the way, you know what I mean?

2011-07-10 10:10:00

Order Only: Private Message to Moony

You asked what happened with Terrie and like I said, I've been wanting to tell you - I'm still trying to figure it all out myself.



 [alt_sirius](#)

First, though, tell Dora I'll travel on Tuesday, okay? Lucinda got a message to the witch in Cotgrave - her name is Langworthy - and we're to meet tomorrow.

Well.

I guess the first thing I should do is reassure you that I have not abandoned Terrie. Things are far from resolved but it's not as if I've simply chucked her or anything.

It's funny, though, the things I never thought would matter but do. I think I told you that there's a strong possibility that her child was fathered by her boss. She admitted that much right away, it's part of what's upsetting her. Merlin knows I sympathise - no witch in her right mind would *want* to make a baby with that bastard - but I can't quite ignore that she knew the risk when she dropped her protections. I certainly can't ignore that she made the decision without my consent, either.

So I guess, under those circumstances, I have to admit that the child's paternity *does* matter to me. Though not entirely for the reasons she assumed. When I asked if she intended to perform a paternity charm, she turned defensive as anything. Some of her accusations were probably on the mark - as I said, I am somewhat doubtful the child's mine, since it was barely four weeks since I'd seen her when she told me, so the timing was awfully quick if she hadn't been expecting to succeed. And she's right that if Birchmore caught even a whiff of Terrie going to a hedgewitch for a paternity test he'd *start* by firing her and it'd get worse from there.

The real reason's far more complicated, of course. But that's not important right now. What's important is that she assumed I'd tell her exactly what you assumed I'd tell her; That I don't care who the father is, that I'll stay involved either way, that of course I love her and I'll love the child and - well.

And it's not that I *blame* her, exactly, for wanting someone to save her

from Birchmore's attentions. But it's not as if I can simply acknowledge the child and marry her and send her off to Moddey. She's still reticent to work for the Order on a regular basis - doesn't even really want to know more about us, save what she's already guessed and done. She's afraid. Afraid for her mother, afraid to lose what she's already managed to scrape together for herself - and frankly I don't think, deep down, she really wants to leave that life.

As for my other reasons It's just. You know, I always said I didn't want kids of my own. I've even been careful to avoid women who already have children or who might want to settle down. Now that I'm confronted with the prospect, I realise - it *does* matter to me whether the child is a Black. Especially if it's a boy. Isn't that odd?

I just - we can't seem to come to any sort of agreement about it. I know what she wants me to say and do, I know that at least in part she deliberately manipulated the situation so that I would feel obligated to rescue her. And yet she doesn't really want rescue so much as ... legitimacy. Which I don't have to point out to you is the one thing I certainly can't give her in the eyes of the Protectorate.

I told her that I couldn't take responsibility for the child without knowing for sure that I'm the father. She said she might be able to get her mediwitch to test this month - it's her four-month check, so that's the right timing anyway, as you probably know better than I. Until then, we're at an impasse, I suppose.

Well. That's what's happened. Now it's your turn to tell me I'm out of order and then Allie will do and then - I dunno, I suppose I'll live in a cave like a hermit rather than risk this sort of pickle again.



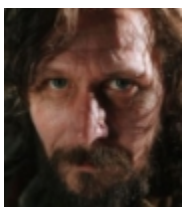
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-10 20:35:22](#)

(no subject)

Bloody hell, Padfoot. Given that you KNEW you didn't want a child did it ever occur to YOU to take measures to avoid it?

You can't possibly know how you'll feel about the child till it arrives. And even if he's not yours, you at least care enough about Terrie to have some concerns about her welfare. What's this boss likely to think if she turns up with a child?

I don't see much alternative for her other than Moddey Dhoo, if she wants safety.



 **alt_sirius** at [2011-07-10 20:53:10](#)

(no subject)

I don't need a lecture on safe sex, Remus. Believe me, I've had enough of it to know how to achieve protection. You're not listening to what I'm saying. She *lied* about her contraceptive charm. She *lied* about my needing any additional countermeasures.

She started off insisting that she expects nothing from me, she's doing this to fulfill her own needs and all that. Knew how I felt and doesn't want me to feel like I've got to change my life to suit her.

But that's a lie as well, isn't it?

Even if the child is my by-blow, in which case I know I will feel responsible - probably more than you can imagine - I can't see a future for her and me. That's why the paternity matters. Because if the child really is a Black, well ... then there are things I'd want to ... provide. But if it's not - then she took her risk. She made her choice.

And I can't see trusting her with the secret of Moddey Dhoo, either. Not when she'd do something as rash as this without thinking it all through.



 **alt_lupin** at [2011-07-10 21:03:48](#)

(no subject)

Even if she hadn't lied, contraceptive potions and charms and what not have been known, on occasion, not to work properly. Which is why -- look, I agree that what she did wasn't ethical but you can't deny it takes two.

What exactly does she want from you? It's not as if you have some stable or simple life you can whisk her off to, even if the child's yours and even if you want to. (And yes, I got that she says she doesn't need or want or expect anything from you, but that's clearly a lie, or at least a game, not anything she means. You must have some idea what she wants.)



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-10 21:14:44](#)
(no subject)


Yes, well. Bea wasn't exactly planned out, was she? All I'm saying is I'm normally careful.

I think I could tell you what she wants if *she* knew, yeah?

What she wants is to be able to tell her boss that he can't touch her anymore because she's got herself a man and they're having a baby together. What she wants is for me to hide in her house so she can take care of me and the child and - I dunno, we'll replace Gary and Alicia. What she wants is to pretend that we're not in the middle of a war, that if she takes a tiny risk here and there, everything will change back to the way it was, and she'll be safe and happy. She wants me to tell her that I don't care about any of her duplicity or any of the rest of it because hooray, we're having a baby together!

What she doesn't want is to lose the place she's carved out for herself - but that's going to happen even if she tells Birchmore that it's someone else's child. She just doesn't want to admit that he's going to fire her either way.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-10 21:27:59](#)
(no subject)

No, but -- I made my bed, I'm lying in it.

I don't know. What she really needs isn't a husband, it's a new job. Which you can't get for her. Can you?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-10 22:17:02](#)
(no subject)


Whether I can or not, she'll be needing one. That's my bet, anyway.

But. It's not something we're going to resolve today.

I mean to say, I wish I could be noble about it. I wish I weren't angry about having been tricked, especially about something as important as a child.

But I am. You can tell me that it's morally bankrupt to feel that way and from the outside I'd probably agree with you. But you've been there as well - not that Dora trapped you, just that it was an accident - and you should know as well as I that it's not as simple as telling yourself how you're supposed to feel and then - feeling it.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-10 22:25:03](#)**
(no subject)

I don't blame you for being angry.

And you're right. If you'd agreed to have a child with her, I think you'd bear some responsibility here even if it wasn't yours. But she lied and tricked you, and it might not even be yours --

Still, she'd helped you -- us -- in the past. Enough to put herself in hot water if it ever comes to light, so we probably don't have to worry about her turning on you. Still.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-10 21:05:59](#)**
(no subject)

And goodness knows I'm not going to tell you to find yourself a respectable false identity and marry her.

That would be as much of a disaster for her as it would be for you. Whether she realises it or not.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-10 21:16:52](#)**
(no subject)

Good. That may have worked for you and Dora but

No.



 **alt_lupin** at **2011-07-10 22:29:55**
(no subject)

Perhaps what we should be asking is this.


We know she's willing to help us, even if she's not interested in joining the Order.

We know she needs a new job.

Can we help her find one somewhere that she can still help us occasionally? By passing tips, or forged documents, or what have you.

You'll have discharged any remaining obligation, I would say, if you can help her get set up somewhere away from her vile boss.



 **alt_sirius** at **2011-07-11 01:56:29**
(no subject)

I'll admit that I asked her last year why she didn't simply find another job. But you're right - it may be time to revisit that conversation.

Merlin, I'm going to have to explain to Allie, next.

2011-07-10 19:23:00

Order Only: Private Message to Severus Snape



 [alt_severus](#)

Walk today 14:05-16:37, some success with willow cuttings, less with acquiring proper cauldron. Supplies needed: silver knife (sterling) and sharpening stone, mortar and pestle (granite) and decent cutting surface. Would greatly prefer somewhere underground. Contamination from humidity and insects intolerable. Continued close monitoring and fatuous questions intolerable.

Subj. runes, lacking proper references am forced to practise from memory. Need access to library. Smaller experiments successful - patched deficient cauldron, reinforced clothing against tearing and, theoretically, cutting (am apparently not yet allowed sharp objects in manner of child or madman, most flattering.) Useless, of course. Runes sequences must be brief and memorable while still providing material protection and influence. Wish could access works on blood runes, but for lack of access to Restricted section as well as excess of hysteria from P & co. Useful sequences in event of being imprisoned useless in current situation as even sufficient warning alarms guards. Mention to M among many other things.

For T and H, as well as inclusion in Draught:

- Make person wearing rune seem unimportant, specifically forgettable (others to make them seem friendly or threatening depending on purpose.) Ideally painted, can be sewn.
- Rune to weaken surfaces to be made breakable by ordinary force (is over nine characters long, too complex? Test on stone of various thicknesses as well as wood, mortar, metal, etc.) Carved or painted.

For T specifically:

- Recall that the boy has a wand, according to Order readings - can therefore perform wand-traced runes sequence as found in *Wartime Runes of Ancient Britain* (procure copy for confirmation) which toughens internal structures from traumatic damage. Be sure to list side effects (slightly lowered core temperature, constipation) and give detailed instructions for erasing.

General:

- Incendiary no, too much potential for abuse and backfiring, cannot have them running around alight
- Rune to be placed on intended victim, attracts undivided attention (malicious? benign? amorous?) of local fauna - good for purposes of

diversion and harassment, and few characters necessary in either of above cases. Sewn or woven onto frame.

- Certainly too complex for most, but would remiss not to list - to shield a domicile or other hiding-place from notice. Difficulties: shields from all notice, even those who leave briefly with intent of returning. Very long and very easy to confound. Less complex is rune sequence which makes those seeking to find the marked place become lost, i.e. sequence used against Muggles on Hogwarts grounds, but same problem as with first in that it effects all equally (Be explicit about the indiscriminating aspect of runes in introduction)

[2011-07-10 21:12:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

So. Made it home. Mum seems normal again.

We're on for Wednesday, then, right? The twins have Lee coming, and they said they hope Stretton'll come. Is he planning on it? (And like I said, it's fine with Mum if you have to bring Gemma and Phillip or whatever. Maureen, too.) Won't be quite as good as the time we got Wood to come along, but we'll have fun, anywiz.



 [alt_ron](#)

And we can set up an obstacle course if you want. The twins had loads of ideas about how they could make that really wizard. Actually, I think they were a little too keen on the idea of what they could throw at us, but still. They totally want to see the stuff they taught us this week. I told them they'd have to wait till we could show them together.

Oh, but here's the big news. Percy. Got. A. Job. With. Mr. Malfoy.

Yeah.

Walked out on the job he'd got at the Ministry, too. Right in the middle of the day.

I haven't seen him yet. He's in New London having a date with Clearwater. Showing off his new robes, too like. Oi. He'll be completely impossible to live with, y'know.




 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2011-07-11 02:59:05](#)**

(no subject)

Woah! I knew Lucius was very unhappy with his last, and Percy did show well this past summer. Good on him. He deserves a bit of good news, yeah?

And hoorah for obstacle courses! I still can't believe I beat Padma while doing broom maneuvers, but she was way too fast and flexible on foot. I want to make it more of an even contest next time.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-07-11 16:05:57](#)**
(no subject)

Well if what the twins say is true, he's going to be double the big head he was last year. He was already done breakfast and gone to work when I came down this morning, but I doubt they're making it up.

You can totally take Patil. It would only take a little mud hex to throw her off, I bet, if you're neck and neck next time in the section where you have clamber around all that rubble or the part where you have crawl under that low platform and come up hexing. But you were good on the broom, and you'll get better if you work at it.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-12 02:47:37](#)**
(no subject)

Setting up an obstacle course would be wizard! The broom obstacle course from the CCF would be loads of fun if it were competing with friends instead of trying to show up people like Patil and

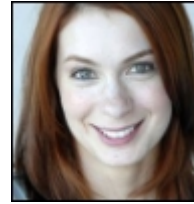
Zabini.

As for who's coming:

Definitely Jeremy. If brooms are involved he wants in.
Probably Gemma, Philip, and Maureen.

2011-07-10 21:40:00

ORDER ONLY



 [alt_alice](#)

Well, it's officially summer here at Moddey Dhoo, which means that the children are on half-days at school and spend the other half paddling in the ocean, helping with chores -- which can sometimes lead to twice the work -- and chasing the chickens. Ian and Katherine are anxiously awaiting their wands -- we've told them to wait until Frank and I are back from our trip with Neville and Evelyn, but they are both waiting on pins and needles til then. Laura and Stephen McGivern are more anxious than anything -- although Laura mentioned to me that she wished Katherine could've been Sorted properly at Hogwarts, like both of them were, and got all misty about it. Poor dear. And Remus, you remember little Ian -- goodness, he's shot up like a weed. He's still very shy, but he, Kathrine, and Alec Turner are thick as thieves, and Alec has been lording his wand over them for two years now, so both of them are more than ready for theirs.

The garden is a riot of colour, and we're barely keeping ahead of all the canning and preserving that will keep us in veg during the winter. Regina Lee, one of our new additions, has been endless help coming up with a new system of composting that has really made a noticeable difference so far, and she's already been selecting seeds from the highest producing plants for next season. She's just fascinated by our magical plants -- she's been taking endless notes on the properties of fluxweed, and she's bemoaning the fact that she can't publish any of it -- nor does she have access to a macroscope or any number of gadgets she used to use in her laboratory at university. Fu has been keeping busy as well -- he goes up to Sherwood with Frank about once a week.

Kevin is a regular chatterbox, and has moved quickly from walking to running -- it's all I can do to keep up with him. He's like his mum and older brother in that he just loves the garden, and would root around in the dirt for hours if I let him. That's all the news I can think of for now.

Before I forget, Remus, Stephen has asked for you to send along your notes from your latest experience with the Wolfsbane. I've told him that you didn't take the very last dosage, and he'd like you to send him all you remember from it, as well as whether you had any of those side effects that were there the last few times.

Oh, and Kingsley, I've received an owl from Algernon, and July 20 works best for him. It'll be two days after Evelyn comes back from her YPL camping trip, so she'll get her fill of camping by summer's end! We were figuring a week -- to get Neville back in time for his birthday, because his friends will no doubt be expecting some sort of party. I think we'll go to the Lake District this time.

I honestly can't thank you and the Players enough for helping us out with this. Last year was just like heaven, and I cannot wait for the opportunity to see Neville and Evelyn again. From the bottom of my heart, Kingsley.



 **alt_sirius** at **2011-07-11 12:42:42**

Private Message to Alice

Don't suppose there's any help for it but do you really think it's wise to talk quite so openly about Moddey before our two new associates have passed muster?



 **alt_alice** at **2011-07-11 13:38:07**

Re: Private Message to Alice

It's not as if I haven't talked about it before -- and knowing Severus at least, I'd bet a knut he's read up all he can on what we've already written.

Their finding out about us is an inevitability, love, and as much as it makes me nervous, I plan on moving forward business as usual.

I got your owl, by the by.

I've sent a reply, and you should be getting it soon.



 **alt_sirius** at **2011-07-11 13:41:24**

Re: Private Message to Alice


They can read all the old ...

Heh. Right. Of course they can.

Well.

As for the owl - don't keep me in suspense, woman. Am I in the doghouse with you as well?



 **alt_alice** at [2011-07-11 13:58:23](#)

Re: Private Message to Alice

Well, you'll get the heart of it in the letter, you know, but there are things about what Terrie's done that I am certainly not pleased with -- and her behaviour as of late (as you've described it) most certainly has me concerned.

This is not to say that you are completely and utterly blameless, love, but the fact that she's balking at a paternity test gives me a good deal of pause.

I think she's a desperate woman in a difficult situation who has decided that you are going to rescue her, and as such, is depending on you for all the answers and making it as difficult for you to walk away as possible. I don't like the way she lied to you, and I think the feeling you have about her ambivalence towards the Order is a very real sign that she is not ready to come here to Moddy Dhoo full-time.

It's a complicated issue, darling. But regardless, I think you ought to hold off making any big decisions until you know for certain whether it's your baby.



 **alt_sirius** at [2011-07-11 16:43:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Alice

Well, that's a sight better than Remus gave me, at any rate.

When she first told me, I had much the same reaction as she was having about a paternity test - that it was a terrible risk because what if it up and said 'Sirius Black is the father' in the middle of St M's or something. Come to think of it I don't even know how those charms work. Is that what happens or - well, you probably wouldn't know, would you, there's never been any doubt about you and Frank.

Anyway, the point is that the more I thought about it, the more I realised I *have* to know before I can figure out what to do about

it.

The oddest thing, like I said in the owl, is that all those things about family - they never really go away, do they? I mean to say, for myself I could leave 12 Grimmauld Place shut up and inaccessible forever, until it crumbles into dust. But the moment I was confronted with the idea that I might actually have a son child, well ... suddenly a legacy seemed more important. Even a daft old inheritance like mine. I can't explain it but it's there, all the same.

And the reverse was true as well, which surprised me. I mean, it'd be one thing if it were Harry or even if the Moddey Dhoo kids needed a home, and I'd sell everything inside if it helped us - every stick of furniture and every last butterknife. But the idea of giving it all to someone else's bastard --

Guess some of my father's lessons really did sink in, is all.

Not that I'd need to leave the kid everything, of course. But I'd feel a right cad if I promised different things on the condition of paternity. And yet - that's how it is.



 **alt_alice** at **2011-07-11 16:59:53**

Re: Private Message to Alice

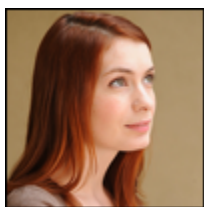
Well, I think it's important to separate out what you'd want to do for a friend in a hard place -- which she is, no doubt, regardless, and what you'd do for your own child.


Because if it did turn out not to be yours, you'd still have a friend who needs your help. And helping her find a new job is certainly something you can do.

So I wouldn't think of it so much as either giving all to your heir or leaving off altogether, and more about what Terrie is going to need help with regardless of whether the baby is yours, and then what else you might do if it is.

I hadn't thought about the risk at St Mungo's, though -- does it really say the name like that? I can't say I've ever known anyone to have it done before. Poppy might know -- I know, I

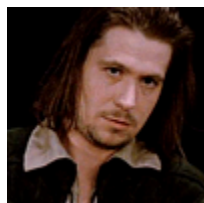
know, you'd have to run the gauntlet on that one. Perhaps...
might Tonks have some friends who might know how it works?



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2011-07-11 17:00:21**

Re: Private Message to Alice

Or might Terrie herself, for that matter?



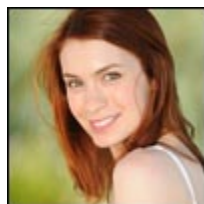
 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2011-07-11 18:08:07**

Re: Private Message to Alice

I dunno but - I'm not eager to revisit that conversation.

You're right, though. I've been focused on the baby and on what Terrie's been pushing for as a solution. And sometimes the best way to solve something is to go *around* it, not *through* it.

That's why we Gryffindors keep the rest of you around, to remind us.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2011-07-11 18:12:41**

Re: Private Message to Alice

There are three other houses for a reason, love.



 **[alt_kingsley](#) at 2011-07-11 20:05:25**

(no subject)

Those dates will work for me and the rest of the players.

Glad to help you and your family out, anytime.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-12 00:41:32](#)
(no subject)

Stephen McGivern ... I have never heard of him.

Whoever he is, this talk of "side effects" disturbs me. I should like a word with him. The Wolfsbane potion was in the development stages just before my incarceration - despite its being detrimental to the schemes of the Dark Lord, I took interest enough to be able to recall its essential structure. It had great potential.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-12 00:51:45](#)
(no subject)


Hello, Severus.

Stephen is one of our residents at Moddey Dhoo. He and his wife and little girl escaped from the camps about two years ago, and they've been staying with us ever since. He used to be a potion-maker for St Mungo's, and has been enormous help making polyjuice for us.

Sirius brought a batch of Wolfsbane over from France for Remus to try, and Stephen got a sample of it to see if he could reverse-work it and brew it himself, but without the original instructions or even a list of ingredients it has been slow going.

I'm sure he'd appreciate any help you could provide, as would Remus, of course.



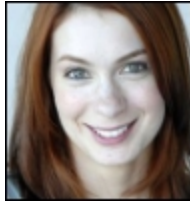
 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-12 01:07:41](#)
(no subject)


We shall certainly have plenty to discuss concerning polyjuice in the near future.

However, without speaking with the man myself, I have no idea of his progress, his facilities, his research thus far, the effects that his version have had on the subject, etc. The methodology behind a successful Wolfsbane potion alone would fill a textbook, and unless I have access to the full account of his notes during process - this is assuming, perhaps generously, that

he *has* taken thorough notes - I cannot be certain of giving accurate advice.

I would gladly assist him in person were I allowed out of doors for longer than a few hours every day.



 **alt_alice** at [2011-07-12 01:11:32](#)
(no subject)

I can see if it would be possible for you to visit here, Severus. Stephen would be more than happy to share his notes with you. He's rather a fan of the Draught, you know, and I'm sure he'd enjoy meeting you.

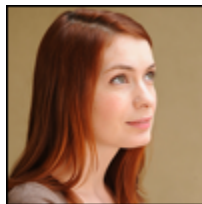
Barring that, he can, of course, come to you -- but it wouldn't be nearly as convenient, I'd imagine.




 **alt_severus** at [2011-07-12 01:39:06](#)
(no subject)

Your faith in the goodwill of the Order is touching, Mrs Longbottom, but to allow me a jaunt to Moddey Dhoo of a day is to admit that I can be trusted, even in the smallest degree. I'll see Doomsday before even the generous-hearted Mr Black allows that much, and it is too much to hope that Dumbledore will see fit to intercede **twice** in a single year.

Tell Mr McGivern to come exhaustively prepared, or not at all.



 **alt_alice** at [2011-07-12 01:49:50](#)
Private Message to Severus Snape

If you haven't noticed, Mr Snape, Sirius Black does not speak for the entire Order.

You're under the Lock already, that means by necessity that you know of the presence and purpose of Moddey Dhoo. I honestly can't see how knowing the location would damn us any more, and we've got a secret keeper besides.

I'm of a mind that if we're supposed to trust you, we're supposed to trust you.

I know not everyone shares my opinion, and as such, it wouldn't be wise on my part to simply open the doors and let you walk straight in. But I want you to know where I stand on it at least. I will talk it over with Minerva, and in the meantime, as a poor substitute, Stephen can visit you as soon as he's got a spot of free time with as much of his equipment and notes as he and Frank can safely transport.

Would day after tomorrow work for you?

And while he's up there, is there anything else you need?



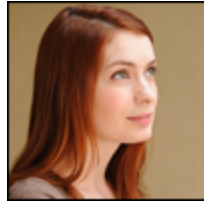
 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-12 02:19:23](#)


Re: Private Message to Severus Snape

You would do well to tell that to Sirius Black. He must someday be disabused of the notion that he who shouts the loudest wins the argument, though since it has not happened by now, it likely never shall.

Perhaps I should have been more general: to allow me a jaunt **anywhere** outside of walking distance seems beyond the capacity of this organisation. I credit half of this restriction to the likes of Mr Black, and the other half to a prevailing uncertainty of what exactly is to be done with me. We are of a similar mind in that trust, in this circumstance, should be complete or completely absent. I know exactly what I wish to do. Whether or not this shall be allowed remains to be seen.

My wishes do, in fact, include a visit to Moddey Dhoo, as much to rectify this Wolfsbane situation as to satisfy my curiosity. As this is - in all likelihood - impossible for the present, the day after tomorrow will suffice. While I can think of many ways in which my situation might be improved, and I credit you for the inquiry, I doubt whether any of them are within your reach to bestow.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2011-07-12 02:43:31**

Re: Private Message to Severus Snape

For the present, yes. But not, I trust, forever.

This must be a rather frustrating transition for you, Severus, and you can certainly appreciate that it is a difficult one for us as well. But we'll get it sorted out properly. These things just take time.

I'll pass along your message to Stephen and Frank, and you can expect them day after tomorrow, first thing.



 **[alt_lupin](#) at 2011-07-12 02:38:48**

(no subject)

It's a wonderful potion, even with the side effects. I'm a bit hesitant to tinker, because it does work so well, and the side effects are nothing I can't manage. (It causes nausea when I take it, so I'm rather off my food for the days before the full moon. I can usually manage bland foods and soup without too much trouble. I've also had mouth and throat ulcers a few times when I've failed to sip it slowly enough, and twice I've had a headache after taking it, though it's possible I just suffered a headache those days and assumed it was the potion. Regardless, it's a vast improvement over NOT having it.)




 **[alt_severus](#) at 2011-07-12 02:52:23**

(no subject)

Is the nausea directly related to the taste of the potion, or does it occur ten to twenty minutes after consumption? Are you certain that the ulcers had no correlation to deficiencies or excesses in your diet prior to taking the dose? Of what duration and severity was the headache, and did this headache occur reliably after the same dose, or on different days?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-12 03:01:02](#)
(no subject)

No, the nausea comes later. About ten to twenty minutes, yes. Though as I sip it slowly sometimes I'm still taking the potion when it hits -- which can be difficult.

I'm lucky enough to have an excellent and well-balanced diet, Severus, so I quite doubt that's the problem.

As for the headache -- moderately severe, lasted a few hours, and both times it was the afternoon before the full moon.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2011-07-12 14:03:17](#)
(no subject)

If your nausea were due to the taste there would be little I could do, but I am reasonably certain, from what you tell me, that something can be done to avoid the worst of the digestive effects.

And, as yet, I see no reason why the ulcers should have occurred at all, as you claim no dietary reason for it. As Mr McGivern is reverse-engineering his sample some confusion is perhaps inevitable, but I have reason to believe that these effects may be lessened or, possibly, eliminated. I will report my findings to you once I have had the chance to speak with Mr McGivern.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-12 02:54:54](#)
Private Message to Remus

What happened to 'it tastes foul and it's making me prematurely grey?'

And can you believe that git? Sounds like Azkaban's turned him more pompous than Lucius bloody Malfoy.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-12 02:57:18](#)

Re: Private Message to Remus

The foul taste hardly seemed worth mentioning.

And I was going grey at twenty-two, wasn't I?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-12 02:34:42](#)

Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

I remember the sense of horror when I realised the moon was up, and I'd failed to take that last dose of the potion.

Beyond that -- only snatches. There were moments when I was nearly myself, enough to feel utter terror at the thought I might hurt someone. I do remember Sirius at my side, a few times. I asked him later, and he said I became wolfish, and he transformed and sent me running to prevent anyone from getting hurt.

Perhaps Sirius can further enlighten Stephen.

One thing's quite clear: I can't miss a dose, not again, not ever. If I do, you'll need to confine me, or send me somewhere there's no one to injure.

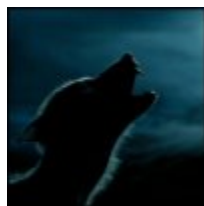


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-12 02:51:14](#)

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

Well, you're not going to miss another dose, that's all.

And if you should have to do, well ... I'll be there. Even if I have to Apparate to get there before moonrise.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-12 02:55:09](#)

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

How do you propose to know you're needed? If there's time for me to write in the journals that I

missed a dose, and for you to apparate over to wolf-sit, surely there's time for me to find a locked storage room.



alt_sirius at [2011-07-12 03:00:07](#)

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

Patronus?

I dunno.

I'll remind you, then.



alt_sirius at [2011-07-12 03:01:30](#)

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

And anyway, who's to say you wouldn't break down the door, depending on the cupboard you find.

No help for it, Moony. Lobotomy. It's the only solution.



alt_lupin at [2011-07-12 03:02:52](#)

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

Don't think I haven't considered that option!

Alas, I'm not sure it would have much effect on my transformations.



alt_alice at [2011-07-12 03:22:17](#)

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

Remus, love, the last thing in the world I wanted was to make you feel guilty over what happened. That was far from my intention.

I wasn't thinking.

I'm sorry.

I know what a boon this potion has been for your well-being, and I want so badly for it to work as well as it ought for you, and now that we know what it's like when you miss a dose, well, I just know you'll be that much more careful in the future.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2011-07-12 11:03:40**

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Sirius Black

You know one thing I'm wondering We've been following the instructions from the original batch I found on the continent, which calls for several doses. I wonder if it really means you absolutely *have* to get that many doses into your system or if it's really the dose closest to the full moon that counts.

Not that I'm suggesting we test it this weekend, mind.

I just wonder if you'd missed the first dose and not the last, would that have made a difference.

Anyway, Moony, I'll be on the road in an hour or so. Should arrive quite late, maybe in time for Bea's midnight feeding.

2011-07-11 08:43:00

It's good to be home

I'm giving myself the morning to rest a bit and relax and then it's right back into training. But I'm also reading the assigned chapters for the summer.



 [alt_padma](#)

Finnigan, tell me when would be good to come over, if it's all right with Mr Rosier, okay? And yes, I'll want that broom just as soon as possible, thanks. I suppose I could have been worse but I can surely do a good deal better.

Su Li, yes, I meant it when I said you could come next week. I've talked with Parvati and she thinks it's brill; she'll even come along. Lav, you too, of course -it's next Tuesday, unless another day would be better for you. Mum's said it's okay and she reckons we'll be all right in New London but Aunt Sivarti might just go with us anyway. Depends on how she's feeling.


I'm also setting up a target in the back. If I do it right I should be able to use it from the garden *and* from the balcony.

(Oh and Parkinson, meant to say, well done during that last duelling set on Saturday. And I don't think I would have ever come up with such a *creative* solution to that slow-motion hex, the way you just sort of did everything backward until you broke it. Clever!)

Last week was really intense, wasn't it? I can't wait for August, now, but I know we've all got loads to do before we get there.

Oh, and does anyone want to meet while we're in New London?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-07-11 14:29:34**
(no subject)

Thanks, Patil!

Since it was a time-related hex, I figured it was worth a try. And you were ace at running the obstacle


course.



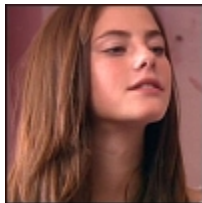
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-07-12 01:01:46](#)
(no subject)


Well, Manfr Mr Krumgold is appalled by the state of my arms. He says they look a bit *thick* and that if I'm not careful they'll be *bulky*, which means when I dance it'll be like trying to lift up two Sunday roasts. He has me doing all sorts of stretches to try to keep them slim. Of course, he understands that CCF is important and that I have to keep up with that training, too. Only he seemed to think it terribly funny that some of the examiners at school had us do so many exercises. He wouldn't name names, but he says there are a few of them who probably couldn't even walk up Primrose Hill, let alone do pull-ups and all.



 [alt_linus](#) at [2011-07-12 01:44:52](#)
(no subject)

I'll trade arms with you! A whole week of pulverising them, and I can't even measure the difference with *calipers*. Dad got me that pull-up bar I asked for, though, so I can keep trying. He says if I work really hard, I'll be able to do two by the end of the summer!!!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-07-12 01:50:06](#)
(no subject)

They may be a bit thicker, but I'm sure that my arms are still slimmer than a boy's.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-12 02:23:34](#)
(no subject)

You might want to take a good look at Moon's before you say that!

(You have lovely arms, Daph. Very toned.)


(Good luck with that pull-up bar, Moon!)



 **[alt_linus](#)** at **[2011-07-12 02:25:53](#)**
(no subject)

Ta, Perks!




 **[alt_linus](#)** at **[2011-07-12 02:25:05](#)**
(no subject)

Well, of course! I mean, not that they're thick at all, or that I ever really looked at your arms, or -

I just want arms that *get* thick eventually, as opposed to staying all noodly no matter what I do. Not that yours are noodly, either, um.

So this is why Mum says not to write late at night.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2011-07-12 02:40:53](#)**
(no subject)


Haruman says that loads of boys take forever to grow into their frames, Lines. You're probably just one of those late bloomers, is all.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2011-07-12 03:00:18](#)**
(no subject)

Oh honestly, Linus, you're so easy to wind up sometimes! I know you didn't mean it that way, you realise.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2011-07-12 02:40:05](#)**
(no subject)

I've heard that it's the shoulders that make girls look bulky, but I agree it's not necessary to make one's arms as thick round as tree limbs.

Besides, girls are naturally not as strong in the upper body as boys. Haruman says, anyway. And he says that you can be muscular and slim at the same time. Eating right and all that.

Still. I did want to make sure I've got at least as many sit-ups and all as Thomas and Zabini.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-07-12 03:55:51](#)
(no subject)


Oh, so Daphs, are you interested in a girls' day shopping?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-07-13 02:59:15](#)
(no subject)

I am! Whereabouts? I only ask because there's this brilliant new ice cream shop in Picadilly called "Precious Delights." They use everything real - cream, sugar, fruit - so it's quite expensive and sometimes they run out, but here's the brilliant thing: they only sell it in the most darling little silver cups, about the size of an egg cup, and since the portions are so small, one serving only has 100 kcal!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-07-13 03:30:57](#)
(no subject)

Picadilly's loads of fun, isn't it? We were thinking Charing Cross, actually, round where they've taken all the old muggle shops out and built that open-air market. But that's close enough to Picadilly I'm sure we could pop over there for tea.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-07-12 02:42:37](#)
(no subject)

Come over tomorrow, if you'd like. Or Wednesday, if tomorrow doesn't work. My tutor is helping me set up a training course with obstacles to fly around and targets to sling hexes at from the broom. You can help me test it out!

The worst of it's still going to be the running. I could practise flying

all day and not get tired of it, but running I'm ready to stop after ten minutes.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-07-12 02:43:46](#)

Private message to Padma

Oh and you're welcome to take a broom home but you can feel free to come over and use the training course any time you'd like. I wanted to say that privately because Merlin knows I don't want Weasley to think

he's invited.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-07-12 03:14:47](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Oh, well, all right then! I'll probably come a couple times a week, at least, then.

And you're kidding about Hooper! And Weasley?!
Mr Malfoy just offered him the job, just like that?

But. Wait, didn't Weasley find a job at the Ministry? Hang on.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-07-12 03:15:29](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Yeah. I just checked his journal.

He had just started there! He hadn't even been on the job a whole week!



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-07-12 02:51:32](#)

Private message to Padma

Oh. AND. Did you hear the news about Geoff Hooper's brother? He got sacked by Mr Malfoy. I heard that some of the stories he passed onto Geoff he really was NOT supposed to be repeating. Not that he ever said anything to Geoff other than 'you'll never guess...!' or Geoff wouldn't have repeated them to ME.

And for his new clerk Mr Malfoy hired Percy Weasley! Too bad for his

brothers, I don't think Percy would pass along gossip from Lucius's office if you crucio'd him to get the news out of him.

2011-07-11 15:39:00

Me Ol' Grim N Gory



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

Wotcher, mates!

Yeh've heard the ol' sayin, 'If'n yeh lop the vine, it spreads the faster' or 'If'n yeh stop the stream, it'll swell up higher'?

Well, I've had to take to the roads a bit, 'cause they were wantin to prune ol' Wil, weren't they? So I haven't had time to write, but that doesn't mean I haven't been thinkin of it. All along the way, I've been thinkin wot to write yeh next.

They've not stopped this stream yet, have they? Can't force me one way nor t'other. Can't stop me writin' nor catch me an make me tell wot I know. I've been makin sure I'm ready for 'em if they find me.

An that's what I thought I should write about here. My antidote for veritaserum. Tried an true, it is. I had it from me ol' dad an he had it from Tom Busker himself, innit?

It's dead simple, too. Yeh just need a supply of valerian root, cut up small. Bite-sized. Then you pickle the pieces in a chamomile tea. Let em steep for a day and a night. Then let em dry. Keep em wiv yeh wherever yeh go, an if yeh catch scent of MLE or worse, pop one in yer mouth an chew on it till it's mush, an all the juices start workin on yeh. Won't tell a thing yeh don't mean to, no matter wot they ask.

Yeh just need to plan ahead is all. Like I'm always sayin: use yer loaf an be ready.

[[via Alternity](#)]

2011-07-11 15:39:00

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 [altermity](#)
 [alt_wagstaff](#)

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 [alt_goyle](#) at **2011-07-11 23:02:16**
(no subject)

In the interest of accuracy, I must point out that you have mis-labeled your remedy: your quill seems to have slipped, marking "veritaserum antidote" where "granny's sleep aid" should be. Or perhaps you meant to write "veritaserum enhancement," which is more likely. Perhaps it is I who am in error, and a state of profound somnolence does not render one more suggestible. Goodness knows we can all benefit from the input of one such as yourself, who has clearly made habitual use of just such a "remedy."



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-12 02:20:36](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

He also forgot to mention that you'll smell like something crawled into your pocket and died there, if you're carrying this around!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-12 02:20:32](#)

Order Only

Another grim? They crop up like weeds, don't they? Seems it's quite in vogue to be on the run from the authorities. As though that alone lends credibility to whatever nonsense follows.

I must have seen half a dozen of these furtive posts from fugitive insurrectionists since the Dogstar arrests, and I haven't in any way been seeking them out. If anything, I've had less time than usual for keeping up with what's written here.

At least this concoction won't poison or maim. Of course, it won't be the slightest help against Veritaserum, either.

2011-07-11 21:15:00

Order Only: Private Message to Harry Potter and Hermione Granger



Miss Granger -

While I am in the habit of sending letters by owl, I must grudgingly admit the merits of this particular medium, secured as it is. I am entirely wary of the 'private message' device, coming as it does from the upper echelons of the Ministry, but it stands to reason that it serves its purpose within the Order lock. Until I am given reason to do otherwise, we may continue our correspondence here.

 [alt_severus](#)

That being said, I wish to express my regrets for the experience you endured some weeks ago. At the time I was questioned at some length about methods for enduring the Cruciatus curse and questioning via Legilimency without any mention of yourself as the intended subject. Regardless, there was little I could do given the time strictures, limited access to supplies, and lack of background on whom it was to be. I do not doubt your fortitude of character. I do, however, wish to arm you against such circumstances in the future.

I am also given to understand that your colleague, Mr Boot, was removed from your sphere and consigned entirely to Amycus Carrow. Your accurate references to runes in your journal inspired me to revisit the field both for subject matter for my next publication and for material which might benefit yourself and Mr Boot. Your access to library materials will be somewhat limited this summer, I understand, otherwise I would urge you to confirm that which I will impart for the sake of academic rigor. However, everything I write here has been tested extensively by myself, as with every lesson I publish.

I have formulated sequences for you both - see the attached list with inscriptions and instructions - but the final set is for Mr Boot particularly. I place my trust in your skill as an instructress to impart my directions to Mr Boot with the utmost precision. He must practise the act of tracing the rune multiple times before attempting it with a wand, and have the instructions to reverse it memorized completely before he begins. He must not wear it for longer than five hours. Keep me notified of your progress in this matter.

Regards,

-S.S.-



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2011-07-13 02:36:18](#)
(no subject)

Mr Snape --

Thank you!!! Yes my access is limited, but mostly because I haven't any idea how to ask Harry for specific texts - I mean he lets me have anything he has, which is mostly Quidditch books and school books and some duelling books that look very dark to me, but fortunately he took absolutely every elective last year so at least I've got books for all of them.

I don't know if I'll be able to tell Terry about anything, but I'll try, I mean, he can't always see the journals. You're right that he's a better hand at runes than me and also he needs it more. Thank you about the Cruciatus curse - I've never been questioned under Legilimency but I don't want to be - but it was all right truly, some people said 'oh you're just being stoic' (which is a funny word isn't it? Where does it come from?) but I wasn't, it wasn't as bad as being humiliated is, is it? When I was really little, I mean a few years ago, I was punished by being humiliated mainly, and that was far worse because it wasn't ever done, but if someone puts the Cruciatus curse on you then even if it hurts you can't be embarrassed by it because if you bear it okay then other people respect you more for bearing it. I mean not people like the Dark Lord but maybe even Lucius Malfoy, if he ever thinks of Muggles, and definitely people like Harry and Draco, who it matters more about anyway.

In any case.

Thank you very much and if there's anything I should do, I mean, if there's anything I can do to deal with the curse - it isn't like I like it. It's just that it's better than some other things. So if there are exercises or something I can do to get better at resisting it please tell me.

Best
Hermione Granger

2011-07-11 22:07:00

Order Only: A productive meeting.

For those of you who were not around --

Severus and I had a productive meeting today.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)


We discussed Polyjuice; why we haven't any fruitful exchanges with the United States; and, of course, young Potter. Miss Granger, if you would be so kind as to answer his questions on that front, I would be grateful; I don't know the boy well enough to say much that is useful.

However, the reason I write this to us all is that Severus brought up the possibility of coming to Hogwarts - under his extended Polyjuice potion. I can't see it as being an entirely good idea; we could not come up with any satisfying way that he could safely come - but, as he pointed out, he can hardly be put to best use in a forest, and he needs continuous care. Poppy, you could do better for him than has been done thus far, I'm sure.

Have we any thoughts? Severus, have you anything to add?

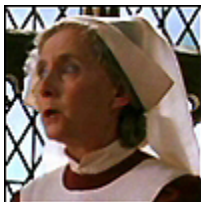
It was a nice break from Death-Eating, to be a cat, in any case.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2011-07-12 02:54:34](#)
(no subject)

who would he be polyjuiced as?

and have we sorted out what to do with macnair yet?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-12 03:09:35](#)
(no subject)

I'm due in Mardale on Thursday, but at the moment, I'm merely collecting odds and ends in Cornwall.

I could arrange to meet Severus wherever he is currently lodged. Somewhere in Sherwood, is it? I have not travelled there at all, so I would need directions for Apparition and someone to meet and guide me. Shall I come tomorrow?


When you say he needs continuous care, Minerva, what exactly do you envision? It would be extremely awkward for me to clear my commitments in the next several weeks. I can examine him and see that he receives whatever is medicinally needed to treat his needs, acute or chronic, but I cannot promise to sit by his bedside whether in a forest or elsewhere.



 **alt_severus** at [2011-07-12 03:12:55](#)
(no subject)

While this is hardly the extent of the detailed discussion we held, Headmistress McGonagall has given each point cursory coverage. However, my state of health and what measures are needed concerning it are of little matter in comparison with my want of proper supplies and facilities. There is nothing which ails me that will not correct itself in due course. I must be allowed to work, and in order to work, I must have - at minimum - an adequate working-place, access to a reputable library, and a suitable wand. I shall consider any proposals which fulfill these requirements. Proximity to Hogwarts, in any capacity, would be ideal.



 **alt_alice** at [2011-07-13 04:11:45](#)
Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

Minerva;

I wanted to ask your opinion about letting Severus visit Moddey Dhoo.

I know that Sirius has made the choice to not learn where Moddey Dhoo is, due to his higher risk of being captured -- even with the insurance a secret-keeper provides -- but that was his own choosing, and not a restriction imposed by us.

I'll respect your decision on the matter, but I would appreciate some guidance. After all, we're all sorting through this change, and there's bound to be some growing pains along the way.




 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-07-14 02:24:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

I suppose the answer to this will hinge on whether or not we decide to use him in a spying capacity, and I will tell him so. If he learns where Moddey Dhoo is, it seems only fair that he should not be allowed to take on dangerous work. Sirius was right to make that choice. I wish I could forget the things I know, often enough.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-13 16:31:11](#)

Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

Having heard nothing yesterday to request my presence in Sherwood or to direct my travel there, I'm still in Cornwall.

I expect to make a late lunch in St Austell this afternoon, and while I'd planned to pay a visit there to an apothecary recommended by Otto Strangeweale as having compounded the powder that eases adolescent menstrual infelicities like no other, I could set that visit aside if need be. As I've said, however, I'm expected tomorrow morning in the Lake District for a seminar, and it would be awkward, indeed, if I were to go missing from that.

I do wish you would make clear what you wish from me with respect to Snape and his health. He seems to believe he requires little or nothing from me.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2011-07-14 02:21:51](#)

Re: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

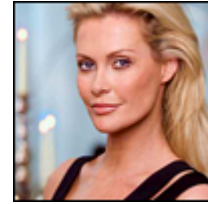
Do as you think best, regarding travel.

Regarding Snape, however -- have some brawny person sit on him if you must. The man needs care.

[2011-07-12 13:00:00](#)

(no subject)

There truly is something special about summer in New London, I must admit.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

We opened Kensington at the weekend and Draco and I have taken up residence. Lucius of course continues to divide his time between home and the St James' house - rather a little more of the latter this week, since he has made a change in staff - but of course we're close enough here in Town that he can enjoy a walk of a morning or evening, if the weather's fine.

And it's closer to St James itself, which I have to say is highly convenient. Yesterday, Hydra and I spent the whole day simply wandering wherever we cared to in the city. It's very kind of her parents to loan me a surrogate daughter now and then. Draco is so very grown-up now that it's hard to imagine *taking* him shopping; one must content oneself with the occasional purchase that will not embarrass in the receiving of it. But with young ladies it's ever so much more fun as they grow and can share in the little luxuries to which women are entitled. And it gave us a chance to have a nice long talk together about all sorts of secrets. It was a splendid way to commemorate your birthday, Hydra dear. I hope you had at least as much fun as I.

Chloe, I do apologise for not replying to the invitation: I thought for sure Lucius would respond through Dominic's clerk. But he tells me the item was one of a number that his previous assistant neglected to take care of before his departure (one of many reasons, you know, for the need for change). Of course, if you'll still have us, we'd be delighted.

I'm not at all delighted, however, with the choices for the autumn season's colours. All we saw in shop windows yesterday were unrelenting neutrals. Has there been a move toward austerity which I somehow missed? Nature will provide more than enough oranges, creams, browns and yellows; we need not all cast a jaundiced pallour to blend in with the surroundings. Ah, well - it's a minor annoyance and jewel tones shall surely resurface at the holidays; they always do.

Much more important, however, is the news about Hieronymous Bole's retirement from the *Prophet*! It's difficult to believe that he's

stepping aside but after 35 years at the publication, I'm sure he deserves a rest. Cressida, I daresay you'll be happy to have him with you to jaunt about the countryside like a retired couple ought. Do tell me when you plan to take your tour!

Naturally, we at *Witch Weekly* have known his successor, Barnabas Cuffe, for years. His leadership of the Feature, Letters and most recently, Headline News sections have gained our admiration and respect. It's clear that Hieronymous has been grooming Barnabas for some time; I'm sure he'll fill his mentor's shoes quite seamlessly.

Now, I hope all my young ladies in the Sisters in Witchcraft are reading, because I have exciting news for you, as well. I'm sure many families in the Protectorate will be familiar with Mrs Sewell's excellent work in genealogy and family histories. And girls, if you don't know Mrs Sewell's column, surely your parents or foster-parents do. I've been speaking to her quite a bit this spring and I'm pleased to say that she has agreed to join us at our midsummer's meeting! She'll be spending time with each of you in turn to review the trees you have created. I shall be much mistaken if she isn't able to point out to everyone at least a few things you did not know about your heritage! We'll be sending letters to each of your families (or foster-families) regarding the dates for rising 3rd and rising 4th year girls. Please come prepared for even Mrs Sewell has limits to how much she can accomplish in a single day.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2011-07-13 03:45:31](#)

(no subject)

Thank you for taking me out, Aunt Narcissa.

You're always the very best person to go shopping with.

Sometimes I wish I could be in Sisters in Witchcraft, too, so I could learn about the things you teach them. Not genealogy, because I already know about that, but the other parts about doing things for the home and such.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-13 03:59:01](#)
(no subject)

Well, keeping house is an essential skill but you'll have servants to perform all the mundane tasks, dear. Everything you need to know you'll know by the time you're ready for your own household.

Was there something in particular you wanted to learn? I'm sure that Miss Catchlove or Ms Braithewaite would be happy to provide private tutoring if we asked.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2011-07-13 04:08:47](#)
(no subject)

No, nothing in particular. Only sometimes I think it might be nice to know how to cook food. But you're right it's not something I'd ever need to know.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-13 04:17:13](#)
(no subject)

No, nothing you need to know. And yet that's not to say that cookery is an inappropriate hobby. Mrs Pendergast is a well-known gourmand and so is Madam Whisp.

There is no shortage of witches who have made excellent chefs, though the very *best* have their own staff, of course. But it is necessary to understand preparation in order to achieve culinary greatness.

[2011-07-13 08:29:00](#)

Private message to Mr Lucius Malfoy



 [alt_percy](#)

The ledger books with the minutes for the last four quarters for the Board of Directors meetings for Presto Records, the Wizarding Wireless Network, and the Daily Prophet have been updated and are on your desk for your perusal. I have sent a request to the recording secretary for new copies of the minutes for Obscurus Books, as I have not been able to locate them, despite a diligent hunt. I expect to have the rest of the ledger books fully updated by tomorrow afternoon.

Penworthy has cancelled luncheon today, with abject apologies, but has requested to be rescheduled for early next week. I have placed him on the calendar for luncheon on Tuesday.

I have taken the initiative to begin press clippings books for you on several subjects: one for each of the organisations on which you (or Mrs Malfoy) serve on the Board of Directors, the Court circular, implementation of Our Lord's initiatives, social appearances, etcetera. I will update them weekly.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-07-13 14:38:52](#)

(no subject)

What of NRBC? Cumulus has been recalcitrant to accept my resignation but the materials shall have to be transferred to whomever is elected in my stead.

Nolan has already approached someone - Pritchard I believe - so once Presto's books are copied you may send them along. September's shall be my last meeting with them.

Penworthy has cancelled twice in the last quarter. Tell him to stop whinging and keep the appointment to-day.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-13 16:09:43](#)

(no subject)

I tracked Mr Penworthy down at the Elysian. He will keep the appointment today.

I'm finishing up the NRBC materials now and will have them for you when you return from your luncheon.

[2011-07-13 12:51:00](#)

Friends gathering at the Burrow

The Burrow has been positively seething with activity today, but it's all good fun. It's a good thing the weather's nice, because with all the friends the children have invited over, I'm sure my ears would be ringing if they were rampaging through the house. As it is, they've been outside on their brooms for most of the day.




 [alt_molly](#)

Ginny invited Luna (and it's been perfectly lovely to see her again) and Honoria Sandoval, whom I've never met before. She was a little shy at first, but now the three girls are warming up marvelously together. And the twins invited Lee, of course, and Angelina Johnson and Nick Towler (which of course means talk of Quidditch, Quidditch, Quidditch). Sally-Anne Perks is here, along with several members of the Stretton family, and Pansy Parkinson, and Neville Longbottom.

The twins set up an obstacle course in the orchard this morning, and everyone competed to see who could race through it the most quickly. From the sounds of it, Fred and George managed to come up with some surprises that not even those who participated in the CCF week expected! I could hear shouts and howls of laughter echoing through the trees all morning. (Result: one gashed elbow, some torn robes, and one briefly bloody nose--Neville's--but everyone took it all in stride, even Neville, and after all, that's what healing charms are for.)

Everyone clattered in and devoured the platters of sandwiches I'd put out for lunch, talking up a storm. Now they're outside again, playing a fast and furious game of pickup Quidditch. I haven't had a single Quaffle go through a window yet, which means I must count the day a great success.



 [alt_bill](#) at **[2011-07-13 18:46:57](#)**
(no subject)


You were always a great sport about us having friends over, Mum.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-13 18:48:10](#)
(no subject)

Goodness, I love it! I think it's important that parents know their children's friends.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-13 18:49:44](#)
(no subject)


How many windows did my friends and I break, just out of curiosity?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-13 18:51:07](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I've lost count. Enough, certainly. You have to be blasé about it after awhile.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-13 18:53:47](#)
Order Only: Frank and Alice

Neville seems in good spirits. As I said, he did get a bloody nose (a bludger) but I healed it up quickly, and he didn't fuss about it or let it spoil his fun in any way.

I haven't had much opportunity to chat with him, but I did a little. He said he's been missing Evelyn this week, since she's off with the YPL.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-13 19:23:55](#)
Order Only

Goodness. That does sound chaotic.

I must say, Mr Longbottom has rotten luck with his nose. If he continues on like this, he'll end up with a crook in it one day that even magic won't straighten!

The only thing I've seen that comes close to your merry rampage was a flock of seabirds having a squabble whilst I scrambled up around Lizard Point yesterday. I must say that I'm appreciating these summer rambles. Even as I levitate my collecting cases along before

me--and worry that I may lose them down the cliffs at any moment--
I'm fully appreciative of the change of scenery and task.


Glad to know you're well, Molly. Enjoy the rest of the day!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-14 02:43:30](#)
(no subject)

Thank you very much for having us, Mrs Weasley.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-07-14 08:56:13](#)
(no subject)

Yes, thanks, Mrs Weasley! I had a brilliant time.

2011-07-13 17:13:00

Private message to Pansy

Pansy,

Are you free to go out this Saturday evening? Dirty Cauldron Jones is doing a gig at Hammersmith Apollo at 9, and ~~Moth~~ I should be able to get us a table at Portico for dinner beforehand. They have outside seating right on the Thames. The menu's well posh but the atmosphere's supposed to be fairly relaxed. What do you think?



 [alt_draco](#)

-Draco



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-07-14 09:01:20**

(no subject)

I certainly would be, and Portico sounds just perfect. Where should we meet? I can floo into my London house easily enough, and you could meet me there -- I'll probably end up staying the night there Saturday rather than flooing to Gloss so late. Or I could meet you at Kensington, or the restaurant, What do you think?



 [alt_draco](#) at **2011-07-14 15:12:26**

(no subject)

I'll pick you up at your New London house, say 5:30? That should give us plenty of time to get to Portico.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2011-07-14 16:50:56**

(no subject)

Lovely. I'll see you then!

2011-07-14 12:20:00

Honoria...

Thanks for coming yesterday. It was great seeing you, and doing something outside of the school setting. Also, please thank your parents for that hamper of food. I can't believe that brought that with you; it was huge- and all of the things that was in it. Anyway, do thank them for me. A more formal thank you is on its way, but I feel it needs to be said sooner than that will arrive. I can't wait to see you again. I look forward to meeting up with you this weekend.



 [alt_ginny](#)

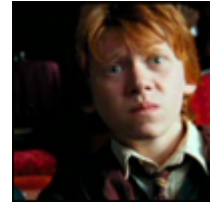
See you then

Ginny W.

2011-07-14 16:52:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You know the tea in that hamper? Mum brewed some this morning, and it smelled completely foul. I mean to say. FOUL. Like the worst sort of medicine you can imagine. If you burned it first. With a rotten fish.



 [alt_ron](#)

I figure rich people just can't think what to spend their galleons on sometimes.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2011-07-15 05:19:27**
(no subject)

Did it say 'tea' on the label? Maybe it was something else that just LOOKED like tea?

I can't imagine wanting tea that smelled like rotting fish no matter how rich you were, unless it did something interesting when you drank it, did anyone drink any?

2011-07-16 19:43:00

Private Message to Norah Crouch



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Mother.

You were here again. The elf is punishing herself for allowing you through the Floo in my absence.

Apparently you are concerned that I haven't enough security on Marlborough.

Mother.

Honestly.

I have all the security my position can afford me. Which is to say that my home is as well secured as magic can manage. No less secure than Buckingham or LeStrange Hill.

You must trust my word on this.

Nevertheless, I DO NOT want you here in my absence. And I forbid you in future to touch any of the post delivered here. Yes. As a matter of your safety.

~~If I need to post an enforcer here to keep you~~

I trust we will not need to discuss this tomorrow when I come for supper.

2011-07-17 07:53:00

Haweswater Institute

I've had an interesting several days here at the Haweswater Institute in Mardale. Cumbria is simply beautiful, and it shows especially well in these gentle summer days. (Mind you, I've been here in the past when the temperature has turned blistering, but even then, it kindly provides shady glens and cooling waters.)

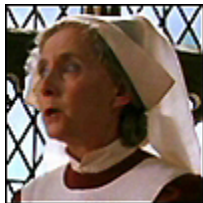



 [alt_poppy](#)

The seminar's topic has been anaemia and systemic imbalances in adolescent witches, organised by the eminent and immensely wise Healer Strangeweale, whose methods are not only sound but practical. I shall be taking many of his suggestions back with me and expect they will make a positive contribution in the lives of my young patients.

This morning everyone packed up and dispersed to the four winds. For myself, I plan several more days in the area, rambling around the lakes and craggy slopes in search of Cotton Grass, Mountain Ringlet butterflies, and--I hope--a cutting or two of Salazar's Saucer, which is a very rare bracket fungus rumoured to grow on the fells hereabouts. I shall leave Mardale on the old corpse road to Shap, though I imagine that tonight I may only reach so far as a little bothy above Swindale described as 'an unlikely-looking property' in my guidebook, which sounds entirely suitable to me. I'm also promised a chance of spotting a golden eagle pair if I am both sharp-eyed and fortunate. I do hope they are in the habit of stretching their wings on Sunday afternoons.

Oh, and that reminds me. I made a quick sketch yesterday of a fellow who came and joined me for luncheon. I think you'll agree I've been in pleasant company!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-17 14:57:29](#)
Order Only

Remus?

How have you managed this moon? It's been ravishingly bright here with the reflection off Haweswater all night. I couldn't help but think of you and wonder if all is well.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-17 19:06:22](#)
Re: Order Only

Thanks, Madam P.


We've all come through. It was Bea's second moon, but she gave us no cause for worry. If only Remus would believe it.

He'll be all right soon. About done in, though, and he thinks that's down to his having made a hash of things last time. Thinks it may

not work as well now, the wolfsbane.

Lucky for us that Sirius was about to see to him. And he reports there was nothing alarming that happened. I know which of them I believe.




 **alt_sirius** at **2011-07-17 20:17:00**
Order Only

Like Dora says, no signs that the Wolfsbane doesn't work as well as it ever did. The wolf is always calmer when another animal's around anyway but he was fairly sedate during the last moon. Though that doesn't mean he was entirely tame. It's possible that Stephen's latest batches have changed a little from the original.

Personally I think it's simply that we're both older than we used to be and can't bounce back from staying up all night once a month.

Now, Poppy, what's this about anaemia? Does it seem that someone at St M's or Haweswater is finally treating those awful reducing places as a significant risk?



 **alt_poppy** at **2011-07-17 21:41:53**
Re: Order Only

The reducing clinics are part of it, Sirius. Certainly St Mungo's are concerned about the severity of some of the malnourishment and side effects they are seeing in people who have taken those 'treatments', but the larger issue is still inadequate nutrition in poorer families and in families who've become reliant on poorly transfigured food for their diets.

And self-starvation in young witches. We had a terrible case at the school this term, which is why I came along on this course. My presence was rather firmly insisted upon when I faced my annual review at St Mungo's.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-07-17 20:42:31](#)

Order Only

Poppy:

Davidson asked me to see if there a time you can squeeze in a stop at Sherwood to check on Snape and Macnair? Send me a patronus if you have a time to suggest.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-17 21:33:21](#)

Re: Order Only

I've a moment now to think about this, Kingsley, so let me run this by you here. If I could come tomorrow morning very early, it might work. As you'll see, I'm planning to spend the night up in the fells, but I've an appointment in Shap tomorrow evening. So long as I have the bothy to myself tonight--and it would be a surprise if anyone were to turn up there--then no one would be the wiser were I to Apparate off to Sherwood and return somewhere along the path a few hours later.

The trouble is that I think my movements are being kept in view. And it's entirely possible that against probability someone might turn up to share my shelter for the night. Not that anyone's out here rambling the countryside with me, mind, but I was pressed to give an account of my plans by enough people this morning that it seemed best to give an appearance of openness.

I'm not sure what mischief they suspect me of. Possibly nothing worse than taking a bit of leisure when I'm meant to be seeing to professional business. Nonetheless, it's an unpleasant change over other summers.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-07-17 22:44:25](#)

Re: Order Only

Tomorrow will work. We'll be watching for you.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-17 23:40:03](#)

Re: Order Only

I'll send a Patronus in the morning, then.

But you'll need to tell me by return where to Apparate, Kingsley. I've never been to Sherwood.

And I'm sure you'll understand that I'd rather avoid splinching, if at all possible.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-07-18 00:01:41](#)

Re: Order Only

I'll be waiting to receive it.

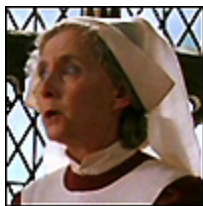


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-19 02:03:51](#)

Re: Order Only

What do you mean they're watching you, Poppy?

I don't like the sound of that.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-19 03:03:14](#)

Re: Order Only

To start with what I'm certain of, I had a less than robust review with my supervisors at end of term. They were quite unhappy about the business with the Eosphorous Clinic and the Frobisher girl.

I've been required to enroll for several seminars deemed relevant and necessary for my continuing to practise at the level of excellence expected of a St Mungo's trained Matron. That's several seminars in addition to the ones I'd already planned on attending in order to deepen my knowledge in certain areas I deem important to my work at the school.

Now we come to the less certain bit. One of the seminars I was told I should not miss was this most recent one Cumbria. I thought at first it was a matter of their wanting to be sure Otto

Strangeweale had a robust enrollment for his course--he's quite senior at St Mungo's and is notable in the field (or notorious depending on whom one asks). Perhaps if we say that Strangeweale is powerful within St M's, it will suffice. And, of course, it doesn't hurt his position that his son is a Death Eater, does it?

So I was resigned about the need to go and pay court at his seminar about anaemia, but then he turns up in Mousehole last week as an 'observer'. I can tell you Otto Strangeweale has no interest in the latest applications of fish oil in healing potions. Not the slightest. But he did have a pointed interest in me. And in bending my ear with suggestions about this apothecary and that herbalist I really must seek out to purchase this powder and that salve in order to bring Hogwarts' hospital stores up to scratch.

And it was the same again when I reached Haweswater: he had a long list of stops I really must make whilst I'm in Cumbria.

All of which makes me feel that he's providing me with an itinerary that moves from one informant to another, all of whom he's primed to scrutinise my every word and purchase.

It's a bit unnerving. And it does make it difficult to do anything that requires secrecy. Like popping off to Sherwood for no actual purpose.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-18 03:31:23](#)

Re: Order Only

I took a nap with Bea this afternoon and I'm feeling a bit less done in.

I mostly remember feeling myself, when I transformed this last time, but there are gaps. Which may merely be times that I dozed off for a time, but I'm not sure. I felt thoroughly on edge, but at least it was me feeling on edge.

The side effects hit me quite a bit harder this month, though. I don't know if it's because I missed that last dose, last month, or if they're simply cumulative.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-18 19:02:27](#)

Re: Order Only

Is there anything I could do, Remus? Or anything I could send?

Getting there would be difficult until Wednesday or Thursday, I'm afraid.

That said, I would happily pay a call on you, though I will not soon be persuaded to repeat the ridiculous fiasco that was this morning's attempt to provide care for Severus Snape.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-18 19:05:49](#)

Re: Order Only

Fiasco...?

What happened?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-18 19:29:34](#)

Re: Order Only

I bustled myself off there, and did at least manage not to splinch myself, Apparating someplace I've never been before. But then I arrived not entirely where my escorts expected and had to knock about in a mist-grey thicket, sending off periodic patronuses until they traced my location. Then there was the requisite battery of security questions and a longish hike, which might have been pleasant in other circumstances, but was in this instance an anxious affair as it ate into the tight time schedule I felt I must keep.

And what was the result of it all? He flatly refused to admit me.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-19 16:48:44](#)


Re: Order Only: Private Message to Poppy

Refused?

Half a moment, then. On what grounds?

Couldn't be that he's not half as ill as Kingsley and the others want to make out, could it?



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2011-07-19 21:37:22**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Poppy

Refused absolutely.

Too busy to be interrupted.

Couldn't even be fussed to stick his nose out of his tent and tell me himself.

So, yes, indeed. He could be perfectly well for all I know of the matter. And he may be damned before I chase out there after him again.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2011-07-19 22:06:03**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Poppy

Too good for him, the wanker.




 **[alt_lupin](#) at 2011-07-18 19:08:00**

Re: Order Only

I expect you shouldn't need to come here, at any rate. The nausea seems to have mostly abated and Dora's been quite emphatic that NOTHING WHATSOEVER was wrong with Bea.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2011-07-18 19:37:43**

Re: Order Only

I'm glad if you are beginning to feel more yourself, Remus, but I should very much like to examine you before and after the next moon. If you'll consent to that.

We might be able to find something to allay the side effects after the fact, though I'm loathe to have you take anything without examining you first and being present in case something

unexpected were the result. I can't, for instance, recommend your taking anything in advance of the moon, lest it interact in some way with the wolfsbane. But I expect we could find something you could safely take in the aftermath.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-18 19:41:03](#)

Re: Order Only

I am at your disposal, Madam Pomfrey, whenever you find it convenient to visit.

I'm hoping that next month will be a bit easier...but it would be nice to have a potion on hand, in case it isn't.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-18 19:40:15](#)

Re: Order Only

Of course, I should like a look at Miss Bea, as well.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-18 19:52:13](#)

Re: Order Only

You know, sometimes it seems you wish something were wrong with her.

It would vindicate your gloomy view of things, wouldn't it?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-18 19:57:15](#)

Re: Order Only

Are you afraid my worrying will somehow create the dangers I'm worrying about? I do believe that branch of magical research has always been found fruitless. I won't curse her with my worries, and you won't keep those worries from not coming true by refusing to consider them.



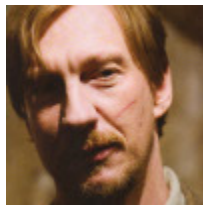
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-18 20:08:54](#)
Re: Order Only

... won't keep those worries from not coming true by refusing...

You know, sometimes you are one giant mass of compound negativity. I can't even sort it out, that one.

Actually, it's much simpler than you think. You're just no fun when you stew over these things.


I can see Bea feels it, too. Not that she's known you otherwise, but when you're all glum like that, she gets fussy. Children sense these things.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-18 20:11:27](#)
Re: Order Only

Babies fuss. It has nothing to do with whether I'm 'glum.'



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-19 02:00:55](#)
Re: Order Only

You know, if it helps The Wolfsbane is supposed to keep the wolf from dominating, just like having an Animagus around him keeps the wolf at bay. We could - next full moon, I could stay with Bea instead of Remus, as an objective observer. Then we'd also know for sure whether the Wolfsbane is working properly for him.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-19 21:42:09](#)
Re: Order Only

Yes, that's an idea, actually.

I'm sorry we're not better company at the moment, Sirius. I think it's the schedule Bea has us on: it's more wearing than I ever dreamed. I mean, everyone

knows babies keep appalling hours, but until you're six weeks into living it, you don't know how that adds up, do you?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-19 22:07:33](#)

Re: Order Only

You forget I've been through all that before. Used to babysit for Harry when James and Lily needed a night off from it, didn't I?

You two just need some time to yourselves, I reckon.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-19 22:29:29](#)

Re: Order Only

No, no. I haven't forgotten. It's one of the leading points in your favour. Experience!

Actually, what we really need is to adjust to being a family. It's not just the two of us now, and the sooner we work out what that means, the better.

And see, there's another of your selling points--it's practically required for every happy family to have a pup, right?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-19 23:02:19](#)

Re: Order Only

Yeah, a 'pup' who's 235 in dog years.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-19 23:10:00](#)

Re: Order Only

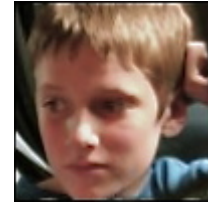
All that and no grey around the muzzle?

I'll hold off commenting on your house training.

[2011-07-17 13:02:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I'm doing well. This morning was quiet. He forgot to lock the door last night and slept until noon today, so I was able to slip out and practise a bit. It's all right, I got back inside before he woke up again.



 [alt_terry](#)

I'm still working on the animagus spell, but with no luck so far. It's frustrating. But I'm not giving up.

I've been thinking a whole lot in the past week about things. About the git. I've been watching him, studying him, because I want to figure out how I'm going to survive this, how I'm going to get away from him and eventually beat him at his own game. This is what I've mulling over:

He likes to dominate things, to have power over them. He also likes to ruin things. He thinks that no one is as important as he is. I think all the dark magic he's used over the years have addled his wits, although maybe that's partly from the drinking, too. From some of the stuff he's said this week, I realised that he really thinks I admire him. Is that sick or what?

The first part, wanting power over me, that's obvious. He likes having a mudblood he can kick and order around, someone he can make cower and cringe. It's safest to give him that, but what he doesn't know now is that it's all an act.

But I'm seeing something else I never saw before. I think he wants to make me rotten inside, too. Like him. He wants me cowering and ignorant, but he's also interested in making me...cruel. Not enough that I'd ever threaten him, you understand, but then he's arrogant enough to think he totally controls me.

It's little things. Like he always used to be the one to kill his pigeons and rats for his experiments. But now he's started ordering me to kill them (I do it if I have to. But I try to sneak them out and free them instead if I possibly can). He got a crop of prisoners last week, and one of them had concealed a photograph of his wife in his shirt, and the git found it. He took the photograph away from the man and ordered me to burn it. In front of the prisoner.

He said something this week that made my blood run cold: that maybe he might get another mudblood. Someone even younger than me. 'You'd like having someone you could teach master's ways, wouldn't you? Someone you could break in yourself.'

Just getting away from him isn't enough. As long as I'm with him, I also need to figure out how to stay a decent human being, even if he's trying to warp me into

someone who thinks he's admirable.

(Fred and George, did you figure out whether it'd be safe for me to use that cushioning charm? He hasn't hit me since I got healed. Yet. But it would be good to know.)

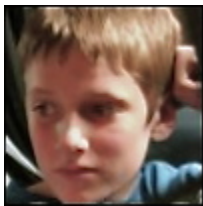



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2011-07-18 14:39:03](#)**
(no subject)

We did some experimenting with the standard cushioning charm, yeah. Bad news, though: we're pretty sure he'd be able to tell if you're using it.

There's one other possibility, though. Not sure if it would help, but it might. It's another variant of cushioning charm, that doesn't lessen the force of the blow but it spreads it out over a wider area. So if he nails a punch to your kidney, it'd feel the same to him but it wouldn't hurt as much in that one spot. You'd feel it all the way out to your fingers and toes. Wider but shallower bruises.


Makes us sick to think of it. But it might be a good thing for you to know how to do.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-18 17:14:11](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe that could help. Anyway, I could try it.

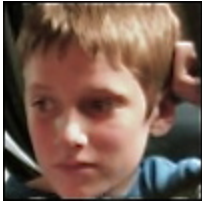



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-07-18 15:59:02](#)**
(no subject)

So. Um.

I don't get how Carrow can make you a bad person. I mean, it's not like you do actually admire him or anything. And he can't make you. I mean, that's really the one thing no one can force, right? What you believe or don't--or, y'know, what you think is good or awful.

I don't see how having another servant changes anything. Except I guess it'd be someone else for him to kick around and not just you.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-18 16:39:23](#)
(no subject)

You have no idea, it'd be easier than you think. See, I think he wants to get me liking the idea of kicking another servant around. Like I'd take out my frustrations about being his punching bag by making someone else my punching bag.

Someone even smaller and weaker than me. He'd absolutely love that.

I've trained myself to not show any anger toward him. But I suppose he knows it's there. He has to know. He'd think it would be pretty cool to channel that anger into learning to like hurting something or somebody else.

Um. See, he has a whole bunch of books on...on causing pain. There are people that cause pain because they like it, because it gives them pleasure. It's something called 'sadism.' This is, um, really sick stuff, Ron. It's the sort of pleasure that some people, normal people, usually get from being with the ones they love. Where ordinary people would do stuff like, I dunno, hugging or kissing (and other stuff too, don't know how much you know about it), sadists pull out whips and sticks for beating people with and, um, other things. The opposite of sadism is something called 'masochism,' that's when you get pleasure from experiencing pain. He's just fascinated with this stuff, along with his sister; they talk about it all the time.


Anyway, I looked at some of those books once. They gave me nightmares. The, um, practical stuff. But they talked about how to make people want to do this stuff more. It can really overlap with dark magic, you start to crave it more and more. Giving pain. Or receiving it.

I think...I think there's part of him that wants a mudblood who's what you call a 'masochist.' A mudblood who likes getting kicked around. Someone who gets pleasure from it, craves it. When a sadist gets paired with a masochist, it can...well, it can get really ugly really fast. Because they sort of egg on each other, see? But I've been, I dunno, too stoic for his tastes or something; I don't show him that I get pleasure from getting hurt. Well of course I don't, I'm no masochist!

So I wonder if he's starting to think he can turn me into a sadist, too. Well, a weaker one than him, one that doesn't threaten him. But would threaten someone else.

Then he would get to watch. And he'd get even more pleasure watching me inflict pain on somebody else.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-07-18 16:44:23](#)**
(no subject)

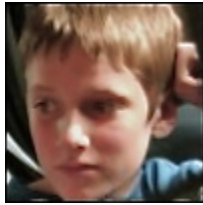
Erm.


So you're saying everybody's either one or the other?

I mean if you're not the m-wotever, the M kind, does that mean you're the other?

Do you think you'd like hurting someone else?

Cause that doesn't seem right to me. That you're either one or the other. I mean, most people are just normal. And those kinds of people are sick.




 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-18 16:56:03](#)**
(no subject)

The opposite of a masochist is a 'sadist.' That's what master is, and his sister, too.

No, I don't think everyone's either one or the other. I think most people are neither one. I have no interest whatsoever in either one myself and yeah, I agree it's really sick.

But maybe messing around with this stuff, just thinking you're going to dabble in it, could be real dangerous. What I'm really afraid of is that he'll force me to do it, and before I know it, I'll find myself starting to like it. Not because I want to, or because I'm that way naturally, but because it's like dark magic. It can suck you in and you find yourself wanting it more and more. That thought just scares me so much, that I could end up being anything like him.



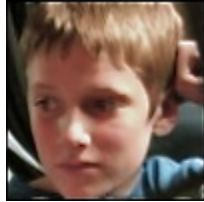
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-18 16:59:05](#)**
(no subject)


Whoa.

That's just...

whoa.

Maybe the way to think of it is, if it's like a sickness is there any way you can guard against it? Like as if you innoculated yourself against it, as if it were a disease?



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-18 17:03:02](#)**
(no subject)


Huh.

I'll have to think about that.

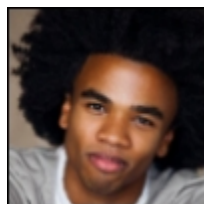
I sometimes think to myself that Ma--that the git is sort of like a backwards moral compass. In a way. Like, if I can figure what he wants me to do, I should do the exact opposite.


Is there a different opposite to liking to cause pain than liking to receive pain? Because I don't want to be like that, either.



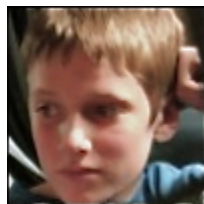
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-07-18 17:04:32](#)**
(no subject)


Well, sure, I guess so. It's not liking to cause pain. Like pity. Or empathy. Liking to help someone.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2011-07-18 17:05:29](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, that'd be it.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-18 17:06:16](#)**
(no subject)

I guess it would.


Does that mean I'd have to practise being nice to him, though?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-18 17:06:48](#)
(no subject)

The git wouldn't deserve it.

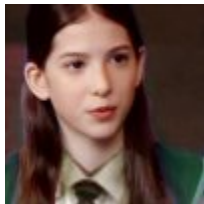



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-18 17:09:14](#)
(no subject)

No. But the point isn't what it does to him, but what it does to me.

I guess...I did go back to that prisoner later. The one whose picture I burned. I told him I was awful sorry.

I was, too. I felt just terrible.

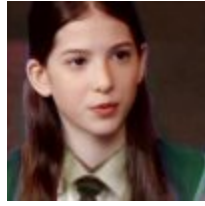


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 17:26:05](#)
(no subject)

There are two other opposites to liking to cause pain. 'Compassion,' and 'disinterest.'

I've been thinking about my next essay about Dark Arts, I'm probably going to write about cruciatus, even though I don't expect you'll ever want to cast it. But you know how they talk about 'primary' and 'secondary' emotions for the mindset, there are also emotions you need to close off, and those are sort of the exact opposites you're talking about, since you have to want to hurt someone to cast the cruciatus curse successfully.

'Disinterest' is like you just don't care about the person at all. You don't feel pity, you just don't feel anything toward them and that can make it hard to cast a really dark spell. And compassion, well, that's pretty obvious.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 21:54:49](#)
(no subject)

I found my notes and I got it slightly wrong. It's compassion and indifference.

The other emotion that you have to root out to cast dark spells is guilt, and in the mindset lectures that was discussed a lot, about how wizards sometimes believe they don't have the RIGHT to cast spells like this and so on. And there's something to it but when it comes to the cruciatus curse essentially she was saying, 'if you have a conscience, try to smother it in its sleep or you'll never be REALLY powerful.'



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-18 23:37:16](#)
(no subject)

Ugh.

Wait.

D'you think that's right? I mean. Do you think you have to get rid of your conscience if you're going to get on?

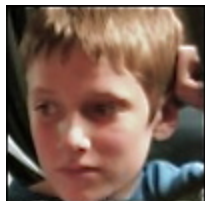
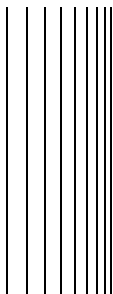
Are you saying Terry has to?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-19 00:06:55](#)
(no subject)

Of course I'm not saying that's right.

I'm saying, the opposite of what Terry's talking about was something we actually discussed in Dark Arts. There are a bunch of opposites and one of them is having a conscience. Which Terry has. Which is why he's not going to become like Carrow.



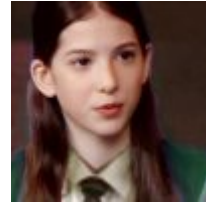
 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2011-07-19 01:37:30](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks. For that vote of confidence.

I'll have to think more about this, about Neville's idea.
Developing my conscience, I guess.

2011-07-17 22:40:00

Gemma's Theatrical Ambitions



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Before I left for CCF camp, Gemma got it into her head that she wanted to put on a play, like 'The Liberation of the Ministry' only smaller (much smaller). There's this book called 'The Misplaced Witch' where a little girl who's a pureblooded witch somehow gets sent to live in a muggle orphanage and has all sorts of terrible things happen to her before she gets her Hogwarts letter. It takes place a really long time ago, so muggles are much more of a problem. Mrs Stretton has a copy of the book and Gemma's been reading it (she has her nanny help her with the bits she can't understand). Anyway she thought this book would make an excellent play so I got a book on theatrical glammers (thank you for the recommendation, Daphne!) and another one on spells for stage effects (I know, it's just a simple little thing for the family but the whole reason she wants to do it is for the stage effects and the glammers, you know) and since I got back we've been working on it.

Gemma, of course, is playing Alexandra, the ill-used heroine.

Philip is playing a pickpocket named Jack who is ALSO actually an orphaned pureblood wizard. In the book it's explained that he's from France and his parents were murdered by some muggle named Robespierre during a Reign of Terror, but frankly all that was sort of confusing so we took it out and just said he was orphaned like Alexandra only instead of going to an orphanage he wound up with a pickpocket gang. In the book he's Etienne but since he's not French in our version we called him Jack.

I get to play the evil woman who runs the orphanage. She's horrid: you find out in the end that she KNEW Alexandra was a witch and stole her away from her family (her parents really are dead, but she's got loads of aunts and uncles who have been looking for her) and kept her hidden because she's actually a Squib and figures controlling a real witch is the next best thing to having magic of her own. In the end she gets thrown off a tower. It's very dramatic. Actually it's sort of a shame we can't bring Ron in to play that bit, he's quite excellent at dying on stage...

Jeremy agreed to play the man who runs the pickpocket gang. He's supposed to be a lovable rogue and he's ALSO a squib but he's a squib

with a heart of gold who does his best to be a kind and decent person despite his terrible disadvantages. He only took Jack in because he suspected someone was trying to harm him and he figured this was the best way to keep him safe. (No, it doesn't make all that much sense in the book, either.)


Maureen, Gemma's mudblood nanny, is playing nearly all the other parts. Which means there's a scene where she's playing a witch (from Hogwarts, bringing Alexandra the letter at last). I'm trying to find out whether anyone would get in trouble if we had her use a fake wand and pretend to cast a spell. It's all for the PLAY and it would just be a stick from the garden. It would be better to have a real witch play that bit but we're fresh out (I can't play her, as she has to drive my character off the stage. I suppose we could cast Maureen as the evil woman who runs the orphanage but it works out a lot better to have me doing the effects if I'm in that part.) And Mrs Stretton can't play it as she's supposed to be in the audience!

Anyway. I have no idea if this is going to go ANYWHERE before Jeremy gets fed up with humouring Gemma. When the twins wander in Gemma tries to have them play pickpockets too but that doesn't work very well seeing as they're at an age where if you tell them 'go stand over there' they'll go to the other side of the room just to make you cross.

We'll perform for Mr and Mrs Stretton when it's all ready.

'The Mislplaced Witch' is an old book but this is a nice new edition. Mrs Stretton bought it for Gemma a few months ago.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 04:05:17](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I've seen a copy of this book in the ORIGINAL edition. ORIGINALLY, Alexandra is a half-blood and Etienne is a muggleborn. Which makes the whole thing make rather more sense.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-07-18 14:57:17](#)

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

So the part you think of me to play is an evil old squib woman?

Nice.

I wouldn't mind coming to play a wizard sent from Hogwarts to push you off a tower, though.

Hah!




 **alt_sally_anne** at [2011-07-18 17:12:28](#)

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

We'd make it a bloke if you came to help out!

Actually if you wanted to come play the wizard from Hogwarts that part definitely doesn't have to be a girl and then we wouldn't have to have Maureen use a pretend wand!

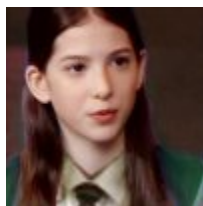


 **alt_ron** at [2011-07-18 17:49:38](#)

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

Yeah. That'd be a laugh.

D'you think Stretton would want to do some flying afterwards? Or he could drill us on some of the duelling stuff, right? If he wanted.




 **alt_sally_anne** at [2011-07-18 18:32:32](#)

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

I'm sure Jeremy would do some flying afterward, he always likes flying.

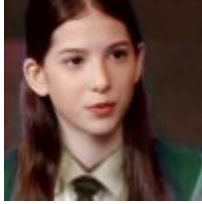
You know why he's agreed to help out with the play, though. He's still stuck on Maureen.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-18 18:42:56](#)

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

Oh. Well she could come out and watch. If we go flying. Or she could help set up obstacles or targets or whatever if we're going to do tactical skills.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 04:09:12](#)

(no subject)

I should clarify about Maureen, if she does end up playing a witch we wouldn't even have her say the real words to any spell, just something made-up. And she'd have a fake wand. And we'd only be performing

for the Strettons.

I looked up the regulations on muggleborn labourers in service and obviously they aren't allowed to touch real wands and there's a new regulation against attempting wandless magic but there's nothing anywhere about whether it's allowed to have them play a witch in a theatrical production and if so whether you can have them wave a stick and pretend to cast a spell using fake words. I don't think it occurred to the people writing the regulations that anyone would want their mudblood servants to perform in a play.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-07-18 14:59:38](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Could you give Maureen something to hold that is OBVIOUSLY not a real wand? It sounds like it'd be mean to do, but maybe it'd be safer. Play it up even more than a plain stick, like. Like if you put ribbon streamers on it or something (maybe the ribbons would please Gemma). Making it out like it's almost a joke on her.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-18 15:00:07](#)

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

Like give her a rubber chicken to wave.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-07-18 15:01:02](#)

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

If you tell Maureen you're doing it that way to keep her safe, maybe she'd go for it?




 [alt_lee](#) at [2011-07-18 15:02:05](#)

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

It's not like she can exactly refuse, Nev, if anyone in the Stretton family tells her she's gotta appear in the play.

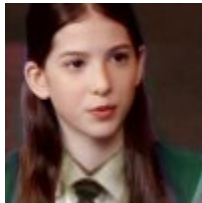


 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-07-18 15:02:16](#)

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

...

I guess that's true.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 17:19:15](#)

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

Yeah, in theory Maureen's job is to obey Mr and Mrs Stretton and mind Gemma and that ought to mean that she doesn't give in to her on every little thing because it's going to make her terribly spoilt.

But in fact Maureen gets in trouble if Gemma kicks up enough of a fuss. So in practice she obeys Gemma.

Fortunately Gemma is a sweet girl and she's indulged but she's not horrible, you know?

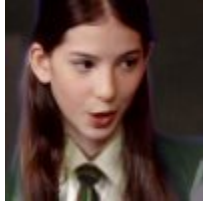


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 17:20:13](#)

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

And Gemma wants Maureen to play the nice witch who comes to rescue Alexandra because Maureen is her FAVOURITE.

We might be able to talk her into a special guest appearance by Ron, though, if Ron's really willing to come help out!



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-07-18 17:15:24**

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

A rubber chicken?



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-07-18 17:13:45**

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

Ribbon streamers, good thought.

We'd already decided to make it sparkly and pink.
(It's almost a shame wands don't come in 'sparkly pink' -- you just KNOW Hydra would have a wand like that and it would irritate her mother intensely.)

2011-07-18 09:58:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

I'm being sent your way this afternoon to sort through a pile of seized property for any Dark objects in the lot. Apparently it's quite a large assortment: Craddock expects it may take five or six hours. (Presumably that's why he's not wanting to do it himself.)



 [alt_lana](#)

At any rate, I could take time away for supper somewhere if you wanted. Even if it's just a pasty from the kiosks. What do you say?

2011-07-18 14:25:00

Private Message to Sally-Anne



 [alt_pansy](#)

I had the most *fantastic* day on Saturday!

I would've written you sooner, only I got back late on Sunday because Hitty insisted on my walking through the house and checking every little thing because we've been away so long and she wanted to make sure that it met with approval, and then I had to send off for some things and do floor calling, and when I got back, mum was cross because there was something she wanted me for and I didn't come back soon enough for her liking, and you know how she can get when she's cross, even though I didn't tell her *when* I'd get back on Sunday, but anyways.

We ate dinner at Portico, and it was just lovely -- not too fancy, of course, but just fancy enough to make it special. Draco even talked the waiter into getting us each a glass of wine, but I just sipped on mine because it tasted sour (I can't imagine why adults go on and on about it, because I always think it will taste better than it does, and then whenever I have any, it's just such a disappointment!)

And then we went to the show, Dirty Cauldron Jones, and it was fairly crowded and we were the youngest people there by far, but the music was insanely wonderful and he just kept going and going -- it was like he could take a song and stretch it and twist it and draw it out for ages. And he had this incredible voice, all raspy and bluesy, and I bought one of his records after just because I want you to hear it. And during one of the slow bits, Draco and I were standing next to one another and he sort of put his arm around my waist, and I almost *floated* I was just so happy.

And when he walked me to my door I wasn't sure at all what to do, because shaking his hand would've been all wrong, and I didn't want to ruin everything by being too forward, so I split the difference and kissed him on the cheek.

So yeah.

I'm still not sure if it was a date, but it certainly *felt* like one...




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 19:09:56](#)
(no subject)

Well that certainly sounds like a date to ME. Not that I'm an expert on them mind you!

Did Draco act like he knew what to do when he walked you to your door, or like he was trying to decide whether to kiss your or hug you or shake your hand?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-07-18 19:14:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh, you know Draco, he has a way of always looking self-assured even when he isn't.

But he did look like he was thinking.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-18 19:35:24](#)
(no subject)

Ha, good point about Draco.

Normally he looks self-assured. When he's a little bit nervous he actually looks extra self-assured. If he ever lets that drop you know he's really in a complete panic.

I really admire that ability, actually, I wish I could pull it off!

What is it with wine? Mrs Stretton has an experimental wine-flavoured marmalade and it's just about the nastiest thing ever, even worse than the melon pepper stuff I gave Prospero at Christmas that time.

2011-07-18 18:50:00

*Private Message to Ned Pennifold and
Kamesh Pandya*



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Pennifold. Where are you? I told you I wanted that report from Pandya waiting for me when I got in.

I don't see it on my desk or yours.

And I don't see you anywhere.

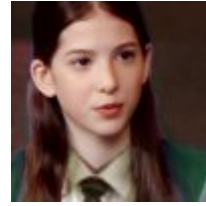
Pandya. What the bloody hell is taking so long with Maule-Smethley? Why no arrests? Why are they not already grovelling before the Wizengamot? Or rotting in Azkaban.

Got around my clerk today? You won't find me so easy to avoid. I want a report tonight.

Don't make me track you down.

2011-07-18 20:10:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good: the Cruciatus Curse*



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

So this is Part II of my essays on Dark Arts. Not that I think any of you are going to want to cast it. The theory is sort of interesting though, and it's related to what Terry was writing about yesterday.

So, first of all, like the other cardinal curses it was invented by a Ravenclaw. The inventor of the cruciatus curse was a Healer, if you can believe it, and he was investigating how people's brains work. There's a sort of paralysis that can happen when you damage the nerves in your back and he had a theory about this and the cruciatus was originally just a way to investigate his theory.

And in fact like Luna mentioned second year, there are specially trained Healers at St Mungo's that use the cruciatus curse occasionally to cure certain kinds of paralysis. But mostly it's used to torture people.

Second. There's pretty much nothing the cruciatus curse can accomplish that another spell can't do more effectively, except cause pain for its own sake. If you want to distract someone there are about a million possible spells. If you want to get information out of somebody, legilimency and veritaserum will get it much more quickly than cruciatus and people are less likely to lie. One of the books I read for Dark Arts had a chapter on the cruciatus curse and its use during interrogations, and the author thought using cruciatus was a bad idea -- not because he objected to it morally, but because he said people who are being tortured will say whatever they think will make the torture stop. He said five minutes of cruciatus will make most people claim to be a basket of dried peas, if they think their interrogator wants them to be a basket of dried peas. And the object of interrogation is supposed to be USEFUL information. He thought it was far more worthwhile to learn how to brew veritaserum but he seemed to have a bias towards potions generally.

Third. With cruciatus even more than the other two cardinal curses, mindset is key. With Avada Kedavra, you have to want to kill someone, but even if it's just a passing impulse that's enough to accomplish the spell. With Imperius, you have to want to control someone, and that's - - easier, for most people, because who HASN'T said 'oh if only you

would LISTEN to me!' even to their best mate, you know?

But with cruciatus you have to want to cause someone unbearable pain and you have to keep wanting to, even after you see what it's doing to them, for as long as you want the spell to keep on going.

Anyway. With the killing curse, anger is the 'primary' (that's what the books call the primary emotion you'd draw on, when you're getting ready to cast it) and hate and fear are the 'secondaries' and then there are a host of tertiaries. With each of these spells, there are also 'oppositionals,' and those are the emotions that you have to be careful not to feel if you want to cast the spell. (With the killing curse one of the biggest oppositionals is protectiveness -- obviously, if you feel protective of someone it's hard to kill them. But, for instance -- I heard a rumour that in one of the Dogstar cells, someone cast the killing curse on one of their mates, probably because they knew too much that they could say under torture. You might kill someone you wanted to protect, if you were protecting them from being tortured horribly and then killed anyway. But you probably wouldn't be able to use the killing curse to do it, unless you were very good at controlling your emotions.)

So, back to cruciatus. With the cruciatus curse, hatred is the primary, and anger and contempt are the secondaries. It helps if you really believe that they deserve what you're about to do to them (and worse). They talk about 'intense awareness of your superiority' and basically what they mean is that if you're incredibly arrogant you're more likely to be able to cast it properly. And, of course, if you LIKE to see people in pain -- if you're a sadist -- you're basically a natural. ~~Teddy Nott is inere~~

A lot of what all the Dark Arts mindset talk is about is the problem ('problem,' right, it's only a 'problem' to someone like Carrow) that most people are NOT actually sadists, at least they don't start out that way. The books say that as you get more practice you can 'develop a taste for power' and when they're talking about cruciatus what they mean is that you can learn to like causing people pain.

The spell itself is actually incredibly simple. You point your wand at your victim and you say 'crucio' and you mean it. That's all it is. If it's a fleeting impulse, if you have the hatred and anger but not a wall of conviction, it might not work, or the person might get cursed but only for about a second. To keep the spell going, you keep your wand pointed at the person and you WANT it to keep going.

If you keep it on someone for too long, something in their mind breaks and they'll never be right again. The book that talks about using it for interrogation discusses this problem because someone who's lost their mind won't give you any useful information. So there are various clues that you're supposed to watch for to get a sense of whether you're on the edge of going too far, like trying to speak and only gibberish comes out, or no longer screaming and thrashing but just sort of lying there and moaning. It would be dead hard to fake that, though, if you were the person being tortured, especially as they say this is most often a problem if you go on for HOURS.

To cast it on someone you don't hate, you think intensely about someone you DO hate and something that makes you furiously angry and you sort of pretend that's who you're casting it on, even if it's actually someone else. If you're very good at it, you can rely on contempt mixed with tertiarys like arrogance, rather than hatred and anger.

The 'oppositionals' -- this was sort of the point I was getting at earlier, with Terry, the 'oppositionals' that keep you from casting cruciatus are things you might look to, in finding an opposite for sadism.

1. Guilt. If you have a conscience, it typically tells you it's not alright to torture people. Hatred and anger can make you feel like it's justified to do anything you want, which is why you focus on them so intensely if you want to cast a dark curse.

2. Compassion. If you feel any compassion for the person, like if you think 'oh, this is so terrible, I hate seeing people in pain' -- it stops.

3. Transference. This is where you imagine it happening to you, instead of the other person, and it's sort of related to guilt.

4. Indifference. If you truly don't care about a person one way or the other it can be very difficult to cast cruciatus on them. You have to summon up the energies of rage and hate, to make it work.

There is no way to defend yourself against cruciatus. However:

1. You can dodge. Especially if the person isn't very good at it and is pretending you're someone else, this is a good option. They have to be able to see you to cast it.

2. If you can shout something that plays on guilt, compassion, or transference, that can work very well on inexperienced people. Not

that this would ever work on Carrow, but if Percy ever cast it, saying 'you promised Dad!' would probably end it, because he'd feel so guilty. Guilt is the enemy of conviction (according to the textbook.)

Not that I think Percy would do that.

Playing on compassion sometimes works too -- crying, for instance, tends to upset people more than screaming. But if you can say or do something that puts them in mind of someone they care about, again, it can work like saying something to trigger guilt. If you think someone's about to cruciate you, look as YOUNG as you can. Unless we're talking about Carrow.

Alright. So. The final thing is how it changes you.

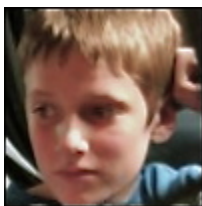
If you're doing something that makes you feel bad and ugly, there are three ways to deal with it, basically.


1. You can change what you're doing.
2. You can acknowledge that you're doing something wrong, and keep doing it (because you have to survive, say)
3. You can change how you think so that you start thinking what you're doing is right.

So, if you cruciate people regularly, you can become the sort of person who thinks it's just fine, and you can become the sort of person who enjoys it, because the first two options are just too hard.

Terry. Here is the thing.

You can't do #1. Not all the time, anyway, because Carrow would kill you. And #3 is the path to becoming Carrow. You have to stay with #2, but you also have to try not to feel too guilty. Because you didn't burn that man's picture because you wanted to. You burned it because Carrow would have beaten you and maybe killed you if you'd refused and then he would have burned it anyway.



 **alt_tery** at **2011-07-19 13:53:59**
(no subject)

This is really interesting, Sally-Anne, and it explains a lot.

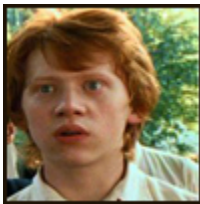
I think maybe there's a fourth way, too. It's to pretend to do the wrong thing, but really to find away around it, by outsmarting


him. That's safer than outright defiance. It's tricky, though, and it can be dangerous--maybe it's a good thing I'm a Ravenclaw. Like saying I'm going to kill rats and pigeons, but secretly letting them go instead. In the camps, muggleborns make an elaborate game of this, of misdirection and finding loopholes in the rules while pretending to follow them. I remember watching a woman who was hexed because she wasn't fast enough to prepare a meal. So she went back to the kitchen and prepared something incredibly elaborate, with fancy garnishes and everything--but she spit in each dish before bringing it out to the table.

If the git's trying to ruin me by making me cruel, then it won't do me any good to sneak around him by doing nasty things. I have to sneak around him to do nice things. Like--well, that photo really haunted me. (Or I guess what really haunted me was the look in the man's eyes when it went up in smoke.) It occurred to me--too late--that maybe I should have palmed that photo and burned something else, a scrap of paper instead, and then slipped the photo back to the prisoner later. Although that could have been real dangerous if the git had found it again later.

I took out my wand in the middle of the night the other night and tried to recreate it from memory as a magical sketch. I think I came pretty close to what the photo looked like.


But the prisoner was dead already anyway, and so I burned it again in the fire this morning.



 **[alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-20 23:16:15](#)**
(no subject)

Wait. The prisoner was already dead? What happened to him?



 **[alt_terry](#) at [2011-07-21 00:24:57](#)**
(no subject)


The term the git uses is 'exsanguination.'

It means there was no blood left in his body when he was done with him.

I don't think it's the worst way to go. They are scared, but then they get real sleepy and sort of calm down. And get cold and pale.

Then nothing.




 **alt_ron** at [2011-07-21 02:33:55](#)
(no subject)

Erm.

How does he take it out of them? The blood, I mean.



 **alt_terry** at [2011-07-21 03:17:45](#)
(no subject)


Sometimes he uses knives or hooks to open veins. Sometimes with spells. He plays around with methods, depending on how long he wants it to take.

Sometimes he tells them he's going to kill them, lets them bleed out a little, then stops it. And when they're feeling safe and relieved, he'll start the whole process over again. He likes to toy with them that way.

Sometimes that will go on for several days. In a few cases, maybe a week. Or he'll stop to do experiments with the blood, and then puts it back into them. Depending on what he's done to the blood, that can be awful, too.

That's not the only way he kills them.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-07-20 23:22:10](#)
(no subject)

So, yeah.

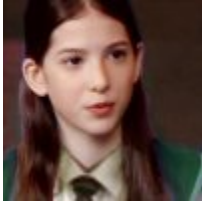
This was really long. So it took a while before I read it.

Makes sense, I guess, that it was a Ravenclaw who figured out the Cruciatus curse.

I don't know about all the emotion stuff. Guess it makes sense. But what you said about Percy-- I dunno.

I'm not sure he listens to Dad as much as he did. He sort of acts like everything at home smells bad or something. And he hardly spends any time talking to any of us.

Well, that's not so different from last summer when he was studying for NEWTs all the time, but there is something about it that feels different.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-21 02:41:26](#)
(no subject)

What, do you think Percy might actually cast cruciatus?

'You promised Dad' would probably work for a while yet, even so.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-21 03:04:54](#)
(no subject)

I dunno if he'd cast that one. If he did, it would probably be me or the twins, he'd use it on!

And, yeah, maybe. Maybe if Dad were around to hear it. Otherwise, I dunno, really.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-21 02:42:02](#)
(no subject)

And yeah, sorry to go on for so long.

I didn't think I had all that much to say about the cruciatus curse but it turned out I did.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-21 03:06:18](#)
(no subject)

No probs.

You know loads of stuff. And Terry probably wants to know it, too.

2011-07-19 09:03:00

Camping!

Evelyn's back again from the YPL camping trip, but we're going camping again, with our Great Uncle Algie. We're leaving tomorrow. We had ever so much fun last year, fishing and swimming and flying flying kites and all. This year we're going to camp in the Lake District instead. I hope we might climb some of the peaks. Some of the smaller ones, anyway. Uncle Algie's been telling us all about the geology of the area--he pulled a bunch of books out last night to show us. Evelyn's bringing a book on wildflowers: she says she wants to make some pressed wildflower pictures. Gran has a bunch of them framed and mounted around the house that she made when she was young, but they're all faded now, so Evelyn says it's time to make some new ones.



 [alt_neville](#)

Uncle Algie has the tent out and everything we need for the camp kitchen, and he's checking everything off on the checklist. The tent smells kinda mildewy, and he says it'll be good to have it out in the sun for a bit to drive the smell away.

We'll be gone for a week.

2011-07-19 18:43:00

We had so much fun today

it was utterly savage, wasn't it, girls? I can't believe how nift it was. I think all the running is paying off, really, because robes hang ever so much more elegantly now. Or maybe it's just that the cuts this year are a bit more flowing.



 [alt_padma](#)

I really enjoyed that little curio shop you pointed us to, Daphne. And the ices were completely divine. Though now I shall have to do twice the sit-ups to make up for all that sweetener.

Oh, and Lav, that mirror you bought is beautiful. It's almost too nice to give away, even if you were thinking of it as a present.

Finnigan, the broom you lent has helped loads. The bunch of us are coming over tomorrow, right? Wait 'til you see how much I've improved. Lines, you're coming, right? And Thomas and Smith and MacMillan, I expect? Su Li said she was planning to go, and Bundy, maybe? Who else?

Incidentally, Mum was saying that we might get one of those boats out on the Thames to watch the fireworks for Harry's birthday this year. It'll hold about a hundred people and she said Parvati and I can invite a few people each. Who wants to come?



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2011-07-20 17:20:18**
(no subject)

Can't wait to see you lot in about an hour!

2011-07-20 16:32:00

Honoria

Honoria.

I do hope you're enjoying your time with the Young Protector's League this week. Obviously, New London is your home and you know parts of it well, but I imagine you're seeing things from a fresh perspective now. At least, I hope you're paying attention and allowing your leaders to bring into sharper focus for you the many benefits of life here in Our Lord's capital.




 [alt_lana](#)

I'm sorry I won't be able to see you when you visit the Ministry tomorrow. I was briefly in the building today to visit MLE and the Auror division, but I shan't be there tomorrow. I hear that they have very interesting things planned for you, however, so I hope you'll approach the visit with all due seriousness.

I should be terribly ashamed if you or your group were to pull anything untoward or foolish.

The wizards and witches who work in the offices of the Ministry and those who work in MLE do not have time for childish pranks and dithering. I trust you'll do your very best not to wear out your welcome there with tiresome questions or silly, rambunctious indiscipline.



 [alt_lana](#) at **2011-07-20 21:58:50**
Private Message to Honoria Sandoval

Dear.

I've had several conversations this week with Mama, and I'm concerned about this friendship you've struck up with the Weasley girl.


Is she really quite the thing? I mean to say, is there no one in your year with whom you might find more common ground and more natural rapport?

As you must know, her family is a bit sketchy both in their means and in their connections.

I'm only thinking of what's best for you when I say that one ought to choose one's friends wisely and with an eye to the future. It could one day be quite awkward to have chosen such a, well, questionable person as a confidant.

Do let's have lunch one day next week and talk about this and other things that might be on your mind.



 **alt_ron** at **2011-07-21 02:31:13**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You know, I thought Honoria was all right last week when she came along to ours.

Mind you, some of the stuff in that hamper her mum sent was awful. Fish eggs and sheep brains and that foul tea. And all sorts of odd stuff. Mum tried getting Dad to eat the caviar and capers and pickled things on toast one night before supper, but I don't think they liked any of it much. I mean, the jars and tins are back on the shelves, and I reckon they'll stay there, too.

But Honoria seemed pretty normal, yeah? Compared to her sister, I mean.

I can see why she'd want to come visit us, anywiz. Get away from home.

2011-07-20 16:42:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley

This year's trip has been going much better than last year's (though perhaps I ought not to say that too loudly). At least, no hysterical students claiming to have sighted Snape or Sirius Black or anything like that, so that's a plus as far as I'm concerned!



 [alt_penelope](#)

Tomorrow the students will be at museums all day. I'm sure I could slip away for lunch - Avery won't mind, anyway. How about you? Any time to meet and tell me how things are going?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-21 16:42:13](#)

(no subject)

Horribly sorry, Penny, but I won't be able to do so. I'm up to my ears in...things here at the office.

I don't suppose you could slip away in the evening?

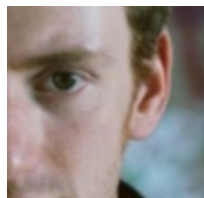



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-21 16:48:18](#)

(no subject)

No.

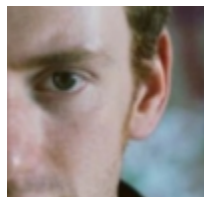
But if you came round the Horseguards we could at least see each other.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-21 16:51:32](#)

(no subject)

I can do that. After work.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-21 16:54:52](#)

(no subject)

It'll be sometime after about 6:00 o'clock.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2011-07-21 16:58:25](#)**
(no subject)

That sounds good. They sit down to supper about then so I'm sure I can break away for a while.

I want to hear all about everything!



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2011-07-21 18:03:24](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I can only talk about things in a general way, you understand. You know the circumstances that led to Mr Malfoy's last clerk getting sacked. But I'll be eager to hear about

your week as well.

2011-07-20 17:02:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

Neds,

You're not still out of sorts are you?

You might just have said you couldn't go for supper with me, you know. I hardly see that it's my fault you were dressed down for being out when Mr Crouch arrived.

I wanted to ask, though: you didn't mention me to him did you? When you got back, I mean. Only it would be awkward is all. If he thought I were distracting you from work. Or you, me.

And it would be really unfair, as well, as we've been so very circumspect where work is concerned. Don't you agree?

Only. I hope *he* sees it that way.

And, well. He hasn't said anything, has he? About my asking if he'd consider me for the next intensive?

You would say, wouldn't you, if he had?

I know you think it's silly of me to be so concerned, but honestly, you would be, too, if it were your career on the line.

Got to run. But, oh. Saturday.

I'm meant to go to an estate sale now--with Mr Lestrangle. He's looking for, well, certain items similar to ones that have come in as seized property. Interesting items, really, and we're having good success with them so far, but he wants to compare the ones we have to others that have not been tampered with. I really didn't feel I should say no, you see. I hope you don't mind. We could shift picnicking to supper or Sunday lunch. The ducks will still be there.

But I do have to go now. Ta!



 [alt_lana](#)

2011-07-20 20:42:00

Order Only: REMUS!!!

Where are you? Come up here right now!



 [alt_nymphadora](#)



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-21 01:45:48](#)

(no subject)

What? What happened? Is something wrong?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 01:47:39](#)

(no subject)

Not wrong at all!

She's done it!! You've got to come and see!



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-21 01:48:45](#)

(no subject)

On my way!

2011-07-20 20:57:00


Order Only: Private Message to Sirius Black



You should come have a look at your goddaughter. She's lovely in purple.

 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2011-07-21 02:00:05**
(no subject)

Not that she wasn't lovely in brown, as well.




 [alt_sirius](#) at **2011-07-21 02:09:46**
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. The hair thing. She did that yesterday when I was putting her down and she didn't want to sleep.

Thought you knew she could do that.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2011-07-21 02:13:30**
(no subject)

She -- and you didn't --

Don't tell Dora you knew. I think she thinks Bea was saving it up to show off to her.

2011-07-21 12:36:00

Milestones

This week Bea's begun smiling back at us when we make faces at her. I suppose this means she's able to see more clearly, and maybe it means she recognises us and likes it.



 [alt_nymphadora](#)

Is that a step towards thinking of someone besides herself? No sign of that yet. Least not in the middle of the night!

But. The really big, lovely surprise this week was when I went to feed her last evening: she looked straight at me and turned her hair purple! My very favourite shade.

I think we'll keep her.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2011-07-21 17:50:39**


(no subject)

Wonderful. Another clumsy metamorphmagus.

She has your snout.

Her father must be so proud.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2011-07-21 18:06:09**

Order Only

Never mind him, dear. She looks absolutely wonderful.

Really! What an awful thing to say to a new mother! Horrible

man!



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 18:10:45](#)

Re: Order Only

Thanks, Molly.

She's darling, isn't she? Makes me go all twinkly just looking at her.

And when she smiles at him, Remus can't even put a sentence together.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-21 18:35:36](#)

Re: Order Only

Sure he can. It's mainly to do with keeping boys well away from her, though, and not exactly repeatable in what your aunt would call 'polite company.'

Horrid wench. As if she'd ever get up in the middle of the night for her kid's feedings.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 18:46:34](#)

Re: Order Only

You are definitely not what my aunt would call polite company.

And, no, of course not. That's what elves and nannies are for. I imagine she didn't feed her sprog herself at all. Might have damaged her figure.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 18:07:50](#)

(no subject)

Thank you, brother, I'm quite pleased with her.

And I think he is, too, rather.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-21 23:32:45](#)

Order Only

Bloody right he is, you sanctimonious git.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-22 00:03:16](#)

Re: Order Only

I suppose that strikes him off the 'suitable baby minders' list, then.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-21 18:26:07](#)

Order Only

She's just on schedule, then. She's what, six weeks or thereabouts?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 18:40:14](#)


Re: Order Only

Seven, actually.

The smile is such a treat when it comes, and she seems all over pleased with herself when she makes

it!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2011-07-21 18:56:33](#)

Re: Order Only

Well, and the metamorphing is part and parcel with the smile: both are social behaviours, imitating and responding or replying to what she sees.

I think you'll see quite a flourishing of her personality in the days to come.

I doubt, however, that she'll be any less demanding. Sorry to disappoint!



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 19:19:36](#)

Re: Order Only

I admit it's a relief, seeing she might have a personality hiding in there.

Up to now, she's mostly been an eating, vomiting, crying, wetting, sleeping, squirming smelly blob.

Sweet, too, but mostly all those other things.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-21 18:32:38](#)

(no subject)

Thinking of anyone else is quite a long way off, dear, if you're expecting she'll have any awareness beyond her immediate needs anytime soon.

Really it's quite extraordinary that her magic should manifest so early and in such a *unique* fashion. One hopes that she will learn restraint with her abilities just as much as any normal child learns how to behave in polite company.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-07-21 18:53:16](#)

(no subject)

I'm afraid you're right. Doesn't hurt wishing, though.

And I know we can count on you to show our Bea how proper young witches ought to behave in the best company. Thank you for that.

2011-07-21 19:46:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

Need supper brought down to Interrogation.

Truncheon says no pasties. Pandya's here, so be sure there's veg. Catchlove will eat whatever we feed him.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Need enough to feed ten. And something other than tea to drink.

2011-07-21 19:57:00

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Maule-Smethley's breaking.


Pandya's leading interrogation. Holcomb's leading evidence processing. Might benefit from consultation.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

So far, synchronisation is running smoothly. We're filling up down here. Assume the crating and tagging will take longer, but word is they've already hauled in quite a collection of evidence upstairs.




 [alt_lucius](#) at **2011-07-22 01:09:23**
(no subject)

Excellent. About time, as well - what was Pandya waiting for, an engraved invitation?

We're just sitting down to table. Shall be there directly afterward.

Better to-night than to-morrow, at least.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2011-07-22 01:13:57**
(no subject)

They'll still be getting started when you arrive. Will probably take all night to sweep all the premises they've had under watch.

Know they'll benefit from whatever time you're able to spare.

Tomorrow night at Kensington, yes? Narcissa wouldn't be best pleased if we gave you an excuse to miss.

2011-07-22 07:36:00

Private Message to Rufus Scrimgeour

What the bloody hell does Fudge know about investigative protocol? I want to see that order myself.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Dammit.

We need to question Maule. Not release him.

Has he got Fudge under bloody Imperius, too?

And don't tell me you can station a guard at his address.

Sebastian Bleeding Maule is every bit as guilty as Smethley. We're missing half a dozen persons of interest on his side. And the files were cleansed. But that doesn't mean there won't be charges made.

He's not innocent; he bloody knew we were coming!

I want him brought back in here!

2011-07-22 08:23:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley



Cancel morning appointments.

Blast - is Cuthbert on at eleven? ~~Keep~~ No, cancel that as well. Monday will do.


 **alt_lucius**

However. Need to see Bole and Cuffe before Court to-day.

First: Find the file on Maule's operations in New London - and the properties in Launceton. Crouch needs them at MLE posthaste.

Oh, and Mrs Malfoy asked me to confirm Fudge, Thicknesse, Rookwood and Rowle for to-night. See to that at some point, if you please.




 **alt_percy** at **2011-07-22 14:01:16**
(no subject)

Appointments cancelled, sir. I have set tentative reschedule times in your calendar, pending your approval.

I have contacted both Bole and Cuffe and they are on their way. The Maule file has been dispatched to Mr Crouch.

I will ensure the other confirmations.



 **alt_lucius** at **2011-07-22 14:23:56**
(no subject)

Too late, boy. He's slipped MLE. Bloody --

Next time, when I say I need something immediately, I mean *immediately*, Weasley, not two hours later.




 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2011-07-22 14:36:54](#)**
(no subject)

Sir, my profound apologies, but I assure you it wasn't two hours. I was in transit when you wrote your message, and the file was sent as soon as I saw it, which was within a half hour of the time you requested it. I simply delayed my written confirmation to you because I was tracking down Messrs Bole and Cuffe.

If it would facilitate matters, I can personally retrieve the file from MLE and hand deliver it wherever you wish.



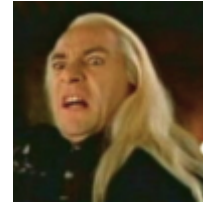
 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2011-07-22 14:40:27](#)**
(no subject)

Pennifold had better confirm your story, Weasley.

As for the file, no amount of ferrying it elsewhere shall make any difference now. Shall follow the matter with Fudge *personally*.

2011-07-22 10:17:00

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr and Rufus Scrimgeour



 [alt_lucius](#)

The files on Maule - have they arrived? Weasley said he sent them, far too late for my liking, however.

Should have had Pandya invent an excuse to hold him a few hours' more. Damnation.

Rufus - his properties in Launceton: Have you set guards there as well? He'll likely clean up his out-of-town affairs before running to ground.

Blast.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2011-07-22 14:40:48**

(no subject)

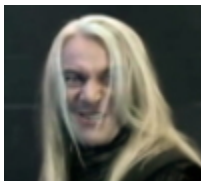
Files arrived, yes.

Might not have mattered in any case. Fudge intervened. Ordered Maule released until such time as there is evidence to warrant 'inconveniencing' him.

We can't touch him.

However. He's not likely to run. His story is that he is an upstanding citizen and one of Our Lord's most loyal, most generous supporters. (Most recently made an enormous donation to the Freedom Day fund. Told Fudge he'd rather his name not be mentioned publicly, which Fudge takes as testament to Maule's virtue.)

Mordred.



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2011-07-22 14:46:36**

(no subject)

Told Fudge not to --

He'll not run, no, but you can be sure he'll finish utterly destroying any connexion betwixt him and Smethley or any

blight or taint of corrupt practice in his 'clinics.'

Shall take it up with Fudge myself, to-night. Imperius to combat Imperius - Bloody Erebus, what a mess.

[2011-07-22 10:34:00](#)

Order Only

Some heads are rolling somewhere.

The lights have been burning at MLE all night. I have word that Lucius Malfoy seems to be thoroughly hacked off at something and has pulled Fudge and Scrimgeour into a meeting.



 **[alt_bill](#)**

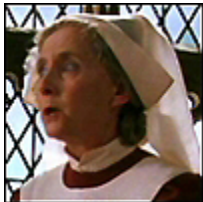
Percy cancelled our weekly lunch, which indicates that Something's Going On.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-22 15:45:31](#)**

(no subject)

Any idea whether it's to do with ours at all? Or any of the DogStar people?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-22 19:35:57](#)**

(no subject)

It's not me they've got, thankfully. Though I did take the opportunity to have a quick look at the Vale of Glamorgan yesterday afternoon. Did you know that stretch of coast is one of the only places you can still find the Vertiginous Vole living in hedgerows? Well, it is, and I was prepared to open my collecting cases if anyone had questioned my presence there--I now possess a healthy supply of vole droppings and have sent two breeding pairs along to Professor Brutka.

The scene at the Wood-Ackerly commune is little more than blackened rubble. And the odd child's shoe or drinking cup. The residue of heavy curses hangs like a grimy mist over the place.

Very sad, indeed.




 **alt_bill** at [2011-07-22 19:56:49](#)

(no subject)

Very sad, yes.

One of my sources at the *Prophet* informs me that there is going to be an exposé about those reducing spas, published tonight. I don't know if that is related, but that's my best guess.



 **alt_poppy** at [2011-07-22 21:17:00](#)

(no subject)

Well. A news exposé on those wretched establishments is a welcome thing, but it must be quite serious if it's causing such a lot of to do at the Ministry.

I do hope it's that and not another round of arrests. I don't agree with that Dogstar lot's methods, but I hate to see them cut down by MLE.

2011-07-22 13:09:00

*Private Message to Professor Sinistra
and Mrs Pearson*



Do you think you'll need me for the Tower trip this evening?

 [alt_penelope](#)

Only I've just got an owl from Pere Mr Malfoy's clerk and we've got the chance to go to the Malfoys' garden party tonight. If I don't have to go along with the others to the Tower, that is. It's just at Kensington. I could be back before the students' lights-out, even.

I'm sure Pyle or Bobolis or Pennifold won't mind going - they didn't last year, after all, so it'll be new to them.

Of course, if you *need* me to stay then I'll be happy to do so. But it'd be much better if Percy could bring I'd really like to go to Kensington if that's all right.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2011-07-22 18:55:50**
(no subject)

You've been a most diligent helper (and especially without much of a break between this summer's events) that I'm sure we can work everything out. This crop of students have been quite well behaved,

too.

And of course, I know how events like this can be quite important, and especially as Mr. Weasley is establishing his career.

If you can be back by lights out, that would be good, but if it would be difficult for you to leave in time, just leave me a note here so I know when you'll be back.

I'm sure one of your fellows will be glad to pick up a little extra today, but I'd encourage you to find a way to let whoever it is get a little bit of a break as we get everyone off home, if they'd like, just to be fair.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2011-07-22 19:11:05](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, thank you, Professor!

I've talked to Bletchley and she's happy to go tonight in exchange for early dismissal tomorrow. I'll see everyone home before I go.

2011-07-22 21:03:00

Order only: Evening Prophet

Well, there it is: *Ministry Puts Stop to Questionable Practice; Corruption at Clinics*



 [alt_sirius](#)

Looks like there were about six of them raided, as well as another four that were investigated with 'no findings of wrongdoing' according to the article.

Bad luck, Poppy: Eosphorous wasn't one of the ones owned by this Smethley chap, but at least it's agreed to close its doors, so the papers say.

Not a word about Malfoy, of course, though there's a rather ominous quote from a Mr Sebastian Maule, to the effect that 'Certain people in high places can't stand another man's success.'

Meanwhile, Dora and I have been talking and we're fairly sure we can convert the flats to either side of the garden into tidy little compartments for muggleborn to hide, if we can figure out how to let them know it's safe to hide there. Still not sure where they could go from there. Don't suppose we'd be able to restore the Vale of Glamorgan, or that it'd be safe even if we did. But perhaps there's somewhere else along the coast, where a bit of land could go unnoticed. Their own private Moddey Dhoo, eh?

As for wands. I went round Ollivander's today. Padfoot did, I should say. Merlin, I hadn't realised the protections on the place. I don't see how anyone can get in after-hours. Arthur, was that a Ministry bloke I saw in the shop, taking down the precise measurements of each wand as it's made and then filling in the names of the buyers? Stone me. Harder than I thought.


Oh, and Arthur, Bill: I've another favour to ask. Our contact, Terrie Taylor, up in Stevenage. She needs a new job. Any ideas? I think if we approach her the right way about it, she may still be able to help us on occasion - but bear in mind that she's got no desire to swear in to the Order. And I don't think it'd be a very good idea, in any case. But I don't think she'll be able to stay in her current position for much longer. It's a bit complicated. Just ... if you hear about anything, or can think of anything, let me know?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2011-07-23 02:44:57](#)
(no subject)

Regarding Ollivander's: yes, I'm not surprised. I'm afraid that the Ministry keeps an extremely strict watch on wand purchases. It would be extremely difficult to use them as a source.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-23 02:48:02](#)
(no subject)

About Terrie. I'll give it some thought.

Is there some position with Laszlo's she could take? Not anything that would require swearing her to the

Order, I mean.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-23 03:00:45](#)
(no subject)

Er, probably best not to connect her too closely to Laszlo's, no.

~~At least not before we know~~

Yeah. Better not.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-23 02:54:37](#)
(no subject)

Good heavens! I have no idea if this is related in any way, but Percy just got home from a garden party event that was held at Narcissa Malfoy's garden party, at Kensington Gardens.


You'll never believe it, but Lucius Malfoy's last clerk was found stuffed under a hedge, obviously obliviated, with his robes torn and bloody. Percy said they had to take him to St Mungo's. He'd been worked over, quite thoroughly. Made quite a to-do, believe me! Isn't THAT rather a bobble in Narcissa's entertainment! Rather a little different than pixies in the punchbowl!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-23 02:55:38](#)**
(no subject)


What on earth?



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-23 02:56:04](#)**
(no subject)


Uh...I'll see what I can find out.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-23 03:02:12](#)**
(no subject)

Too much to hope they arrested Malfoy for it, is it?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-23 15:36:53](#)**
(no subject)

Eosphorous have agreed to close? Without being charged with any malfeasance? I should like to have been a fly on the wall during those negotiations!

No, indeed, the Vale of Glamorgan would not be a good idea. I do have a thought, though.

The north and Scotland are dotted with tiny bothies like the one I stayed in last week. They were rarely visited even when Muggle ramblers were free to use them, and now, well. Wizards are much more likely to end a day of rambling by Apparating to an inn than to kip in some rough cottage or cattle shed in the middle of Merlin knows where.

Many of them are still on private (wizard-owned) property, but a great lot of them are on lands seized from Muggles. What I don't know, I suppose, is whether the Ministry have some way of knowing when a bit of the public land goes missing from the map. I doubt it. Why would they think to worry about such a thing? But, then, it's hard to measure their propensity for paranoia.

Bill or Arthur? Do you have any idea whether the Ministry have any way of knowing if a bit of the public land were to be suddenly made unplottable? No alarms were raised when we hid Moddey Dhoo, but that was early going for the government and things could have changed, I suppose.

Alternatively, I think we might be safe to target some of the mountain bothies on privately held parcels, like those in Northumberland. I don't believe the owner in that case would notice the loss of a tiny parcel here and there in the remoter areas. He respects the old rights of way, so he's never thrown up wards around any but the inhabited portions of his land. I could have a look about this coming week: Pomona and I are booked in for a course at Alnwick Gardens, and we've planned all along to do a bit of a ramble after that finishes. She's particularly keen to see if we can't find a second coral root orchid for her collection, and that search will, perforce, take us into the less-travelled areas of the estate.



 **alt_sirius** at [2011-07-24 04:42:56](#)
(no subject)

Sorry to just be getting back to you now, Poppy. Saturday night, you know: Dora's little beer garden is only just quieting down for the evening.

The north would certainly be less inhabited, it's true. I wonder if we could set them up on the eastern coastline, along the North Sea; it's possible that with a little work on Aleks's part, we could pass them through to Norway or the Netherlands when the wards drop at the solstice. Not in December, obviously, but next summer, perhaps.

You don't suppose we'd be able to transport them all the way to Stromness, do you? It'd certainly be out of the way.



 **alt_poppy** at [2011-07-24 13:46:54](#)
(no subject)

Sounds as if that beer garden is becoming quite a success. I mean to pay a visit before the summer's out--use some of my own polyjuice for a change.

We could certainly look into northern points for a summer transfer if you think Aleks could arrange it next June.

And, of course, we can transport them wherever we choose. That is what side-along Apparition is for, isn't it? People-smuggling. I'm sure that's entirely what Philonius Farquhar had in mind when he developed the technique. It will require planning and personnel, mind you, and I'm not saying it would be easy. It would require quite a network of intermediate stops, but it could be done, absolutely.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-24 22:51:43](#)**

(no subject)

Ugh, I don't know what would be worse: All the Apparating, or all the ginger it would take to be able to *do* the Apparating.

I've been thinking more and more about adequate safehouses along the route, though. Mrs Langworthy, she's a game one. There have to be more like her out there.

With the right number of places we could move people up the coast with a few portkeys, or by Floo, even. Or just on broomback, at night.




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-24 23:21:32](#)**

(no subject)

Thankfully we are not all affected as you are.

I think that Pomona's sister-in-law might could be approached. We've been talking about Tilda in this way for some time. She is a good sort and is willing to refrain from asking questions when it's clear she ought not to. Pomona believes we could trust her further than that with our secrets, but I think it better to take things in stages for her safety as much as our own.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2011-07-24 13:58:40](#)**


(no subject)

And, of course, if we make judicious choices about places to create safe houses and secret enclaves, we could go ahead even without sorting

unplottability. Sherwood are making a go of it. But what happened to the Vale of Glamorgan is a caution. Will always be a risk.


I do wish we knew how they came under MLE's scrutiny. Whether it was the son who spilled the beans in exchange for his Quidditch dreams or whether MLE came to that information by some other avenue. I know that it doesn't do to dwell on these matters, but I can't help thinking that we have increased our own vulnerability of late. One misstep or accident for one of us would bring us all into question.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2011-07-25 12:19:52](#)**
(no subject)

The answer to your question to me, Poppy, is unfortunately 'I don't know.' Bill, what department would that be, do you think?



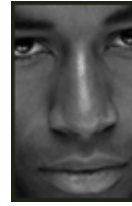
 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2011-07-25 12:24:42](#)**
(no subject)

Well, land ownership is under records, of course. But I don't know...making something unplottable might draw uncomfortable attention, only I don't know from whom.

I'll do some research.

2011-07-23 08:00:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy (and Harry Marvolo)



 [alt_blaise](#)


Draco, mate. The Floo comes through into a little parlour off in the east wing. I don't even know. It's a bit of a maze in this house.

Harry and I are just up and having breakfast on the veranda--the weather's fine here this morning. After that, I expect we'll go out and walk the course a bit, see that everything's ready.

The mudblood will show you through whenever you come along, but if you're ready now, you should come. Breakfast is salmon on toast and a fruit plate with ambrosia melon that's amazingly good.

How was the party, then? Shame you had to stay for it, but I suppose the food was good, at least. Don't suppose any of the adults got up to anything interesting? Mother was letting Mr Glozeman escort her, but I don't think she's very keen on him, so I doubt they were interesting at all. -- Hang on, then. We just saw what your Mother's written. So I guess there was something interesting that happened, after all. Come tell us about it.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2011-07-23 13:51:34**
(no subject)

Can't wait to see you Draco!!!!

2011-07-23 08:50:00

(no subject)



Well, let it never be said that our parties are the sorts of affairs one can afford to miss for lack of excitement! One would prefer a different sort, however, in future. How frightful!

 [alt_narcissa](#)

Young Mr Weasley, thank you in particular for your calm and swift reaction to the crisis. I daresay your experiences at Hogwarts have already taught you how to maintain order in an emergency. (From the look of things, we were not the only ones impressed by your presence of mind. Do tell your enchanting companion that her own rôle in directing guests away from the scene did not go unnoticed - or unappreciated.)

Mr Malfoy and I went to St Mungo's this morning to pay a visit to the young man who so tragically collapsed on our lawns - I'm quite sorry to report that the Healers hold out little hope for full recovery. Clearly someone took advantage of his recent dismissal from our household and attempted to discover privileged information from him. I hope we can say that the damage was done to him out of his captors' desperation and that the young man resisted revealing anything that might present a danger to Our Lord's tranquil realm. Mr and Mrs Hooper, please accept our condolences. I've no idea who abused your son so horribly but I do assure you Mr Malfoy is as perturbed as either of you that his former clerk should be so beset by enemies of the peace. He has already told me he has his theories and if I know my husband, he shall be sure to investigate the truth of his beliefs and avenge this slight for all our sakes. As a mother myself, I can only imagine how this ordeal must be affecting your family. If there is anything I can do, please, you have only to ask.

Speaking of motherhood, Draco: Do enjoy yourself this week. But don't you boys all make yourselves ill with too much sun and training. Be sure to take care as well and don't overdo it. We shall see you next weekend for the Freedom Day celebrations and I'm sure you and Harry shall have dozens of stories to tell.

Oh, and Raz, it's too bad that your guest couldn't disentangle herself for the evening but I do understand. But now, you really must bring her to lunch on Saturday next; I will brook no argument! Mother and Pascoal will be bringing some of their friends along as well so it's sure to be a jolly affair. There are even plans afoot to take in some of the

street performances along the river. I promise no one shall ask impertinent questions: We know our itinerant bachelor is in no danger of losing his heart! His solitude, perhaps, but that can hardly be a bad thing. Rodolphus, you'd best come along whether Bella extricates herself from her work or not, and see what your baby brother has been up to all this time.

And now, Sisters in Witchcraft, I shall see you very shortly! I hope you are all prepared for today's activities. I quite look forward to hearing about your summers thus far.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-07-23 20:12:11](#)

Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Thank you for the enjoyable evening.

Mother asks that I communicate how sorry she was to leave early; she promises to send a proper note as soon as she's able to manage it. I don't believe it had anything to do with the excitement of Hooper's lurching out of the hedges; she's had a low week is all and would have done better to stay in last evening.

Fortunate that she saw sense and resigned her role on the Freedom Day committee. Are you involved with that, Narcissa?

Have wrapped things up here for the afternoon, apart from an hour or two on the sparring floor. I've managed not to murder Holcomb yet, but if he's smart he'll not choose this afternoon to cross wands with me. I'm giving him until Monday first thing to find one shred of solid evidence we can use against Maule. Or one witness with a credible account of his dealings.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-24 01:11:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

I am glad that your mother recognised her limits before we had two collapses in our midst. Has the girl you engaged for her done nothing to ease her burdens at home?

As for Freedom Day, given the involvement of certain persons, I am pleased to be able to say I am not in any way involved this year. If I had been, I should have had to think carefully about resigning, myself. Though I suppose that wouldn't have looked well. I suspect

it shall only be a matter of time before someone asks me to serve on Our Lord's birthday celebration committee or some similar activity. As it is, I have quite had my hands full with the Sisters in Witchcraft today.

I'm surprised Master Gibbon has not approached you for the boys, in fact. Perhaps he's aware that it's not a good time for you at present.

And now on top of everything, I've Mrs Sewell's book to bring to the Witches' Institute next month. She was undoubtedly helpful with the girls' genealogy charts but if the price for her services is buying her a speaking engagement at the WI - well. I've only had a bare glance at the section on the Blacks of the 15th century and believe me, she leaves no boggarts in the cupboards. I can practically see Ganymede Bobolis wishing a section of the *Londinarium* on her, fraught with torrid tales of old family history, no doubt.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at 2011-07-24 13:34:28

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

THE girl has become two girls. One a kitchen drudge, the other meant to be a personal attendant, except that Mother won't allow her in her room, so that one's become a laundress.

I'm on the verge of hiring a healer to provide the necessary attendance. Mind you, Mother says she's fine, but that's patently untrue. She's failing.

And beneath the steely shell this has Father in a panic. I hadn't realised he ever noticed her presence, but he's going daft, presumably at the thought of losing her. Stares at her. Follows her room to room. Shouts when she announces her intention to leave the house for an engagement. Repeats her healer's orders as if she can't remember herself.

Come to think of it, we'd all be well served if he'd give up his post with the Wizengamot and sign on as her full-time carer. Well. The Protectorate would be well served; Mother, less so.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2011-07-24 16:06:38**

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

As bad as that? Forgive me, Barty, far be it from me to intrude on such a personal matter. I know you've had discussion with Narcissa before about your mother's health; out of deference to the sensitivity of the information, she has shared only the barest details with me. But it sounds as if your father could use a consultation at St Mungo's himself.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#) at 2011-07-24 22:58:46**

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Indeed. And I'm sure that was more than you really wished to know. For what it's worth, I do not believe my Mother's health merits such
dramatics.

I do apologise for her performance at Kensington. Apparently I was wrong to think it had nothing to do with Hooper's appearance, though, and this may entertain you: she informed me this afternoon that when he staggered into view, she was seized with the notion that he was a Dogstar assassin come to murder me. As though that pathetic lump could have been any threat at all.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2011-07-24 23:06:47**

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

I should hope I have more sense than to keep in my employ someone who could be bought by Dogstar.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-24 16:15:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

That does sound particularly dire. I feel terrible that our schedules have been so hectic this season that we've not had more of a chance to talk.

Do promise me you'll come to luncheon - Tuesday? I'll book Monteith; we shan't be bothered there.



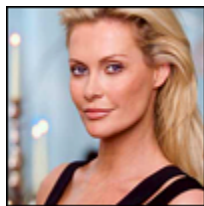
 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-07-24 23:13:57](#)

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I can hardly tell whether it's dire or not. Do you know that Mother thinks I'm going to be murdered any day. That's apparently what unbalanced her the other night: she thought Hooper was sent to assassinate me. Honestly. As though he could have lifted a wand, let alone cursed anyone.

Father blames me, of course. For everything that's befallen them. Thinks the mudbloods are spies I've put in the house. I suppose he imagines I'm plotting patricide and mean to use scullery maids to do it.

Yes, Tuesday, then. Thank you. I know you're busy, but I've missed you.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-24 23:20:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Well, knowing you as I do, you're father's probably not far wrong - at least about the mudbloods. I'm not so sure about the patricide. Though if you've shown restraint up until now it's hardly likely.

And your mother is not the only one who has noticed that you've been making yourself scarce, working all sorts of cases that don't call for your personal involvement. I've not been nearly as busy as you've been unavailable.


Between you and Bella it's a wonder I get any sleep at all, for worry. That's not to say I take anything as pessimistic a view as Norah of your ability to stop anyone who might attempt to trouble you.

I've seen your skills in action, after all.

Tuesday. I'll book a private chamber - half-twelve, all right?


How long will you have, afterward?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2011-07-24 23:26:18](#)
Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I'll clear my schedule from noon on.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-24 23:27:30](#)
Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Good.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-23 23:39:09](#)
(no subject)

Mr Weasley was rather brilliant, wasn't he? Thank you so much for including us, Mrs Malfoy - even with the unfortunate disruption. I'm sure he was happy to be of assistance to you and Mr Malfoy. Percy's extremely fortunate that Mr Malfoy asked him to clerk for him. We're both excited by the opportunities it affords us both to serve Our Lord and the whole nation, of course.

And thank you for saying I was a help, as well. I'm sure we were just doing what was necessary to keep Mr Hooper's sudden appearance under control.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-23 23:44:27](#)

Private Message to Penelope Clearwater

Not at all, Miss Clearwater. Had you not been helpful, rest assured I should not have said otherwise.

Mr Malfoy has been, on the whole, more pleased with Mr Weasley than he cares to let on. Especially early in a new employee's tenure, he never likes to praise too highly lest it set a low standard.

If I were you, though, dear, I should remind him that Mr Hooper's chief fault was complacency. Don't let him think that because Mr Malfoy is pleased, he has secured his position. I should also take note of Mr Hooper's fate - your Mr Weasley is subject to privileged information and as such ought to take care with his person so that he, too, does not become a target to Our Lord's enemies.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-24 02:32:32](#)

Re: Private Message to Penelope Clearwater

Oh. Yes, I shall, Mrs Malfoy. Thank you very much for your advice.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-24 00:49:31](#)

(no subject)

I am exceedingly glad that Penny and I could be of assistance, ma'am.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-24 01:15:53](#)

(no subject)

We're pleased you reacted so quickly, Mr Weasley. Keep up the impressive work.

[2011-07-23 10:57:00](#)

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

St M's are cooperating. Penderyn's there now to see what if anything can be made of Hooper.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

I expect it's useless. Too much to hope that he'll uncover a memory of Maule, as those will doubtless be the most recent and the most cleanly wiped. Still, if anyone can extract material from the shards of a mind, Penderyn's the one to do it.

He'll be shifted out to Hampstead afterwards, so you needn't worry he'll trouble you further. They say he's under some nasty progressive curses, anyway, and I gather he's not expected to last terribly long.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2011-07-23 23:23:43](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I know all about the curses; if he hadn't gone and got himself tortured and Obliviated, he might have taken himself to St M's earlier and caught their effects in time to reverse them. Still, small loss - as he's made himself useless and lost us Maule in the bargain, I'm only too happy for the curse damage to be attributed to the same source as the memory charms.

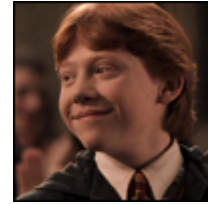
Should have simply finished the job, though, with all this trouble he's caused. I'm certain it was he tipped Maule to MLE's impending visit; the man's not clever enough to have slipped our grasp any other way.

He actually threatened to bring charges in the Wizengamot for false arrest, did you know? As soon as Freedom Day is over we shall see him packing off for greener pastures, I'll warrant. Well, there's still hope Smethley will turn on him and claim they conceived the scheme together.

[2011-07-23 12:52:00](#)

On Target

So I've been working on stuff for CCF, and it's been totally snitch. All those agility exercises they showed us--drop and rolls, jump-ups from lying or sitting, levitation lift-offs, crawling under the low obstacle thinger, the dodge and weave running--I'm getting loads better at all of it.



 [alt_ron](#)

But the balance plank. Oi. Come to think of it, I'd better check that for hexes again.

And I've been doing loads of target drills. Hanging upside down's dead on my favourite! Spin and cast could be better.

The best thing, though? The twins and I've been flying down to Beer Head, and we've made a really wizard climbing course up the cliffs there.

There aren't many wizards who live down on that part of the coast, but we've seen a few fishing boats in the cove. Stopped into a pub one day, and this old warlock told us loads of stories about how the men of Beer were all pirates and about this one chap called Jack Rattenbury, who was the king of smugglers. Back in the 1700s, I mean. Not now. I don't think. Anywiz, they don't seem to mind us coming down there and climbing the cliffs. One day there were some kids who came down to the beach and watched us, but mostly we only ever see buzzards circling around, or ravens. A kingfisher or two.

Anywiz, what are you lot doing? Anything nift?




 [alt_ron](#) at **[2011-07-23 19:32:16](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hey, Nev. How's the camping? Have you caught any fish or seen anything snitch?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-07-24 00:52:09](#)

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

We've been fishing every day, because fish's what we eat for breakfast. We climbed one of the peaks yesterday. My feet are all over blisters, but the view was splendid. We're having ever so much fun.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-24 14:11:41](#)

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

When is it you get home? I'm sure Mum would let me invite you for a day this week if you could come. After that it's back to CCF, y'know, for a fortnight. But we could do it after that, too.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-07-24 20:03:20](#)

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

Oh, but I want to invite you over, because we'll be having a get together for my birthday. It's the 30th, you know. I get home on the 27th. I've been talking with Gran about maybe going back to Blackpool, but she hasn't decided yet. I'll let you know!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-24 22:20:44](#)

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

That'd be snitch, Nev. Blackpool was awesome, really.

And we're older now, so we could do some of the things they wouldn't let us before, like the Hall of Hexes and the Vortex of Doom thinger that whips you round and round. Those looked awesome, and it was really argh! you had to be thirteen already or you couldn't do them.




 **alt_susan** at [2011-07-24 00:47:38](#)
(no subject)

That climbing course sounds wizard--and the pub too! I love it when old warlocks & witches want to tell you really mad old stories.

I've been doing some flight agility stuff with Ed but I haven't kept up with some of the other things as well as I'd like.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-07-24 14:17:33](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. This lot had loads of good stories to tell. It was like they were all out of Brotherhood of the Bat books or True Tales or something.

Well, yeah. I've still got those things to read for CCF. Wish those were adventure stories.




 **alt_zacharias** at [2011-07-24 02:43:43](#)
(no subject)

I've met up with MacMillan a couple of times but I suppose I ought to get back into the habit of running every day. I did go with my uncle to one of those clubs with a course set up in it, it was really hard. Harder than anything we did at the CCF camp, that's for sure.

Up our way we've got the ghost of Quintus Cerialis, of course. And Ethelred the Bloody. They weren't pirates; they were soldiers. And they've got loads of stories about defending the city against northern raiders and Vikings and such.



 **alt_ron** at [2011-07-24 14:22:40](#)
(no subject)

Where is it you live?

Seems like every place has stories, but it's wicked if you've got ghosts, too. I mean, not just in some folks' houses, but in town. Ottery St Catchpole doesn't, but there are

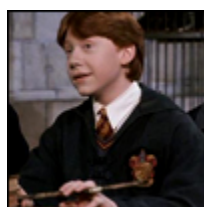
some of the villages around that've got really wizard ones. Bloody ones. And wailers, too, some of 'em.




 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2011-07-24 16:25:10](#)
(no subject)

We've got two houses. Ordinarily we live in Surrey but there's also this old family place in York. That's where all the ghosts are. It's one of the most haunted cities in Britain - and one of the oldest, of

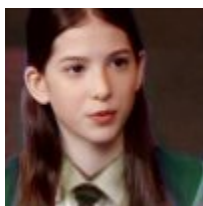
course.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2011-07-24 22:29:48](#)
(no subject)

Oh, York. Yeah, that explains why one of those ghosts sounds like he was a Viking, innit?

So is that where you are now, York? I've never been there, but we had a whole load of books about the Vikings, and how they fought everyone and took all their gold and were totally wizard and terrifying and all. And this one story was about this Viking kid coming with his father and uncles and all to York when it wasn't even a city yet and having all these awesome adventures.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-07-26 01:44:03](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I've been practising some but not as much as I should. It's just there's no TIME. Gemma follows me everywhere and I'm trying to learn Arithmency -- Professor Vector said I could join the class if I could learn the first year's worth over the summer (so I could drop out of Dark Arts without losing an OWL) and I'm trying. Jeremy has a NEWT in it and he said he'd help me, but he's not very good at explaining things and it makes me cross-eyed half the time it's so confusing.

Anyway. I've kept up with running. And I get flying in every day, and I even have a target, but the pull-ups -- I don't have anywhere to put a bar. And I hate doing sit ups so much that it's hard to make myself do them.

2011-07-25 08:23:00

Private Message to Padma Patil

pull-ups 60
push-ups 38
sit-ups 97 (down!)
distance 3mi / 33 min
speed 100yd / 24 sec
standing target 7/10
moving target 5/10



 [alt_padma](#)

Single Attack Defence 13 defended, 17 allowed, 20 null
Low Visibility w/Obstacles 7 defended, 10 allowed, 8 null
Broomback 3 defended, 5 allowed, 2 null

Revised goals?

Pull-ups 100
Push-ups 100
Sit-ups 150
Distance 5mi / 45 min
Speed 100yd / 20 sec
Standing target 10/10
Moving target 8/10

Single Attack 25/50
Low visibility 20/25
Broomback 6/10

Work on balance plank and wall-climb.

2011-07-25 15:13:00

Private message to Padma Patil

Did you hear about the horrible thing that happened to Geoffrey Hooper's brother?




It's been in the papers, but they've been a bit cagey about the worst of it. He was tortured, and beaten, and obliterated, but they also put some sort of hideous progressive curse on him and St Mungo's says it's too late to do anything about it.

 [alt_seamus](#)

He's mostly stopped being able to talk -- at least anything that makes sense. And they say he's going to lose the ability to breathe, or swallow, and then it'll be over.

It's so, so horrid. I don't know why they wouldn't just use the killing curse, hadn't they tortured him enough?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-07-25 20:20:59](#)
(no subject)

I did see that, in the papers. And I saw what Mrs Malfoy wrote, too - I reckon that whoever took him wanted him to make some horrible scene at their party at Kensington. It's just the sort of thing those awful Dogstar people would do, though, don't you think?




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-07-25 20:25:37](#)
(no subject)

Yes. I wouldn't put much of anything past them. They probably thought Black's Paralysis was just a BRILLIANT idea, too.

Geoff says his brother hasn't been quite right since he got sacked by Mr Malfoy. I wonder if he was being stalked by them -- you know, since he had been Mr Malfoy's clerk. Apparently their mum seemed to think it was aftereffects from cruciatus (Mr Malfoy was really cross with him. REALLY cross) and nagged him to go to St Mungo's days ago but he wouldn't do it.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2011-07-25 20:49:37](#)
(no subject)

Mr Malfoy *Cruciated* him? Whoa.

Does Weasley know that? Percy, I mean.

Of course, if they were stalking him and casting things on him to weaken him so they could capture him - well, that might explain why he was fouling up the works badly enough that Mr Malfoy would be that cross, too.

Rama, that's the sort of thing makes parents frightened to let kids out of doors.

Oh, by the way, thanks for running those courses the other day! I still think I could do better with moving targets - and holding aim on a broom is mad difficult but I'll get 6/10 if I have to go without sleep this week!

I just hope Parkinson isn't working this hard, either. Nor Perks.

Do you think Weasley will show up really knowing his arse from his elbow or what?



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2011-07-25 22:27:56](#)
(no subject)

I imagine if Percy knows he reckons Hooper deserved it. I don't know exactly what he did but Mr Malfoy was furious. He might well have been making mistakes because of what Dogstar was doing to him, but I imagine Mr Malfoy would say his staff are fully trained adult wizards who ought to be taking proper precautions.

As for CCF -- Weasley's not bad on a broom, at least when he has a broom that was made this century. I doubt he's working on the pull-ups or sit-ups, though. (My tutor got the list of things from CCF and is making sure I work on EVERYTHING. I'm a lot better at pull-ups now than I was.) As far as Parkinson and Perks -- it sounds like Perks is busy babysitting all summer for her foster sister, I doubt she's getting much practise time in, and can you

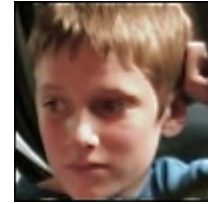
|| imagine Parkinson running if she's not being chased and no one's
|| MAKING her do it?

2011-07-25 18:11:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Dear friends,

He's beginning to allow me out of his rooms more during the day, so I'm starting to explore a bit.



 [alt_terry](#)

This place is called Lincoln Castle, but that's sort of misleading, because it's not just one building. There's a large wall, where you can walk along the top, and it's built in a circle. Parts of it area really old, but there are other, more modern buildings in the center. The main entrance is the East gate, and near to that at the corner is the Observatory Tower, which is the highest point along the wall. It has a real good view from there of the nearby Cathedral. On the other side of the East gate is Cobb Hall, which is where Ma the git spends part of his days. It was built in about the 13th century. They used to hang prisoners from the top of the tower. The first floor of Cobb Tower is an oubliette where they used to throw prisoners down, which doesn't have any other entrance than the trap door at the top. Well, they're still throwing prisoners down there, really, because that's where he stashes them when he's working on dark magic. It's old, like I said, but he's fixed up the second floor with magic, with narrow glass windows installed where it used to be only arrow slits, and tapestries on the wall. He doesn't have me stay in the room when he's working in there with the prisoners, but in a corner just outside the door, or sometimes he'll let me walk along outside on the wall walk, looking over the street below.

Like I said before, our rooms are in the Victorian Prison building. That's one of the 19th century buildings inside the wall. There's also the Georgian Prison building beside it. That has this really creepy chapel where they used to make the prisoners listen to sermons. (They had it built with these box seats where the prisoners sat, and the box walls were built so high that the prisoners could only see the preacher way up in the pulpit, and not each other. Almost like coffins.) Built into the South Wall is the Lucy Tower. The prisoner graveyard is there. Back by the West Gate is the Crown Court building. The muggles were still using it for their legal system when the Protectorate took over. It's abandoned now, and all the windows are broken.

I wondered if the work here was being done by house elves, but I don't think so. Besides the prisoners, there are a few other people here, I think, although I've only spied a couple of them. I guess they have to have some people to do stuff needed to keep the prisoners, like fix their food, clean the latrines and so on. And look after the git and me. I'm not quite sure if they're muggles or muggleborns. There's a woman who brings the food for us, lays the fires, brings the wash water and so on. Haven't talked to her, but she smiled at me a little the other morning, and whispered that her name was Melli. She has the oddest silver eyes. And I saw a boy about my age

through the window, out burning garbage in a bin in the courtyard. I looked out there because someone was calling for him from the kitchens, his name I guess. It's an odd one, or at any rate, it sounded odd. Something like 'Dudders.'

That's about all the news I guess.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2011-07-26 01:39:45](#)**
(no subject)

Terry, I've been wondering something.

How many people is Carrow killing? I mean, in a day, or in a week. Approximately.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-07-26 02:27:35](#)**
(no subject)

Well, best as I can tell, he hasn't killed anyone all week.

It's not always very clear to me, because I don't see how many prisoners are delivered to the oubliette, or when they're taken out. And whether they're dead or alive when they're taken out.

But I think about eight or nine have died since we've arrived here.

2011-07-25 21:00:00

Private Message to Seamus Finnegan

"Right on Target"



 **alt_dean**

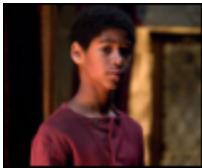
Please tell me that there is another round of cuts coming up. Weasley being right on anything is laughable. I am looking forward to the next part of CCF. Some of those things that we were assigned to do, Mr Peakes had me doing anyway. We always get up every morning and work on something.


Thanks for having me over last week. It was great being able to do this stuff with you and the others. I think I am ready to face whatever they have for us. Have you made it through the reading they assigned us as well. I'm about done with it. So the only thing I am focusing on now are the areas that I feel I am a little unsure about. Basically anything dealing with riding a broom. As long as we beat out Weasley, It will be a great two weeks.



 **alt_seamus** at **2011-07-26 01:37:51**
(no subject)

I hear you, mate. They haven't said anything about another test, though (at least not to eliminate anyone). We're probably going to have to resign ourselves to putting up with Weasley.



 **alt_dean** at **2011-07-26 02:06:11**
(no subject)

That seems like a very sad truth.

[2011-07-26 17:48:00](#)

From Cornwall to Northumberland

I spent a lovely few days last week in Wales, looking for Vertiginous Voles in hedgerows in the southern areas. Terribly rare, they are, these days, though not so severely endangered as the Large Blues I collected at the beginning of the month.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Now that was an interesting few days! I went at the beginning of July to join Mendip Howard and his team at Dannonchapel out in Cornwall for the annual census of Large Blues.



This species of butterfly was thought to have gone extinct by 1979, and would have done if it had not been for a very few committed witches and wizards' looking out for two precious surviving populations in Somerset and in Cornwall. Professor Howard was one of these dedicated individuals.

As has happened with endangered creatures and treasured landscapes across our Protectorate, with careful handling and wise management the natural habitat of these lovely creatures has been restored. And their numbers are rebounding!

For this year's census, we divided the terrain amongst our team, cast the spells to lay out the grid lines that would guide our count, mounted our brooms, and spent many hours recording every butterfly we each could see as we swept this way and that above our sectors.

I took a mere dozen as permitted for medicinal applications, and you may be sure I will make prudent use of each of those specimens. As I and Professor Brutka will, of course, make judicious use of the voles (and parts thereof) that I collected in Wales.

I write you this evening from somewhere altogether more elegant--a terrace at Alnwick Castle, where Professor Sprout and I are sharing a

suite whilst we each partake in courses (The Paradoxical Application of Poisons for me, Magical Mulching for Pomona) at the marvelous teaching gardens here. But that is a story for another time.

I trust you are all well and enjoying summer's graces.

[2011-07-26 20:57:00](#)

London Tour

Westminster was extremely interesting, although I would have liked more time to look at all the plaques and things in Westminster Abbey, especially Poet's Corner. (Even though the guide didn't mention it, it's rather sad to see all the blank spots where names have been wiped away. But of course, memorials to nonwizarding folk mustn't be allowed anymore. Even if people still read their books.)



 [alt_luna](#)

After walking all afternoon a few of us have blisters, and Portia even got a touch of heat stroke, so it's quite nice to be able to sit for a change. Honoria Sandoval went on last week's YPL trip to London, and she said that Cats Hexing came along to provide music on the boat tour. So people were really looking forward to it. But I suppose they weren't able to work it into their schedule two weeks in a row. Still, even without the music, the boat ride has been perfectly lovely. It's falling dusk now, and the lights along the river are so beautiful. And we still have the ghost tour at the Tower of London later tonight.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-27 12:05:54](#)

(no subject)


Oh Luna,

It's nice to tour London properly, is it not? I'm glad you enjoyed your boat ride. It is really too bad you couldn't have come along with us. Cats Hexing was wonderful during our ride. I'm sure you will enjoy the ghost tour. We got to see parts of that tower that they normally reserve for more exclusive reservations. They also took us to see a panto so we got to have a night where we all got dressed up. Then we had ice creams just before lights out. The entire week was spectacular. Especially when you consider I was able to accompany Honoria on her shopping trip in New London the Sunday before.

The shops she gets to go to are amazing. And I believe her Mum picked out certain items before hand. Mrs Sandoval has such great taste. The fabrics, and colours and patterns she picked for Honoria were fabulous. I was on a high all week. Only I was too excited to write as I was trying not to miss anything. I just wanted to soak it all in. I hope you have a wonderful rest of your trip.

Ginny




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2011-07-27 14:17:09](#)**
(no subject)

The ghost tour was wonderful. We're going to be seeing the panto tonight.


Oh, and Ginny, guess what...we were passing a newstand this morning, on our way to visit the Auror training centre, and Portia stopped to buy a copy of *Purest Sparkle*, because she always has to have a copy, and YOU'RE in it! Those were the pictures from that makeover you had, weren't they? They turned out quite lovely! There are almost four pages. You look quite a bit older. Gareth Archer said he could hardly believe it was you.



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2011-07-27 14:29:22](#)**
(no subject)

Wow! Thanks for telling me. I wasn't exactly sure when that issue would come out. I might have to ask Mum if I can go into the village later and pick up a copy. I am excited to see it.




 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2011-07-27 16:59:59](#)**
(no subject)

I didn't like the ghost tour.

I know it was supposed to be fun, but I don't really like ghosts.

From,
Hydra




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2011-07-27 17:06:36](#)**
(no subject)

One of your housemates, Norma Stein, really doesn't like ghosts either. She left the tour a bit early and went back to wait at the entrance for everyone else.

I rather like ghosts, because they can tell you quite a bit about history, especially the older ones. Some of them are quite shy, you know, and it takes some patience to get to know them, but once you do, they're ever so glad that somebody cares.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2011-07-27 17:27:41](#)**
(no subject)

Norma just doesn't know what to do without Cressida, is all.

Those are the ghosts of regular people, then. But sometimes there are ghosts of people who were hateful or mad or both.

From,
Hydra

2011-07-27 17:16:00

(no subject)

Weasley, just realised talking with Selwyn that tomorrow's Hogwarts Board of Governors' meeting is *at* Hogwarts. Did Peakes give a particular reason? Seems unnecessary given that the Headmistress and half the Board are in New London. See if you can change it, particularly as the *Prophet* is directly prior.



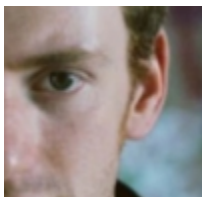
 **alt_lucius**


Also - Bagman again. Cornered me in the corridors outside Fudge's office. Next week, if you please, half an hour to discuss Top Box seating.

Presume you are still awaiting the packet for Presto? Have not seen it yet.

Barty, I've news you may be interested to hear. Have Ned tell me when you can next meet for drinks.

Draco, received your letter. Glad Mr Zabini has made the place so hospitable for you, Harry and the others. Cannot see why we may not arrange a private run through the Elysian's or Ouroboros' course - however, the timing may be problematic. Remember that Freedom Day celebrations shall occupy much of the week-end. Your mother asks me to tell you that she did agree with your idea for Harry's birthday (and no, Harry, I am not going to spoil the surprise) and that everything is well in hand for the gift you wish to present.



 **alt_percy** at **2011-07-27 22:50:17**
(no subject)

No, Mr Peakes did not offer a reason for the meeting location. I have consulted with his clerk and changed the location to a conference room at Huddleby's (it'll be adjacent to the location of the meeting for the *Prophet*) and have managed to reach most of the Board members to inform them of the location switch. Am still trying to reach Evan, Shaw and Burroughs or to speak with their clerks, but have sent each of them owls.

Mr Bagman has been calendared for 10:00 am Monday next week.

The Presto packet has finally showed up. It has been placed on your desk.

2011-07-27 18:29:00

Private Message To Draco Malfoy



Draco,

I really want to thank you for encouraging me to enter the Purest Sparkle Summer Contest. I would have never thought about it otherwise.

 [alt_ginny](#)


I received my copy of the most current issue today. There was nearly 4 whole pages of pictures. But that opportunity really opened up a door for me. Along with the issue was an envelope from them, which was completely unexpected. They said the normally don't extend offers like this, but they liked my look and want to hire me to be a part of their photo shoots for the next year at least. If I accept (which I would be mad not to) they want me to start in October in preparation for the huge winter holiday issue.

Thank you so much Draco!
I owe you big! More than you know.

Ginny W.

Oh, by the way, please don't mention this to anyone who would speak out of turn. You are the first person I have told. I will make a more public post later. I just don't want everyone to know before I get the chance to do so.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2011-07-28 01:14:47**
(no subject)

Oh

Right, no worries at all. I haven't seen the latest issue, I'm afraid. It might be the sort of thing they send out to Mother but I'm at Zabini's this week, training with Harry for CCF. I'll ask her about if she has a copy when I'm back at Kensington. I'm sure the whole thing is brilliant, though. Congratulations all 'round.

Of course I won't tell anyone. It's your news to share.

[2011-07-27 21:40:00](#)

I have the most wonderful news...

I received my copy of *Purest Sparkle* today. I must say I love the pictures, but that's not the best part. Along with the issue was an offer to do photo shoots for them at least for a year. I would start in October with the preparation for the huge winter holiday issue. They would send someone to fetch me on the weekends that they need me; and I would stay in New London over night each time, unless its not a full day shoot.



 **[alt_ginny](#)**

It even said I could bring a friend along for the first shoot. I think that would be great. I am so excited about this opportunity. I never dreamed I'd get to do any kind of modeling. I am no where near cover witch standards, but the pictures in *Purest Sparkle* do look wonderful; better than I thought they would. I am definitely looking forward to October now! I can't wait to see what they have planned.



 **[alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-28 01:55:15](#)**

Private Message to Mum and Dad

Mum, Dad...

May I please accept this opportunity? It would be a great experience, and they even said they would pay me. This is something I would really like to do, but I want your permission first.




 **[alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-28 20:24:27](#)**

Re: Private Message to Mum and Dad

I've spoken with your father, dear, and we do have some reservations. If they have any contract for you to sign, we'll have to review it first, of course. But if there's nothing problematic with the contract then yes, we'll allow you to do it.




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-29 11:38:17](#)

Re: Private Message to Mum and Dad

Thanks Mum. I really think you will like the terms of the contract.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-28 01:59:32](#)

(no subject)

My goodness, Ginny, that is wonderful news. Congratulations.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-28 02:07:59](#)

(no subject)

Thanks Percy. I am looking forward to it. And things seem to be going well for you too. Your position with Mr Malfoy fits you well. I'm happy you are happy again.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2011-07-28 03:13:54](#)

(no subject)

Ginny, how exciting! You'll be allowed, right? Leticia Calderwood and some other older girls modeled while they were still at Hogwarts, so I don't see why you couldn't, too. Who was your photographer? Last year at a fundraiser one tried to talk to me about modeling, but then Grandmother marched up and told him that I was meant for the stage, and that was the end of that. I can't say I'm too fussed, because she was only telling the truth, after all.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-28 14:57:55](#)

(no subject)

Well Mum and Dad haven't said boo about it yet. I have asked for their permission, I don't see why they wouldn't allow me to though.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2011-07-28 12:35:32](#)
(no subject)


Congratulations, Miss Weasley. It must be quite gratifying to have the opportunity to earn one's own in such a glamorous fashion. Of course, you must also be pleased with the prospect of assisting your family, even at so young an age.

And I don't simply mean lining their vault, of course.

It happens I've seen the pictures and they're quite good. Naturally, Trang Nguyen is one of the better fashion photographers currently working but beyond his skill, you've an undeniable *quality*. I'm sure I'm not the first to remark on it. A certain ... ingenuity, I suppose, that is refreshing when captured in the confines of the frame.


Enjoy your new-found success, Miss Weasley - and do take care to preserve that which gained it for you.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-28 15:33:17](#)
(no subject)

Thank you for your kind words Mrs Malfoy, and for taking the time out of your busy schedule to write them. It means a lot to me that you find my pictures pleasing. And thank you for your words of advice, I will endeavour to uphold it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-30 01:56:51](#)
(no subject)


I've been fielding good-natured ribbing all day at work, Gin. (The same ones who gave me no end of trouble when that bit came out in *Witch Weekly* about me last November. Apparently there is a small but growing faction that has all but decided that Weasleys are destined to be heartbreakers.)



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-07-30 01:57:49](#)
(no subject)

Well of course they are!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-30 01:58:13](#)
(no subject)

Definitely.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-30 01:59:23](#)
(no subject)

There's Percy, though.

But we suppose there has to be an exception to every rule.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-30 02:00:11](#)
(no subject)


Oh, ha ha. Very funny.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-30 02:00:53](#)
(no subject)

Well, we thought so!



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-30 04:54:59](#)
(no subject)

I don't remember seeing a trail of broken hearts or pining eyes following you two around either. So maybe there are a couple more exceptions to that rule?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2011-07-30 04:58:18](#)
(no subject)


See, our true identities as Hogwarts Men of Mystery and Intrigue means that our romantic exploits are HARDLY going to be witnessed by our Ickle Little Sister.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-30 05:20:52](#)
(no subject)


You two are very funny, and really think highly of yourselves don't you. Mystery and intrigue, give me a break. I may be young, but dumb I am not. Oh you two, what will I ever do with you?



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-30 05:28:36](#)
Private message to Fred and George Weasley


And if you noticed my pictures, you'd know I'm not so little anymore.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-30 04:51:13](#)
Private Message to Bill Weasley

Destined. That may be, but I can't say. I shan't be breaking any hearts anytime soon. If Mum has found nothing to disapprove of the situation, I am not allow to be involved with boys, for the duration of my contract.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2011-07-30 04:59:54](#)
Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley

A contract like that may actually be a selling point as far as Mum's concerned.



 **[alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-30 05:25:15](#)**

Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley

It's not like I would want to court anyone right now anyway. I can make that choice without a contract. Plus if I decided I wanted to, I would have to watch out for at least 5 pair prying eyes.



 **[alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-30 19:12:20](#)**

(no subject)

Congratulations, Ginny. I know how much this means to you and I'm really happy you've got the opportunity.



 **[alt_ginny](#) at [2011-07-30 22:47:45](#)**

(no subject)

Thank you Penny.

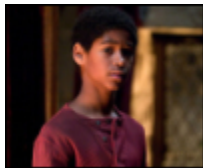
[2011-07-28 22:11:00](#)


Private message to Dean Thomas

Are you going to Longbottom's party in Blackpool? I wouldn't mind going to Blackpool but there'll be no avoiding Weasley. Mr Rosier says I can go if I want. If you're going I'll go, if you're skipping I probably won't.



 **[alt_seamus](#)**



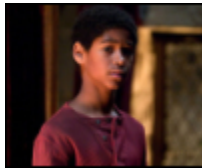
 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2011-07-29 04:39:10](#)**
(no subject)


I was thinking I might go long enough to wish Neville a good day and drop off a gift. I don't want to miss Draco's party for Harry. We should be on-time for than no matter what. What do you think?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2011-07-29 14:12:01](#)**
(no subject)

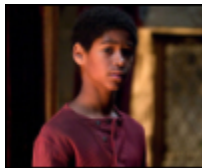
We can leave Longbottom's party early and have plenty of time to get to Harry's. Let's do that, then.




 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2011-07-29 14:14:52](#)**
(no subject)

Perfect, mate.

I will see you on Saturday then, at Neville's.



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2011-07-30 04:45:08](#)**
(no subject)

You are probably sleeping by now, but did you see that they are running the course at half past nine. I think we should drop in to say Happy Birthday, then catch up with the other party. That way we don't have to deal with Weasley, at least not all day.

2011-07-29 07:13:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I got an owl from Seamus. I didn't realise that Harry Marvolo was setting his party for tomorrow, too.



 [alt_neville](#)

But that's okay; if any of you lot are invited, you can just use the public floo at South Pier to take off for Marvolo's, after we do the waterpark. (And if you're not, we'll have the rest of the day at Blackpool to console us, yeah?)


Terry, mate, I really wish you could join us. Because I sure would have invited you, too, if you could come.



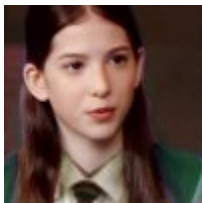
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2011-07-30 02:44:09**
(no subject)

Thanks, Neville. Girls aren't supposed to come until five anyway -- how late were you thinking of staying in Blackpool? The public floo should make it easy.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2011-07-30 02:55:00**
(no subject)

We'll stay through dinner at least. I'm hoping we can stay through the fireworks, but that's rather late at night for someone like my Gran. But anyway, we'll be there at least until five for sure.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2011-07-30 02:52:37**
(no subject)

And Pansy, do you think your mum will let you come this time? Blackpool was BRILLIANT when we went two summer ago. (Until I talked Neville and Ron into going on this roller coaster with me ... ugh, never

again.)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2011-07-30 13:58:35](#)
(no subject)

I'll be fine. I told her there were some parties to go to today, and she assumed they were all for Harry, so I just let her.

2011-07-29 18:43:00

Party reminder

Blaise: Pucey, Montague and the others agreed to meet us at the Ouroboros course at nine. Any of the rest of you lads in CCF are welcome to join, if you can make it. We'll be running the course from 9:30-12:00, steam and massage from 12:00-1:00, then a luncheon in the club restaurant just after. If we make it back to Kensington by 3:00 that should leave us plenty of time to rest and clean up for the evening's events.



 [alt_draco](#)

Everyone else, the festivities will start at 5:00. Make sure you bring your invitation, because you can't get in without it. The gardens will be closed off the public so we'll have the run of the place. Oh, and bring a bathing costume if you want to swim in the fountains, and a broom if you fancy a fly.

[2011-07-29 20:37:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater



Rather a horrid day.

I made my first mistake at work. Well, I'm not sure if it was my first mistake, really, but Mr Malfoy was most put out. A meeting location had been changed, rather at the last minute, but one of the board members did not get the word on time and so showed up at the initial location. Did I misdirect her owl? I am not sure if that was the problem, or if she simply missed it or even ignored it until it was too late. And of course, I can't exculpate myself by saying that.

 **[alt_percy](#)**

It was quite a dreadful feeling, to receive that crushing little note from him. In that elegant handwriting. I had so hoped that I could continue to make a good impression.

I don't know whether to feel grateful that with the weekend I won't be seeing him for a couple days, or whether it makes it worse. I'm liable to brood over my error, which will make facing him again on Monday only worse.

I hate hate HATE looking ridiculous.



 **[alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-30 03:19:15](#)**

(no subject)

It can't have been that bad, really, can it? I mean - that's the sort of thing that isn't your fault. You sent her word, and you can't have been expected to stand over her to make sure she read the letter.

Still. I know how much it means to you to do well at this. With him. But even if Mr Malfoy was cross with you, surely it's nothing to obsess about. By Monday he'll have forgotten about it, I'm sure. You ought to do the same, Perce.


I wish I could say I've had a better week, but this group! I'm so relieved they're all going home. Well, not home, exactly - a few are staying in New London for the Freedom Day celebrations, but with their families, thank Merlin.

They were unbelievably quarrelsome! You'd think they were holding

a mirror up to the first group all week long, just to prove to everyone that they could tell this week's agenda wasn't quite up to the same standard. Instead of making the best out of it and realising that their placement here meant they need to try all the harder. Lovegood's a hopeless case, I hope you know, since your sister still seems to think she's a divine sort of friend to have. And that Zimmerman - and Stevens, Morgana, what a whinger that one is! I'm quite glad she's normally Hufflepuff's problem, her.

But don't think I'm trying to compete with your day. I'm just saying, I wish I had news that could cheer you up more.




 **alt_percy** at [2011-07-30 18:50:48](#)
(no subject)

I really don't know if Mr Malfoy is the sort to bear grudges or not. It's rather early for me to be able to tell that. But he is extremely...exacting, I suppose. I will certainly have to be on my toes all the time.

I'm sorry you've had a difficult week, too. But at least it's OVER for you. I'm sure it's a relief for you to be able to sleep in your own bed again.

Maybe you can slip away to see me tonight or tomorrow?



 **alt_penelope** at [2011-07-30 19:07:32](#)
(no subject)

Well, whether he is or not, he shan't appreciate it if you go about walking on eggshells, I'd bet. I think I've picked up on that much just from the couple of times I've met him.

I suppose being home should be comforting. It would be if Dad weren't so.... Well, you have Mr Malfoy. I have my father.

But I'd love to get together. Should we meet in New London? It'll be easier when I get my Apparition licence - that's another thing about working with the YPL all summer long: No time to make an appointment for the exam.

Besides, I've got some wonderful news since yesterday - this morning, in fact.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2011-07-30 20:43:26](#)
(no subject)

Wonderful news? Now you've got me all curious.

New London sounds fine. We could meet at that tea shop you liked, Cressy's. Today at 5:00? Or let me know if tomorrow works better. Reply here, or floo call me.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2011-07-30 20:52:27](#)
(no subject)

Well, really it's nothing we weren't expecting. My news. I mean, there was a chance that Pyle would get it but when she didn't seem too keen to pitch in when ~~you went spare~~ we needed someone at the end of school, I rather thought that would be the wormswort in her tea.

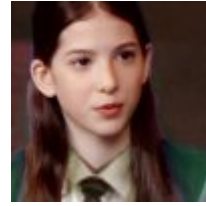
They've named me Head Girl for next year.

Five at Cressy's sounds grand. See you in a few minutes, then.

2011-07-29 21:45:00

Private message to Pansy Parkinson

Do you by any chance have an extra bathing costume I could borrow?



 **alt_sally_anne**



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2011-07-30 03:08:19**

(no subject)

I wish Draco had mentioned earlier about the swimming.

I suppose I could just stay dry. There's Blackpool too, though.

Although if people don't mind stopping I could buy one in a shop once I get to Blackpool, I have some money saved. But, I hate making everyone wait.



 **alt_pansy** at **2011-07-30 13:55:44**

(no subject)

I'll bring one, yeah.

2011-07-31 09:23:00

Order Only: Private Message to Hermione and Harry



 **alt_sirius**

Hermione,
Did my birthday present get through to Harry? I know it was a bit of a risk, sending something, but I figured he gets so many unsolicited gifts it might have slipped his guards' notice.

Anyway. It was just a little thing, nothing significant at all. But if it did get intercepted, I didn't want him to think I would ignore his birthday.


Even if everyone else treats it like a national holiday.



 **alt_hermione** at **2011-07-31 15:52:52**
(no subject)

It did, and they asked me about it! But I told them that he has a friend at school who signs things with a paw print as a joke, and they didn't think anything else about it, I don't think, because they let him have it and they didn't seem to care and went on to ask about the next thing that seemed suspicious. Which wasn't suspicious at all and was really from a school friend, it was just not the smartest political thing to send, but there we are, what can you expect from boys?



 **alt_sirius** at **2011-07-31 16:28:21**
(no subject)

Excellent. Perhaps that means I can send things a little more regularly, if they've an explanation for the signature.

Hope he enjoys the assortment. Tell him those trick quills are particularly devilish if they get wet.


And tell him to write me once in a while, too, and let me know how he's doing.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2011-07-31 16:39:29](#)**
(no subject)

I will. I think he's been antsy because of everything. Well you know. His Father would scare anyone.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-31 16:42:59](#)**
(no subject)

No, I don't know, Hermione. What's going on, then?



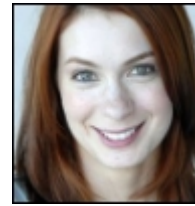
 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2011-07-31 17:01:19](#)**
(no subject)

He's just stranger than ever, that's all. You don't really notice it if you see him every day but he is getting stranger. I mean we knew that last year but it hasn't stopped, he looks worse and worse and when Harry came back from school he barely paid attention to him at all, that's not like it used to be, I mean when Harry was very little he used to spend all of his time focussed on him, and then even when I was first serving Harry it was like he was important, but now it's as though he's just a pawn, like now that he's grown up it doesn't matter. And I think he's, Harry's father I mean, using darker and darker magics, because he looks worse and worse, like he never sleeps and he's not all the way there. Only of course we can't say anything, Harry can't either. So I don't know.

2011-07-31 11:18:00

ORDER ONLY

It's been a few days since we've been back, and I wanted to be sure to catch all of you up on how our trip went. Kingsley, once again, thank you so very much for the chance to see my children.



 [alt_alice](#)

This time, we went to the Lakes district, and spent quite a lot of time hiking and mountain-climbing, and swimming of course. We spent an entire day doing nothing but sitting out in the sun and paddling around, which was just heaven. Both Neville and Evelyn brought presents for Kevin, and taught him all sorts of new words, and he toddled around after them so much that he slept like a rock every night. We were worried that the excitement of it all might make Kevin show his magic, which would be quite awkward all round, seeing as how he's supposed to not have any, but he held off for the time being, thank goodness.

Neville was quite determined to improve in his defensive skills -- I could tell that not getting in to that programme really stung, and he didn't want to feel as if he'd been left behind -- so we set up a course for him by the campsite, and spent a bit of time teaching him some things we thought he'd find useful. Disarming and disabling spells, mostly. Evelyn could care less about learning how to fight -- she was much more interested in how to be properly secretive. How to write secret messages, and how to walk around without making a sound, that sort of thing. It's only natural that she ought to pick up on those things as being important, seeing as how she's got some rather large secrets of her own to worry over.

The two of them are both navigating through choppy waters with their school mates -- although the end of the term was a good deal easier than the start of it, and Neville has his solid group of friends, he's had a falling-out with two of his roommates, and that is always difficult. I'm a bit more worried about Evelyn -- after her first year at school, she's close to one girl in her class, and a girl a few years older, and that appears to be about it other than Neville. I spent some time talking about it, and she said very sensibly that she wanted to be friends with people who liked her for who she was, but I hope she is able to find more people like that this next term. She also mentioned that she was concerned about getting harassed by one of the older boys in her house -- an older boy named McClaggen. Apparently, he picks on Katrina Bundy, who is one of the girls she's become friendly

with, and she was worried he'd start to pick on her too. So we talked over what to be worried about, and when to talk to someone in charge, and what to do if she ever gets into a situation that makes her feel uncomfortable, including some rather basic moves she can make if someone (Merlin forbid) tries to grab at her or worse. This is not the sort of conversation I was expecting to have with my daughter at such a young age, but this was something she was genuinely concerned about, and I figure it's better to give her tools to deal with what may happen than wish that it won't happen at all. Evelyn has a wonderful older brother, too, and I'm glad they are in the same house so that he can keep an eye on her.

We also spent some time talking about boggarts. Neville's had some trouble with boggarts over the last year or so -- Poppy is more than aware of this, but every time his class has had to deal with boggarts, he's gotten out of it by either getting sick, or crashing his broom. It's because he knows what it'll be, and he was worried it would get us all into trouble -- he told us the thing he fears the most is that Frank and I will be captured, and if that shows up to everybody else, he's made a point of publicly disowning us, and that would just go right out the window.


The reason we were talking of them was because Neville was worried that Evelyn would be in a similar position when she encounters boggarts of her own either this year or next in Defence. So that led to a conversation about what boggarts were like, and which forms they took, and how to fight them, as well as what our greatest fears were. Frank and I came across a boggart a few years back, so we were able to share our own experiences. My boggart was a bit hard to admit to. It was Neville, fully grown and showing me a Dark Mark on his arm and laughing. When I said what it was, Neville got this determined look on his face, and said that I never needed to worry, because that would never happen, and he looked so much like Frank right at that moment, and I burst into tears and gave him a giant hug right then and there, and we both felt better for it after.

We also talked a bit about what Evelyn's might be. She decided her boggart would probably be Neville getting his wand broken, and getting expelled from Hogwarts. At least that's the first thing that came to her mind. Goodness knows in children of that age, fears change and grow. I don't think her boggart as it stands would be particularly damning (other than raising the question as to what she thinks Neville would do to get expelled, that is), but we told her that if she was worried about it, that there was nothing wrong about skipping out on it like Neville had. He offered to help her if it came

down to that.

So, you can see we had an awful lot to discuss, and I hope that both Neville and Evelyn feel better prepared for their upcoming term. They are growing up so quickly that it makes my head spin.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-31 17:02:51](#)**
(no subject)

Alice -- Neville's reasons for avoiding the experience of facing a boggart in front of his classmates are sound, but he really ought to learn how to do the charm that defeats them.

Perhaps someone could capture one and bring it out to where you'll be camping, next summer? You could teach him yourselves, it's not complicated. Merely unnerving in the extreme, if you encounter one unexpectedly.

For that matter, it's sometimes possible to develop a particular fear, if you'd like your boggart to take a different form. It's something the opposite of the steps one takes to get over a particular fear.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-31 17:17:33](#)**
(no subject)

Oh! That's a good point -- about developing a fear so that it shows what you want. I hadn't thought of that. And I could see it being fairly straightforward for an adult to do, but I worry about telling Neville or Evelyn to work on developing a fear to something. Might it get out of hand with children?

We did talk about the mechanics of defeating a boggart, of course, but you're right -- it is worth seeing if we can track one down for next time.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-31 17:35:10](#)**
(no subject)

It is risky, either for adults or children. You're essentially setting out to deliberately develop a phobia, and a phobia can create all sorts of

problems of its own.

It's between you and Neville whether it's worth the risk, I'd say.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-31 19:04:02](#)**
(no subject)


He's such a determined sort of person, and tends to push himself quite hard. I'm worried he'll take it too far if he's on his own.

I think it'd probably be better to suggest it in person, when we could talk it over and he could have some guidance.

I wish

It'd be nice if he could get some private tutoring. We only see him a handful of times a year as it is, and he has so many things he wants to learn.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-31 18:20:06](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad you had more time with both of them, Allie.

I think I'd tell them that a boggart can be deceiving, as well - I mean, they can surprise you. Sometimes it's a legitimate fear and sometimes it's something much more primal. Like clowns or fruitcake.

But Remus is right: The best way to deal with them is practising and knowing what to expect. It's a pity they can't do that in a safe place.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2011-07-31 18:52:55](#)**
(no subject)

Indeed. I'll see if we can't arrange for one for next summer, and the more we talk about it, I think the better prepared they'll be if they ever do have to face one.

Children these days have so many more things to be genuinely afraid of.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 18:21:06](#)

(no subject)

Oh, and -

That McLaggan bloke sounds a treat. Did you teach her the hex to make him itch uncontrollably if he tries to touch her?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-31 18:50:45](#)

(no subject)

Among other things, yes.

She was particularly amused by the various ways she could use her knee to hurt him where it counts. I hope she'll never have cause to use it, but I'd like to think it'll make her feel braver, and less likely to take any nonsense from him.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2011-08-01 02:32:27](#)

(no subject)

It was a pleasure for both Emmeline and me. We rather enjoyed spending the week catching up with Algie.

(Well, aside from having to drink polyjuice throughout the week, of course.)



 [alt_molly](#) at [2011-08-01 02:36:37](#)

(no subject)

It truly does my heart good to read of your week with Neville and Evelyn, Alice. (Although your boggart, and what Neville said about it--that brought tears to my eyes. I think for mothers, our worst fears often involve our children, don't they?)



 **alt_lupin** at [2011-08-01 02:46:03](#)
(no subject)

I don't think it's just mothers.

What do you think about this business with the magazine and your daughter?



 **alt_molly** at [2011-08-01 17:47:37](#)
(no subject)

I must admit I don't like it, Remus. I can see it tempting her down the path that's luring Percy: dazzling her with glimpses of a lifestyle that we can't afford, focusing on superficialities and worst of all, thinking that she's better because she's pureblooded.

She has her heart so set on it, though. We intend to keep talking with her, to make sure she's keeping her head through all this. I suppose that's all we can do. Perhaps we can head off temptations by pointing out that they are temptations. It's tricky to do, however, because we can't spell out TOO much our objections.

2011-07-31 11:53:00

Order Only: the Beer Garden



 [alt_lupin](#)

The beer garden is starting to see some regulars. It's an interesting crowd. We wanted muggleborns to feel free to sit for a bit, so we started off from the beginning discouraging people from asking awkward questions. During the week, we've started to notice a group of muggleborns who turn up every Wednesday afternoon. They've clearly arranged to run errands the same day, at the same time, so they can sit and visit together. We've tried to give them a spot of privacy, but of course no one watches what they say in front of the family dog. The worst conspiracy Sirius has overheard is a discussion of how best to mix drinks to speed their masters to drunken oblivion.

On the weekends we see more of a half-blood crowd. They can come openly, instead of snatching moments when people think they're running errands. And they bring money, fortunately, and they seem to have a good time. We've started noticing regulars in this group, too.

Weekday evenings, we think we're attracting a few of a more criminal element. Our 'no nosy questions' policy, of course, makes it a good place for people to arrange to meet for deals they don't want overheard. They're not an especially savoury lot. On the other hand, they might turn out useful later, and oddly, they might provide us with a bit of camouflage. If people assume we're doing something illegal but winked-at, they're less likely to look too closely. On the other hand, in a crackdown they might draw attention. It rather depends on what they're up to, so Sirius is listening in when he can.

And of course there are a few individuals who we're not sure which group they fit in. There was a man who came last Saturday and stayed until we chucked out the last few stragglers. He was back on Monday and Thursday, and then again last night. He tried to chat up Dora on Thursday.

I'm a bit worried he's from the Ministry.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 17:03:37](#)
(no subject)

So that bloke was back last night, then? I thought it might have been him but every time I thought to venture downstairs, Bea would fuss a bit. I think she's getting ready to push herself up off her stomach.


I still think we should contact Dung and have him get a look at that chap. And at the other activity. He'll be sure to tell us whether they're connected into the black markets or whether they're, let's say, amateur felons.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-31 17:06:23](#)
(no subject)

Do we know whether Mundungus is even alive? He hasn't responded to the last half-dozen owls -- but then, 'we've set up a lovely new hideaway for you and your friends to talk business' might be just the thing to lure him out.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 17:11:04](#)
(no subject)

Well, there's been nothing to indicate he's been detained by MLE. But this is Dung we're talking about - he could have been captured on some minor offence and been secreted away, and who would know the difference?

I think it's worth trying, anyway.

Oh, and while we're at it, would you and Dora please stop telling the patrons *not* to feed me scraps?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-31 17:25:44](#)
(no subject)

Mmm. You actually WANT to eat our customers' left-over food? We're not trying to put you on a slimming diet, you know, we just thought you

might not like HAVING to lick out everyone's half-done plate so you'd look like a proper dog.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 17:30:23](#)
(no subject)


It'd be revolting if I were in human form, but
funnily enough Padfoot rather likes it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 17:32:00](#)
(no subject)

Besides, I can decide for myself if there's
something I particularly don't want to sample.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-31 17:34:38](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's the problem, isn't it? When is a dog
ever going to turn up his nose at a plate of food
just because the person offering it smells like he
hasn't had a bath in a month?


It's not exactly a leap from 'that dog acts almost human
sometimes' to 'that dog is an animagus wizard.'



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 17:41:19](#)
(no subject)

I've known dogs with taste preferences - it's
unusual, I'll grant but not unheard of.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-07-31 17:45:42](#)
(no subject)

Sometimes I think it's a bit of a shame you
don't transform into a cat.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-31 18:17:16](#)**
(no subject)


I quite like cats.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-31 18:20:12](#)**
(no subject)

So do I, though they're not usually fond of me. (Well, Minerva tolerates me well enough. Ordinary cats, though, I think they smell the wolf on me even when it's the new moon.)




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2011-07-31 21:20:13](#)**
(no subject)

Hermione's cat didn't seem to mind you, though. Or that other one. Parkinson's.

But then they're kneazles, so they're uncommonly clever.

Mother detested cats, of course. But that's probably for the best; I really don't want to think what Reg and I would have done having one about all the time. My grandmother Melania had three, actually. Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos. But they weren't particularly friendly.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2011-07-31 17:08:39](#)**
(no subject)

And yes, the bloke was back, as gregarious as ever.

I'll send you down, next time I spot him. You can get close enough to listen without anyone thinking anything of it. His chat with Dora was innocuous enough, but who knows what he's saying to the rest of the crowd?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-07-31 17:12:06](#)
(no subject)


So Dora says, anyway.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-08-01 00:43:33](#)
(no subject)

Oi, there!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 00:44:46](#)
(no subject)


Wot? It wasn't innocuous?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-08-01 01:00:55](#)
(no subject)

It was perfectly harmless. Only Remus would fault someone for being at his ease meeting new people.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 01:02:31](#)
(no subject)

Well, he's a professional worrier, you know. He and Poppy could have a contest.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-08-01 02:03:55](#)
(no subject)

Do you think you're being fair to Madam P?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 02:24:45](#)
(no subject)

I think so, yes. It's her job to worry and she's bound by compacts of her profession. Whereas Moony just worries on his own time.



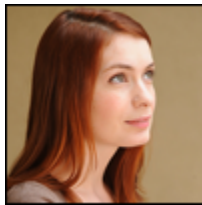
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2011-08-01 02:47:00](#)
(no subject)


Are you two quite done?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 02:49:13](#)
(no subject)

Not half.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2011-07-31 17:13:26](#)
(no subject)

If he is with the Ministry, he's being awfully obvious about it.

Which might be what he means to do. So that you know you're being watched.

Or perhaps he's just very lonely, and has found a place where he can go and be among friendly people for the first time in a long time.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-08-01 00:56:59](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's what we hope for all of them, of course.

Only we wonder sometimes what brings in the newcomers. When they don't come with anyone regular their first time.

It's just Remus being cautious. He does that, you know.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 01:05:59](#)
(no subject)

Still, I'd like Dung's expert opinion on the fellow.

Take his visit on Thursday, for example - buying that whole cake. Doesn't strike me as someone with many mouths to feed.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-08-01 01:58:45](#)
(no subject)

Well, he could just be a chap who likes to have friends round to his. You can't say he's not a friendly sort.

Or maybe he took it along for Sunday supper with his Mum and Dad.

I hear people do that. If they've got family left.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2011-08-01 02:01:56](#)
(no subject)

That's not to say we shouldn't have Dung give the place a sniff. He can't lower our standards any, I don't think.

And you're right, he might be able to tell us a bit about some of our dodgier friends.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2011-08-01 02:53:35](#)
(no subject)

You have a "no nosy questions" policy that's more or less well known? Hm.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 15:20:44](#)
(no subject)

Well, it's not as if we've a sign out front

'No nosy-parkers allowed'


but yeah, I'd say the place has acquired something of a reputation for being discreet.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2011-08-01 15:25:53](#)
(no subject)


I can see how that'd be desirable, given the circumstances, but stands to reason that the reputation might've spread to someone, not necessarily from the Ministry, but perhaps looking to get in good with that lot. Before Azkaban there were plenty of folk looking to curry favour by turning snitch, so reckon it's not changed much since then.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2011-08-01 15:41:01](#)
(no subject)

Precisely why I'd love Dung to stop in and have a sniff of our man, there. You've no reason to know Mundungus Fletcher but one of his best recommendations is his own particularly unsavoury reputation. He can tell an honest thief from a Ministry plant in about one shake of a crup's tail.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2011-08-01 15:46:21](#)
(no subject)

Mightn't not be a plant or a thief either one, though. Hope he can spot an opportunist.

Otherwise, Remus - I'd go out of your way to make sure the man feels as welcome as any other.

2011-07-31 13:36:00

*Private message to Harry Marvolo
and Draco Malfoy*




Thank you so much for the invitation. I really enjoyed the party, it was absolutely lovely.

 **alt_sally_anne**

Happy birthday (again), Harry! I'm looking forward to seeing both of you at CCF camp tomorrow.



 **alt_draco** at **2011-08-01 02:46:24**
(no subject)

Cheers, Sally Anne. It was a smashing good time, yeah?

2011-07-31 13:36:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_sally_anne**


Neville, thanks so much for inviting me to Blackpool again. I tried to go a bit easier on the candy floss this time and restrained any urges I got to dare Gryffindors to get on roller coasters!

I've sent your Grandmother an owl with a proper thank-you, hopefully she'll get that later today.

And how shockingly rude of Finnigan and Thomas to tell you they were coming, and then change their minds at the last minute like that. The good part is, I think we had more fun without them. (I felt a little guilty taking off at five but at least I told you that's what I was going to do when I RSVP'd, since I was invited to both your party and Harry's.)

I fell into bed when I got home and Maureen was kind enough to keep Gemma away this morning so I could have a lie-in. And tomorrow I'm off to that CCF camp and I can't do even one more pull-up than I could do before, I hope they don't send me straight home again. At least I can run a little faster.



 **alt_ron** at **2011-08-01 01:55:04**
(no subject)

Finnigan and Thomas deserve a good kicking.

Don't worry, Nev, I didn't do it when I saw them last night. Just ignored them. But if I see a chance next week, they'll be lucky to go home with any teeth left.


Anywiz, Blackpool was wizard and Kennsington with the Malfoys was snobby and awful. And I hardly got to say anything to Harry, which, y'know, I should have known would happen, but I suppose it was right to go. Still, I'd rather have stayed with you.

I wrote your Gran, but Mum's going to send it when Errol gets back from wherever she'd sent him off to. If he doesn't drop over dead when she tells him he's got to make another delivery! Shame Pig

wasn't around.

Where is Pig, anywiz? Which of you lot've got him?

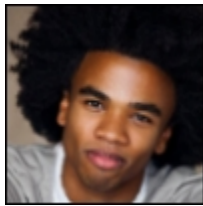


 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:12:58](#)**

(no subject)

I've got Pig. I bought some sweets at Blackpool I want to smuggle off to Terry, although I guess it'll have to wait until next weekend, when it's safe to see them.

Seamus and Dean...yeah, well. They sent gifts anyway, which meant that they didn't ignore me the invitation entirely. Although Gran was quite cross when she saw what Seamus's gift was. He sent an envelope telling me he's renewed the subscription for that same comic book subscription he got for me last year, *Heroes of the Protectorate*.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:13:51](#)**

(no subject)

Why'd she get cross about that?



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:14:45](#)**

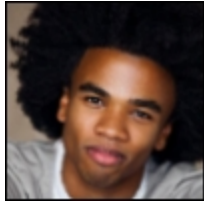
(no subject)


You haven't seen them?

See, they're all about the stirring adventures of this crack wing of aurors who spend just about all their time battling these *evil* ex-aurors who have gone traitor.

The traitors' names are Francis and Agnes Longacre.


Don't think that's a coincidence.



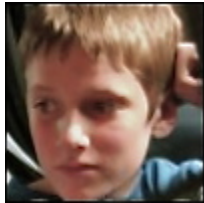
 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:15:55](#)**
(no subject)


Ouch.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:16:08](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:17:47](#)**
(no subject)

That's *awful*.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:18:37](#)**
(no subject)

You said it.

That'll win no points for Gryffindor for tact.

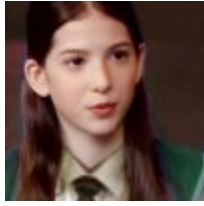


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:32:47](#)**
(no subject)

Tact?

This is Finnigan we're talking about.

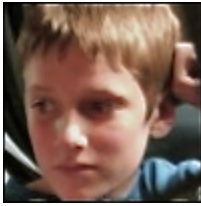
Unless this is write the opposite day and no one said.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-08-01 02:40:49](#)
(no subject)

Are they at least really fantastic bad guys?

Because I've seen comics other people leave lying around the common room and some of the villains are really pretty excellent.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-08-01 02:23:41](#)
(no subject)

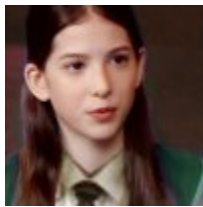
Thanks for thinking of me, Nev.

I'll send your present back with him to you. Real small, just something I carved.



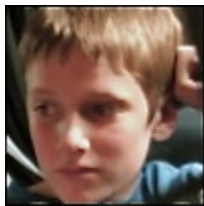
 [alt_neville](#) at [2011-08-01 02:27:33](#)
(no subject)


I'm sure I'll love it, whatever it is. You're so good at whittling. I really liked those puzzle box you made for us all at Christmastime. Those were just wizard.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2011-08-01 02:41:27](#)
(no subject)

Terry, when is your birthday? Do you know?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2011-08-01 17:35:58](#)
(no subject)

It's January 15. I think. Master's given me all sorts of different dates for it, but I caught a glimpse of it on an official parchment once. My parchment of ownership.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2011-08-01 17:38:18](#)**
(no subject)

Blimey, Professor. You mean your 'Stupid Official Parchment of Tomfoolery.'

Nobody owns you.




 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2011-08-01 17:39:36](#)**
(no subject)

This made me laugh. Good thing the git wasn't in the room.

Yeah. That one.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2011-08-01 02:02:39](#)**
(no subject)

It was fun! Even if it ended sooner than I expected it would. (But to tell the truth, I think Gran really appreciated that.) Thanks so much for coming.