

[2012-02-01 10:37:00](#)

Well then...

Our Headmistress has finally convinced me that it is high time I went and joined the twentieth century, which means that yes, you may find me using this rather silly book from time to time.



 **[alt_pomona](#)**

You children--and I suppose my colleagues as well--can feel free to contact me here if you need me for anything that can't be done in person.

However, I can't promise that I will always answer right away, especially if I am in Greenhouse Three, as it would be most unwise to give those plants any less than my *full* attention.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-02-01 15:45:09](#)**
(no subject)

Bless your cotton socks, you've come 'round at last.

I know you find books suspect at best, but perhaps if you consider that this is a gathering space between the *leaves*, you'd warm to it more fully.

Teasing aside, I'm glad to see you writing. I suppose this means I ought to write something besides private messages in my own book.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-01 15:52:07](#)**
(no subject)

Oho, so you're stooping to *puns* now?

Keep in mind that those who tease may not be offered tea!



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-02-01 16:00:33](#)**
(no subject)

It was a calculated risk.

It's my turn to invite you, at any rate. Have you time in your week?



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-01 16:17:27](#)**
(no subject)

For tea?

Always.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-02-01 16:51:57](#)**
(no subject)

Stop up today after you've finished with lessons, then.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-02 03:29:38](#)**
Order Only: Private Message to Poppy

My thanks for tea; it was most restorative.

And thank you for lending your listening ear as well, and not dismissing my concerns as mere maundering.

Truthfully, though I'm giving Minerva the public credit (or blame?) Rolanda is one of the reasons I started writing publicly.

She doesn't miss much, and I don't doubt she'd notice if I started carrying my book around with no explanation--doubly so if no messages ever appeared!



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-01 16:01:12](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that's a nice surprise. Whatever did bring you round?

I must say, it'll save some time not to have to traipse round to the greenhouses every time I've a question for you (much as I like seeing you, mind.)

And less risk to your beloved plants, I'm quite sure.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-01 16:20:45](#)**
(no subject)

I must say I still find it a bit unnatural, but I finally decided that if it might be of help to the children, I could hardly hold back out of simple stubbornness.

And I certainly hope you'll still stop by from time to time!

Nothing like good, old-fashioned personal conversation, in my book.

No pun intended.

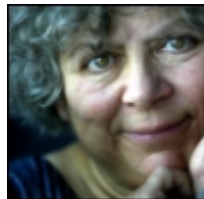


 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-01 16:34:14](#)**
(no subject)

It is a help for that, as I've told you before.

As to stopping by, if you're sure you can bear the risk of my black thumb, of course I'd not neglect visiting. And you're quite right there's nothing like a good chat.

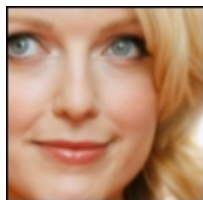
Sometime next week? There's a couple of things I'd like to talk to you about, in fact, house wise, but nothing urgent.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-02 03:30:50](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, a chat next week would be lovely; after all you've been through recently, I'm glad to hear that it's nothing urgent.

I don't say it often enough, but I've truly appreciated your support this year with various House matters.



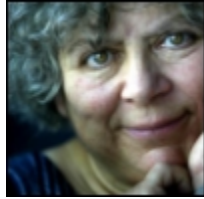
 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-02 03:41:30](#)**
(no subject)

Most welcome on both counts.

As for the chat, I'll look forward to it. (Monday afternoon? I'm still hoping to make it to New London for a bit on Tuesday. Wednesday or Friday would do,

too.)

As to the House: it's my pleasure, truly. And it's not as if I could turn away in challenging times.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-02 04:14:07](#)**
(no subject)

Let's say Wednesday; the middle of the week is always a good time to pause for a moment and catch up with one's friends and colleagues.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-02 04:16:42](#)**
(no subject)

Excellent. That will give me something cheerful to look forward to.

(Mum is threatening another package by then, as well: I'll make sure to save something for you.)



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-01 17:01:13](#)**
Order Only

It's good to see you on the journals, Professor.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-01 18:43:55](#)**
Re: Order Only

Well.

Minerva did make the point that I would know more about what was going on if I made more use of this thing.

Still thinking on other matters, though.

[2012-02-01 11:07:00](#)

A few practical notes

Students: I've had a matter come up that means I'm less likely to be available at the usual odd times outside of my scheduled office hours at least until mid-March. The most current schedule and any changes for the week are posted at the door to the tower on the seventh floor, for convenience, and to save you the flights of stairs to my office. If for some reason the (quite extensive) scheduled hours don't work, let me know and we can arrange something that does.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

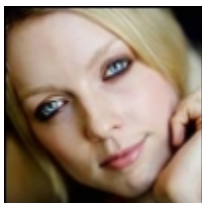
7th years:

A reminder that your independent research proposals are due a week from Friday. Remember that you must include both an observational and theoretical component, and clearly identify planned observing times, alternate plans to allow for weather, specific resources (charts, specialised telescopes, etc.) needed, and your precise research goal.

Bring any questions to lecture, please, as our observing time Friday is rather packed this week if the weather holds clear as promised. Those of you still in need of a topic should consult the list on the board by my office for ideas before then.

YPL students:

We've now got a break in activities until March, when we'll be working on the mural project and art discussions with Mrs Pencarrow. In the meantime, do think about whether there are topics you'd suggest for the subject of the mural, or whether there are paintings in the castle you'd particularly like to learn more about.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-01 16:30:53](#)**

Private message to Raz

Morning, love.

Two owls this morning - one from the oversight board, to say my presence is required at a meeting on March 13th "to discuss security and practical concerns arising from the 28th January YPL event, along with other deeper questions of programme coordination and management." I'm told I'll get a full list of concerns to address in detail nearer the end of the month.

But if there's one thing I'm stellar at, it's diligent and scrupulous documentation, and that does seem the best way forward. Campanella confirmed she can't release their side of the investigation to me, but she has promised copies of the notes Fulton says I sent, and the summary report of what they find on the handwriting analysis and so on when they have it. Maybe something will work free from that end.

Honestly, love, I'm just sort of resigned at the moment, and trying very hard to be sensible. (And before you ask: I was nearly asleep on my feet by the time we were done with class, and so slept reasonably well.)

Must say, I'm rather looking forward to Quidditch on Sunday as a break, though. Or any other distractions you care to propose, within reason.

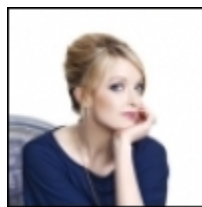


 **[alt_rabastan](#) at 2012-02-01 23:32:31**

Re: Private message to Raz

Security? A little girl wandered off and turned her ankle.

Don't like the sounds of it. I'll come up tonight- I'd like to take a look at it myself, if it's alright.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-02-02 00:14:00**

Re: Private message to Raz

I think the implication is that much worse could have happened, and might, at any moment, if matters are carelessly handled.

But yes, love. Come up, please. I put off office hours tonight, so whenever you like.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-02-01 17:00:52**

Private message to Chiron Haley

Sorry to do this by journal, but Nashira's currently tied up with other work, and I'm not sure I'll have time today to make it to the owlery.

To your first question: I've met Director Selwyn a handful of times, both socially and through YPL matters. He's always seemed very committed to his role, and to listening to comments and concerns from his staff. If he's sounding you out, I'm sure there's a reason, and likely more than one. That said, he's been known to create opportunities that encourage people to speak more freely than they might otherwise: you might want to have a little care.

On the other: Mum's mentioned to me that Cassia Langton got called in the other day - something about notes she'd left in the rubbish that were not in line with the preferred approach. They let her come back to her desk after a few hours, but Mum said she looked quite scared, and of course, she's got young children at home still, and no husband to help. (Mum can tell you more, I'm sure.)

Beyond that, I did actually hear a bit more than I might otherwise: Helpmann was casting around for other topics besides why MLE wanted to talk to me when I stopped in to check a detail with him. He mentioned that both Miranda Stonewall, from Goblin Relations, and Nevill Shutterby from International Magical Relations had been called in, though they were back at their desks in an hour or two. And then, on the way out, I overheard about someone from the Floo Network Authority - a Solana something? Seems she'd been pulled out of her office in the morning, hadn't come back yet, even for her coat.

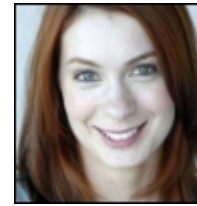
On the rest - well, really, what I said to Diane. Not that I don't appreciate the offer, but you and I both know the implications. I will take any help preparing to make my case, though. Dinner, later this month, perhaps?

My love to the family.

2012-02-01 20:26:00

ORDER ONLY

I had an absolutely wonderful birthday yesterday. Thank you all ever so much for the well wishes and parcels. I'm writing proper thank-yous this weekend.



 [alt_alice](#)

I woke up to breakfast and prezzies in bed, and Frank insisted that I not lift a finger all day. The children sang a song for me at dinner -- it was one about my time at Moddey Dhoo, and they rhymed "Alice" with "Palace," and it was fantastically clever. I suspect Tim and Lisa had something to do with it -- they really are brilliant, the two of them.

All of our new residents have now been fitted with proper wands, although the going is a bit smoother for some than others. They've spent such a long time suppressing their magic, and haven't had any wand training at all, so sometimes what they're trying to do doesn't work and other times it works a bit too well. Thank Merlin for cushioning charms and *reparo*. I think that for most of them, magic has been something to be feared for such a long time, or only seen as something that is used to punish or cause pain. No wonder they find it overwhelming. They're just so different from our younger ones, who have grown up here and take to it like breathing. And our older ones too, like Stephen and Laura McGivern, who remember what it was like to hold a wand. Finbar is the most likely to break things, and Portia is the most timid, but all of them can perform a handful of the basic charms consistently, so there's that.

It's slow going, but there are some hopeful signs. Lisa Turpin, for one, turned out to be hiding exactly how smart she was from us until she felt more comfortable -- Regina stumbled across her reading a book about plant biology or jeans or something and found her secret out, and she's taken Lisa under her wing since then and has been teaching her all sorts of things. Finbar is still worrisome when it comes to his temper, but whenever he gets too worked up, Frank has him running obstacle courses and swimming until he's worked the angry right out of him. And our Danny and Richard Weyman have become thick as thieves, almost more inseparable than the twins (who are also doing better, though it's slow going). Danny's always been so quiet and shy, and I'm glad he's found someone he can be close to.

Everything else is progressing nicely, especially since our lovely large shipment came in. We've got plenty of staples to last us through the

remainder of the winter and first part of the spring, although we've had to convert some of the potion-growing greenhouses to veg as a precaution. (Don't worry, Poppy and Severus, we haven't cut down on any of the fluxweed beds.)

Saunders Morys had his first display of magic today -- he levitated a spoon and smacked himself in the head with it at dinner. He and Kevin are right around the same age, and it made me wonder when Kevin will show his. It'd make things a bit more complicated when we're on family trips with Neville and Evelyn to convince them he's a squib. And he's getting so chatty, too. Merlin knows what we'll do this summer. He is a sweet thing, though, and loves his mum to distraction, just like his older brother. Who knows? Neville showed fairly late, so we might have a few years more.

This is a very long-winded way of saying that I had a fantastic birthday, and things are going very well here, and thank you all for being so thoughtful.



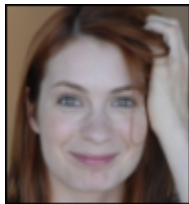
 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-02 01:47:45](#)
(no subject)


breakfast was good, if I do say so myself.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-02 01:48:01](#)
(no subject)

especially the jam.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-02 01:48:33](#)
Private Message to Frank

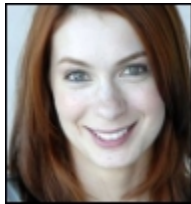
Hush!



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-02-02 01:55:38](#)**

Re: Private Message to Frank

and we can't forget the honey either.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-02 01:56:41](#)**

Re: Private Message to Frank

Yes. Well.

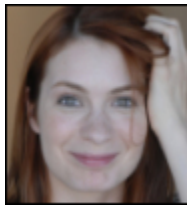
The honey was rather unforgettable.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-02-02 01:57:17](#)**

Re: Private Message to Frank

as were you



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-02 01:57:51](#)**

Re: Private Message to Frank

Silly man.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-02 01:58:58](#)**

Private Message to Sirius Black

I've been sending good thoughts your way, love. Was today a bit better?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-02 02:40:49](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

Well. Pomona's evidently speaking to at least one of us, so that's something. I wish she'd make up her mind to forgive us but Remus is right that we ought not to push her.

How's Will?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-02 02:54:38](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

He's still a bit small for his size, but growing steadily, and he's been breathing quite nicely too. He still gets a bit out of breath when he gets excited, or has been crying too hard, but he's walking about as regular as anything, and has been talking up a storm.

He certainly has Jacinda wrapped around his little finger, and I've had to tell her more than once that he's perfectly able to walk around and fetch his own things, because she'll just up and do it for him as soon as he bats his eyes at her and calls out "Cinna please."

And Pomona will come around in her own time. Merlin knows how long it took her to resign herself to write in the journals.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-02 03:09:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

We ought to put him, Kevin and Bea together and watch the sparks fly.

She's got her own ways of cajoling us, that's certain.

I know all about how long it took her to actually touch the journals. But, Merlin's sake, does she think her disapproval will change anything?

I know, I know. I just hate waiting.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-02 03:17:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

I think she'd be touched to know you care so much for her good opinion. She's just a bit set in her ways, that's all. I have no doubt she'll come

around.

And Merlin, when they're all grown, I can hardly imagine.

I hope very much that they can all go to Hogwarts together.
Wouldn't that be lovely?

2012-02-02 20:56:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

Hullo, all.

I say, this Quidditch match you're getting up, it's not going to be too competitive, what? I rather think Hydra's looking more forward to that than Patil's party, to be honest.

But I don't mind saying I'm not keen to look a right wanker on a broom. Especially in front of the house sides.

Oh, and I don't think they've said anything to you lot yet but did you know, they've arranged a tour for those of us visiting over the Easter hols? It doesn't sound half bad--except I'm sure that everything we see will be calculated to please, what?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-03 02:06:52**
(no subject)

Well, you never know with Quidditch. You can SAY it's just a friendly match, but... well, Viktor's not going to play, at least, he said that wouldn't really be fair. Though someone suggested he could play Beater.

Did you use a broom much at Beauxbatons? I didn't know how to fly at all when I got to school and I only really got any good at it because I spent a summer fostered by the Woods and Oliver had me on a broom EVERY DAY because I could throw quaffles at him and I was better than nothing.

As far as the tour I'm glad they worked out SOMETHING to do with the lot of you during spring hols, staying at school is dead boring unless lots of other people are staying too. We've gone on tours of London with the YPL. The Menagerie is really brilliant and so are some of the museums.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 02:33:44](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

I'm well glad Krum's not planning to play, Beater or no, what? Is he always so dour? I hardly think I've seen him smile since term began again. But mostly, truth be told, it's Malfoy and Marvolo I worry about taking the mick, do you see, particularly in front of Hydra.

No, at Beauxbatons one simply had to pass an exam for broom proficiency--and it was bally well tame, at that--and then if one isn't on the Quidditch team one's not apt to ever fly. I've enough experience riding a horse that I was able to get by (and Sirius did give me a lesson or two) but I'd say I've not been on a broom more than a handful of times.

Yes, I was meant to tour New London when I came for the Cup, what, but then that bally old disaster occurred and they whisked me back to France, remember? I rather wish some of you could come along, though.

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 02:39:59](#)
(no subject)

Viktor's not always dour, no. But he's shy and he doesn't talk much (or laugh much) in groups, especially when he doesn't know very many people.

You don't HAVE to do much flying here, either -- Neville doesn't much care for it. I think our broom exam might be a little more rigorous than yours; it took me ages to pass it. I love flying now.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 03:13:00](#)
(no subject)

When people get involved and take it seriously and count points and things, it's much more fun to watch than play, at least for me. But if people

don't get cross if you drop something or let in a goal, it can be quite a good time.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 03:43:01](#)
(no subject)

Oh, hullo, Pansy.

Well, Hydra wants to play, so while part of me wants to tell her I'll be cheering in the stands, there's another part that wants to give it a go. I shall have to use a school broom, of course, but that can't be well helped, what?

Ron's surely not going to surrender his new one, after all! Quite right, too. Were your suspicions about who gave it to him correct?


-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 03:46:56](#)
(no subject)

Oh, well, if you're riding a school broom you can always blame the broom if you miss a quaffle or something. That's what I do.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 03:48:17](#)
(no subject)

Oh, excellent point! Well done, you.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 03:59:45](#)
(no subject)

I'll know for sure once I see it on Saturday.



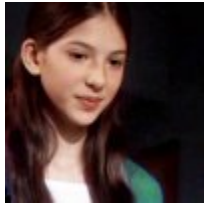
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 03:54:22](#)

Private Message to Sally-Anne

It's funny: I tend to smile too much when I'm feeling shy or nervous, what!

How are you and Viktor getting on, then?

-Justin



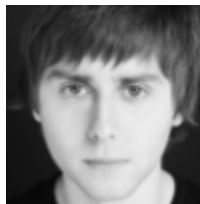
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 03:58:36](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Oh, not too badly.

It can't last, of course, because he'll be going home after the end of the Tournament, but it's fun for now.

He's said it would be nice if I could come visit, but of course I won't be able to.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 04:20:22](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

But he treats you decently, at least? I say, I rather wondered after that other Durmstrang bloke caused such an incident back at the ball, leaving Su Li flat when he found out she was half-blooded. Shocking bad form, what?

You'd visit him, though, if you could do? And not just to escape the Protectorate, what, but just to see him?

-Justin

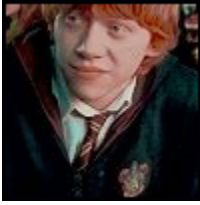



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 05:35:18](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Anyone treated me like that git treated Su Li, I'd make him sorry.

||||| I'd -- well, I don't know, really. It's hard to think about what I'd do, if I COULD leave the Protectorate.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-02-03 05:23:57](#)
(no subject)

Hey.

If you wanted, we could go out flying tomorrow for a while. It'd let you get a feel for it again and try out the school brooms, y'know.

Anywiz, if we get enough people to come out, no one'll get to fly for too long. Y'know, I was thinking, too, that if loads of people do want to fly, then maybe we could double up at Seeker--have two of them in the air for each side, I mean. The snitch won't get caught any sooner, because snitches know how to stay out of sight. Anywiz, that'd mean that someone like you could Seek and, um, well it wouldn't just be down to you to get it, and you wouldn't have to play Beater or Keep or Chase, which are loads rougher if you're not really sure on a broom.

2012-02-03 08:55:00

Order Only: Bill, Arthur!

Something bad happened this morning at work. I'm not sure exactly, because it was just as we were changing shifts. In fact, it was one of the staff coming on for the day. I don't know his name, actually. They all just call him 'Mac'.



 [alt_nymphadora](#)

Anywiz, two MLE showed up all of a sudden-like in the staff cloakroom and marched him away just as he was getting his trolley ready.

Jane Street, who's got the cloak hook next to mine, leaned over and said that yesterday it was going round how that chap had found something in Mr Massopust's files. His files, you see. Now we all think someone's got caught trying to plant suspicion.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-03 15:20:14](#)

(no subject)

Watch your back, Dora.

Do you think we ought to hold off on any of our plants as a result?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-03 15:21:45](#)

(no subject)

Just careful.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-03 15:24:16](#)

(no subject)

Mostly I want to be sure Arthur and Bill watch their backs. Things are likely to be dangerous in Bill's department, especially, now Massopust knows someone's trying to do for him.



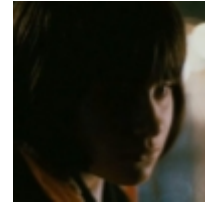
 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-03 15:39:15](#)**
(no subject)

Agreed.

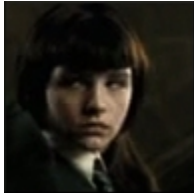
2012-02-03 12:01:00

(no subject)

sally anne



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-02-03 17:13:27**

(no subject)

I cant

I dont feel

well.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-02-03 17:22:05**

(no subject)

I need to go

I think I need to go

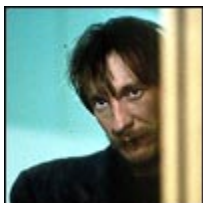
I am going to bed.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-03 17:14:58**

Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Alice

Bugger.

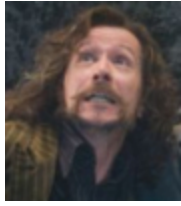


 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-02-03 19:04:30**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Alice

It was sort of inevitable that it would upset her, yes?

I think she'd rather have the books, than not. You did the right thing by sending them to her.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-03 19:07:36](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Alice

Upsetting her is one thing; it's quite another matter to witness a total nervous breakdown in progress and know what the cause is.

I mean to say, we already talked about the fact that there was no good way to send them without reopening the wound but, Merlin, I feel a right pillock.

I hate it when women cry. Bugger all.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-03 20:25:49](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Alice

I'd imagine it was quite unexpected. But it's done now, and although there might've been a less sudden way to give them to her, I think Remus is right, they do belong with her.

What did you say?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-03 20:30:37](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Alice

As little as I could. I told you she'd confessed to nicking a bunch of my old albums, yes? Well, I found one she'd left behind and I put that in as well, so she'd be able to work out that I sent the lot.

The note just said that it seemed like Reg wanted her to have the rest and that I noticed she'd overlooked the other, that she ought to give it a listen.


I ... couldn't think of anything else to say. Plus I didn't want to go into details. The less she knows, the better.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-03 18:12:53](#)
(no subject)


Pansy, what's wrong? Have you taken ill?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:26:40](#)
Private message to Draco


She's not feeling at all well. I sent a note to Madam P, and I'll drag her to the Hospital Wing in a bit if necessary.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-03 18:30:29](#)
Re: Private message to Draco


Well, that was sudden. She seemed perfectly fine on the way to breakfast.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 22:27:42](#)
Private Message to Draco


I've just had a bit of a lie down and am much better now.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-03 23:25:59](#)
Re: Private Message to Draco

Are you sure? Sally Anne says you fell ill, but last I saw you, it looked more as if you were upset.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 23:50:06](#)
Re: Private Message to Draco

I am.

Upset.

I'll tell you everything tomorrow. I promise.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-03 23:54:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Alright then. Do you need anything right now, though?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 04:27:06](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I'm well taken care of. You don't have to worry.

And if I do need something, I know I can depend on you to get it for me. So I won't hesitate to ask.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:16:13](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Bloody Sirius Black sent her a stack of bleeding books from his miserable brother.

If anyone's wondering.

If anyone asks what's up tell them she was feeling a little ill this morning but thought she'd be alright, and then at lunchtime she started feeling just wretched.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 18:19:36](#)

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

He what?!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 18:23:34](#)

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

Sorry.

Hullo, Sally-Anne. Tell Pansy I hope she feels better soon.

Why would he do that if it were going to upset her so much?

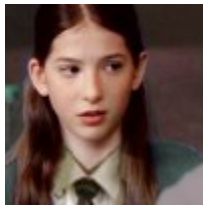
-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:27:03](#)

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

DAMNED IF I KNOW.



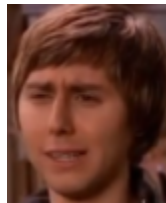
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:29:09](#)

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

Sorry.

I mean yes, thank you, and I really don't know why (and why NOW?)

Apparently when Regulus disappeared he left behind a stack of books that were meant to Pansy. And that's what came by owl at lunch. Books, and a note saying 'looks like Regulus wanted you to have these' and some muggle music albums (as if getting mail from Sirius Black wasn't DANGEROUS ENOUGH WITHOUT MUGGLE MUSIC for Merlin's sake!)



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 19:56:16](#)

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

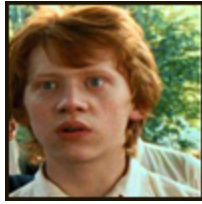
Yes, quite.

It's just so odd--now, of all times, I mean, to do something like this. I keep going over it and I can't fathom why he'd send something like that out of the blue.

I mean to say, he must have known it would shock her frightfully, what? And so far as we know he's got no reason to go out of his way to harm her. Which leaves...bally all, really.

I'm dashed if I can understand it.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-03 20:12:37](#)

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

I mean, right?

What's he been doing, dragging a load of his brother's books around everywhere, and now he decides, 'Oh, look, it's the third of February! A perfect day, wot, to send all these to Pansy!'

I reckon people are right: he's completely mad.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 20:19:11](#)

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

I say, Ron, that's brilliant! That's what's been bothering me about it all. Of course he's not been dragging them about with him, saving them for the right time, what--because even if somehow he were saving them, now's surely not the right time, what?

Which must mean--oh, I say, do you think it could mean that he's only just come across them himself?

-Justin



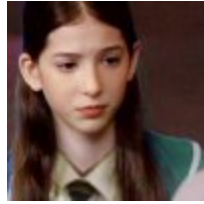
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-03 20:29:54](#)

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

Oh, well. It's just plain sense, innit?

But I'm not sure what difference it makes whether he's had them or just got them or what. It was daft to send them to her like that.

I wonder what books they were. And whether there was a message from the other one, Regulus, in them. I mean, maybe, he said what date they should be sent on? Who knows.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **2012-02-03 22:37:37**

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

Well, I don't think Pansy would mind me telling you the titles.

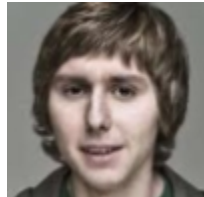
There's one that's the Complete Works of Calderon de la Barca, and another that's the Complete Works of Samuel Beckett.

There's some poetry by a bloke named Giacomo Leopardi.

There's a book called the Book of Jests that's jokes, and she kept looking at that one and crying harder, when we were in the dorm this afternoon.

There's one called the Decline of Slytherin.

And there's a book called Hexmistresses! that's biographies of witches from a long time ago.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **2012-02-03 23:38:03**

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

The difference it makes is that he didn't intend any harm; he came across them, what, and saw that his brother wanted her to have them so he just sent the bally old things along. That makes quite a difference, what!

I say, it also makes a difference because it means he's only recently been where his brother was, do you see. Which means we can guess where that was, what?

Still, I'm dashed sorry it gave Pansy such a turn.

-Justin



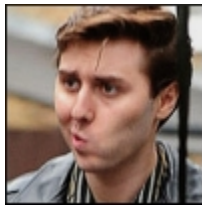
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:30:51](#)

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

Oh and he didn't sign the note.

So I'm assuming Pansy's right when she says she knows it was him. But I'm sure she is. I mean ... that's probably what the albums were for, come to think of is. So she WOULD know.

Bloody hell! Why couldn't he leave well enough alone?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 18:42:00](#)

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

For that matter, where did he get hold of anything belonging to his brother, what? I've gone back and read their correspondence. They were never bloody well in the same bally old place--

Unless. But I don't think so, really. It couldn't have all been an act, could it have?

Only, he's not usually cruel, Sally-Anne, he just isn't. I don't bally well understand it, either.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 22:35:13](#)

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

It was him.

I'm sure of it.

It was just a bit

unexpected.

Thank you, you know. For being there. I would have been in pieces on the floor without you.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 22:39:58](#)

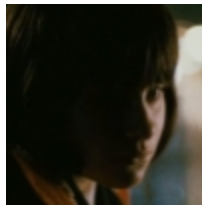
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Pansy*

I will NEVER GO ANYWHERE, just so you know.

Ever.

No matter what.

Not unless you're coming with me.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 22:52:38](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Pansy*

Okay.

good.

Because I am never going anywhere without you either.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-03 22:53:32](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No
Good: Private message to Pansy*

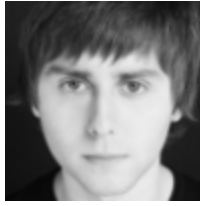
because if you really love someone, you stay.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:36:17](#)

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

And now I'm not sure whether to tell people she's sick, or to admit she's upset, or what. Draco's asking and of course he SAW her this morning and she was just fine.



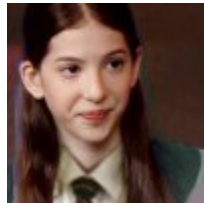
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 18:39:25](#)

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

Stick with ill, something came over her funny or that sort of thing.

Or tell him it's woman troubles, that always keeps a bloke asking too many questions, what?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 18:43:51](#)

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

That's not a bad thought. I might try that if Draco pushes.

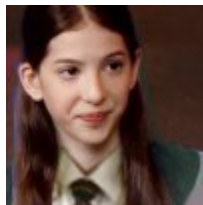


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-03 19:14:37](#)

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

Wot?

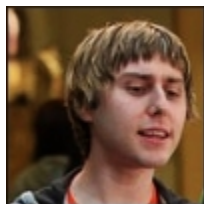
I don't think she'd want people going round saying that!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 19:28:42](#)

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

Better that than 'she's totally upset because she got owl post from Sirius Black'!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 19:33:14](#)

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

Exactly--and I don't know any bloke (myself included) who'd press on in the face of that explanation!

-Justin

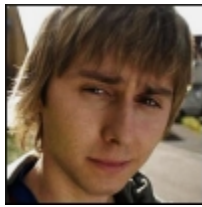


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-03 19:33:29](#)

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

How about saying something didn't agree with her at lunch? I mean, people are getting untransfigured bits of nasty stuff all the time, aren't they? And that's enough to turn your stomach when it happens.

I mean, eww.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-03 19:37:31](#)

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

Hullo, Ron.

That's just my point, yes. I mean to say, you'd not ask any further, would you? And nor would I, or anyone. But it's also something that just happens and it can't be proven, either.

Draco's her boyfriend, after all, so if she's ill or something, he might want to go and cheer her up. That's what *I'd* do. But if she's having a--female thing, well. I mean to say, old chap, that's the sort of thing he'll steer well clear from, what?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-03 19:13:17](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Hey.

I saw what Sally Anne said. Wow, huh?

I guess it's probably made you feel sad all over again.

I'm sorry.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-02-03 22:24:34**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Pansy Parkinson*

I feel silly about going all W&W.

It was just

there

and it was a bit much is all.

And I couldn't really even breathe at all let alone write the solemnly swear properly to explain.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2012-02-04 04:19:50**

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Little Bit?

What was the matter? Are you recovered?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-02-04 04:34:54**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

I'm sorry to worry you, Lucius. I felt all queer at lunch all of a sudden. Madame Pomfrey looked me over, and said that I'll be fine with a bit of rest.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2012-02-04 04:38:16**


Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Reassuring, but what prompted the incident?
Somehow I suspect you are a bit beyond stomach aches in anticipation of an exam, even a particularly nasty one, hm?

Was it your luncheon disagreeing with you, or something causing your ulcer to flare?


And if the latter, is there anything you require?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-02-04 04:58:13**
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

It's a bit embarrassing. I'd never had a reaction that strong before, you know, and because it took me by surprise I didn't know to take something beforehand. That's all. I just need to relax a bit this weekend and I'll be better.




 **[alt_lucius](#) at 2012-02-04 05:06:32**
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

... I see. Between you and Draco each airing your grievances in public this week, the journals are like to lose their reliability altogether. Perhaps I ought to change the notification spells.

Am informed (from no less than your acquaintance Mr Baddock) that there is no cure for adolescence - saving its passage.

Nature's surprises aside, you are otherwise well, I hope?



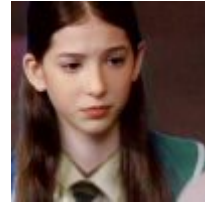
 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-02-04 05:23:17**
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Yes. There's going to be a bit of a get together on Sunday organized by some of the girls in my year, and that ought to be enjoyable. And classes are going well. I'm doing quite well in Potions this term.

2012-02-03 12:10:00

Private message to Madame Pomfrey

Pansy is extremely upset right now and can't go to classes this afternoon.



She'd really rather not come into the hospital wing but I can make her if you think she needs to. ~~She's having trouble breathing but~~ She's crying a lot and feeling sort of panicky. Maybe I could bring her in later for a calming draught? But right now I think she's better just staying in the dorm. But she really can't go to class.

 **alt_sally_anne**

Also I want to stay with her, if that's alright.



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-02-03 19:04:19**
(no subject)

I've only just seen your message, Miss Perks.

I trust that if it had been a true emergency, I'd have seen Miss Parkinson here, already. And I will need to see both of you before the afternoon is out if you expect me to sign off on your absences from lessons.

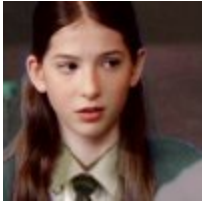
What is Miss Parkinson's condition currently? If she's sleeping, there's no need to wake her yet. If she's still distraught, however, you ought to come as soon as you can persuade her, preferably while most of the other pupils are still in lessons and the corridors are quiet.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-02-03 19:07:39**
(no subject)

Of course we'd have come straight to you if it were an emergency.

She's awake, and you're right that while everyone else is in lessons is the best time. We'll come now.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 19:09:48](#)
(no subject)

Wait, I just looked at the time. The corridors are about to be busy.

We'll come in a bit, though. She's still very upset.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-02-03 19:17:10](#)
(no subject)

What has her so upset, dear? If you can give me some idea, I'll be in a better position to help her when she arrives.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-03 19:23:48](#)
(no subject)

She got a parcel at lunch full of books. From someone. With a note saying 'looks like Regulus wanted you to have these.'

She was heartbroken when Regulus Black died. It was awful. She's never entirely got over it, I mean she moved on but she still gets sad. But this, it's like it's breaking her heart all over again.

The note's not signed, so I don't even know who to go shout at. Whoever it was could have just left her well enough alone.

Please don't tell -- I mean, if Mr Malfoy wants to know, can you just tell him she's sick? That's what I told Draco. They might take the books away and that would make her EVEN MORE upset, I think. Now she has them she's going to want to keep them.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-02-03 19:29:39](#)
(no subject)

Oh, my.

Yes, do bring her to me as soon as you can.

I quite agree that there's no need for anyone else to know anything beyond the fact that Miss Parkinson is not feeling

entirely herself this afternoon. I will give her the option of staying here if she'd prefer not to be in the dormitory this evening.

[2012-02-03 13:44:00](#)

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass and Draco Malfoy



 **[alt_blaise](#)**

Do either of you know where Perks is? Well, and Pansy, too, for that matter.

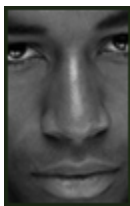
Only, I need Perks to sign off on the report before our group hands it in. Rotten day for her to skive off lessons.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-03 20:08:26](#)**

(no subject)

Pansy's gone ill or something, and Perks is minding her. She was fine at Breakfast, so maybe it was something she ate. I feel fine myself, but then I had to get to the library after bolting down some toast, so I didn't have much to eat.



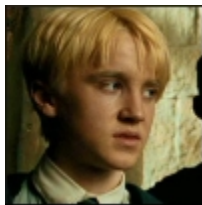
 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-03 20:22:23](#)**

(no subject)

Well, and they were at lunch, too.

If anything was the matter then, I didn't notice, but then I was looking over that Dark Arts chapter again.

That's well complex, that hex we're working on. I wasn't much clearer after she explained it than I was going in. What about you?



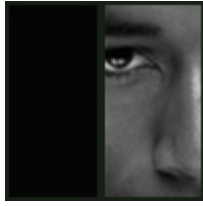
 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-03 20:30:49](#)**

(no subject)

Oh, they were? I ~~wonder what~~ Harry and I had tea with Raz, instead, so I never noticed.

Maybe it's some kind of girl thing?

That's why went for the library this morning. I've got a copy of *Intermediate Charm Intricacies* but it hasn't helped much yet.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-03 20:50:07](#)**
(no subject)

You're probably right about it being a girl thing. I've heard they get on the same schedule, too, somehow. So they've probably both got it today.

It's a nuisance, though, to have them disappearing when you need them.

Maybe we could go over the wand work on that spell tonight. If you've got time. I felt as if I'd just almost got it before Carrow made us stop and move on to the next thing.

Does it seem as if the clock is going half-speed now we're in Charms? I mean to say, Acton on Friday afternoon with Gryffindor? Merlin.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-02-03 23:33:13](#)**
(no subject)

It was all over the papers this morning that Kirley Duke's engaged to that model, Ciara Hitchens. I don't think it's something to fall to pieces over myself, but she used to fancy him something terrible, a few years

ago.

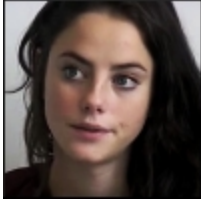


 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-04 00:17:15](#)**
(no subject)

That's utterly daft.

Missing lessons to moan over some musician's getting married? I'm glad no one told Acton that.

Think how many points she'd have docked Slytherin for the two of them.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-02-04 00:47:14](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know if that's it for sure, only she didn't look ill to me - more upset than anything, and I couldn't think about what. But Sally Anne told me that she's feeling sick, so I suppose that must be it after all...or else there's something secret going on between those two, as usual.

2012-02-03 14:41:00

Private Message to Perks

Is she all right?

I mean, everyone saw the owl struggling with that package and then not three minutes later she rushed out of the Great Hall? It's not hard to guess that something set her off.

Was it from her mum, or what?

Well, let her know we hope she feels better soon, all right? Whatever it was. Oh, and Dunstan says she'll share her notes from Creatures today if you like, since you're missing it as well.



 [alt_padma](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-03 22:27:48**
(no subject)

She took ill, but she'll be fine. And yes, thanks, I'd appreciate getting Dunstan's notes.

2012-02-03 18:06:00

Private Message to Honoria



 [alt_ginny](#)

Honoria,

I didn't mean to not be around this evening. I did want to talk to you. Now that we are in the new year, it seems that everything has gotten much more demanding for me. With the designers working on their new spring lines, and the Valentine's issue getting ready to print, I have less time than usual. You know that I have been off to New London every other weekend. I have shoot's and fittings, and I never thought I'd be so busy.

I hardly have time to hang around with friends anymore, when I am here I am stuck in the library making sure I stay ahead on all of my subjects. Its work, work, work! And though it looks glamorous, its not as fun as it started off nor as easy as I thought it was. I truly feel as though I am caught in between two worlds- that of adulthood and just being a kid; I neither fit in nor belong to either.

The plus side of working is that my wardrobe has never looked better, and I now have my own vault at Gringotts that's slowly filling up with my own gold. On the academic side I am revising so much my head hurts, I am up so late I am always tired in the morning (and thanks to the face treatments I am made to use- no one will ever tell) , but my marks have been superb.

I also think I have done something without thinking. My contract is non compete. Which I think I am holding up honourably. The way it was written when my Mum gave me permission, gave me the right to extend my contract on my own due to their being no time line attached. Given that my initial contract will end this summer, all *Purest Sparkle* needed was a verbal agreement from me to keep me for another year. I was asked about that this past weekend, and I accepted to stay on through next Christmas. I am now wondering if I should have asked for her advice first.

I am just extremely tired. But I am also happy with what this opportunity has given me. I am just tired of feeling like I am stuck between the two worlds I am apart of yet don't belong to.

I hope I can return to being a better friend to you.

2012-02-03 19:38:00

Order Only: Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey



 [alt_sirius](#)

I couldn't help but notice that Miss Parkinson fell ill today. Is she all right?

She didn't mention what made her feel unwell, by chance, did she?

If not ... I think I may know what set her off. In case you need to know in order to help.

And if she did tell you anything ... well, have at. I know it was bound to pour vinegar on the wound but - well, I couldn't see a way round it. And I guess I underestimated her reaction, at that.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-02-04 01:25:05**

(no subject)

Oh, Sirius.

Yes. You do, indeed, seem to have 'underestimated her reaction'. She's a sensitive one, and it's worse now that she's in that inbetween, adolescent stage where everything becomes ever so much more intense--more wonderful, more tragic, more romantic, more dire, more irritating, more shaming, more enviable--more unbearable for everyone concerned. They're all like that, but Miss Parkinson is just fragile enough that all that emotion can tip her into crisis in heartbeat.

Still. I think she'll survive, and I believe she'll be very glad to have those books. Yes, I know what you sent, and she-

Oh, dash it. I've got to run.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-04 01:59:29**

(no subject)

So she *did* tell you about it? What did she say - I mean, if you're not prohibited from telling me, that is.

I forget that teenage girls are over-dramatic in the best of circumstances. Merlin.



 **alt_poppy** at [2012-02-04 22:28:44](#)
(no subject)

I apologise for dropping you yesterday, Sirius. It was busy here overnight.

(Today's been better. Just one bludger to the temple from this afternoon's informal quidditch.)

Miss Parkinson was out with the rest of them when I popped out to check. Looked a bit peaky, but she seemed to be enjoying herself. They had Krum on his broom, refereeing the matches. Rolanda seemed as glad for the opportunity to witness his flying as the rest of the witches--and it will not surprise you to hear there were an awful lot of them who turned out for a rather bitter afternoon of spectating! I expect I may see more than one or two young people with frostbite this evening.

But I'm not answering your question, am I?

I can tell you that Miss Parkinson felt very deeply attached to your brother, and that his death came as a terrible shock. You know that she lost her father very early in life, and while I think she viewed Regulus as more of an avuncular sort than a father figure, I think losing him brought up many feelings she was too young to formulate at the time of her father's death, but which had been building over the years. I'd almost say that losing Regulus made her understand what her father's loss had cost her in a way she hadn't properly felt before that.

That's only a guess, mind you, and may be an inaccurate projection, so bear that in mind.

In any case, she's had difficulty putting her feelings behind her. She said yesterday that when the Dementors were here last year, their primary effect on her was to make her thoughts dwell unhealthily on Regulus. She told me that she's been doing much better at enjoying her present relationships and opportunities this year, but that when the parcel arrived yesterday, it knocked her sideways (her words for it).

I'd say it also made her feel suddenly guilty that she'd been going on so well and not thinking about him.

All of that on top of the usual teenage crisis-mongering.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-04 22:57:21](#)
(no subject)

Well, Krum's worth seeing. Mind you he was only a reserve player when I was commentating but we were already fairly sure he'd be a sensation when he began flying full-time. I'm sorry to have missed it.

As for Miss Parkinson, I suppose that makes a good deal of sense. And thank you; it helps me feel a bit less of a pillock. I knew they'd grown close but I hadn't really realised that she had so much else wrapped up in her attachment to him.

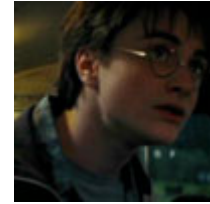
He was good at that, you know. Endearing people to him. Getting them to look after him.

And I'm sure you've told her not to feel guilty for moving on with her life - that's always the trickiest part, isn't it? Survivor's guilt, the Muggles call it. Merlin knows we all have enough of that in our lives.

2012-02-04 11:28:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

So. Pick up quidditch today. What position are you thinking of playing?



 [alt_harry](#)

I was thinking it might be fun to try out keeper. Give someone else a chance to be the seeker for a change. You think Krum will come out? I just sort of want to see him fly up close, you know?

Also. I've been thinking about what you said. About the letter. And yeah, going about doing things the way he'd want -- it would be dangerous. And sort of stupid. And it'd put you both at risk, not just me, no matter what he thinks. But you're both right when you talk about power, and that it can be used to get things done, I just think you have a different idea about how to go about using it. Like storming a castle head on or infiltrating it. Or something.

I'm just really bad at infiltrating. Or not as good as you are. And I've sort of been avoiding thinking about it because I don't know what I want to get done. For sure. Or how.

But what you said. About not wanting to grow up and do what your father does.

Yeah.

I don't want to grow up and do what mine does either.

So there's that.

Not sure where that leaves us, really. But I've been putting off talking about it. And now that we are, you know, talking, I don't know. I guess I just thought it would be better to talk about it than not talk about it.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-04 18:39:12](#)**
(no subject)

If you do Keeper I'll do Seeker then, maybe. Krum will probably show up, lurking behind Sally Anne. I wonder if he'll actually fly, though - he goes a bit silent when people try to bring up his quidditch career, after all.

Argh, surely you're not saying that Sinbad and I agree about anything, even if it is about something like how to use power? I also think I've figured out why he's never very specific - it's because he wants you to keep writing him again and again with more questions. It's so obvious, really, when you think about it.

I think when it comes to infiltrating you have to wait for an opening - otherwise, if you force it, it's just the same as storming the castle.

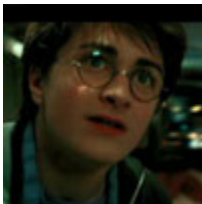
Yeah, but I don't know what you ought to get done either. It just all seems like it could go pear-shaped right now, especially with what my Father is expecting you to do after the second task....

Uh, hang on...

I just had a really weird idea.

I don't know if you're going to like it, but....

No, it might actually be good.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-04 18:59:40](#)**
(no subject)

What is it?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-04 19:13:32](#)
(no subject)

You're not going to like it. At first, I mean.

When he makes you cruciate Granger, you should cruciate me, too. No announcement or anything, either. Just when you're done with her, go on to me.

Because it's an opening, see?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-04 19:15:30](#)
(no subject)


Uh.

You're right.

I don't like it. And I don't see.

What do you mean like an opening?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-04 19:26:17](#)
(no subject)

An opening to take control of the thing, so that you're not just following orders that you hate.

And because no one would be expecting it, that's for certain.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-04 19:28:07](#)
(no subject)

You're right about the not expecting part.

But if it's what I hate, I don't see how doing more of it would help.

Could it make things worse?

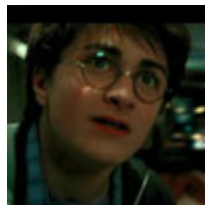


 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-04 19:36:00](#)
(no subject)

Well, look at it this way, right now there's really no way of knowing what could make things worse, is there?

Because on one hand, you're only doing MORE of what they already expect you to do, but on the other, it shows that you're not...I don't know, some kind of puppet. Which they might like, or might NOT like.

And, you know, if you're going to have to cruciate me someday I'd rather it be part of a plan between the two of us than something outside our control.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-04 19:44:10](#)
(no subject)

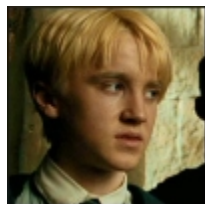
I'd rather we make a plan than have it decided for me.

And you're right. If it's Hermione this time, then it's a fair bet that you'd be next.

I'd try to make sure there wasn't a next time, you know. But if there was. Yeah.

I still don't like it.

Speaking of. I'd like her to know. And see what she thinks. Is that okay?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-04 19:50:17](#)
(no subject)

Part of me really wants to see what my Father does, too. How he'll react. I mean, I wonder if he's ever thought about you having to punish me someday...and would he realise that he sort of made it happen, in a way, since it was HIS idea that you needed to prove you could manage Granger?

I mean, don't get me wrong, I'm really not thrilled about it, but at the same time, it would feel good to have a plan.

And yes, we should see what Granger thinks.



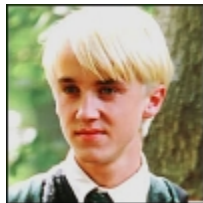
 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-04 19:55:13](#)**
(no subject)

Okay. Yeah.

I mean, I'm not saying yes yet. I think we've all got to talk it out some more first. And see if it's the best way to do it.

And yeah, it wouldn't be fun or anything. But it'd be for us. Not for them.

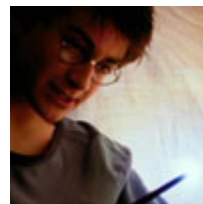
You could punch me or something after.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-04 20:03:41](#)**
(no subject)

I'll be too weak to punch you and have it hurt properly. You'll have to give me a few days to recover, ha-ha.

And now we've got to go play quidditch and make it seem we've not just been talking about utterly dire things. Our lives are brilliant, mate. At least we have the best brooms in the castle. Well, except maybe for Krum.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-04 20:04:45](#)**
(no subject)

It's a plan.

And I don't know about you, but I could use a bit of fun.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-04 23:18:15](#)
(no subject)

Ace flying, by the way.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-04 23:20:54](#)
(no subject)

And is Pans doing better?

She looked better.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-04 23:49:44](#)
(no subject)

Cheers on the flying.

She says she's better, but we're going on a walk after supper. I expect she'll tell me more then.



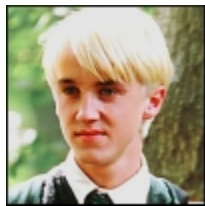
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 00:04:40](#)
(no subject)

Good.

Are you

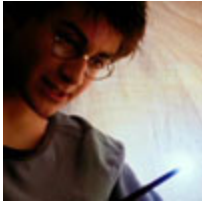
you know

going together?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 00:06:48](#)
(no subject)


Well. Possibly?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-05 00:09:01](#)**
(no subject)

Okay. Just wondering. Because you seem to be getting along well. That's all.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-05 00:30:29](#)**
(no subject)

We do sort of fancy one another, and I suppose most people have noticed by now.

What about Honoria? Do you think you fancy her at all? Then again, you've not really spent time with her since Yule Ball.



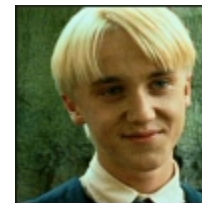
 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-05 00:39:45](#)**
(no subject)

Good on you. Pans is cool. And really nice.

Honoria is in a different house. And a different year. So I don't see a lot of her. We had fun and all, but I don't know.

I could? Maybe?

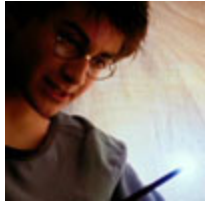
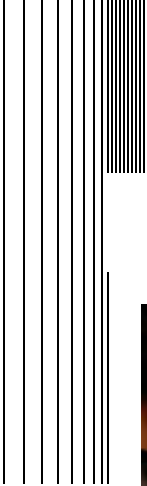
I guess I'd have to ask her to do things if I wanted to find out. Because she wouldn't ask me.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-05 00:43:09](#)**
(no subject)

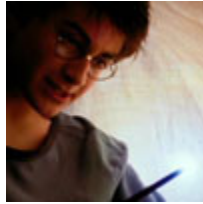
Yeah, she's cool. She's brilliant.

Ask Honoria to do something, and then maybe you'll find out. Because yeah, it's not as if you see much of her otherwise.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 00:51:56](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, okay. I'll give it a try.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-04 20:01:55](#)
(no subject)

We'd better head out there. It looks like it's really windy today.

[2012-02-04 14:31:00](#)

Quidditch!

Getting ready to head out to the pitch for some pick-up Quidditch. It's going to be wizard!



Cedric, thanks for helping organise this, especially since I know you're super busy right now.

 [alt_susan](#)

See you there, everybody who's coming out!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 20:23:06](#)

(no subject)

It looks like Victor will be the referee. I'm just glad we get to see him fly!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 20:24:14](#)

(no subject)

I don't suppose it'd be frightfully fair of him if he played in the match, would it?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 20:27:44](#)

(no subject)

That was clever of him--that way he gets to come out and join the fun, and no one feels uncomfortable.

It's good to see you feeling better, by the way.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 20:34:16](#)

(no subject)

Who'd have known that Victor Krum was part Hufflepuff?

And yes. I am feeling a good deal better today. I wish I hadn't taken a turn in front of everybody, though. It was a bit embarrassing.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 20:37:15](#)
(no subject)

And maybe a bit Slytherin too!

Well, good!


Don't feel bad about that--we've all done it sometime. And stomach things are the worst, aren't they?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 20:39:44](#)
(no subject)

You can say that again.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 20:45:07](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I feel rather bad for Madame Pomfrey sometimes--she's awfully nice, but no one ever *wants* to come and see her!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 20:41:21](#)
(no subject)

Ooh, Harry's such a funny Keeper! It's like he keeps looking for the snitch, or at least something that is snitch-sized, and so whenever a quaffle comes his way, he looks so surprised.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 20:46:21](#)
(no subject)

He is!

I can't wait to get out there myself--it feels like it's been forever since I've played.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 23:29:12](#)
(no subject)

Next time we have a get-together at Ron's house for a pick-up match, you've absolutely got to come. I'll make sure you know about it.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 23:30:09](#)
(no subject)

Thanks! I'd like that.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-04 21:50:17](#)
(no subject)

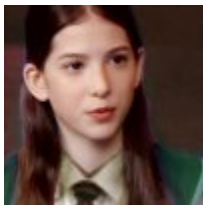
Listen, it's too cold to stay out here, especially if one's not flying (and I don't know how you lot are all managing with all that wind!).

We're heading in - but we'll organise tea and the best hot chocolate the elves can do and some biscuits for when you all get frozen and come back in.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 22:28:05](#)
(no subject)

That sound marvelous, Padma.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-04 22:57:10](#)
(no subject)

Thanks so much for arranging the hot chocolate! It was perfect after being out in that wind all afternoon.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 23:01:26](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, thanks all 'round!

I think I'm going to practise my warming charms while flying--it's dead hard to keep them up!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-04 22:56:38](#)
(no subject)

That was brilliant fun.

If I ever go out for the Slytherin team it won't be for Beater, though!



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 23:02:25](#)
(no subject)

See, I rather like Beating--it's a good way to get some fierceness out.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-04 23:04:19](#)
(no subject)

Well, the theory sounds good. Actually having to put myself in the way of a Bludger turned out to be rather different!



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-04 23:10:07](#)
(no subject)

There is that! And some of those 5th years bat hard--can you believe Johnson doesn't even *play* Beater?

I sure wouldn't want to get on *her* bad side!

But I still think it's fun.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-04 23:22:50](#)
(no subject)

Too right about Johnson!

2012-02-04 14:55:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger



Hey Hermione.

Draco and me were talking about stuff. Like March. And he had an idea. About how we could take things into our own hands. Take control.

 [alt_harry](#)

I think it'd be best for him to explain, and I'm still not sure I want to.

But.

I think it's worth talking about.



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2012-02-05 01:31:06**
(no subject)

Okay.

Like what?



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-02-05 02:05:57**
(no subject)

I think he ought to Cruciate me, too. But not tell anyone that he's planned it. Or that we've planned it, rather.

Because don't you see, it will catch everyone off guard. It makes the whole thing something we all decided on, instead of something Harry was ordered to do.

I know it sounds mad, but think about it from that angle - for a few minutes at least.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 02:10:08](#)
(no subject)

It'd make them think twice before asking me to do it again. Possibly.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-05 03:08:16](#)
(no subject)

When?

I mean, and how, as in, cruciate you for practise, or in the Great Hall at breakfast, and are you going to get in a fight, or is it going to be something that is supposed to just be you being horrible Harry, or what??

I don't know.

Draco I don't - I mean I think I see what you're saying, and it's very Slytherin of you isn't it, but I don't know. I feel like it could go horribly wrong, but I don't know how.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 03:11:09](#)
(no subject)

It would be after I cruciated you. I'd turn around right then and do it to Draco too.

And that's one reason why we wanted to ask you. So we could sort out what might happen, and if it'd be worth it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 03:16:15](#)
(no subject)

No, no. I mean when Harry's meant to cruciate you, he turns round and does it to me right after. It's almost like saying "I know you'll expect me to do this one day, too, so here you go." And if anyone acts shocked, he can just say "but I thought you'd be pleased with my progress."

It just puts it all back in Harry's hands a little, you see.

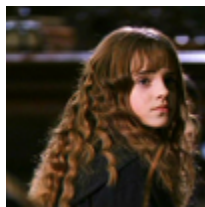


 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-05 03:22:05](#)**
(no subject)

Right. Give them more than what they asked for. And if they're planning on making me do it to Draco eventually, this way, it'll be like

I don't know

We'll take it away from them as something I'd be too scared to do.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-02-05 03:38:09](#)**
(no subject)

Do you think he'll get in trouble for it? I mean, it's almost like talking back, almost.

Although I don't think they would make him Cruciate you or me again after that if he did get in trouble.

I'm sorry Harry. I just mean, at least in that case, if there was a punishment -

oh I don't know what I mean.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-05 03:39:12](#)**
(no subject)

That I'd get it, right?

If so, than good.

I'd rather it was that way anyways.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-05 03:42:01](#)**
(no subject)

Are you sure that it doesn't seem like talking back because you know the whole plan? Because no one else will know, and my reaction is still going to be real no matter what.

But if you don't want to do it we won't, because you're in the worst position here. So you ought to have the final say.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 03:50:16](#)
(no subject)

And I don't know, I think
well


it's almost like they wanted me to take some sort of initiative,
right?

And that's what I'd be doing.

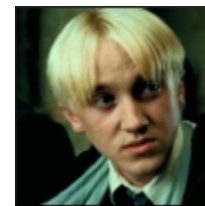
Kind of.


In the worst sort of way.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-05 03:52:55](#)
(no subject)

We can do it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 03:59:20](#)
(no subject)

Alright then.

At least you'll get it over with first, yeah?
Ladies first. Never let it be said I'm not a
gentleman.

Haha. Sorry. I have to find it a little bit funny, just because...
you know.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-05 04:09:40](#)
(no subject)

Well, yes, I know.

Draco - I know you're ever so Slytherin, but you're a little bit Gryffindor too, did you

realise?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 04:14:04](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

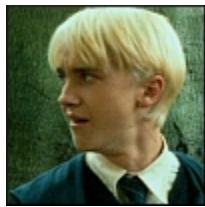
Here here.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 04:16:32](#)
(no subject)

And I think that whatever happens, whatever ends up coming out of it, we'll all deal with it together, yeah?

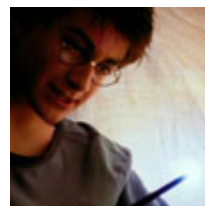
And we'll have tried to do things on our own terms.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 04:17:22](#)
(no subject)

What?!? I am not even a smidgen Gryffindor!

Slytherins can look out for people once a while too, you know.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 04:19:20](#)
(no subject)

I think she just meant that you can be brave in a stupid sort of way sometimes.



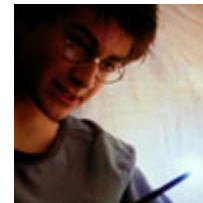
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 04:20:53](#)
(no subject)

That's supposed to be a joke about Gryffindors.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 04:21:33](#)
(no subject)

Flattering, that.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 04:29:19](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, well, if you remember that I was Sorted as one, it means that I'm stupid *most* of the time.

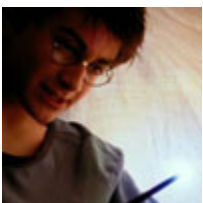
Dunno about the brave part. But I've got stupid down.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 04:40:20](#)
(no subject)

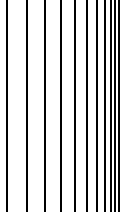
I think those two things are synonymous if one's a Gryffindor.

Just you wait and see, I'll turn the two of you into Slytherins yet.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 04:20:22](#)
(no subject)

Although whether it's stupid or absolutely brilliant... I guess we'll find that out, won't we?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 04:22:56](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, it's a risk. But so is doing it their way, really.

[2012-02-04 16:35:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Good match, Malfoy. You make an ace Seeker, you know. Not that you're bad at all at Chaser, but I'm just sayin'. That was sharp spotting this afternoon and sly broom work.




 [alt_ron](#)

Listen. This is going to sound daft if I'm not right, and I didn't want to say anything until I was sort of sure, but-

If you're the one sent me this Cleansweep, it was a really decent thing to do. And it's a wizard broom! I had a sorcerous time flying it out there today. Really brilliant!

So, yeah. Thanks.




 [alt_draco](#) at **[2012-02-04 22:48:28](#)**
(no subject)

It's mostly down to the fact that I got in some practice when I had to fill in for Harry on the team. I mean, a lot of pressure, that. Right?

Yeah, I suppose I did send you it. How'd you figure it out?



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2012-02-05 04:26:43](#)**
(no subject)

Well. I wondered for a while if it might have been Mr Rosier, but I thought he'd have said who it was from or might even have made Finnigan give it me himself. And that got me thinking that almost anyone would have signed their name. Except maybe you. And then today there was this moment when I thought I saw you look over, not at me but at the broom, and I decided that might mean I was right about it.

And, well. You know, I did ask Pansy about it, too. And she said she didn't know who sent it, but she said it could have been you. Maybe.

I just didn't want to be totally wrong because then I'd have looked like a berk. But, yeah, I wanted to say thanks, because it was a nice thing to do, so I was hoping I was right.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-05 04:34:47](#)
(no subject)

It just didn't seem right that you ought to have lost your broom because Finnigan was being a complete tit. And Pansy told me how much work you'd invested into it, besides.

I didn't want to say anything because I thought you might think it was weird, or decide that you didn't want it. Also, I'd rather my Father didn't know. He's already cross with me for airing my displeasure with Finnigan in the journals. Not that there's anything he can do about it now.

Anyway, it's good to know you'll get some use out of it.

2012-02-04 17:28:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

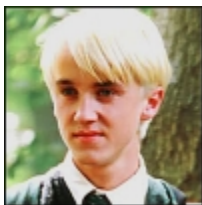
You certainly are a wonderful Seeker, Draco. It's a shame you can't take on that position more often. And it's too bad we aren't having regular matches this year, too, but it seems like you and Harry both had a good time out there today.




 [alt_pansy](#)

Are you doing anything after dinner? I thought we could go for a walk. And maybe talk a little. Because I do feel better, I do, but what happened, well, I want you to know about it.

I really do feel better today though. And the game was a nice distraction from everything.

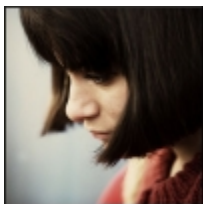


 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-02-04 22:55:24**
(no subject)

I think the only reason people are saying that I'm an ace seeker is because Harry was playing Keeper and they haven't seen him seek in ages besides, have they? But I reckon I'd be pretty good if I had to play it regularly. I'd try to be, anyway.

He and I are good again, by the way.

Of course we can go on a walk after supper. I've been waiting - well, and hoping... for you to decide when you'd tell me what happened.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-02-04 23:11:47**
(no subject)

I just had to get my head back on straight first, is all. And it is. Most of the way, at least.

And I'm glad to hear it.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-04 23:13:22](#)
(no subject)

It looked on straight to me - well, your hair was a little askew, but I'm pretty sure that was the wind.

Sit together at supper?



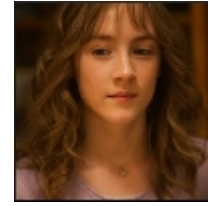
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-04 23:15:06](#)
(no subject)

Yes. I'd like that.

2012-02-04 17:51:00

A little bit tremble

I haven't flown for such a long period of time in ages.



My middle feels a little tingly, and the insides of my legs, too. I've a suspicion that they're going to ache something dreadful tomorrow.

 [alt_hydra](#)

And the wind was so biting, I don't know how you lot who were watching managed to stay warm. Lots and lots of charms, I expect.

Ron, your new broom is really nice - I guess it makes up for what happened with your last one, doesn't it? ~~It sort of looked like~~

Well, I am looking forward to tomorrow's party with girls. Only I'm a bit worried I won't be able to move.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-02-05 01:03:41**

(no subject)

What ho, Hydra,

It was actually worse flying than sitting--the wind, that is, what? But sitting still wasn't very comfortable, either. I say, I think I should like Quidditch much better when the weather's fine.

It was bally well educational, at any rate.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-02-05 01:08:09**

(no subject)

The wind does make the eyes sting, which makes it harder to see the snitch. I should have borrowed some goggles, maybe.

Quidditch, rain or shine! That's what all the fanatics like to say, heh. But I agree with you about it being much nicer when the weather is fine.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:14:20](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that's why we decided you lot would all like a nice cuppa when you got back inside. It was much colder up north, though, I'll say that much.

Zach's right, though, between last week, this week, Hogsmeade next week and the second TriWizard Task two weeks after that, we're spending far more time outside this winter than any year I remember.

Have you thought about what you're doing in Hogsmeade? Anything special?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:33:20](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Padma,

Yes, it was rather colder there, plus we were out much longer, what?

I believe we'll be doing the usual things, in Hogsmeade, thanks.

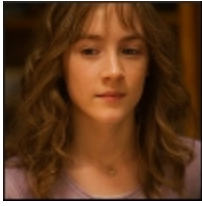
-Justin



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:11:11](#)**
(no subject)

It was well brilliant, wasn't it. Did you ever think you'd share a pitch with Viktor Krum?

Good on Sue and Ced for organising it.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 01:13:46](#)
(no subject)

Who, me? No, I can't say that I thought I would... did you?

Yes, it was very nice of them. Hufflepuff did a brilliant job.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2012-02-05 01:15:17](#)
(no subject)

Too right.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 01:12:39](#)
(no subject)

It was fun, wasn't it? Even though it was cold.

And you're really good at flying.

We'll have to do it again on a really sunny day.

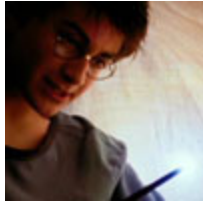


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 01:16:35](#)
(no subject)

Probably because I grew up flying with you and with Draco. It's funny, though, because I was afraid to fly when I was little. I was afraid of heights. I bet you never were.

If it's too sunny we'll all get a burn. If we're not careful, that is.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 01:26:48](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure there'll be charms we can use or something.

It's funny, but I never was. I don't think I even thought about it until now.

And being afraid never stopped you from going up, did it.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 01:32:59](#)
(no subject)

I had to stop being afraid, first. But Mummy was very good at helping me get past that.

From,

Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-05 01:35:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, you'd never know it from how you flew today.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-05 01:19:28](#)
(no subject)

Like I said, I was glad we had the idea to put together some warm drinks when everyone came back. But it did look like you were all having fun, at least.

Last week was more than enough winter weather for me!



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 01:25:29](#)
(no subject)

Thanks for making sure there was hot chocolate, it's my most favourite drink in the world.

I thought Daphne might've helped you to arrange it,

but I didn't see her anywhere. I suppose she was busy with other things today.

From,
Hydra




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:28:12](#)**
(no subject)

It was our pleasure.

Yeah, I wondered about Daphne because usually she's first on-board with something like that. Besides, I'm afraid the cocoa wasn't the best quality and usually she can help with that sort of thing.

Maybe after the way she hurt herself in the cold last week she didn't want to risk it again?



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:35:19](#)**
(no subject)

Or I suppose she might've wanted to spend time with her boyfriend, and really, I'm glad he wasn't playing. He's a really, really strong beater. I heard that quite a few teams are fighting over him for

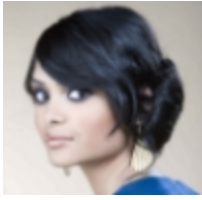
next year.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:20:23](#)**
(no subject)

I hope you'll feel up for the party tomorrow. You did pull some rather impressive manoeuvres out there, though! I usually consider it a good match if I stay on my broom the entire time.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-05 01:24:40](#)
(no subject)

It was good to see you out there and having fun.

Feeling better, then? I told Perks we've got our notes from lessons if you want to catch up.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-05 01:28:24](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Very much so. Thank you. That's really good of you, Padma.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 01:51:30](#)
(no subject)

Well, I didn't see you fall off, so I expect it went rather well, all around?

I'm sure that you'll see me tomorrow.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-05 01:55:42](#)
(no subject)

Hah. Good point. After all, one can't fall if one doesn't fly.

Maybe I'll join in next time.



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-05 01:59:52](#)
Private message to Hydra

Hullo Duckie.

I've been watching your journal with interest these last weeks. First I wondered if you were becoming too idle with all those books, and now I wonder if you've gone and worn yourself out.

Don't forget to make time to send news to your old man, hmm? Else he's bound to worry.

You'll be interested to know I've picked up a copy of *Pure Hunger*, since you spoke so highly of it. The prose is utterly stilted (that dripping-with-drama style that will hook the most philistine reader), but the premise is an interesting one. I can see why it's caused such a fervour. I find myself wondering if the author is cautioning us against letting mudbloods into the home as servants, where they can be exposed to magic, however indirectly. Your Mother certainly would take it to mean as much, though of course she would never say so aloud, where He might hear.

At least I know what to get you for Christmas next year - books and brooms, and not bracelets.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 02:02:31](#)

Re: Private message to Hydra

I've sent letters along with my weekly owls to Mummy. Have you not received them, then?

I suppose that *Pure Hunger* gets a little over-dramatic at times, but I think you're right and that's why people like it. It seems like so much is at stake while you're reading, and you don't want to put it down, for fear of missing something.

It's hard to know what the author means to tell us about mudbloods, because we don't know how they came to be in charge. Maybe we'll find out more when the next book comes out, though?

I received almost too many books for Christmas! And the broom I have now is just fine. But I've been wearing your bracelet every day. It's lovely.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-05 02:09:45](#)

Re: Private message to Hydra

Your Mummy has been very busy. Moreso than usual, even. We're keeping to our own tasks these days, you might say. For the time being, it might be wise to send your letters to me separate from those you send to your Mother.

I'm glad to hear that you can still be charmed by pretty baubles, then.

How are your lessons going? I haven't read your reports to your Mother, you know, but is Arithmancy coming along? What about Dark Arts?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 02:14:11](#)

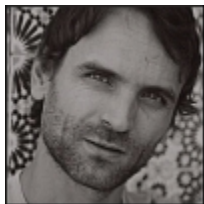
Re: Private message to Hydra

Oh, I see. I figured that she must be busy, because she hasn't sent many letters and owls of her own.

Baubles, books, brooms, bracelets, bunnies... I suppose I like things that begin with Bs.

I think I am doing the same in Arithmancy ~~even though I'm working more than~~, and I'm still in the top of Dark Arts. And runes, too!

From,
Hydra



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-05 02:17:15](#)

Re: Private message to Hydra

I take some comfort in the fact that your list of things that begin with B does not yet include "boys."

Hang in there with the Arithmancy - it may click with you yet. And good job in Dark Arts, too. I know that Miss Professor Carrow is no slouch when it comes to challenging her students.



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2012-02-05 02:20:43**

Re: Private message to Hydra

Boys?

Miss Professor Carrow can be very tough, yes. Though today Corey Whitacre mucked up his stinging hex and she didn't even seem to notice. Though you never know with her - she might come down on him hard later for it.

From,
Hydra

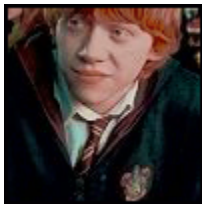


 **[alt_rodolphus](#) at 2012-02-05 02:24:38**

Re: Private message to Hydra

Yes, one never knows, with her. It's best to stay clear of her outside of the classroom, Duckie.

Do some stretches before bed, and take in a hot bath, if you can. It'll make you feel better, come morning.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2012-02-05 05:04:28**

(no subject)

It was a wizard day, wasn't it?

Thanks. You're right, it's a brilliant broom, this new one. Doesn't change that Finnigan's a berk, but the person who sent it did a really decent thing, giving it to me.



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2012-02-05 05:16:01**

(no subject)

Well witchy, I'd say.

I imagine that Finnigan is probably sorry for what's happened, considering. And yes, that was a very decent thing to do.

From,
Hydra

2012-02-04 19:25:00

Private message to Effs



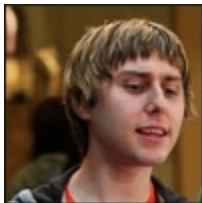
 [alt_hydra](#)

I'm ever so glad you didn't say anything to Padma about our plans for Hogsmeade! Because I'm sure you've seen by now that Daddy was reading. I don't know if he would have been upset to know that we have a Valentine's date or not, but it's probably better if he doesn't know. Especially as he was being so funny and peevish about the fact that I was mentioning other people's Christmas gifts more often than his, too. I think Mummy and he must be quarreling...

Anyway, I'm glad that SHE wasn't reading, at least. Because I said something daft that she might've taken the wrong way, if she had been.

I'm going to sleep like the dead tonight. How about you?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-02-05 02:42:32**

(no subject)

Hullo, Dux,

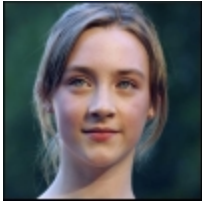
I say, I wasn't about to let Patil nose in, what? Besides I rather thought someone might see if I said anything too obvious.

What did you--oh, the bit about how she 'helped' you get over your fear of heights? I can only imagine, Dux. Dashed inhuman. Sorry. I know she's your mother but it's bally well not on.

Everything all right with your father, then?

And I saw you do plan on going to that party. I say, are you certain? You don't have to go, if you'd rather not, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 02:50:27](#)
(no subject)

Padma really does like to know what's going on in every part of the school, I think.

Yes, that was it. Not that Harry knows anything about it, I was only six or seven years old, after all.

I think everything is all right, except that I have the feeling Daddy thinks I'm not telling him something. And well, there IS something I'm not telling him. But a teenage girl oughtn't feel she has to tell her father everything, don't you agree?

Sally Anne and Pansy are going, I think, so I'll go along too. I can always leave if it gets dull.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-05 03:09:11](#)
(no subject)

Yes, she does. Luckily it's easy enough to put her off, what?

Dash it, Dux, I'm well astonished by you, do you know? The way you treat things like that as if it's of no more importance than passing the jam.

Well, you know how to manage your parents best, I suppose, but if it's me you're hiding from him, then yes, I agree!

Ron and I were going to get up a game or two so if you do get bored come and find me, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 03:20:30](#)
(no subject)

You're very good at it. Better than I am, that's for certain.


Yes, I suppose she did what she set out to do, in a way.

I don't want to hide you, I hope you know!

And I might need to sleep soon, actually. I really am knackered!

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-05 03:28:50](#)
(no subject)

One of the good things about being brought up with proper manners is that it's well simple to answer someone and not tell them anything much.


I didn't mean it like you're ashamed of me, what, only that I'm not at all keen to face your father! I'm sure he'd make mincemeat of me in no time, what? I mean to say, he gave us permission to go to the ball but nothing more than that. I'm surprised he's not wondering how you're getting on with making Marvolo jealous by now.

Indeed, it's getting late. And yes, I'm rather done in, too.

Sweet dreams, Dux,

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-05 03:32:04](#)
(no subject)

I really don't know about Daddy, but I think you're safe from him yet. And I think he'd prefer I not try to make Harry jealous, or anyone else

for that matter.

Goodnight Justin, enjoy your game with Ron.

Le

From,

Hydra

2012-02-04 20:07:00

(no subject)

That was brilliant!

I dunno if I want to keep spending every Saturday out in the cold, though. With Hogsmeade next week, it's a good job we'll be able to stay indoors before the Task or it'll be a trend.



 **alt_zacharias**

Nice flying, everyone.

And KRUM! That was amazing. And that bit at the end when we were all just tossing the Quaffles around and he showed us some moves?

Brilliant.



 **alt_eloise** at **2012-02-05 01:19:48**

(no subject)

Hello Zach!! Megan and I had fun watching. Cedric is really amazing on a broom!!



 **alt_zacharias** at **2012-02-05 01:26:13**

(no subject)

He really is! Were you in the common room when he was telling us that even without Quidditch this year, there are some scouts who are interested in watching him?



 **alt_eloise** at **2012-02-05 03:37:56**

(no subject)

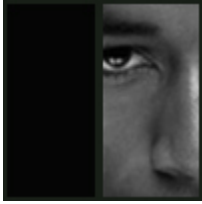
I wasn't there but everyone's been talking about it tonight, haven't they?? I can't wait to see how he does in the second task!!




 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-02-05 01:29:25](#)**
(no subject)

So Krum showed off some moves, did he?

I bet some people will be sorry to hear that they missed THAT.




 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-05 04:55:43](#)**
Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

You all right, there?

What did you get up to this afternoon? Not that staying separate from the herd is a bad thing, per

se.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-02-05 05:12:49](#)**
Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

I thought about joining in, but Barney likes to spend Saturdays together. Unless one of his NEWT groups is meeting, of course, and today they were done by lunch.

2012-02-04 23:26:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

What ho, all,

I say, it was fun today, wasn't it?

Something interesting happened tonight, though. You may have noticed that Hydra's father wrote to her (and I'm well glad I thought not to send her a Private Message or to say anything improper, what!). Well, she told me that she's keeping the fact that we're dating secret from him. Which makes sense, I daresay, and it's fine with me for the time being, at any rate.

But then she scratched something out in her last reply to me. You know how she signs everything 'From, Hydra' but this time she started to write something else.

I think it was 'Love.'

I can't be sure. And I say, it doesn't necessarily mean anything, what? Because it's common enough to sign a letter 'With love' or 'Love,' just as one might use 'Sincerely' or 'Yours.'

Only. Hydra doesn't. Sign off that way, I mean.

So.

I'm not sure what to think, if you follow me.


Do you think she meant it but didn't want to be the first to say it? Or that she doesn't mean it and scratched it out so I wouldn't think she cares more than she does? Or was it just a mistake?

And what I told Padma about Valentine's? It's not true at all, of course. I only didn't wish her to pry where anyone might see the answer. But if Hydra doesn't want to continue--well, why would she lie to her father about me, what? Unless she thinks she's about to break things off and he never needs to know.

What do you think I ought to do?

-Justin

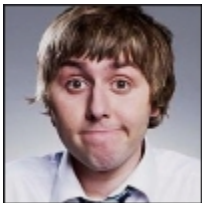



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-05 05:10:28](#)
(no subject)

Um.

No idea, really. I think one of the girls is going to have to help you there, mate.

(And don't take anything the twins say seriously, yeah? Not about something like this!)



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-05 15:50:27](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Ron.

(We've got to get you a girlfriend, mate!)

Still on for chess, what?

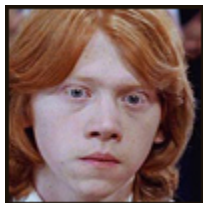
-Justin




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-05 18:52:00](#)
(no subject)

Get Ron a girlfriend?

Justin. Justin, Justin, Justin. Think of the poor girl.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-05 20:48:11](#)
(no subject)

Nice.

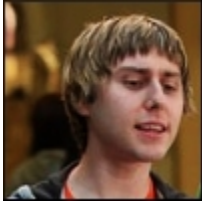


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-05 05:29:26](#)
(no subject)

I thought girls were the only ones that worried about that sort of thing.

I guess not.

I wouldn't over-think it honestly. Regardless of her reasons for scratching it out, she did start to write it in the first place, and that has to count for something.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-05 15:52:42](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Pansy,

Are you saying I'm a girl, what? No, you're quite right; I oughtn't to have taken on so. It was late and we were all very tired and I'm sure it doesn't really mean anything, in light of day.

I say, though, I hope your party goes well this afternoon. Hydra did say she would be going so I hope you all have a lovely time, what?

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-05 16:15:06](#)
(no subject)

I think it's rather endearing.

And sort of nice. I mean, I overthink things all the time, and I guess it's good to know I'm not the only one.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-05 15:34:33](#)
(no subject)

I'd say you should keep on as you've been. She's probably trying not to get too attached to you as you're going back to France at the end of the year but she clearly does care for you quite a lot.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-05 16:00:58](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Yes, you're quite right, of course. I think I was

merely overtired--well, we all were, what--and regardless, I know she's not half sincere. As Pansy points out, I was simply being a girl's blouse over the whole thing.

Do have fun this afternoon, despite Patil.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-05 16:14:17](#)
(no subject)


Oh, we will.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-05 18:50:53](#)
(no subject)

Indeed.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-02-05 18:49:40](#)
(no subject)

I think that's good advice. I wouldn't ask her about it, because she might be embarrassed or shy. She might realise that you saw it and is worrying about it, too. Just show that you care about her as much as ever and you aren't embarrassed yourself.

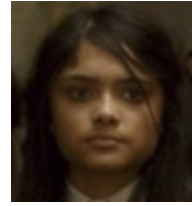
I think it is something she might not be able to admit to unless she's willing to say it aloud to you. And she may not be brave enough to do so unless you say it first.

But whether you're willing to do that is something for you to decide.

2012-02-05 16:35:00

PEEVES!


NO GHOSTS is
supposed to INCLUDE
no poltergeists!!!



 [alt_padma](#)

And as for the Weasley twins: ha ha. Only you two would do something that daft.




 [alt_lavender](#) at **2012-02-05 22:02:25**

(no subject)

Ugh! Get it off!!



 [alt_lavender](#) at **2012-02-05 22:07:10**

(no subject)

Nevermind--I've got it!

But it took two cleaning charms. Merlin, I hate that Peeves!



 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-02-05 22:14:14**

(no subject)

I should have known he'd try to spoil everything.

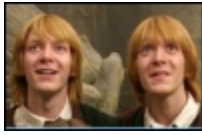


 [alt_lavender](#) at **2012-02-05 22:19:10**

(no subject)

He threw PUDDING in my HAIR!

Somebody's got him out again, right? I was kind of busy.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-02-05 22:05:27](#)**
(no subject)

It was entirely worth it for us.

Surely it was worth it for you, too.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-02-05 22:23:09](#)**
(no subject)

You two aren't *actually* as funny as you think you are.

Alright, it was sort of funny.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-05 22:26:42](#)**
(no subject)

It was utterly ridiculous.

And I'd like to know why they're so anxious to find out what a girls' party is like!




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-02-05 22:30:23](#)**
(no subject)

Clearly they are envious of our superior entertaining skills!

Or else they have a deep and disturbing love of frilly dress robes.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-05 22:28:49](#)**
(no subject)

What did you do?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-05 22:35:58](#)
(no subject)

You'll see pretty soon!

I can't imagine they'll be able to get all the makeup off before they get back to Gryffindor.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-05 22:38:05](#)
(no subject)

Made idiots of themselves, as usual. What else would they do?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-05 23:49:37](#)
(no subject)

We didn't do anything.

But our close and personal friends Georgiana and Fredricka might have crashed the girls' party.

[2012-02-05 20:42:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Well, that was fun.

Fred and George, you were utterly brilliant. The look on Patil's face was *priceless*. And I'd hardly seen some of those Beauxbatons girls crack a grin before, but they were laughing so hard they were practically screaming.

 [alt_pansy](#)

It's really quite a pity that Fleur didn't take to her elephant trunk -- she left in a huff before some of the younger girls decided to put on a fashion show with the animal bits on everyone's faces and had a grand time of it.

And when Peeves came in, that was just brilliant! Did you tell him about it? Or did he figure it out on his own, when Patil was going on about who wasn't invited?

I really needed that.

Thank you.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-06 03:51:53](#)

(no subject)

Did you see all those firsties at supper, coming out in yellow feathers all of a sudden?

Hilarious!

Tell me they got Patil with some of those trick sweets!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-06 04:43:07](#)

(no subject)

No. Unfortunately.

But it was all still incredibly silly, despite her best efforts.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-06 04:52:58](#)
(no subject)

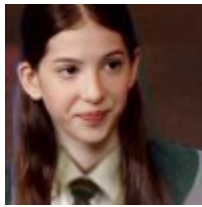
It's a shame Daphne had to leave early. I think she'd have quite enjoyed the fashion show. Maybe not Peeves, though...



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-06 05:03:03](#)
(no subject)

I think she honestly could have talked him into getting a manicure. We tried, but she could have done it for sure.

Why did she leave early? Bole being a berk again?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-06 05:12:18](#)
(no subject)


She said she had homework, but who knows.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-07 02:28:31](#)
(no subject)

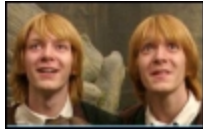
That was awfully funny!



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-07 02:40:56](#)
(no subject)

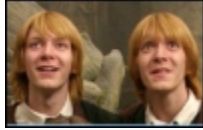
I read this and then made the mistake of imagining the git swallowing one of those.

I had to leave the room because I keep chortling to myself at the very thought.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-07 02:41:43](#)
(no subject)

What a beautiful thought. We'll do our best to make it come true some day.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-07 03:15:31](#)
(no subject)

Of course, there are worse things we'd like to do to him, too.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-07 02:37:39](#)
(no subject)

No, we didn't tell Peeves, you know he just shows up for the fun all on his own.

Personally, we thought that if an elephant trunk could look good on anyone, it would Delacour. Almost elegant. Wish we'd convinced Patil to swallow one of those, though. That would have been even better.

Thank you, we had a rather good time ourselves. How is it we've never known until now what fun all you girls can have?



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-02-07 02:38:15](#)
(no subject)

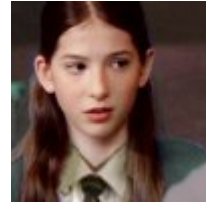
Probably because you're already having plenty of fun on your own.

(You still haven't rid the dorm room of all the glitter. I bet we'll be picking it out of the quilts for weeks. What a mess!)

2012-02-06 18:48:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


There's something strange going on with Alecto Carrow. Maybe she's ill? She actually fell asleep during a test. And normally she'll prowl around the room while we're working and make us nervous. Lately she's been just sitting at her desk.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I'm hoping she's got some horrible, incurable, deadly wasting disease. Though if she gets that sick I'd think Madam Pomfrey would notice. They DO both take meals in the Great Hall, so it's not like Madam P never sees her.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-02-07 01:20:21**
(no subject)

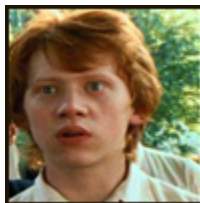
Maybe Madam Pomfrey's putting rat poison in her food, though.


Well. We can hope someone is.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-07 01:27:57**
(no subject)

Maybe it's one of the rats that got away. They never found all of them, you know!



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-02-07 01:29:33**
(no subject)

You think a rat is poisoning her?!

Heh.


That'd be payback, right enough.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-07 01:30:17](#)
(no subject)

It would be wizard if it were true!



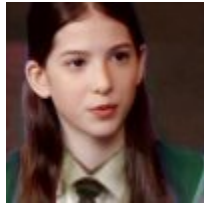
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-07 01:34:24](#)
(no subject)

So you really think she's sick?

Maybe she's just really blue because he's not here anymore. Y'know, sort of pining away, missing him.

That'd almost be better. 'Cause it'd just be their own faults, not something someone's probably going to get arrested for.

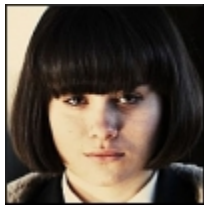
(Unless you're right and it's a rat, because, really how would they ever find out for sure?)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-07 02:50:17](#)
(no subject)

That could be it.


If someone's poisoning her I hope they don't get caught.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-07 03:05:01](#)
(no subject)

She's not well liked. I'd bet it'd be hard to come up with a list of people who *don't* want to poison her.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-02-07 03:34:26](#)
(no subject)

Hahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahahaha!

'She's not well liked.'

You can say that again!



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-02-07 03:35:51](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.


People who wouldn't love to poison Alecto Carrow if they thought they could get away with it:

1. Amycus Carrow

...

Do they have a mum? Maybe she'd be on the list, too. Maybe.




 **alt_ron** at [2012-02-07 03:38:28](#)
(no subject)

A mum?!

No way. Somebody found 'em both under a cabbage leaf.

Explains the smell.



 **alt_luna** at [2012-02-07 01:49:01](#)
(no subject)

I was wondering if I was imagining things, but I think you're right. She often has a sort of pinched look on her face, as if she's in pain, and I've noticed her rubbing her joints a lot at meal times.



 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2012-02-07 01:50:33](#)**
(no subject)

Huh. Interesting.

I'll try to eavesdrop next time she floo calls the git. Maybe I'll hear a bit about what's going on.

2012-02-06 19:51:00

Private message to Susan Bones

I'm really sorry I didn't show up at the library like we agreed. I still need to do that Herbology essay we were going to work on together, but I got detention again. With the caretaker, Mr Milland.




 **alt_neville**

Ever since I tracked that mud into the Great Hall, I think he's had a real grudge against me. He looks for any excuse for giving me detention. Today it was for 'looking at him funny.' If you can believe it.

Anyway, sorry, I just wanted to let you know what happened. I would have much rather been working on the essay with you than scrubbing the floor in the trophy room. Without magic.



 **alt_susan** at **2012-02-08 14:02:56**
(no subject)

Don't worry about it, Neville--and sorry about the detention.

You seem to have to put up with a fair bit of that; I didn't notice how much before, I guess because you weren't in my House and we didn't talk all that much.

2012-02-06 20:26:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley

I know how busy Mr Malfoy's been keeping you but please, please say you're going to be able to make it to Hogsmeade on Saturday? I might have to commit some serious dark arts if I don't get a chance to see you.



 **alt_penelope**

Only joking. Mostly.

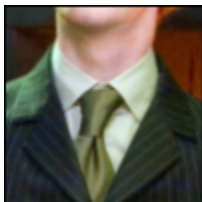
It's Avery, mainly--and all those 4th-year girls! Honestly, I don't remember another class being broadsided by their hormones quite as badly as this lot. But at least the 1st-years have given up their bullying for the time being, and that's a small mercy.

And I'm sure I've been revising way, way too much to be healthy. There's no help for it, though, since I keep falling asleep over the books if I try to read in the dormitory. And my father sent me a stern owl about my marks at the end of last term. So.

To make matters worse, poor Professor Siz has just been having a terrible time, too. I'm sure you heard all about what happened during the CCF exercise last week? I guess someone's not too happy because she's had to answer all sorts of questions and she's even gone down to New London to tackle the fallout. It's really too bad; she tries hard to make the programme run so well.

Between all that and the weather it's just been hard to be anything but glum. So I really hope you don't have to cancel again. Though if you do, I suppose I shan't throw myself off the Astronomy Tower or anything dire.

Just miss you that much more. I wish it were NEWTs week already and I could just have it all done and over with!



 **alt_percy** at **2012-02-07 01:47:00**

(no subject)

I'll be there, I promise! I'm looking forward to it as much as you.

Oh, how I remember that feeling, that the year was telescoping longer and longer in a blizzard of responsibilities and

that NEWTs would never come. They'll come, trust me. Sooner than you would like. February always feels gloomy and dire, but you'll survive this. Even considering Avery and the rest of his ilk.

I did hear rumours about...well, not a fiasco last weekend, exactly. Just that things didn't go as planned. I am sorry for Professor Sinistra; I always quite liked her. She certainly knows her stuff, and Merlin knows she's worked like a house elf to make the CCF/YPL programmes a success. I hope that whatever questioning they do is pro forma, and they realise that really, she wasn't at fault.

Work's been keeping me almost too busy to breathe. I am guiltily aware that I've been neglecting you, but believe me, you've been in my thoughts every day, even if my owls are less frequent.

Never mind. We'll make up for it all this weekend.

2012-02-06 21:55:00

Private message to Padma Patil

When are you going to start talking to me again?

In public, I mean.



 **[alt_seamus](#)**

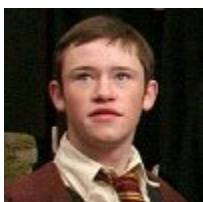


 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-07 04:06:49](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know. I mean, I thought Draco'd be over it by now but he still seems cross. I can't very well do much until he cools off.

You saw that Weasley has a new broom? Well, new to him, obviously it's used. Rumour is that it's Malfoy's old one and he gave it to him. I just hope this means he and Weasley aren't fast chums now, ugh. Because it's one thing to only talk to you in private. But it's another to have to be nice to bloody Weasley forever!

Oh, but we may have some information for you know who. From the party. Before Weasley's horrid older brothers were so rude as to show up dressed like girls (and ugh! that was another sight I didn't need to see, ever!), things were going really well and there was loads of interesting talk. And then Daphne made up an excuse and left right in the middle of everything. I think Bole's really awfully serious about her and I'm not sure she likes that as much as she claims.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-02-07 04:29:12](#)**
(no subject)

You don't seriously think Malfoy and Weasley could wind up mates? Bloody hell.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-07 04:55:05](#)**
(no subject)

Rama forbid! I mean, eventually Weasley's bound to do something well idiotic and remind Draco that he despises the little berk. But beyond the fact that you mucked with his broom, you made your team

come in last and you know how much Malfoy wants to win at everything.

And I know, if Weasley'd had trouble with his broom any other time, Malfoy would have thought it well hilarious. It's bad luck that he was also cross with Harry *and* it had to happen in a competitive situation where it hurt his chances, too.

He'll settle down. And I'm sure he'll remember that Weasley's a toerag. But he was really, really cross when I tried to tell him you didn't mean it. So until he lets it go, you're going to have to live with it, sorry.

[2012-02-06 21:57:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Justin



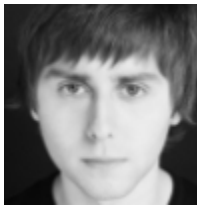
Alright, I had to put Jane Eyre away after Helen died.


 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**

Now some time has passed and I guess I'll give it another shot but you have to PROMISE ME that NOTHING ELSE HORRIBLE HAPPENS.

Because her BEST FRIEND DIED FOR NO REASON. She just DIED because she got sick and no one at that awful school even cared, except for Jane and Jane didn't have anything she could do about it.

I am NOT going to keep reading this book if it's got more stuff like Helen dying. Really.



 **[alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-07 04:18:43](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne.

I'm sorry, I wanted to warn you but I didn't want to spoil the read, what? I did say that things got worse before they got better. I can see why Helen's death would well upset you, of course.

People did catch ill and die, though. Muggles do now, in your camps. They die of illness all the time, for no good reason. So that's rather common in books of this period, what, because it happened and no one could jolly well do anything. If it's any consolation, one's meant to feel well terrible when it happens.

As for the rest...well, some more people die. But it's sort of okay. And let's see, there will be at least one more point (actually about three, I expect) where one believes everything is bally well awful and Jane's never going to be happy ever ever again. But believe me, Sally-Anne, it does have a happy ending.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-07 04:27:19](#)
(no subject)

Of course people die in real life all the time. That doesn't mean they need to go and die in the books I read.

~~I wanted them to grow up and share a house~~



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-07 04:27:57](#)
(no subject)

And I mean dozens of people die in *Pure Hunger* too but that was different. It wasn't her



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-07 04:46:25](#)
(no subject)

Well, precisely. One cares less about most of those deaths even when they're characterised as heroic. This one's meant to be tragic. (And as I understand it, one is actually hoping for the heroine to win in

Pure Hunger, which necessitates the others dying, what?)

Anyway, I'm sorry if you find it too intense, what? But it's not as if Ms Bronte knew over a hundred years ago that you'd identify with her character so strongly. I mean to say, one knew there might be some parallels but one didn't expect you to take the thing so personally. Perhaps you ought to give it up.

-Justin



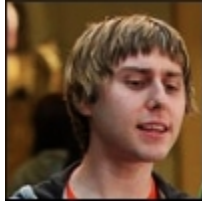
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-07 04:48:51](#)
(no subject)

...



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-07 04:50:11](#)
(no subject)

If I don't like the ending, see if I ever take another book recommendation from you again.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-07 04:56:58](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, that's fair.

-Justin

2012-02-07 07:59:00

Private message to Harry

Hey, kid. It's been good to see that you and Draco are mating around again. I could sense that there was some tension there for a few weeks, but I was aiming not to interfere so long as it was just chilliness and not outright hostility. Glad to see that you appear to have things sorted.



 [alt_rabastan](#)

Another thing- maybe we could have another look at that egg this week? Overheard some interesting talk between Professors Grubbly-Plank and Brutka. They were debating whether or not the noise that came out of the egg was a Mermish language, and if so, which dialect. Now, it never did occur to me that the noise might be a language, and I've never heard any Mermish, at that. But it gives us something to go on, doesn't it?

How are you coming along with, ah, other things?



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-07 17:58:00**
(no subject)


Yeah. The egg. I tried all sorts of things, and none of them really seemed to work. So it's been in my trunk. It needs looking at.

Diggory's sorted it out. Smith was gloating about it the other day.

How could they tell with the screaming? Do Mer people really scream like that?

And yeah. With the other things. I was wondering if you could set up a place I could practise. With animals or something. And also if we could talk about what I could do after so, you know, they won't hurt so much when I'm finished.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-08 00:12:04](#)
(no subject)

If Diggory's sorted it out then I would reckon that figuring out a way to translate the Mermish is key. And as for screaming- I doubt very much that it sounds like that to Mer-folk. And who knows what we sound like to them, eh? Babbling idiots, could be.

I'll figure out a way to ask Grubbly-Plank if she has any suggestions, both on the animals and how to help them after. Leave it to me.

[2012-02-07 21:10:00](#)

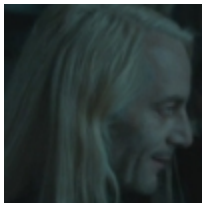
Private message to Lucius Malfoy



I received an owl today from Igor regarding the spring tour for our visitors. Apparently there's been at least one request from someone who wishes to visit a muggle camp; he's wondering if I can arrange something 'suitable.'

 **[alt_selwyn](#)**

You're rather more in touch with this lot than I am. Just how likely do you think he is to press on this? It's going to be quite a lot of work, putting a proper show together, just for a handful of curious school children. (Or, well, curious international quidditch stars, as the case may be -- if it hadn't been Krum who asked I'm not sure Igor would have said anything more than 'no, don't be absurd.')



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-02-08 03:32:03](#)**

(no subject)

Igor? Press?

You're correct that it's most likely Krum has bent his ear, as not sure what else could have shifted him.

Frankly, however, am astonished Krum has any true interest - nor indeed, any true understanding of what he's really asking. Rather makes one wonder what he expects to find.

Has International Co-Operation given any thought to the British national, by the way? Didn't Helpmann or one of those others have some scheme in which the boy defects?



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2012-02-08 03:51:40](#)**

(no subject)

I have no idea what he expects to find! Igor seems to think he wants ideas on how to properly contain muggles. If that's actually the case, I think we could tell him to come back once he's rounded up the muggles of Eastern Europe and we'll discuss it.

Re the British national -- I don't think anything's been decided, but I haven't discussed it with Helpmann recently.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-08 04:30:49](#)
(no subject)

Indeed.

Well, suppose the best thing is to assemble something worth seeing, particularly if they mean to report home (which, one presumes, was one of the goals in bringing the Tournament to the Protectorate in the first place).

Yes, expect Yaxley has been keeping you quite distracted from other matters? Unsure about his new man. Vladimir, is it?



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-08 04:33:37](#)
(no subject)

Mm.

Yes. Apparently our cleaning staff has been encouraged to assess our loyalties. Never thought I'd see the day when I had to defend myself to the bin-emptier.

Not that I have anything I'd be called on to defend, unless it's been put there by someone else. And therein, of course, is the problem.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-08 04:44:10](#)
(no subject)

Told Yaxley as much, that all this new initiative would foment was false accusations and airing of grievance. You heard that they've already investigated 143 claims, of which only three have proved to have any truth?

He seems oddly impressed with this fellow, however. Convinced there are leaks within MLE and elsewhere, leading to DogStar, perhaps Black, other collaborators as well. Thinks that he requires 'an outside hand' to ferret them out and that this Vladimir chap is the one to do the job. Rather too unctuous for my taste - something like Igor back in his greener days.

Oh, meant to ask you: Have you anything to do with Burdett-Coutts' plan to organise a duelling competition in the arena during the Faire? Had no idea he meant to present the notion at Court; now Our Lord has hold of the idea and seems equally enamoured with it. Has He approached you to identify likely participants, by chance? Asking because it seems to me that He has been relying rather too much of late on the likes of Maule and Fulton. Know you are not regular at Buckingham but thought He may have sent instruction.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2012-02-08 04:52:22](#)**
(no subject)

A hundred and forty three?


Well, I'm glad they're at least investigating them thoroughly, but what an unbelievable waste of time for everyone concerned.

Re the duelling competition -- the Frost Faire has really been the furthest thing from my mind. I don't know who put that into Burdett-Coutt's mind, but it certainly wasn't me.

As far as participants go -- I was given to know that Our Lord would be pleased should I find a few individuals eager to prove themselves. I say 'given to know,' though, because no one told me this directly -- certainly not Our Lord. It was all hints and frankly I'm not entirely certain whether it's coming from Him, or from people eager to persuade me that His will and theirs are closely aligned. I've given it some thought, naturally, but I've been hoping for at least a bit more clarity about whose wishes I'm serving.

I live to serve Our Lord, of course. But not Maule. Or Fulton.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-02-08 05:00:37](#)**
(no subject)

That's the number I was told, yes. A few of them represented legitimate complaints, understand, but only three of any real interest.

It's something to do with a recreation of the Gladiatorial games. In point of fact, Narcissa knows rather more Burdett-

Coutts' mind than I (and that it remain thus suits me, I daresay). But yes. Our Lord does mean to have them duel for the pleasure of onlookers and as I understand it, He means to duel the victor personally.

As for motives and service, there we are agreed. Completely.

Perhaps you and Chloe ought to come to supper this week, so we can speak further? One does prefer to know whose agenda is in favour at present - and whose might be next to capture attention.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-08 05:04:25](#)
(no subject)

Supper. Indeed. I think that's an excellent idea.

2012-02-08 09:18:00

Stars and conversations

A surprisingly pleasant afternoon in New London yesterday. I handled a variety of errands both personal and professional, had a chance to catch up with my mother over tea, and enjoyed dinner with a couple of astronomer friends.



 **alt_sinistra**

(Students: I'm working on arranging a visit from one of them, likely in March, to talk about the new telescope designs and related charms. I promise she's a lot more interesting than that description sounds, and she has some very funny - in hindsight, anyway - stories about ways the charms went wrong in testing.)

I came back to find a draft article waiting for my comments, too. Those of you who've helped with data collection for the royal star project may want to have a look, as it talks about the process to date and some of the early results. Copy will be up in my office, of course.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-08 14:40:29**

Private message to Poppy

Poppy -

Much better day in New London this week. Mum insisted on meeting up with me in between the other errands and tasks - and she passed on a book she thought you might like. Friday, for tea? (I'm sure it was an excuse for her to see that I'm taking care of myself.)

Also, more than a little interesting gossip. First, I'm certainly not the only person under much closer scrutiny at the moment at the Ministry, and I can't decide if that's encouraging or disturbing. Second, there's also this - well, you heard about the gladiatorial games as part of the Frost Faire?

Mum said that Theo and a number of his set have been encouraged to sign up, though he's scarcely kept his hand in that kind of thing (even less than I have). And I heard more of the same from various people at the Ministry, and from both Dai and Gilly at dinner tonight. Varying incentives and reasoning, depending on who's being asked, too.

I can't help but wonder what the goal is of drawing in so many people, a number of whom will clearly have less experience than those they're facing. I'm sure it'll keep your colleagues at St. Mungo's on their professional toes, mind.

(And I suppose I'll see for myself: Raz obviously has something of a professional interest, and the last night is one of the highlight events of the Faire, so I suspect we'll be there.)



 **alt_poppy** at [2012-02-08 19:56:28](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy

So very glad to hear it was a more pleasant trip down.

Your mother is very kind and has an eye for books filled with useful remedies and forgotten applications for common ingredients. I've learned much from the books she's sent my way.

Yes! to Friday tea.

There are other investigations going? By which, I take you to mean others similar to yours rather than of a criminal nature. (One senses that MLE keep a full slate of investigations going into all manner of things.)

As for this gladiatorial business, I read something about there being exhibitions of a semi-professional sort. (Almost anything would be more interesting to me than poorly re-enacted Roman duelling, but then I suppose mine is a minority opinion.) Is there to be a purse for amateurs, then, as well? I suspect you've the right of it when you say that will keep St Mungo's busy.

(Surely you could find something else to do in all the Faire if he really feels a professional need to attend. If it were a joust, I could understand the appeal. As it is, I believe I'd much rather suffer through an afternoon's tea--or worse, another waltz--with Mr Milland than attend that event.)



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-08 21:19:07](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy

Mum's glad to have someone to share them with, honestly. She hates passing up treasures from the used book stalls.

On the other investigations: no idea what about, but I heard about people getting called in last week, and more this week.

As to the gladiatorial games - apparently, some of both. Must be, if Theo and his lot are getting asked, as they're certainly barely professional at anything. (I love my youngest brother, but I do wish he'd settle to something.)

Honestly, I do find Raz's commentary makes things more enjoyable. Certainly worked a treat on Sunday. I'd say it was purely the attraction of spending more time with him (which is certainly a piece of it, mind), but I've found looking at something with different eyes quite intriguing, at least as a break.

Can't say it's the thing I'd pick out of everything in the Protectorate one might do on a Saturday. But there's a certain amount of needing to make a social appearance, and so on. And I might as well make the best of it.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-02-09 00:10:45](#)

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

I'm glad to hear your time in New London was pleasant, and your upcoming speaker sounds quite intriguing--perhaps more to the scholarly sort of student than the dueling/orienteering/Quidditching sort, but some balance is all to the good.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-09 00:15:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

I've been trying to remember if you'd recall her. Gilly Chadwick, two years ahead of me, but a Ravenclaw. Though I'd suspect she'd not have spent much more time in the greenhouses than I did.

She's utterly brilliant at some of the design charms, but she's also quite funny, talking about them. And, as I told her, round about March pretty much anything starts looking good as a distraction from fog and mud.

We'd gotten to be good friends - oh, eight years ago now, when she and I were configuring the then-new telescope at the country guildhall, but I'd lost touch with her for a while. We picked up at the January guild meeting like no time had passed. Rather reassuring, somehow.



 [alt_pomona](#) at **2012-02-09 00:20:58**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Miss Chadwick! Now that you mention, I do recall her--and you are quite right that she was not a devotee of Herbology!

Do invite her to dinner, if she can stay; it's been ages since we've had *intelligent* Charms discussion at the faculty table. ~~Merlin, sometimes I miss F.~~

Thanks again for that most excellent tea, by the way. Your mother's scone-making skills are a veritable wonder.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-02-09 00:29:20**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

I quite know what you mean about Charms, truly. (Though if you can get Etienne Froissart going, he's quite interesting. Very different approach, mind.)

I will see if I can talk her into dinner, though, as you're right it'd be entertaining.

And yes, Mum rather outdid herself. I know she's been fretting - about Theo as well as me, really - but her baking gets even better when she's worried, I think. Always glad to share.

Thanks for the reassurance this afternoon on all fronts, too.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-02-09 00:34:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

I'm always happy to assist in that regard. Truthfully, I feel that I receive from you quite as much of the same; quite simply, it's good to have a sounding board for all those major and minor issues that arise.

At the very least, I'm glad that I could set your mind at rest regarding Miss Midgen.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-09 00:37:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Quite right. And .. it's so easy sometimes, to feel isolated, or get off on one track, and forget there are, perhaps, other ways to look at something.

And yes. Still sorry for fouling that one up, really.

I still wish I'd any idea whether we could expect another round of teasing or worse, as the next task comes up, or whether this is just the quiet before the storm rolls in.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-02-09 00:45:05](#)

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Well, life is often unfair through no fault of one's own; there are many people who might be inclined to teach Miss Midgen that lesson more harshly than yourself.

Speaking of unfairness, I *do* wish that so many students didn't feel the need to express their fervent support for Mr. Marvolo by denigrating Mr. Diggory.

I suppose we will simply have to be alert as the task draws closer.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-09 00:49:46**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

True. But I ... well, I do hate when I do that kind of thing unintentionally.

And yes, quite, on the matter of Mister Diggory. Though honestly, I'm more proud of him every day for handling it as well as he is, and setting the example he is. (And especially since he's got nothing like the more overt support of the other champions.)



 **alt_pomona** at **2012-02-09 01:41:44**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

He's certainly not without supporters here in the sett, though they've been quieter about it than they might be otherwise.

It's been good to chat with you, my dear, but I fear my pile of parchments to mark may start to grow legs and devour my houseplants if I leave it any longer.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-09 02:14:42**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

We might see about encouraging them gently. (Though I hate to expose any of them to more harassment, really.)

And you know I've been keeping an eye on him, as much as I can. He got a few treats from Mum's latest, too, mind.

Excellent to chat with you, as well, but I quite know the problem of the looming parchments.

(And goodness. Responding to Narcissa still ties my fingers in knots. At least it's a distraction from indexing all the YPL messages.)

Do have a wonderful night.

2012-02-08 13:02:00

Pedlin Wisdom an Wares

Today's post brought me this wiv no name on:

Dear Wagstaff,

I've heard about something called

Corrosive Wash. Sounds a treat for a

project I've got in hand. Where could I

find some? Does it come by the barrel?

Yeh'll be wantin to see a pedlar about that, yeh will.



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

In fact, I could set yeh up if yeh were goin to be at the Frost Faire. I'll be there, if yeh look sharp. Ol Wil an his handcart'll be supplyin the crowds with doodahs and froufras, an he'll have a supply o off-license items, too, if yeh know to ask.

2012-02-08 19:57:00

(no subject)

Aurora, it was a delightful surprise to run into you in New London yesterday. Your mother is enchanting; I'm so glad to have met her at last.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Now, I am certain that Raz plans for the two of you to stay at Spencer but we've decided to open Kensington for the whole of the Faire, so if either of you feel that it's too much to prepare the place just for a night or two, do feel free to stay with us instead. It would be such fun. For one thing, I know Mother's dying to know some deliciously improper things about our Razer but is far too sensible to expect a truthful answer from him! You mustn't think it shall all be the third degree, either; I'm sure you've had more than enough interrogation for the time being. No, we shall all be quite cozy, I think: Amanda's coming down for a nice, long visit as well and I daresay we shall see Étienne at least once or twice, as well as Igor, so you shall even have the benefit of other academicians for conversation.

We plan to settle ourselves at the weekend.

Dominic, Chloe: Lucius was just saying last night that it's been ages since we've had you over for supper. Well, if you've a mind, as I said, we shall both be in town for the next two weeks and you're welcome to come - Tuesday or Thursday, I think, would be the best nights - or if you prefer to use our invitation as an excuse to get to the country, then I'm afraid that after the 27th is the best I can offer.

But we do plan to have friends in on Monday - just drinks, and then going on to stroll the avenue down to where the agora is being installed - and of course, we look forward to seeing you both there. Barty, that goes for you as well! You've been working much too hard, dear boy; it's time to leave that study you've turned into your office-away-from-the-office and get some fresh air.

Rod, it's no trouble to bring Rigel along, I'll love having him while you're attending to other matters. And you know Mother adores her grandson! She'll have every stall along the northern bank giving him sweets and treats, from Battersea all the way to Waterloo!



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-09 01:46:15](#)
(no subject)


Monday, it is.

I object, however, to the notion that I'm 'working much too hard': there is no such thing.

3:12am

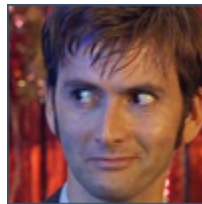
8:46pm




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-02-09 02:11:56](#)
(no subject)

There is when you leave no time for recreation!

See you soon, then.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-09 02:25:27](#)
Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I trust you will, love, though not on Monday. You'll have to make do with one of the ducklings in masquerade.

I believe I may, in fact, be in New London then, but will be embroiled. I wish I could tell you this far ahead what my schedule will be, but I can't. I do appreciate your device for sharing your likely entanglements here where I can read it.

I've worn my birthday parchment nearly to threads, by the way.

It makes me think of you.

Rather intensely.

3:52am

9:26pm



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-09 02:32:05](#)

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Dammit. There's something wonky with the charm.

My apologies. It wasn't appearing. And now I've answered multiple times. Blast.

3:58a

9:33p



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-02-09 02:35:40](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I rather enjoy proof that you are not infallible.

I also enjoy the lengths to which you are willing to go for a simple answer.

Besides, you are nearly always so economical with words. Repetitive though the response may be, it gives me more to reread until you are able to meet.

To say nothing of staying up all night, if I understand your charm correctly? Oh, Barty. Really.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-09 02:39:15](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

...

4:01a

9:39p



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-09 02:07:23](#)
(no subject)

Narcissa -

It was lovely to see you, of course, and what a charming little cafe. (Mum was quite taken with their range of teas, for which she's got a far more trained palette than I manage.) I am glad the two of you finally had a chance to meet, as well, and of course Mum was delighted.

As to your offer, that's most gracious. Do let me discuss it with Raz? (It's so rare we get much time privately that I'm sure you appreciate the temptation there, even with the Frost Faire's many possibilities, and such a guest list as you offer.)

Whatever the final arrangements are, I'm sure we'll have plenty of time for conversation when we're up, though.

We are, of course, still working out the details for that, given that I've rather a lot of extra parchment work needing attention this month that I'd not planned on. I fear I'm rather tedious when I know I've left work undone, so I'm buckling down this week, and have a plan for next, as well.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-02-09 02:15:56](#)
(no subject)

Naturally, discuss away. Only allow me to point out that if it's privacy you desire, I'm sure we could put your rooms far enough from the rest of the family's to suit anyone.

And please don't think I shall close the doors should you decide you prefer Spencer. We should be pleased for any length of visit, even if it's only tea.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-09 02:33:39](#)
(no subject)

You do think of every eventuality, of course. (Though, New Year's did teach me that there's a difference between separate space and entirely

private, I must admit.)

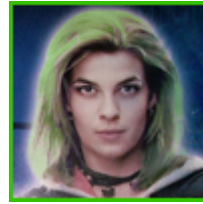
As I said, we'll talk it over, and one of us will let you know as soon as we can. Whatever the choice, I'm quite sure we'd both love to see you for a good bit longer than simply tea.

2012-02-10 22:23:00

Order Only

Well.


Things have taken a jolly turn here tonight. Someone in the garden's gone and got up a sing-along. It was drinking songs at first, but now they've launched into some old song about Hogwarts. Only they don't all agree about what the tune should be.



 **alt_nymphadora**

It's dead hilarious, all of them singing each other down. I just hope none of the neighbours object about the noise.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-02-11 15:29:08**
(no subject)

I'd've preferred the drinking songs, personally.

Though, it was interesting to watch their faces. The ones who took it as a nostalgic turn, that is. I've a feeling someone could have raised a toast to Albus last night and it wouldn't have gone amiss.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-02-11 16:05:16**
(no subject)

Well, for the oldsters, at least. Reliving the old days.

I guess that was a tradition that'd stopped before I got to school. I don't remember ever singing that nonsense about hoggy warty hogwarts.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-02-11 16:15:54**
(no subject)

Albus has many admirable qualities. His sense of the perverse is not one of them - that song was his way of torturing us every Welcoming Feast.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-11 16:52:15](#)
(no subject)

Actually, it sort of grew on me, the more they sang it.

One chap near the kitchen door was singing it to a really rousing tune. I asked him about it, and he said it was a Russian song about the Volga river.

2012-02-11 10:09:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

Need you to take my place at Kensington Monday evening. The others are all assigned elsewhere.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Change safe drop again. Send coordinates tonight (Sat).

By Monday am:

- * deliver map of FF layout **w/ clearly marked backdoors**
- * final list of all personnel working FF; roles; covers; identifying marks; code words
- * briefing material on Gladatorial tourney
- * updated brief on Maule w/ clear sourcing. x-check info from Broome w/ MT, BL, LM. Need to know what strings he's pulling at FF.

1:17 am 12/2

10:09 am 11/2

2012-02-11 16:21:00

Writing Home

Dear Mum and Dad,

It was a Hogsmeade day, so we all went into town. It was cold, but I wore my jumper under my robes, Mum, so I kept warm. Don't worry.



 [alt_ron](#)

It was a bit naff today because loads of people had dates because of Valentines coming up, but that's all right because Zonko's wasn't so crowded as usual, or Honeydukes after they all went off to the Broomsticks or that cafe with the lacy curtains. What's it called? You should've seen it. Whenever anyone opened the door, loads of hearts floated out--like soap bubbles, only pink and sparkly. And heart shaped. Totally naff.

Oh. And I saw Percy. He was coming out of this inn called the Protector's Circle. And while we were talking, didn't Penelope Clearwater come out of there, too? She seemed a bit embarrassed when she saw me. Wonder what they could've been up to in there all afternoon?

Nice that Percy likes his job. He said it's really brilliant. And that he does super important stuff for Mr Malfoy. Shame it's all super secret so he couldn't go on and on, telling me about it. I've really missed that.

Term's going fine.

Looking forward to Easter hols. Did you hear they're getting up a trip for the visiting students? I guess maybe some of us in the YPL might get asked to join in for some of it. Maybe. They haven't said for sure yet.

And the Second Task is coming up.

I think that's pretty much all of it.

Your favourite son,
Ronald



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-11 22:54:32](#)

Private Message to Percy Weasley

There. I wrote to them.

Hope you're happy.



 [alt_perc](#) at [2012-02-12 03:07:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

Ronald Weasley, you sneaking vile snitch.

You may think it's a good thing you're at Hogwarts and out of my immediate reach. But you'd better believe it, no matter how long it takes I will make you pay.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-11 23:47:23](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

What ho, Ron,

I say, everything all right, then?

-Justin



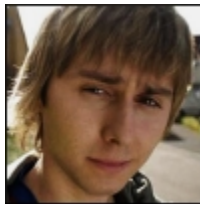
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-12 04:16:03](#)

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

Yeah, well.

Percy was a complete berk. And I got a bit hacked off.

Nothing serious.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 04:32:37](#)

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

Well, yes, one can see that, what. I suppose one's asking: What did he do?

That is, if you're in the mood to talk about it. Perhaps it would help?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-12 04:42:21](#)

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

Eh.

Well, Percy just thinks he's better than all the rest of us. And knows better, too, about everything.

So I ran into him on the street, and he starts in on OWLs and NEWTs and how I'm not going to come to anything if I don't dress better and get higher marks.

I mean, whatever.

It would've been better if I hadn't seen him. And then Clearwater came along and that made it ten times worse. Because when he saw her coming, he started pulling on my robes and did this rubbish charm that was supposed to make them look better.

You can guess how that turned out. And I can't figure out how to reverse it. I'm going to have to find Sally Anne tomorrow and see what she can do. She's ace at that sort of magic.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-12 03:11:31](#)

Private message to Ron Weasley

Egad, Ron. Surely you can't be that dense.

Mom's gonna have kneezles.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-12 03:12:08](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Or maybe that was your intention.

What's Percy done to you? Lately, I mean?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-12 04:12:49](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Yeah.

Got right up my nose, didn't he?

I don't work hard enough to ever get a brilliant post like his. Or write Mum enough now he's not here to make us write or else. Or keep my robes 'decent'. Decent? Like it's my fault they're too short and look worn to bits.

I may have sort of lost a wheel off the carriage when he did that 'spiffing' spell on them. In the middle of the road. Just when Finnigan was coming along. And Dunstan was turning the corner and saw it, too. Nearly choked me, too. I'm going to have to get someone to reverse it tomorrow, because that collar's a nightmare.

He's lucky I didn't hex him.

But like I said, Finnigan was coming up the road, and I knew he'd see to it I got in enormous trouble if I used magic in Hogsmeade. Even if it was on my own brother. So I didn't.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-02-12 03:20:11](#)**

(no subject)

I'm glad you had a good time in Hogsmeade, dear.
And I hope you're studying hard.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-02-12 03:20:27](#)**

(no subject)

And I certainly wonder what they were up to in there all afternoon, too.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:21:31](#)

Private message to Molly Weasley

Which I'm sure is probably his private business, Molly.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-12 03:23:48](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Arthur! You can't seriously condone this, can you? He's only a boy!

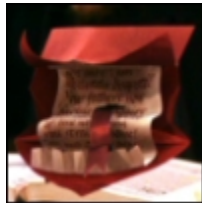


 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:25:19](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

On the contrary, Molly. He's of age. You know that.

Besides, for all we know, they may have simply been meeting for tea in a private parlour.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-12 03:26:07](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

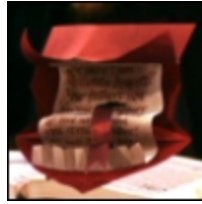
Meeting for tea, my foot! With that--that--FLOOZY!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:27:27](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Hardly that, Molly dear; she's Head Girl at Hogwarts. Why, you've always welcomed her with open arms every time she's come over to the Burrow.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-12 03:28:46](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Something which won't happen the next time she darkens my door, I assure you!



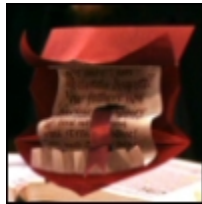
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:30:52](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Don't fly off the handle now and say something to either of them you'll regret.

The boy's growing up, Molly. You know that. It's entirely natural.

As you very well know from what we were up to when we were that age.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-12 03:31:57](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

ARTHUR, THAT'S ENTIRELY DIFFERENT!
WE WERE ENGAGED!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:35:06](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Look, I'll talk to him. All right?




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-12 03:45:14](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

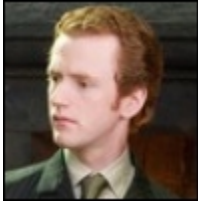
Oh, Arthur, come home! Why do you have to be slaving away over reports late on a Saturday night? I declare, I'm so upset I'm about to start breaking the teacups.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:46:15](#)
Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Well, we can't have that.

Wrapping things up now; I'll be home very soon.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-02-12 03:39:46](#)
(no subject)

Mum! I...I can explain.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:40:39](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps you'd better not, son. At least not tonight.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-02-12 03:41:51](#)
(no subject)

Bill's offered me a place to stay tonight. I think I'll take him up on it.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-12 03:43:18](#)
(no subject)

I think that would be best, yes.


Don't worry about your mother, son. She'll come around.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-12 03:47:04](#)
(no subject)

Don't be too sure!




 **alt_ron** at [2012-02-12 04:46:37](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, mum.

I'm keeping up. No worries.



 **alt_penelope** at [2012-02-12 03:50:02](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure I wasn't embarrassed at all, Weasley, only surprised to see you on that street. As for the rest, really, it's no secret that your brother and I often take advantage of Hogsmeade days to spend time together.

You make it sound perfectly sordid, but perhaps that's simply because a lad your age has only one groove in which to set his thoughts.

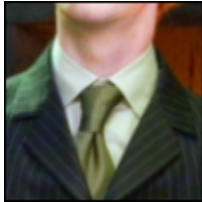
2012-02-11 21:35:00

Private message to Percy Weasley

You can kip on my sofa tonight. If you need to escape Mum's wrath.



 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-02-12 03:37:23**

(no subject)

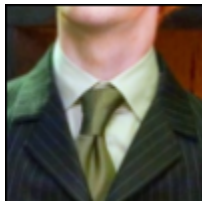
I just need to grab a toothbrush and a change of clothes. Is your Floo open?




 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-02-12 03:37:51**

(no subject)

Yep.



 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-02-12 03:38:30**

(no subject)

Right. I'll be there in five minutes.

And...thanks.

[2012-02-11 21:48:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater

I'm sorry that Ron has a mouth big enough that a Hungarian Horntail can hide inside.




It was wonderful, the afternoon was wonderful, and I regret nothing. I only hope your parents don't notice Ron's entry. Or if they do, that they aren't too angry.

 **[alt_percy](#)**

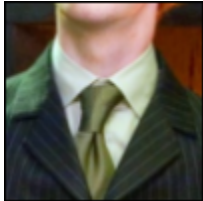
Write to let me know you're all right.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-02-12 03:53:08](#)**
(no subject)

I'm fine. You know Dad hardly ever reads the journals.

But, honestly, Perce. 'Mum, I can explain?' That's the best you could come up with?




 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-12 04:03:32](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sorry. It was lame, I know.

It's just...well, with Mum, when she goes on a tear, somehow I'm five again and all my finesse goes out the window.

I'm at Bill's tonight. I think I'll give Dad a day or two to calm her down.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-02-12 04:07:00](#)**
(no subject)

Anyway, we're both of age. And in a couple more months we'll have our own flat, as well.

But your brother might not survive that long.

2012-02-11 22:36:00

Hogsmeade really

looked lovely today, didn't it? With the sun out much of the day and just that little bit of fresh snow falling as we were all coming back? Almost as pretty as Christmastime.



 [alt_padma](#)

Although perhaps it's down to having someone to walk with that makes it better. I guess it's true about Valentine's, that it's ever so much fun if you've got someone and utterly horrid if you haven't.

Lares, thanks for the butterbeer. And for being a good sport about Lav and Pav joining us. I'm glad you introduced us all to Nikolai, he's really very nice.

It's almost hard to believe we've got homework to do after a day like today. But I guess I'd better get back to it! Good thing I stopped in at MacGhille's Manuscripts. I found a copy of the *Textbook of Rare Runes* in really good condition. It's got a whole section on the glyphs of the Mayans.

2012-02-12 08:39:00

Quick as an Ol Witch's Wither!

A question from Niles in Nether Poppleton:

Say, Wags,

Where's a lad to find a bit o Witch's
Wither on short notice?

Wantin to *wilt* somefin, then, Niles? I'll tell yeh,
it can be ticklish findin old brewed items like that just anywhere.

What yeh oughtta do is come downa New London fer the Frost Faire.
An look me out. I've got just what yeh need, an will do fer yeh, innit?



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

[2012-02-12 10:57:00](#)

Private message to Effs

I don't know about you, but I'm quite sure that I still smell of roses, despite having bathed this morning. Or maybe it's just that Madam Puddifoot's made such a strong impression on my nose that I can't quite get away from the scent of it.



 **[alt_hydra](#)**


I meant to tell you that you were quite sporting about the pink decor and cadres of cupids. Even I thought it was all a little over the top, in a droll sort of way.

Still, the hot chocolate they served is some of the nicest I've ever tasted.

I know I should wait until Tuesday, only with dueling club and everything else, it's sure to be a bit of a madhouse in the castle, I should think. So, do you think I might give you your present today, instead? I don't know very much about what sorts of things that girls give boys on Valentine's day... not flowers, surely. But I wanted you to have something to remember me by. ~~For when you leave~~

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-12 18:21:12](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Dux,

It was rather florid, wasn't it? I don't think I'd care for a steady diet of the place. I still had some of that glittery confetti stuff in my hair this morning. Is it like that all the time or just at Valentine's?

I'd love to meet. I've something coming for you on Tuesday but I did manage to sneak in a spot of shopping while you were looking at something else, what, so we can exchange if you like.

Though 'something to remember you by' sounds well dire, what? I mean to say, it's going to be a wrench, spending holidays without you but there's loads of time left before end of term, what?

Meet you on your stairwell?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 18:31:27](#)
(no subject)

I don't really know how it's usually like, as I'd never been there before yesterday. It's known for being romantic but I think that the place takes it all a bit further than usual in February.

I don't mean to sound dire. I'm trying not to think about it. Though I couldn't help but do so when I heard some of the older students coming out of Puddifoot's yesterday, saying things like "we should have our tea at one of the Inns next year, it's supposed to be ever so much more sophisticated..."

But yes, let's meet. Just let me finish putting a bow on this.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 21:15:10](#)
Dux

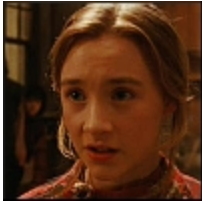
I'm all right. I say, I'm dashed sorry about having to--leave suddenly. I, er, don't quite know what happened. Or I mean to say, what caused it. I mean to say--I know what but we don't know what, if you....

Oh, dash it.

Merde.

ow

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 21:25:34](#)

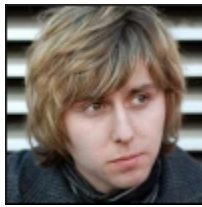
Re: Dux

I'm sorry, I'm sorry! I didn't mean for anything to happen, I promise!

Oh no, Razzer's... just a minute, I've got to answer

him.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 21:29:30](#)

Re: Dux

It wasn't you, Dux, steady on. I'm sure you had no idea.

I just wish we'd known before trying.

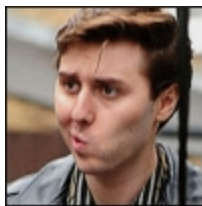
stings

What about your uncle? Are you all right?

You don't think he

Oh. Drat.

-J



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 22:08:03](#)

Re: Dux

Are you all right?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 22:15:01](#)

Re: Dux

It's not the Razzler, but I think Daddy's done something so that he'll know if... and not just that, but it hurt you, besides.

Oh, I just feel ill.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 22:18:26](#)

Re: Dux

I'm fine. It's gone already.

And yes, I'd worked out your father put on some sort of spell. Only we've no idea what, what?

But that does mean that now he knows, what? That we've been together since Yule?

Don't fret, Dux. It'll be fine.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 22:26:00](#)

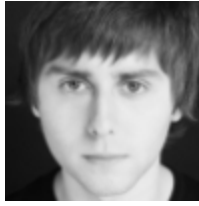
Re: Dux

I'm not sure how much he knows at all, but if he knew everything then I think he'd have shown up at the castle by now.

It isn't fine at all. It wasn't anyone's business, not even his. Why can't I have something of my own without it going wrong or being taken away?

And we were having such a lovely day.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 22:34:43](#)

Re: Dux

Well, not that I disagree, what, nor do I much care to get a bally old electric shock every time we cross whatever he thinks is the line.

Though it's interesting that it's never happened before, what? It must have been triggered when you put my hand on your

Well, at any rate, I do agree, it was nice to have something secret. I suppose it was bound to come out. And let's not assume it's to be taken away, what? Not yet, at any rate.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 22:40:58](#)

Re: Dux

There has to be a way to get around whatever it is he did to make that happen... there just has to be.

But for now, Razzer wants to see both of us, so we had better go. He says he's not going to tell Daddy anything until he's spoke with us both.

I'm sorry.

Love,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-12 22:44:09](#)

Re: Dux

Er

Yes

Quite.

I'll, er...be right there to pick you up. Are you back in your Common Room?

-Justin



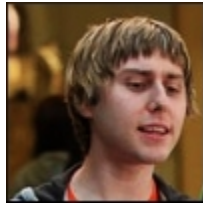
 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2012-02-12 22:47:39**

Re: Dux

No, I was in my room. I didn't want to see anyone.

I'll meet you just around the corner from the common room, if it's all right.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2012-02-12 22:48:56**

Re: Dux

Yes, that's fine.

On my way.

-Justin

2012-02-12 14:01:00

Private message to Raz

Brother, I need you to search the castle and find Hydra at once.



I have reason to believe that... she may have been put in harm's way.

 **alt_rodolphus**



 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-02-12 21:09:42**

(no subject)

You do realise that the castle is on the large side, don't you?

happened?

And what do you mean, harm's way? What's



 **alt_rodolphus** at **2012-02-12 21:15:57**

(no subject)

We'll write out a message to her in your book then. She has one of those covers with a notification charm.

I fear that she's been mishandled by a young man - though the signal's not quite right for it, something certainly is amiss, no doubt of it. You must check on her and see that she's all right. Feel free to kill any nearby young men, while you're at it.




 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-02-12 21:17:07**

(no subject)

Right. Straight on it.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-12 21:30:00](#)
(no subject)

Right then. What exactly do you mean when you say that she's been "mishandled?" Because you'll be happy to know that she appears to be fine.

How exactly do you know what's going on with your daughter all the way from New London, anyway? I know you have your special methods, so... some kind of surveillance device?




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-12 21:34:26](#)
(no subject)

You think I would disregard my daughter's privacy so much as to employ some surveillance device? Never.

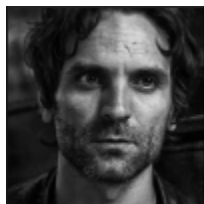
But I think it fully within my rights to ensure that she is not abused or taken advantage of. You saw the pictures that they ran of her after the Yule Ball, did you not? She's growing up, and it wouldn't do for some over-eager young chap to be overly generous with his caresses.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-12 21:36:34](#)
(no subject)

So... you put some kind of chastity spell or rune on her, or somesuch? Like they do with young mudbloods?

She's thirteen, Roddy. So what if she wants to hold a bloke's hand?



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-12 21:41:00](#)
(no subject)

Hardly so utilitarian as that. It's simply a means to alert me if the boundary between innocent and lewd has been crossed. Hugs and hand-holding are hardly a concern.

Why? Has she been holding someone's hand? ...Not that French lad.




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-12 22:16:41](#)
(no subject)

Well?

I'm preparing to come to the castle, if I must.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-12 22:18:07](#)
(no subject)

Would you stop huffing and puffing? She's coming up to see me and I'll report back to you after I've spoken with her. I'm sure there's a perfectly reasonable explanation for it all.


I wouldn't want to be your daughter, you know.



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-12 22:19:04](#)
(no subject)

If you were my daughter there would be chastity spells. Multiple applications of them.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 02:27:15](#)
(no subject)

Still holding your breath? Well you can desist- your daughter is fine and well, though she might well think her old Uncle is off his nut, pulling her aside to ask if she's been playing Healer with any of the boys, or has has her maiden's honour trod upon, or any other of various euphemisms, all equally embarrassing in their own right.




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-13 02:29:01](#)
(no subject)

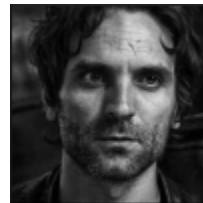
That, at least, is a relief.

Still, there is some reason that the signal activated. I don't produce faulty work, particularly where my daughter is concerned.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 02:35:11](#)
(no subject)

Yes, well, it took some coaxing to get it out of her- she was dreadful embarrassed, you see. Seems a boy bumped into her on the staircase and got a hold of something he, ah, shouldn't have. She didn't seem to know if it was an honest mistake or a covert manoeuvre.



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-13 02:36:02](#)
(no subject)

I see. Interesting.

Does this clumsy lad have a name?



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 02:37:03](#)
(no subject)

Oh yes, she said it was.. hm, let me see.

Oh, yes- Bletchley. A Miles Bletchley.




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-13 02:38:24](#)
(no subject)

Bletchley, is it? Good to know.

What of the French one, that took her to the Ball? Is she spending inordinate amounts of time with him?



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 02:41:05](#)
(no subject)

He's not actually Fren

Not inordinate amounts, no, but they are chummy. He strikes me as a little gentleman with a very posh upbringing...possibly a shirt-lifter who's not yet come into his own and is dazzled by how well Hydra works a set of Gerard Joosh dress robes.




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-02-13 02:45:13](#)
(no subject)

Mordred's Mother...first Jeremy, and now a mincing little frog. She'll be one of those girls who collects them through her life, I expect.

Still, keep an eye on him, if you please.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 02:46:05](#)
(no subject)

No troubles there- I fully intend to.

2012-02-12 14:17:00

Private message to Hydra Lestrange

Duckie,

I'm coming to find you, don't you worry. If you can look at your book, just let me know where you are and that you're.... just fine. I'll be there in just a tic.



 [alt_rabastan](#)




 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-02-12 21:21:54**
(no subject)

Why? What for? Of course I'm fine! I don't need you to come and find me!

From,

Hydra




 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-02-12 21:23:45**
(no subject)

You're fine? You're sure about that? No one's forcing you to write that, are they?

Your Father, you see... he's quite certain that you're in some kind of trouble.




 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-02-12 21:26:47**
(no subject)

Forcing me to write? No, of course not.

Daddy thinks... well, what does he think, exactly?


From,
Hydra



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-12 21:27:26](#)
(no subject)

Er, let me get right back to you on that.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-12 21:48:33](#)
(no subject)

Alright, I think I'm on the verge of sorting this out. Sorry if I frightened you, but no worries. You're not in trouble, ducks.

Were you with your friend, Mr Finch-Fletchley?




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 22:00:56](#)
(no subject)

No.

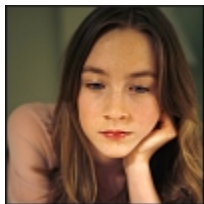
From,


Hydra



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-12 22:04:26](#)
(no subject)

Look, I'm not going to run off with this to your Father. I just want to make sure that you're not getting involved in something that you might still be a little too young for, you see?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-12 22:05:18](#)
(no subject)

He's not my friend, he's my *boyfriend*. I don't want Daddy to know because he doesn't and wouldn't understand. And he'll be gone and back to France eventually and maybe it will never be this way again with anyone else, ever.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_rabastan** at [2012-02-12 22:11:52](#)
(no subject)

Ah, well, yes, I'm sure it all feels quite...well, violent delights, as they are.... it's all very new and

Look, perhaps it best if you and Mr Finch-Fletchley come pay me a visit in my rooms before supper. I have to tell your Father something, you know, but I'd like a chance to speak with the two of you first.



 **alt_rabastan** at [2012-02-13 02:53:54](#)
(no subject)

All right, Duckie, I think you're in the clear- for now. You've got to bloody well sharpen up and be careful, though. I don't approve of Roddy trying to keep an eye on you this way, but I don't want you to get yourself into trouble, either.

And as much as you have feelings for him, well... he *will* be leaving, come summer. It might be good to keep a cool head about things, that being the case, yeah?



 **alt_hydra** at [2012-02-13 02:57:49](#)
(no subject)


But how can I keep a cool head about things when each day that goes by means it's one less day that we have to spend together?

I wish I could be dead inside, like Mummy.

And you'll still help me with ~~occlumency~~ my private lessons, won't you? It's more important than ever, because even if Mummy said I can practise with Justin she wouldn't like it if she knew how I really felt.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 02:59:24](#)
(no subject)

Duckie, your Mother is FAR from dead inside, however much she might pretend otherwise. Believe me on that score. Her passions run...well, very deep, let's just say.

Of course I'll help, as much as I can. You know that I can only do so much, though.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-13 03:01:52](#)
(no subject)

I know. But I have to feel like I'm trying, at least.

Thank you. For everything.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-13 03:02:35](#)
(no subject)

Just... don't make us both regret it, okay?



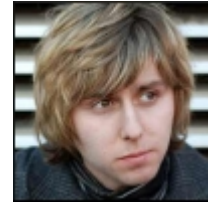
 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-13 03:02:55](#)
(no subject)

I won't!

From,
Hydra

[2012-02-12 17:44:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Hullo, all.

Listen, I might need some help in a few minutes.

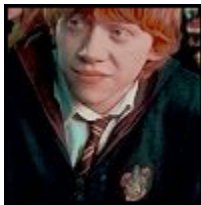
 **[alt_justin](#)**


I've not time to explain just at the moment, but Professor Lestrage has asked to see me. And, er, Hydra.

I think it'll be all right. But if we're not done and at supper in about, oh, say, thirty minutes, could one of you come up with some sort of excuse to interrupt us?

Much obliged, what.


-Justin



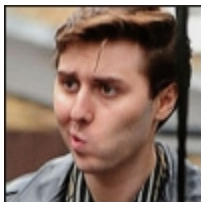
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-12 22:53:20](#)**
(no subject)

Got your back, mate!



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-02-13 01:55:52](#)**
(no subject)

Well, we saw you and you look fine. Are you? What did Professor Lestrage want?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-13 02:32:37](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Luna,

Well, I'm not hurt. But I'm not fine, either. Neither's Hydra.


Her father put some sort of bally old *chastity* charm on her. It's bloody well Medieval. She's well upset at the invasion of her privacy

(and quite right). And, well, I think she was very concerned that her uncle, acting as her father's agent, might forbid us further contact with one another.

We're just lucky that her uncle's more sympathetic than all that. He...asked us a number of questions but, in the end, he said he was going to tell her father to let her be.

-Justin



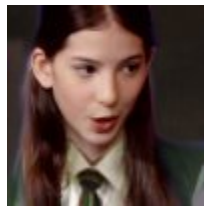
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 02:43:01](#)
(no subject)


You-

He-

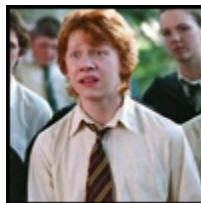
A *chastity* charm?!


What did you do to set it off?!!!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 02:44:03](#)
(no subject)

Ronald, you know perfectly well that's none of your business, any more than it's Hydra's father's business.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 02:45:43](#)
(no subject)

I-

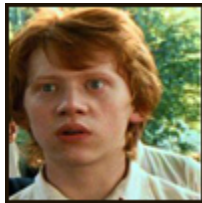
Wait. What do you know about them? Chastity charms, I mean.


Don't you have to, y'know-?!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 02:48:51](#)
(no subject)

If the charm's being set by someone who knows what they're about you can set them off with ANYTHING. You probably wouldn't want it to go off if she held hands with someone (because what if you were grabbing Hydra's hand to keep her falling off a cliff or something?) but you could make it go off if she kisses someone.



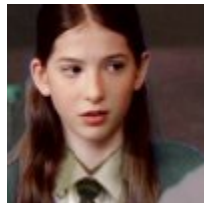
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 02:54:20](#)
(no subject)

Really?

Mum makes it sound like you'd have to do something, um, impolite to set one off. But, uh-

Justin, mate. What'd it do to you? I mean, I heard they can really, well-

I thought they were pretty dire.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 02:58:37](#)
(no subject)

I researched this because of Miles Letchley, last year.

The thing is, it's quite a bit more complicated to make it ONLY go off if the person is doing it without your permission. Especially if it's someone else casting it on the girl. (Or the boy.) As for how dire, you can make it really dire or not so much.

Anyway I decided in the end I didn't really want to be walking around with a spell on me that would hurt a boy I WANTED to snog so I went with a more direct approach (thanks again, Gred and Forge.)

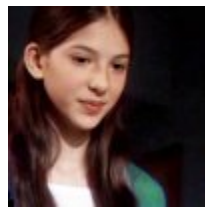


 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 03:03:35](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that's just it. In fact, we think that the effect perhaps wasn't as bad as it was meant to be precisely because Hydra was--well, she was actually rather more than willing. Oh, dear.

I really, really oughtn't to have said anything.

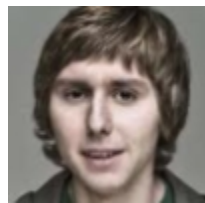
-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 03:10:03](#)
Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

You know, I'm really glad Hydra has a proper boyfriend who actually likes her. (Well, Harry does like her, but not THAT way, you know?)

Anyway I hope you won't have to stop seeing each other.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 04:53:16](#)
Re: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

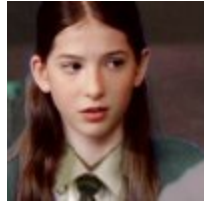
Thanks.


We're all right for now. But only, I think, because her uncle assumes we're doomed by the end of term and my return to France.

She used it again, what. Signed one of her replies, 'Love, Hydra.'

Only I think it still might not mean anything, what, because she was really more upset with her father than anything else.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 05:05:23](#)
Re: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

Well, it's her mum that wants her to marry Harry.

I don't think Professor Lestrage actually likes her mum all that much. NO ONE much likes her. She's sort of like the Alecto Carrow of the rest of the world.



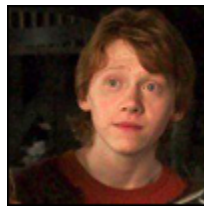
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 17:06:20](#)
Private Message to Ron


And as for what it did, well, let's just say it wasn't half uncomfortable. It was like getting an electric shock. In a jolly well nasty place, what.

Her uncle said he thought he could make something up because he'd learned from Mr Lestrage that the spell didn't go off properly. So I don't even want to think what it would have done if it had gone off properly!

But no need to tell the girls that, what?

-Justin




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 22:25:00](#)
Re: Private Message to Ron

Eurgh. Sorry to hear it, mate.

Um. Try not to find out ever, yeah?

Right. 'Course not.



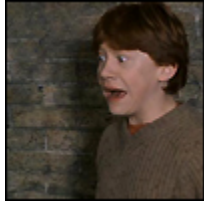
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 02:45:15](#)
(no subject)


Bad form, Ron!

A gentleman doesn't kiss and tell.

Suffice to say it was well over-zealous.

-Justin

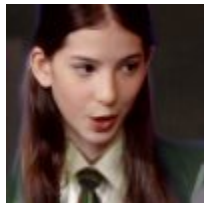


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 02:46:54](#)
(no subject)

What you did was over-zealous?

Mate, that's not smart.

I mean, aside from her parents being major Death Eaters who'll kill you in a second.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 02:47:39](#)
(no subject)

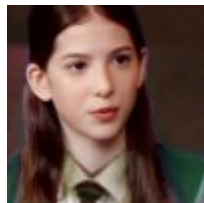
I think he's saying the charm was over-zealous!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 02:48:01](#)
(no subject)

No, Ron. The *charm* was bloody over-zealous. It over-reacted.

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 02:45:20](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm glad Professor Lestrangle told him to let her be.

Can he remove the charm? I mean I can't imagine having someone paying attention to whether I chose to snog someone.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 02:48:17](#)
(no subject)

Snogging?


I don't think it's about snogging.



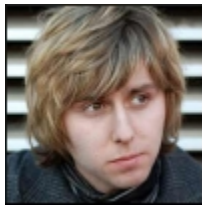
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-13 02:50:06](#)
(no subject)

Oh for Merlin's sake Ron GROW UP a bit, would you? What, are you TEN?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 02:56:15](#)
(no subject)

Well, you don't have to be rude about it.

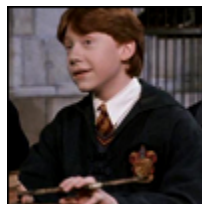



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 03:00:09](#)
(no subject)

Look, I shouldn't have brought it up, only when he told her that he wanted to see us both, I assumed the worst, what? So that's why I wanted an exit strategy.

Now, please, there's no need to go sniping at one another.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-13 03:04:21](#)
(no subject)

Oh, don't mind her.

Happens all the time.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-02-13 02:49:53](#)
(no subject)

Hydra thinks it might not be a spell on her, what, since he hasn't seen her for months and he wouldn't have done something like that to her back before the start of the school year. From what she and her uncle said I think she thinks it's an object. That's her father's specialty, anyway, objects.

Yes, it's bally well inconvenient.

-Justin



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-02-13 02:51:15](#)
(no subject)

Oh, interesting.

That should make it easier, yes? Figure out what she was carrying at the time and leave it all in her trunk?

What did her father give her for Christmas?

2012-02-12 20:20:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley



 [alt_penelope](#)

Well.

Of course it would turn out that yesterday was the one time that Mrs Keneally not only read the journals but decided she just had to pay a call on my parents.

At least Dad had the sense not to send a Howler. That would have been even more humiliating. But Merlin, you just wouldn't believe what he had to say.

Personally, I think the best part was when he accused me of trying to catch a husband by getting pregnant. As if!

Interestingly enough, he seemed to think that's what your mum did, with Bill. Which I'm sure isn't the case, I mean, your parents are clearly still really in love and that's saying something, with all seven of you making their lives so chaotic at times. But I guess it's, well, perhaps an argument in our favour if your folks really were further along in their last years at Hogwarts than we are, even. Not that I'm complaining! I think we're being very sensible and careful, and it'll be all that much better when we're in our own flat and no one can tell us we're doing anything wrong.

Anyway. No, I'm not disowned or anything and I'm sure I can write back in a way that will calm him down. He didn't say anything much about Mum's reaction, but then he never really does. He just reminded me that pregnancy now wouldn't do anything to prevent my sitting NEWTs, which was another lovely aspersion on my academic career, tra-la.

Oh, I just can't imagine spending any time back in that place after school's done. It'll be the happiest day of my life, I think, if I could come back on the Hogwarts Express only to pack up my whole kit and just move right in with you.

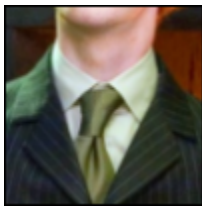
Speaking of which...I know, it's probably a bit early, but have you thought about looking for a flat? We'd talked about waiting until I found a job, too, but--well, right now, anyway, I just think we'd both be better off the sooner we could take a place. You wouldn't have to move in immediately, unless you wanted to do, that is. But if you had

somewhere lined up already, we could move as soon as I'm done with school. What do you think? I'm sure you'll have the best ideas about what sort of flat to take. Maybe Bill would even help you, since he seems to sympathise. And if you're worried about carrying it all by yourself, I'm sure that I'll find a situation in no time. I don't even really care what it is. I'd be happy to work in shop or push the tea trolley round the Ministry, so long as it's paying.

Well, think about it? And Dad's scathing letter aside, I don't regret it, either. Not for a minute. Except that I'll miss you even more until the next time we can see each other.

Which...might not be hols, by the way. I think I'll stay here, rather than go home. But perhaps I can get to New London at least once or twice? I'm not sure.

Anyway. Yeah. Wonderful day yesterday; crap one today. Love you anyway, you big ginger.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-13 02:10:25](#)**
(no subject)

Bloody hell, I'm sorry, Penny. Bother nosey parkers anyway.

And your father's quite mistaken about my parents. The dates are all wrong for that sort of thing, but besides that, yes, it's clear that no one had to persuade my father he had to marry mum. I mean, the way that they look at each other sometimes right now! Especially if they don't realise that there's anyone else in the room. It's downright embarrassing--enough to singe the wallpaper.

I'm staying with Bill again tonight. It's been good to talk with him--well, not that I've told him anything not his business to know, you understand. But he sympathises, and he knows what it's like to deal with Mum and Dad.

Dad flooded me today. He said he's taking me out to lunch tomorrow.

That will be a bloody uncomfortable conversation. At least you won't have to see your own parents for awhile.

No, I haven't looked for a flat yet, specifically, but I've been thinking ahead, investigating possible neighbourhoods. I'll ask Bill about it,

too. I'm sure he'll be able to give me some good advice.

If you get the opportunity, feel free to wreak some glorious revenge on Ronald.

2012-02-12 21:41:00

Order Only



 [alt_lupin](#)

We've been contacted by another resistance group.

I should back up. Dora was approached this evening at the shop by a man claiming to be a runaway muggleborn needing a place to hide. Dora settled him into that building across the way, and minutes later Beth came in -- er, I should add that Beth is a woman we know from the beer garden. A regular, and someone we've known for a while to be sympathetic.

Beth warned us that the man who'd come in earlier was part of a 'sting' operation to trap us into disloyalty. We went across the way and sure enough -- he had a wand, and attacked us the moment we came in. He underestimated Padfoot, fortunately, and we subdued him. We had enough time before his friends arrived to ask him a few questions, and get his confirmation of what Beth had told us.

Fortunately, it wasn't MLE after us -- just that horrid group of vigilantes that call themselves the Watch. We Obliviated the man when we heard them coming, played dumb, and told them he'd asked us for help and we'd done our best to subdue him so that one of us could fetch MLE to turn him in. How fortuitous their arrival! Etc. They took him off, and we went back to the shop for a chat with Beth. Or at least, Dora and I chatted with Beth. Padfoot listened.


She's in a group that's smuggling muggleborns out of the camps and into free settlements. She was hoping we'd be willing to help out with a safe house. We told her yes, of course; we were eager to help. Moreover, we told her we might be able to help with safe houses further along the route -- we'd need to know where she needed them.

We didn't tell her about the Order, we didn't tell her our dog was Sirius Black, and we didn't tell her I'm a werewolf. Although she's clearly rather suspicious that I'm hiding something, she seems to think I might be hiding the fact that I myself am an escaped muggleborn. Oh, she'd also noticed we aren't living at the shop anymore, and thought her people might also be able to help us there.

Her group wants to provide someone to help us with the shop and the beer garden. If we're going to work with these people, we'll need to think about exactly what we're going to tell them, and what we're

going to hide. I have to admit we could use a bit of extra help; we get a good crowd most nights. It's difficult to keep up.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-13 04:28:52](#)**
(no subject)

It's difficult to hire someone whom one can trust to be sympathetic to what we're trying to accomplish with the garden.

On the other hand, how long before that someone figures out where we're living or that I'm not just a lovable pup?

Still, it's the best news we've had in a while. And I wouldn't be surprised if they're connected to the group that Paul and Lucinda are working with, and Mrs Langworthy. Only they work in cells, like the DogStar - oh, Moony didn't say but she obviously thinks about as highly of the DogStar company as we do - so we'll only be a stop on their route.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-02-13 04:32:34](#)**
(no subject)

I think it's one thing to bring someone in to help with the garden, but not the shop.

That's more than I'd trust them with. Yet.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-02-14 02:53:56](#)**
(no subject)

Hmm. I know that you three will be extremely careful in choosing who to trust and how much to reveal. You can't have survived this long without built in foe detectors. But like Bill, I guess I'd like to hear a bit more about why your gut tells you it'd be smart to work with them.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-02-13 04:42:17](#)**
(no subject)

I'd help in the garden if I weren't a fugitive. Would be a waste of polyjuice.

Where are these supposed free settlements? Not in England.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-02-13 19:47:56](#)**
(no subject)

We didn't ask.

The less I know, the less I can tell if I get into trouble at work, you know. Of course, any of us could wind up arrested for any number of things.

Sorry. I suppose I'm thinking too much about that possibility for my own good.

Anywiz, they didn't say and we didn't ask about the destination for this smuggling op. We did say we might be able to help with finding new safe house locations, but didn't volunteer anything. Like Remus said, we've said she'll need to tell us what parts of the country are needed, then we'll see what we can do.

We were being cautious on both sides. Which could mean it all comes to nothing, but I hope not. I hope we can find a way to work together.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-02-14 05:13:32](#)**
(no subject)

I know it's my part to always speak for caution, but I trust your instincts here. And the three of you together balance each other, don't you? I don't see you all three running off to do something rash, so I believe that if you've all agreed that this person, Beth, can be trusted, she probably can be.


Tell Sirius not to die of shock that I'm not fussing at him.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 05:35:56](#)
(no subject)

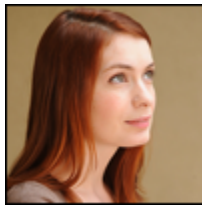
Call the *Prophet*.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 04:08:49](#)
(no subject)

If you think about it, they'll have the same limitations on moving people across the wards as we have. But they might put people in Ireland. Up where it's still not controlled by wizards, perhaps.

Either way, there are probably boats involved.

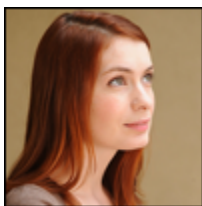



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 04:39:20](#)
(no subject)

We've got those too.

I know, we oughtn't show our hand right away, but we only really use them two times a year other than the occasional fishing trip.

It's a thought.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 02:15:13](#)
(no subject)

Is all she'd need some safe houses? For now?


We've already got one set up as an evacuation point for Moddey Dhoo about twenty miles away from us that could be easily enough converted. We've outgrown it by now, and would need a larger place or connected series of places to fit everyone in case of evacuation anyways. It's got beds, clothing, and food -- we could have it ready to go in a week.

Finding someone to work at the site might be difficult, if they would need to be there full-time. But it's a start, and it's well-warded. Frank saw to that ages ago when we first set it up.

Are you sure she isn't the real sting operation, and this wasn't a test?

I'm sure you all are glad for the help in the beer garden, it does seem like good news, and it looks like it's been doing a good job of making you connections. I just hope they're the right kind.



 **alt_bill** at [2012-02-14 02:47:50](#)
(no subject)

Right, the idea that this was an elaborate set up was my thought, too. And maybe I'm paranoid, but I'm suspicious of the offer of help.

How long have you known her? You say you know she's sympathetic...how do you know that?



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-14 04:04:23](#)
(no subject)

Bill, Beth has been a regular at the garden since summer. You might remember I told you lot about her and Mrs Parsons, back in early September. She was the one who told Mrs P how to get round her landlord (which worked, apparently, as she's not had any more trouble from him since).

Then I suppose a couple weeks after that, she came in one day and asked Dora to hold something for a 'friend.' Only the friend was actually a muggleborn domestic, needed a potion. We wondered at the time if it was a setup or the start of a trap. But we held the parcel for a couple of days, a woman came and got it, and that was the end of that as well.

Since then, she's helped us out a time or two with unruly customers and the like. She and Dora were getting quite chummy, in fact.

Come to think of it, she did disappear for a while, right after Bellatrix came to see Dora. But then she was back before we noticed it much.

Let's see. That was about the time that that trio used our place to plot their escape, wasn't it, Dora?

... And it was just after that that I went up to join Lucinda and John and theirs. And, well, then everything 'round here changed, as you all know. So I suppose we haven't mentioned her much in the last couple of months, but she's been about the place. She's had ample opportunity to lodge a complaint about something or other, if she wanted.

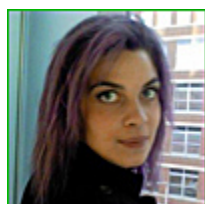


 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 04:20:05](#)
(no subject)

I remember your mentioning her.

it would be a lot of effort to follow up on a slim lead and develop it that long if she were playing for the other team.

they can be persistent, but only for the fish that look really big. and on the surface of things, you don't look big enough to be worth all that trouble.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-14 04:41:38](#)
(no subject)

It was about the same time.

I didn't notice any connection between them and Beth, but if you're saying it could have been a way for Beth to test whether we'd help someone trying to escape, then I guess it's possible.

We've always had pleasant chat, she and I, and she's got connections who are willing to help halfbloods. The business with Mrs Parsons is a good example, but she pointed someone else to a Healer who charges different rates depending on what a person can pay--and when Mary'd been to see him, she told me, he was the nicest professional person she'd ever had to deal with. Didn't treat her like a half-worth, is what she said. Anywiz. Point is, Beth helps. I really do think she's the real thing, only-

It makes me queasy how well she plays her important cards close, you know? But then, I hope I play ours at least that well.

It's really difficult to trust anyone. I don't know how we ever do it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 04:07:15](#)
(no subject)

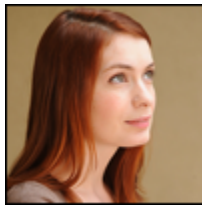
Possibly, Allie, but it sounds like this organisation moves people mainly on foot. Some side-along apparation but they're assuming that most of the traffic has to be without it. So short distances, frequent stops. I don't know if we'd want to reveal that we can get wands to their refugees, not just yet. See how things go a time or two. But as I said, I'd bet Galleons they're connected in some way to the group Paul and Lucinda are working with in the north.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 04:20:58](#)
(no subject)

sounds promising.

we'll work on converting the safe house, and you keep us posted.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 04:35:50](#)
Private Message to Sirius Black

Love, I have a question for you.

Merlin.

I'm turning red just thinking about it, but I've got to ask while I've got my nerve up.

Danny Houser, you remember Danny? The little Muggle boy Frank and I found while we were setting up Moddey Dhoo? He was about ten back then, near as we can figure. Regardless, he's not so little any more.

Well. I think he might be in his very first relationship with one of the young people we brought back from the Cup.

Richard.

And I know what sort of talk I'd give if he started seeing Jacinda or Tricia, about how to be safe and responsible, but I have no earthly idea if there's other sorts of things I'd need to talk about now, or

whether he'd need a talk at all, but this is very new for him and he's very special to me and he's grown up but in many ways he's got a lot to learn and I don't want to

I was wondering if you could send him an owl?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 04:50:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

...

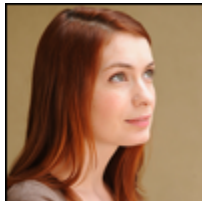


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 04:53:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

You ...

What?



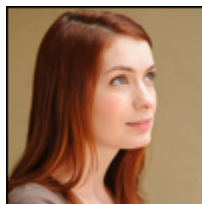
 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 04:54:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

You might've met him briefly at the holiday parties.

And he was on The Hopeful during one of the runs you were on, I think. He's awfully quiet though, so I'm not sure he made much of an impression and bother. I'm sorry.

I'm just sort of at loose ends.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 04:54:53](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

And I want to do right by him but I've no idea how.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 04:56:07](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

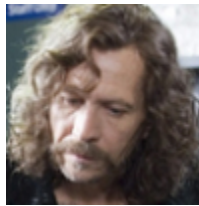
No, it's all right. I know which one he is.

I just

Didn't you know? Already?

And

Bloody Erebus, Allie. Me? Why me, of all people? What could I tell him he hasn't already figured out for himself, then?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-14 04:56:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

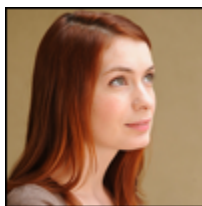
Sorry.

I don't mind your asking, truly.

I just

I mean to say

I'm not exactly a role-model.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 05:05:23](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

He's always been on the quiet side.

I was telling Frank, I thought he was just shy around girls is all.

I thought

Well, I thought that I didn't know what he'd need, and you might know something more.

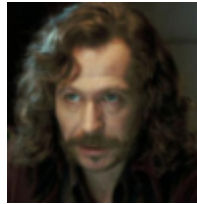
That's all.

And he's a Muggle so he can't do any spells or things, but

Richard's learning fairly well so he could do enough for the two of them but I don't know if they even need anything like that at all in the same way, and you don't have to pass anything along I just thought if there was anything to pass

Bother.

I'm sorry.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-14 05:14:20](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

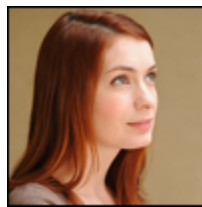
Allie, it's all right. I just thought you'd surely know. It was always a bit obvious to me but it was his business, you know, none of mine.

It's just. He's, what, 21 now? Merlin, I was - well, I'd already been making up for lost time in muggle clubs for nearly four years at that point. And Muggle clubs in the 1970s, well. Protection wasn't really on anyone's mind.

This Richard bloke. D'you reckon he was a virgin before Danny, as well? Or might he already know his way 'round the farm, if you take my meaning.

I know you raised him but he's a man grown, Allie. Bloody awkward way to strike up a conversation: 'Hey, your adoptive mum thinks you need lessons in shirt-lifting.'

Look. You tell him you've asked me and if he or Richard have any questions, they can write to me, all right? No taking the piss, no larking about it, I promise I'll give them real answers. Okay? But I'm not just going to write out of the blue because that'll just traumatise the little ~~poufter~~ blighter.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-14 05:54:03](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

I'm not sure about Richard. He's the quiet sort too, which is why he hit it off so well with Danny right from the start.

I'll tell him what you said.

||||| Thank you.

2012-02-12 22:22:00

Order Only: Private Message to Remus

Need you over here, quick as you can.

Leave Bea she'll be all right.


Might be trouble.

Damn. We're not alone. Have to change back - no time.



 [alt_sirius](#)



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-02-13 03:26:24**
(no subject)

On my way.

[2012-02-12 22:38:00](#)

Order Only: Private message to Dora and Sirius



Bloody hell, it just occurred to me I left Bea with KREACHER.

 [alt_lupin](#)

She's fine, though. Still sleeping peacefully in her cot. Looks like she's dreaming about something nice, actually.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-13 04:42:52](#)

(no subject)

Listen, I don't like the little blighter any more than you do but I don't think he'd ever *harm* Bea, or allow her to come to harm. I figured she was sleeping when I told you to come. As long as she stayed asleep, she was bound to be all right.

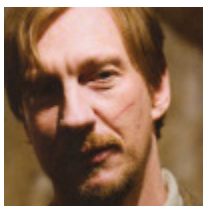
My parents used to leave us with him, when they wanted to go out. I don't think he bounced us on our heads or anything.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-13 04:43:21](#)

(no subject)

Well, maybe Reg.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-13 04:44:00](#)

(no subject)

Well, of course he didn't. You were the Black HEIRS. And surely he didn't hate you yet when you were Bea's age. He didn't know you'd grow up to be annoying!




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-13 04:49:02](#)
(no subject)

See?

I told you it would only be a matter of time before you remembered.

Didn't think it'd be this quick. What? Two months? Nice.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-13 04:59:02](#)
(no subject)

I was teasing you, you berk! He didn't know that HE'D someday find you annoying when you were a sweet little baby like Bea.

And it's been two and a half months.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-13 05:01:29](#)
(no subject)

And I was proving your point.

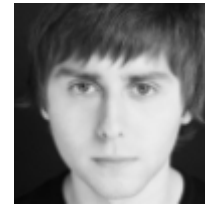
Put your book down and come to bed, you idiot.

2012-02-12 23:53:00

Private Message to Dux

Hello,

Feeling better? Did you find anything? Have either of them said anything more to you?



 **alt_justin**

I can't sleep at all. You?

I'm frightfully sorry, you know, that we had to get into hot water that way. But not sorry about the why, if you follow me.

I say, I'm rather surprised your uncle's helping us, though. Pleased, of course. But surprised.

Well, I suppose I ought to try to sleep. Perhaps I'll read about more ways to defeat an enemy without duelling him. I suspect I've not a chance against your uncle, what?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-02-13 05:12:08**

(no subject)

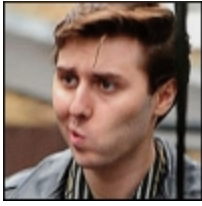
A little better, but still a bit worried and also cross.

Daddy hasn't said anything at all to me, and Rizzer said we're in the clear but to be careful.

He still said that he'll help me with occ - the other bit. So he must not think too badly of me, at least. I don't think you should be afraid of him, though. He said he doesn't approve of Daddy being sneaky like that.

I don't know if I'll be able to sleep, either.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-13 05:19:47](#)
(no subject)

Yes, it's difficult not to be cross, isn't it? It seems like the harder one tries the angrier one gets.

Did you find anything that might have been the cause? ~~Sally-Anne~~ What about his Christmas presents?

I shouldn't like to think we can't get round it but, er, well, you'll forgive me if I'm not keen to try until we think we've taken care of the problem.

Good Lord, it's late and we've lessons tomorrow!

Meet you after breakfast, what? And I'll walk you to class and we can talk more.

Sweet dreams, love.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-13 05:29:29](#)
(no subject)

I think I know what it might be, only I'm sure it won't be as simple as just not wearing it. I'm afraid he's more clever than that.

And of course we have to take care of the problem, if only on principle. I never though Daddy would do something like this, because it seems the sort of thing he'd be upset about, if Mummy did it. But I suppose it's like teaching me that bollocks-busting hex before I left for Hogwarts, and never telling me what it actually did. Only at least I had a choice on when and where to use the hex. This time it's different.

I'm sure that my dreams will be quite angry, but maybe yours will be sweeter than mine... so sweet dreams to you, too.

Love,
Hydra

2012-02-13 21:15:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Frank

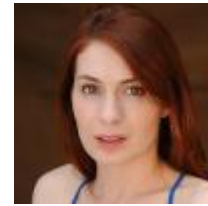
Frank?

I need you.

Finbar and Richard are fighting.

I've managed to get their wands away before they caused too much damage, and I don't want to put them in full body binds but it's getting to that point and I think they'd be calmer if you were here please hurry we're by the winter garden.

I think Richard's nose is broken.



 [alt_alice](#)

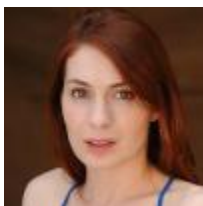



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 02:19:12](#)
(no subject)

bugger
on my way.

bringing steve and victor for back up.

where's dan?



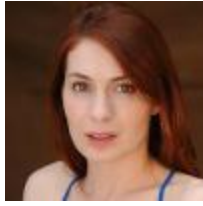
 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 02:20:05](#)
(no subject)


He's here.
I'm trying to get him to not join in but he's angrier than I've ever seen him before.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 02:21:23](#)
(no subject)

right.
blast them with water to keep them apart until I can get fin out of there.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-14 02:23:39](#)**
(no subject)


No need. They're winding down. But Portia and Lisa won't stop crying, and Richard's nose is a fountain, and just get here quickly please.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:34:00](#)**
(no subject)

well that was interesting.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:34:34](#)**
(no subject)

Has Fin told you anything?




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:36:13](#)**
(no subject)

not really.

but I can sort it out well enough.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:38:38](#)**
(no subject)

I knew Richard and Dan were getting close.

I thought I might be reading too much into it, after what happened with Remus and Sirius.

So I didn't want to assume.

Is Fin... jealous? You think?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:41:44](#)**
(no subject)


no. not in that way, at least.

he's hurt, no mistake, but it's not because he'd rather be in dan's place.

least I don't think so.

whenever he feels anything strong, it just comes out as angry, I think.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:44:19](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

I'm just glad he had enough control to not do something he'd truly regret later.

That's due to you mostly, love, I think.


And it shows we didn't make an enormous mistake giving him a wand. Although he fights like that one more time and he'll not be getting it back again.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:46:18](#)**
(no subject)

we agree there general.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-14 03:51:05](#)**
(no subject)

Poor Danny.

Poor dear.

He looked so sad and angry and lost.

I could strangle Fin and Richard both for putting him in that position.

I forget sometimes that he's not a little boy any more.



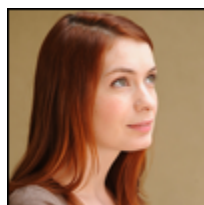
 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 03:52:28](#)

(no subject)

the first kid at moddey dhoo.

remember finding him?

never seen anyone eat that much. and it took him a good six months to start talking in full sentences.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 03:57:47](#)

(no subject)

I thought when he didn't show interest in Lucy, and then Jacinda that he was just being shy.

Richard had better be good to our Dan.

I've fixed Richard's nose and taken care of some of the more obvious bruises, and left them alone. And I think Danny should take tea with us tomorrow. You, me, and Kevin.

I think he's a bit embarrassed.



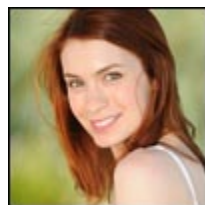
 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 04:00:01](#)

(no subject)

right.

I'll be there.

I'll give rick a bit of a talking to in the bargain.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-02-14 04:00:55](#)

(no subject)

Be nice, love.

We want him to treat Danny well. Not scare him off for good.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-02-14 04:01:50](#)
(no subject)

I won't scare him. much.

2012-02-14 09:05:00

Private message to Draco Malfoy

I left everything at the foot of her bed this morning, just as you asked! And then I had to leave straight away - I wasn't sure I would be able to keep a straight face when she woke up and saw it all.



 [alt_daphne](#)

Really, Draco...earrings? And emerald, at that! They're far more rare and precious than diamonds, you know. When are you going to finally up and ask her to be your girlfriend?



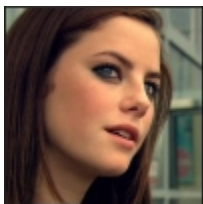
 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-02-14 16:13:49**
(no subject)

Good then. I missed her at breakfast...she must have been opening everything, and then I had to leave early to return some books.

I didn't know that about diamonds, I only know that emeralds go with Slytherin colours, and that they match that ring she wears around her neck sometimes - you know, the one that her Father left her.

Didn't Blaise give you earrings for Christmas? Last I checked, you're not his girlfriend.

But I might ask



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2012-02-14 16:16:54**
(no subject)

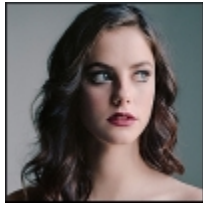
I'm sure that she'll love them to absolute pieces.

Blaise and I have given each other special gifts for years, Draco, you know that. It's a sign of our enduring friendship.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-14 16:20:19](#)
(no subject)

Yes, yes, special and enduring. You just might want to see to it that Bole doesn't catch on...that is, if you've gone and sent Blaise something "special" for Valentine's Day. Because I've a feeling he'd not find it so very quaint.



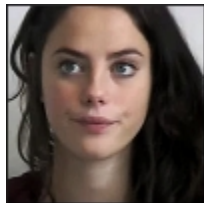
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-02-14 16:22:37](#)
(no subject)

I've sent you something for Valentine's Day as well, Draco. And all the other students in our year. Just as I always do! It's tradition, after all, and one can scarcely argue with that.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-14 17:42:46](#)
(no subject)

Since you mention tradition, I've been meaning to tell you that I miss reading your journal posts, Daphs. You know, the ones where you offer your special perspective on all the goings-on in the castle, or come up with some grand design to make Slytherin take the lead in any number of ways. Haven't been many of those in a while.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-02-15 03:02:20](#)
(no subject)

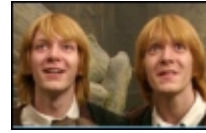
I suppose you're right, there haven't been.
I'll see what I can do then. Only for you, of course!

2012-02-14 09:37:00

Special chocs for Valentine's day

Want to give something special to that someone special? Come talk to us!

It'll be a Valentine's Day you'll never forget!



 [alernity](#)

 [alt_gredforge](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-14 15:42:50](#)

(no subject)

'A Valentine's Day you'll never forget'?

Coming from the two of you, I'm not sure that's really a recommendation.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-14 15:46:02](#)

Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

More of your special merchandise? So what's it do this time?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-14 15:47:40](#)

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Why? Looking for a gift yourself?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-14 15:48:34](#)

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Nope, I think Percy's providing all the relationship drama this family can handle at one time.

Just curious.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-14 15:51:04](#)


Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Pity. It'd be fun to see Mum fuss over you.

We've got new products with a range of transformative effects. Some make you sprinkle glitter. Some make you bill and coo like a turtledove.

Most people are getting wise to the Canary Creams, though, so they're not getting so surprised by those anymore.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-14 15:51:26](#)

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

'Sprinkle glitter'? What, from your fingertips?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-14 15:52:01](#)

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Huh, we should have thought of that.

No, from your hair.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-14 15:53:09](#)

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Glitter dandruff?

Oh, that'll go over well.

You know, I bet Dad thanks his lucky stars every day you lot aren't loose wrecking havoc at Ministry jobs.

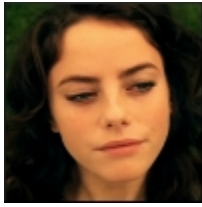


 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-14 15:54:10](#)

Re: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

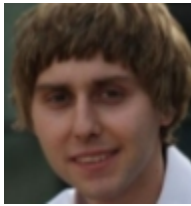
Us, work at the Ministry? We'd rather be crisped by a Chinese Fireball.

||||| No, Dad can breathe a big sigh of relief. We want to go into business for ourselves.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-02-14 16:25:12](#)
(no subject)

I think not. You might want to go offer your wares to the firsties, though.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-14 22:40:40](#)
(no subject)

Hello, Fred and George,

I can't even begin to explain what the lads in Beauxbatons find so amusing about those glitter charms!

I'd have said that whomever comes to you for a gift well deserves what they get but clearly they seem to find the effect endlessly amusing, what?

Mind you I found the one you gave Pepin this morning well droll. But I think he thought it rather less so when he couldn't speak in his first lesson, and could only coo, what!

-Justin



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-14 22:53:02](#)
(no subject)

Anyone who goes to the Weasley twins for presents *does* deserve what they get!

[2012-02-14 13:16:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Thank you.

I'm wearing them right now, and they are so beautiful, and absolutely perfect, and so thoughtful.

I love them.

It's the first real Valentine's present I've ever gotten, you know. So that means you'll always be my very first Valentine, which makes me so incredibly happy.

I've got your gift still, when should I give it to you?



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-15 00:01:56](#)
(no subject)

I admit I was hoping that you would wear them straight away. I asked the jeweler about getting them charmed, you know, with a smile-brightening charm or something like that, but he advised against it - to "preserve the purity of the stones," he said. So long as you're pleased with them I can live with that.

The Arcana cologne is perfect, and definitely my first Valentine's present that I actually count (all those unsigned ones I got last year and the year before definitely do not count).

And, well, if you want to meet after supper, there's something I'd like to ask you.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-15 00:09:27](#)
(no subject)

I don't need a charm for them to make me smile, that's for certain.

And I'm glad you liked the cologne. I certainly wouldn't mind it on you, which is why I bought it.

I'll see you at dinner.

And after.

[2012-02-14 19:19:00](#)

Order Only: Private message to Padfoot


Happy Valentine's Day.

Hope you don't mind I didn't get you flowers. Valentine's Day always seemed naff to me, even back in school.



 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-15 01:54:40](#)
(no subject)

Nevermind, Moony, it's a girl's holiday, anyway. I think it was made up by florists.


Mind you, if you fancied covering the bed in rose petals or something like that ... well, I'd tell you you'd gone bonkers. But only after making you suffer the consequences.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-15 02:09:59](#)
(no subject)


Hang on, you're not saying that because you wanted *me* to give *you* flowers, are you?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-15 02:11:15](#)
(no subject)

No, don't be silly. If I wanted you to give me flowers, I'd at LEAST have got you a card!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-15 02:14:37](#)
(no subject)

Right.

Perhaps that's something I ought to tell Danny: It's altogether easier with a bloke at Valentine's than a girl.

Oh, bugger. Did you get something for Mrs Ponds?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-15 02:22:47](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Chocolates and a card. I thought about flowers but anything I gave her either would have been inappropriate (red roses, you know) or an uncomfortable reminder of what an odd husband she wound up with.

Chocs were safer. Also, I think she prefers them. I got her some nice ones -- truffles with liqueur flavourings, hand made.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-15 02:23:34](#)
(no subject)

And for Bea I got this little heart-shaped toy that squeaks when you squeeze it.

We'll see if Kreacher leaves it be or if it vanishes in a day and a half!

2012-02-14 19:52:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good



 [alt_terry](#)

I overheard the git talking to his sister tonight in a floo conversation. Just to let you know, yeah, she's feeling sick, but she's puzzled because she can't figure out what it is.

Sometimes her joints hurt. Sometimes she's really, really tired.

She's getting headaches, and then the next day it'll be a neck ache. It sort of ebbs and flows.

I noticed there was one thing she said twice to him. Like she didn't remember the first time she said it. Maybe that means memory problems.

He's worried about her. Told her to go see Madam Pomfrey, which he surprised me, since he hates Madam Pomfrey and doesn't exactly trust her. Never would go see her himself.

I think he's wondering if she's been hexed somehow. But who would dare, at Hogwarts?

I miss you all. A lot.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-15 02:08:57**
(no subject)

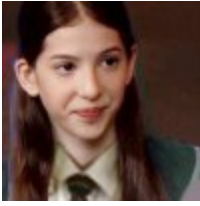
I'm glad I changed my mind about the socks. I'd be SO WORRIED RIGHT NOW. I mean, they wouldn't have done anything like THIS (the hex was just to make them extra itchy) but I'd be afraid I'd muffed it somehow (like when we tried to give lice to Padma Patil and gave them to all of Ravenclaw).

I mean if someone's hexing her then brilliant. I just don't want to get blamed for it!



 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-02-15 02:42:43**
(no subject)

I'm glad you changed your mind too, actually. She's not quite as scary as the git, but she's real dangerous, too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-15 02:09:46](#)
(no subject)

Anyway as for who would dare -- the Razzler might.
And he has good reason to hate her guts.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-15 02:43:37](#)
(no subject)

You're right. He'd be a good candidate.

I wonder....if the git gets really worried about her, what's he gonna do? I mean, he can't go back to Hogwarts.

I wonder if he could convince her to resign and come here. Unlikely, you'd think. But they really don't like being apart.

He's bad enough. The two of them together are worse.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-15 03:08:25](#)
(no subject)

I'd love for her to go away, but not if you'd have to deal with her. I'd much prefer for her to drop dead.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-15 17:29:44](#)
(no subject)

I miss you too, Terry.

You always used to do such sweet things for valentine's day.

[2012-02-14 22:50:00](#)

Happy Valentine's



 **[alt_padma](#)**

Again!

It's always really nift to see all the cards and everyone giving each other presents. Thanks to everyone who sent something to me and I hope you all liked yours, too. I sort of love that in the middle of winter we've got an excuse to exchange tokens again, like Christmas but for everyone and even better because February really is so unending, isn't it?

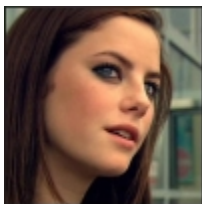
It's also fun to watch everyone turning into lovebirds. It was impossible not to notice at least one or two deliveries to Slytherin table. Daphne, how did you manage that gigantic bear? I don't know if you had the heart to shrink it down into your bag!

(Summers, I don't think Midgen quite got your message, though. Could you shout at her a little louder for us at tomorrow's breakfast? At least you've saved the rest of us the trouble of thinking you might be worth our consideration.)

And Brocklehurst, word to the wise: Even if he were capable of reciprocating, really, would you *want* him to do? Honestly. Think about it.

Oh, and this week's *Dish!* has full coverage of the opening ceremonies at the Frost Faire. The pictures are amazing! Watching that bridge form over the river--I just keep staring at the photo. It must have been breathtaking in real life.

Well, if anyone wants to see, I'll have it in History Club tomorrow, too.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at [2012-02-15 04:40:34](#)**

(no subject)

Oh, I had to lighten the bear and run it down to our room before class began. He was wearing a pendant, too, did you see?

So what exactly happened with Midgen and Summers? It must've been when I'd run off with the bear, but from what I've heard he

shouted something about how he didn't fancy her, and that she'd better leave off, or else?



 **alt_padma** at [2012-02-15 04:47:53](#)
(no subject)

No, I didn't see! What sort of pendant? Was it from Bole or has Mr Crouch finally come to his senses and realised he wanted you all along? Haha!

Lares gave me a perfectly lovely comb set, chocolates and the *sweetest* card.

Summers was utterly horrid. I mean, okay, it's Midgen, and we all know how vexing she can be. But he just...sort of...blew up at her. I couldn't hear all of it because it was echoing, but he called her a blundering cow and worse. She sort of started to laugh and then it hit her that the whole Hall were staring at them and then she ran out.

I mean, it's Midgen and we all know she can give Moaning Myrtle a run for the money but it really was rather shocking.



 **alt_daphne** at [2012-02-15 04:54:24](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Auror Crouch I forgot to - that is, of course it's from Barney. A heart carved out of jet and strung on a silver chain. The most fetching thing, really!

John Summers is usually very pleasant and passive, isn't he? I mean, from what Smith says he was more or less unable to say no to her when she asked him to the Ball... I suppose he'd finally had enough of being linked up with someone like her, then? Still, that's a very cruel thing to do to Eloise. She has feelings just like anyone else, after all.



 **alt_lavender** at [2012-02-16 04:15:40](#)
(no subject)

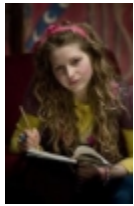
Pav and I had loads of fun organising the card-making party!


Lots of people came, too.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-16 04:17:45](#)**
(no subject)

She said! Maybe next year we should do it in the Hall so everyone can participate.



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2012-02-16 04:20:45](#)**
(no subject)

That's a really good idea! We might run out of supplies, though.


Well, maybe it would be an opportunity to practise our Transfig, too--leaves into paper and that sort of thing.



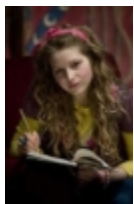
 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-16 04:21:39](#)**
(no subject)


Oh, that's brill! And just the sort of thing that gets noticed, too.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-16 04:19:28](#)**
Private Message to Lav

Did you see Draco spoke to Seamus this morning?
I'm so relieved!



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2012-02-16 04:22:08](#)**
Re: Private Message to Lav

I didn't, but I'm glad.

It was quite uncomfortable between them for awhile, and of course that's bound to be felt.




 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-02-16 04:27:51](#)

Re: Private Message to Lav

What are you going to do about that letter from your dad? Parvati told me all about it.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:30:31](#)

Re: Private Message to Lav

Nothing. Honestly I think Dad's not half ridiculous. He's not even paying proper attention anymore.

But the way we look at it, he told Pav not to date Tamblyn, which she's not doing. And he didn't tell *me* anything. So there's no need to *do* anything, is there?




 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-02-16 04:37:40](#)

Re: Private Message to Lav

Ha! That's true!

But don't you think he'll catch on eventually?



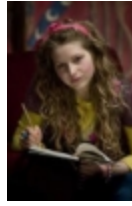
 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:48:56](#)

Re: Private Message to Lav

He'd have to get his facts straight, first off.

Oh, I don't care. It took Dad long enough to even *notice* that we had Yule Ball dates or that we were dating anyone at all.

And it's not like he really cares, Lav. He just feels like he has to say something so the family won't go spare.




 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-02-16 05:33:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Lav

I'm sorry he's being such a tosser about everything,
Padma



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:49:30](#)

Re: Private Message to Lav

Besides, I don't even fancy Lares that much!

2012-02-15 09:37:00

Mid-winter moments

It was quite fun yesterday to see all the different creative ideas for Valentines - such a nice break in the middle of the winter. And hearing the buzz about the Frost Faire - those who've seen the latest photos, I can only say they don't do the streets any justice, from what parts I saw last night.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Seventh years: I'm delighted to say I'm ahead of schedule with comments on your research proposals. They all look quite strong, and there are a couple I'm particularly intrigued by. If you'd like them back sooner than Friday's class, stop by during office hours.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-02-15 14:51:54**

Private message to Raz

Sweetheart -

Thank you again for a truly magical night - and for managing to arrange it all. Portico was outstanding, and I do quite see your point about the earrings. (Besides, who am I to argue with Narcissa's good suggestions?) They're ... well, I can't stop looking at them in the mirror, so you may feel smug.

Looking at it this morning, I'm making better progress on the materials for the investigation than I'd planned - enough that I think, if I push through this week, I'll still be on track if I don't bring work with me this weekend. And as I'm very much looking forward to enjoying the weekend and the Frost Faire with you without other distractions, I'm glad to put off research time for the moment.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-02-15 20:10:38**

Re: Private message to Raz

Pleasure was all mine, love. I knew that those sparklers would win you over eventually- too much like wee stars not to, yeah?

Hooch says that dueling went just fine last night. Rather thinly attended, as I expected, what with so many kids off having a cuddle

somewhere. Bloody Erebus, I only hope one of them wasn't Hydra.

We might have a free moment here and there for you to do your work, if you need to- though I confess I'd rather spend that time on other things.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-02-15 20:25:19**

Re: Private message to Raz

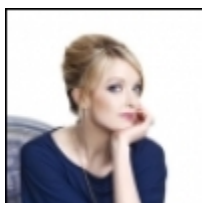
Not so wee as all that, but yes. They do shine, rather.

I'm not surprised it was sparse, either. Everyone was going on last night in class, about all the gossip.

As to Hydra - honestly, I've said my bit about that, and if it'd help to have me speak to her, I'm still willing. But she's struck me as surprisingly mild, compared to a number of other examples among her peers. Even if your brother is fussing.

And on the work, I'd rather spend that time other ways too.

It's one thing to bring some marking, and if I get it done companionably sitting around Sunday morning, well, one less thing to do later. But I'd rather not feel like I had to, or lose all hope of dealing with the investigation, so getting ahead feels lovely.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-02-15 15:04:23**

Private message to Pomona

Goodness. I quite missed what exactly happened with Miss Midgen and Mr Summers. Did you get a chance to talk to her, yesterday?

They were both in class last night, of course, but very loudly avoiding anything to do with one another, and making things more than a little awkward. I didn't want to ask - especially somewhere that public - and Miss Midgen made it quite clear she didn't want to talk to me, either.

(I... well, it was a very lovely evening for me and I suspect that still showed. I wouldn't have wanted to talk to me if I'd just had a falling

out with someone I liked, either.)

Her chart for the evening was a mess, of course, but I'm happy to give her a pass on it, all things considered. (Actually, a good half the class was in a fuss in some way or another, so I may just do that all round. With the projections, we've more opportunities for chart practice than in the past.)

While I'm thinking of it: does Daphne Greengrass seem more distracted in class with you recently? She's never been one of my top students, but she's usually more careful than she has been the past few weeks. Her actual work is still as correct as ever, but I'm seeing lots of small slips - things she'd normally have recopied, or taken more time with.



 **[alt_pomona](#) at 2012-02-16 05:01:48**

Re: Private message to Pomona

I don't envy you, having lessons scheduled on Valentine's Day evening, with that stew of adolescent hormones at its height, I must say!

Miss Midgen has been avoiding me as well, but I gather from the comments of other students that there was a scene at mealtime--she presented Mr. Summers with an elaborate Valentine and he reacted rather badly. "Get away from me, you spotty cow," and other remarks in that line.

As to Miss Greengrass, I must admit that I haven't noticed any changes there; my spare attention during lessons being generally occupied with more obvious sources of trouble, such as Miss Bulstrode and Mr. Goyle.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-02-16 05:09:29**

Re: Private message to Pomona

Every year, I forget quite how impossible it gets - and of course, with a festival that travels through the week, it hits each year differently. The first and second years would have been giggly but manageable, the newts are always solid, if a bit distracted. It's really the middle years that I should reconsider, I suppose.

On Miss Midgen. Goodness. I can't blame her for not wanting to talk about it, then. I'd thought a bit better of him, as well, mind, though I gather he's been a bit reluctant to be as clear as he might be. (Though that's no excuse for that kind of unpleasantness.)

As to Miss Greengrass - quite, given her housemates. And I suppose the things I've been seeing wouldn't show as clearly in her work for you. Perhaps it's just knowing how I cut corners, just a little, when I'm pressed for time, and that being on my mind at the moment.

2012-02-15 10:11:00

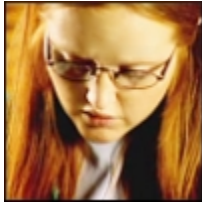
Private Message to Eloise

I'm sorry John was such a beast. If you want to talk, you know where to find me.



And if you don't, I won't pester you about it.

 [alt_susan](#)



 [alt_eloise](#) at **2012-02-15 15:42:32**

(no subject)

Auntie Cora would say I was too forward and too excitable from the start. But she would also say that his actions were very rude and quite uncalled for.

Sometimes he was nice, when it was just the two of us. I don't suppose anyone would believe me if I said as much, though.



 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-02-16 01:09:49**

(no subject)

I believe you.

Honestly, boys are stupid. Well, not all of them and not all of the time...but yeah, people say girls mature faster for a *reason*.

2012-02-15 13:10:00

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

See? I told you it would only be a matter of time before Draco forgave you.



Too bad that silly grin on his face was put there by Parkinson. But I suppose that can't be helped.

 [alt_padma](#)

Ready for this? Parvati got a letter from Dad telling her he didn't want her dating any Quidditchers and to stop seeing Tamblyn immediately. I mean, honestly. *Tamblyn*. Pav's not even dating *anyone*, let alone *my* bloke. (Luckily we think that since she wasn't seeing him at all, I don't have to stop.) And he's even confused about which one Tamblyn is, isn't he, because he's not a Quidditcher. Sorry, I know you care for sporting boys but I've given them up anyway. They're all like Page and Davies and they'll throw you over for any bit of stuff that comes slutting about.

Speaking of which - did you *see* Delacour yesterday? I know I can ask you because you'll have noticed but not gone gooey like half of Ravenclaw. I think she was doing it on purpose just to see Davies' tongue loll around. I don't half understand the appeal of drool on a bloke, do you?

Oh, I'm so glad that Draco forgot about Weasley's broom and you can come to History Club now. Bring Evgeni if you like.

[2012-02-15 14:05:00](#)

(no subject)

I hope everyone had a lovely Valentine's. It's always so amusing to see all the charmed valentines zooming around the Common Room, and we didn't have too many singing ones this year. Some of the firsties were positively moulting glitter, though -- the poor House Elves must have had to work so hard to get all the sparkle out of the carpets. Fred and George, I suppose that's all due to you! I've also heard a rumour that the glittery chocs are all the rage with the upper Beauxbaton boys -- Padma, is there anything to it?



 [alt_pansy](#)

It looks like our visitors got their fair share of cards and chocs, and here's hoping there weren't too many broken hearts.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2012-02-15 19:24:44](#)**

Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle

Hydra, I was wondering if we could go for a walk today? I have something very particular to ask, and it's been ages since we've spent any time together just you and me.



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-02-15 20:05:09](#)**

Re: Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle

Well, yes, I suppose I could do that.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-02-15 20:05:59](#)**

Re: Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle

I'm sorry, what I ought to have said is that of course I would love to go on a walk and spend some time together. I was just distracted.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-15 20:28:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle

Well, good then. I'm looking forward to it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-15 19:30:58](#)

Private Message to Sally-Anne

I think I'll spend some time with my BOYFRIEND this afternoon! (!!)

It's a good thing he and Ron aren't at one another's throats right now, otherwise I just know he'd get sulky if he found out.

It's like I want to shout it from the rooftops, but at the same time, I know I oughtn't make that big of a deal about it, because of Ron, and what we were talking about with Justin, and I don't think it'd make Aunt Narcissa happy at all if I were to crow about it, even though it would make Patil turn green.

But regardless of who knows it, he *is* my boyfriend. And that's the important thing.

My face hurts from smiling.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-15 21:11:11](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Your earrings are just beautiful.

And yes, you're right, making a big deal of it would stir up trouble (and Draco and Ron are actually BEING CIVIL right now, even! to each other!) but you can always crow about it to me.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-15 21:31:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

And you're connected with an international Quiddich star, which really isn't all that shabby either, is it?

Oh, I'm going to ask Hydra about the Tea today. See what she says. And see if she'll talk at all about what Justin said too.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-15 20:03:29](#)

Private message to Pansy

Thanks for last night - it was brilliant. And not to give myself too many accolades, but the earrings suit you perfectly.. or maybe it's that you suit them.

Have a bit of an odd question, though. My Father never gave you earrings like that before, did he? Because if he has and you're not saying so to be polite... I just wanted you to know I wouldn't be offended or anything. It would just mean that we have similar gift-giving taste, which is really only to be expected.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-15 20:34:51](#)


Re: Private message to Pansy

No, he's never given me earrings before. I've got some clips for my hair and a necklace, but not earrings. And not emeralds, either. So you needn't worry.

I think emeralds are my favourite type of jewel by far.

And you both are rather thoughtful when it comes to gift-giving, I must admit.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:04:40](#)

(no subject)

It's utterly bizarre, is what it is.

A few of the older boys have handfuls of the chocs and they're *chucking* them at one another. They're

nutters, every one of them.

I thought at first it was the cherry cordial in the sweets (I heard some of them commenting on it) but the truth is that they were challenging each other to take a choc and then run up to one another and shake their heads really quickly to cover each other in glitter. What utterly mad plonkers!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-16 04:56:12](#)
(no subject)

Hah! That sounds positively ridiculous.

2012-02-15 15:33:00

(no subject)

Glad that's over for another year.

Next February I'm going to set up an anti-Valentine's party. We can shoot darts into heart-shaped targets and listen to albums by bands that hate gooey romantic stuff. Like Cupid's Stupid--all their songs are great--and the I Hate Yous and, um-

I'm sure there's loads more bands that hate love that I just can't think of right now.

Anywiz, that's what I'm doing next Valentines.



 [alt_ron](#)




 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-02-16 01:13:42**

(no subject)

You can sign me up!

Although, who knows, maybe both of us will change our minds by next year.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-02-16 03:41:14**


(no subject)

I've got you down for it!

Hm. Dunno.

Not planning on it, yeah?




 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-02-16 03:59:26**

(no subject)

Interesting.



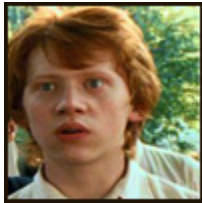
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-16 04:06:31](#)
(no subject)


Wot?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:07:19](#)
(no subject)

Oh, nothing.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-16 04:09:58](#)
(no subject)


...



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:12:08](#)
(no subject)


Honestly, Ronald. For someone who claims that he's not going to change his mind about Valentine's you've quite a way of lining up a date--a whole year in advance.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-16 04:13:46](#)
(no subject)

WOT?!!



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-16 04:17:34](#)
(no subject)

I'm laughing at both of you.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-16 04:51:17](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm only laughing at Weasley.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-16 04:06:37](#)
(no subject)

One of the Durmstrang boys told me that they call it "Friendship Day" in Finland.

I kind of like that actually.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-16 04:08:48](#)
(no subject)

Well, see, that would be loads better.

None of this 'be mine forever' rubbish.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-16 03:45:32](#)
(no subject)

Say.

Did you see the write up of the Cannons' match with Caerphilly? Jenkins knocked Llewellyn right off his broom with an awesome ricochet shot off one of their Chasers! Totally wizard picture of it in the Prophet, too!



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-16 04:07:19](#)
(no subject)

Brill! I'll have to beg it off Ernie and see for myself.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-16 03:50:56](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Did you see what Brocklehurst wrote in her journal about next Valentines?

She sent me one, y'know. All 'will you be mine' and 'special' this and 'special' that.

And then she's been looking at me all the time!

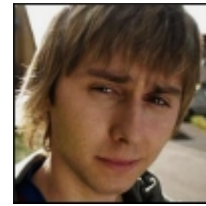
I don't even-

[2012-02-15 21:24:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, Dux,

How is that project going, then? Have you managed to figure anything out yet?



 [alt_justin](#)

I say, if not, perhaps Sally-Anne might help without asking too many questions. From what I understand, she's well talented in Runes.

It might...speed things along. Not that I'm complaining but we must have been the only couple in Hogwarts who couldn't even snog on Valentine's Day, what?

Though it's been well grand waking up each morning to the photo. I've set it right next to my alarm, what? So it's almost the first thing I see every day and the last thing I look at when I put out the light. You do look well fetching in it and it's not just the robes. I say, I think we look a well handsome couple in point of fact. I'm glad you thought to ask whether there were photos of us both that simply weren't run in the papers. (Not that I mind being left out of the papers, what? I feel sure that would make our present situation much worse!)

Well. If you see me tomorrow and I've got red glitter all over my hair and robes blame Martin Pascal; he's been almost forcing those sweets of the Weasley twins' upon everyone. Can't think why he finds them dead hilarious, what? It's a good job Professor Froissart's down in London or he'd have us all doing detentions with your Mr Milland to clean up all the confetti!

Perhaps we could revise together tomorrow?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-02-16 04:29:42](#)**

(no subject)

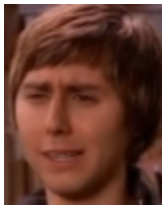
Hello, I've been out with Pansy. She wanted to tell someone about Draco, I think, and also to invite me to Tea of the Strange, the next time it happens. That will be interesting. I've always been curious about that group, I admit.

I suppose I could show the bracelet to Sally Anne, but it means that I'll probably have to tell her what the bracelet does, which might be embarrassing. I mean, I won't actually tell her what it did to you, and *where*, but she does know that we're dating, so she'd be able to figure it out. You don't mind, do you?

I'm glad you like the photograph. I just knew that one of the photographers must have caught a shot of us together, it was just a matter of asking the right one. I saved a copy for myself, too, but I haven't framed it yet.

We can revise... It means will really have to revise, though. Unfortunately.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-16 04:45:31](#)
(no subject)

About Draco--oh, that they're an item, what? Well, anyone can see that they think the world of each other presently.

Of course, tell Sally-Anne, goose, that's why I suggested her. You know that she and I are mates; I may have mentioned to her in between lessons that we'd hit a ~~road~~block snag. I didn't go into details with her either, what (and I say, I appreciate your restraint, Dux).

Well, I do want to spend time with you still. But botheration. We can jolly well at least kiss, don't you think? Or is it the amount of homework you have that's in the way?

Because we can take care of that, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-16 04:51:13](#)
(no subject)

I'll ask for her help, then.

I do have quite a bit of homework, but not a massive pile. And while I would like to kiss, wouldn't it make it all the worse that we can't snog? I think it would for me.

Oh, I don't know. I'm so cross with Daddy. I just realised today that I'll always be suspicious of his gifts from now on, which makes me sad on top of being cross.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-16 05:00:06](#)
(no subject)

~~Kissing and not snogging is better than~~ No, you're quite right, of course. Very sensible of you, Dux. Well done.

I don't suppose you could tell your father that you're well unhappy at not being trusted, what? Perhaps you could make him feel well embarrassed enough to remove the charms.

-Justin

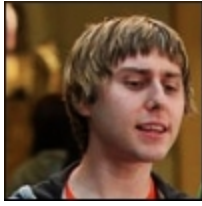


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-16 05:03:53](#)
(no subject)

Maybe just ONE kiss before we say goodnight.

I wish I could tell him, but I can't think how, exactly. If there was a way to make him see that it's not all that different from casting Imperius on me to keep me from sweets, I'd do it, but I'll have to think about it more. He's not the type to embarrass easily.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-16 05:17:26](#)
(no subject)

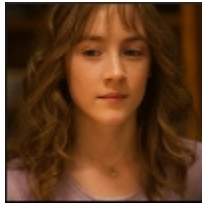
But Well. Only if you agree we may sit very very close together and you'll let me risk putting my arm round you, what?


Dash it.

I don't suppose he is the type to embarrass easily, love. Still if anyone can convince him, what, I'd put the dosh on you.

I'll still walk you to class? I think you've only got lessons inside, right?

-Justin




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-16 05:19:36](#)
(no subject)

I think I can agree to that. And to walking to class, too.

And I'll speak with Sally Anne first thing tomorrow.

Love,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-16 05:23:53](#)
(no subject)

Good. With any luck, we'll get rid of this bally old thing by the weekend.

Sweet dreams, Dux.

Love,
-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-16 20:09:25](#)
(no subject)

Hullo.

D'you know I've been thinking (which is not half hard to do when that Binns spectre is droning on, what?) that you're right; you can't bally well tell him what you've discovered without at least knowing what your uncle gave him by way of excuse. Even so, it calls attention to a level of...well, of *experience* that he believes beyond you at present, what?

Still, on the whole, I'd rather spend these so-called History of Magic lessons thinking about what we might be doing instead, rather than dwelling on what we can't be doing, if you follow me.

Dash it.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-16 23:12:13](#)
(no subject)

I've met with Sally Anne, and we studied the bracelet using some of her instruments.

I have some good news and ~~bad~~ less good news.

First, there is a sort of flesh-memory component using blood magic, using my Father's blood, and that means that the bracelet might well activate even when I don't wear it, now that I've already worn it several times. Just what I was worried about.

The other bit is that since the runes were inscribed for protection rather than control, I can probably make them respond to my needs more than the needs of my father, so that the runes are more aligned with *my* idea of what I need protecting against, rather than his idea. Which means that I can make the bracelet be less strict, if you see what I mean.

The bad news is that it might take a little while to manipulate

the protections just so.

From,
Hydra

2012-02-16 07:47:00

Private message to Sally Anne

Hello, Sally Anne. I know that you're in Ancient Runes and that you enjoy the subject very much, and as it happens I have a problem with runes right now, and it's not the sort of thing that I would care to bring to a Professor.



 [alt_hydra](#)

I have a bracelet, and it has some runes and other enchantments on it that I want to remove or nullify. I've been able to identify algiz, which wasn't surprising, but also nauthiz *and* isa, combined in such a way that might prove tricky. I also found ðagaz, which explains why I felt like putting on the bracelet everyday, even though I have other jewelery to wear.

And then one top of that there's something else, too, that I think might be a type of flesh memory spell, so that the bracelet almost remembers who wore it, and might even be activated when it's not being worn - so long as it's been worn before, if you see how that works.

I think I might be able to figure it all out on my own, given enough time, but I'd rather not delay too long if possible, which is why I thought I'd see if you wanted to work on it with me.


From,
Hydra



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-16 15:36:39**
(no subject)

I'd be happy to. Are you free for a bit after lunch? I'll bring my textbook and some tools.



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-02-16 16:02:09**
(no subject)

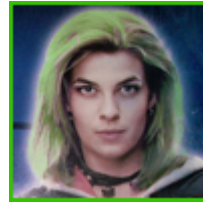
Yes, I should have some time. Thank you, and see you then.

From,

Hydra

2012-02-17 19:01:00

*Order Only Private Message to
Sirius and Remus*



Beth's just got here.

I was beginning to think she'd decided she
was wrong to trust us.

 **alt_nymphadora**

I'm not going to crowd her, but if she stays long enough, I'll have a
word with her. Let me be the one, I think.

All right?

2012-02-19 13:31:00

Frost Faire

I'd say I can't believe I managed to miss coming before this, but that's not true: I know perfectly well how it happened. I'm so glad I got ahead on my work, so that I've been able to enjoy a day or two of the festivities with an entirely clear conscience.



 **alt_sinistra**

We started yesterday by a walk through the Faire. I got on skates for the first time since my Hogwarts days, and had forgotten how fun it is. (Though my ankles gave out sooner than I'd have liked.) We spent much of the afternoon wandering through the stalls and other spaces, and I'm equally amazed at the range of wares, the many different small performing groups, and how everything comes together.

The masked ball last night was stunning - the range of masks, and designs were almost overwhelming. I saw one stunning one designed for Ceres, I think, that had across the bottom a field of grain swaying in the wind, with a butterfly fluttering across, then disappearing off the edge of the mask and eventually returning, like a perfect late summer afternoon. And a Flora mask, where the flowers budded and blossomed in an endless cycle from spring through summer.

This morning, I had a most enjoyable time in one of the Roman baths they've set up. We're currently waiting for the Terence play to begin - it's supposed to be very funny - and I'm enjoying watching the little circulating arts groups. There's a nimble acrobat, and some excellent singers, and I understand at intermission, we have an avian ballet to look forward to.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-19 18:54:31**

Private message to Poppy and Pomona

I know this kind of thing is really to neither of your tastes, but I am having fun. Raz thankfully put his foot down with Narcissa about us staying at Spencer - he and I get so little time that's completely private. So at least the late evening, and this morning were entirely relaxed.

The rest of it, though has been rather a whirlwind. Part of our wandering yesterday was figuring out something for the masked ball, as neither of us had sorted anything earlier. I ended up with a mask

of Clio, muse of history, which was quite nicely done - delicately made, and subtle, all sorts of phrases in shades of gold and brown layered and shifting slowly on the mask - and only needed a few parchments to go along with it and a simple robe.

Raz had a harder time - he went through a series of animal masks, mostly making me laugh a great deal before settling on a delightfully silly bird mask with all sorts of festive plumes and decorations in the oddest combination of colors - bright pinks and purple and a shocking green that bobbed every time he moved.

The late afternoon, there was a gathering of a number of Raz's friends from the Falcons. (And really, I like them more than I thought I would, now I can keep track of who's who.) Then we went off for dinner with the Malfoys and a number of their other guests and friends, and then on to the ball.

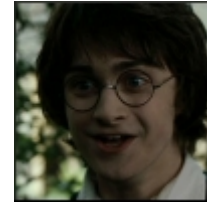
This morning - well, the baths are totally decadent, but I don't think I've had my daily routine so heavily despaired over since the first winter I came back from Hogwarts and Mum threw a fit about my hair. (Honestly, I just am not up for the level of fussing women are apparently supposed to enjoy daily. Who has the time?) But a long soak in the baths themselves was delightful and very relaxing.

We're planning to go back to Kensington for tea, I think, and then return to Hogwarts sometime this evening.

2012-02-19 18:25:00

(no subject)

I did it!



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-19 23:28:44**

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

I have to go into the Great Lake and do something with the mer people. I think. I had to put the egg under water to listen to it. Ive got to listen to it a couple of more times to get it properly and I'll write it down so we can figure it out more. How do I breathe under water?

I'm also not very good at swimming.

And it's really cold this time of year.

But I did it!



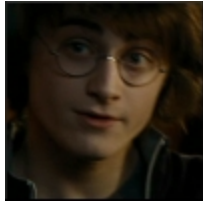
 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-02-20 01:50:23**


Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

There might be some charms that help with underwater breathing, but it's nothing we've been taught yet. I suppose you might transfigure yourself some gills? That also sounds well complicated. Hm.

But maybe Raz will have some ideas. Only I'm pretty sure he's at the Frost Faire until late tonight so it'll have to wait until tomorrow.

Well done, though.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 02:28:11](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

Diggory helped. Told me to take a bath with it, which sounded mad, but then Raz was talking about Mermish, and Myrtle kept hinting at what Diggory had done, and I sorted it out well enough.

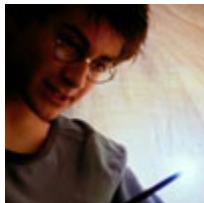


 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-20 02:55:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

Ugh, imagine that thing screeching at you in the bath. Though I suppose you mean that it stopped once it was properly submersed.

So, wait.. Myrtle was WATCHING Diggory? Was she watching you, too? There isn't any bath in her loo, is there?

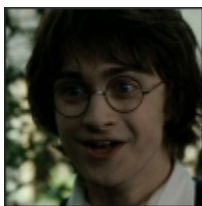


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 04:24:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

She can move through the pipes. And yeah, she tried to get in there *with* me. It was well disgusting.

And yeah, it needed to be under water. I'd put it in ice, and buried it under ground, but hadn't thought of water til Diggory mentioned the bath.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-19 23:30:04](#)

Private Message to Professor Raz

You were right. It is in mermish. And the reason it was sounding like it was screaming was because it had to be under water to hear it right.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-20 01:13:39](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations? I guess.

Only, tell me it's not that you've gone and asked some witch to be your girlfriend, yeah?


I mean, seems like everyone's got some virus like dragon pox that makes them go all gooey and want to, y'know, date or whatever.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-20 01:48:43](#)
(no subject)

Keep talking like that and a bird will never look your way. Though I suppose if that's how you want it....carry on and as you were.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-20 02:15:40](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, well. I guess it's all right for you. I mean with Pansy. That's okay.

Only it does seem like it's catching, yeah?




 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-20 02:21:49](#)
(no subject)

Catching with who? I mean, it doesn't seem to be a new thing with that many people. Daphs is with Bole, but she's been dating for two years or something, it's just that it used to be Blaise.

Padma is larking about with Tamblyn, but it was Davies and Page before that. Summers just told Midgen to leave off on Valentine' Day, so there's nothing happening in that direction. I'm fairly sure that Goyle and Bulstrode are dead in the water, as well.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-20 13:39:15](#)
(no subject)

Goyle and Bulstrode? Ugh.

Well, it's all over my House. There's no one left to play chess with, is there?

Mad, really.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 02:27:02](#)
(no subject)

I've sorted out the egg. Finally.

What this about girls? I haven't asked anyone. Has someone asked you or something? I mean, it is just past Valentine's.

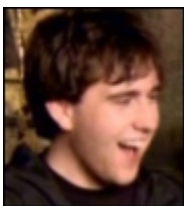


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-20 05:05:42](#)
(no subject)

Oh! Well. Congratulations, totally.

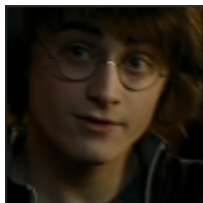
So you're all ready for the task, then? Brilliant!

Yeah, I don't know. The girl stuff, I mean. No worries, though, if that's not what you meant.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-22 02:05:42](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant! So you figured out what all that screeching was about? I heard the Hufflepuffs talking about the noise it made when Diggory opened his.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-22 03:31:39](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, with one week to spare.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-20 01:51:24](#)
(no subject)

What did you do? No one had put you under the Imperius curse, I hope.

From,


Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 02:18:35](#)
(no subject)

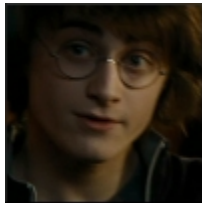
No, I sorted out the egg.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-20 02:23:04](#)
Private message to Harry

Oh, I see. Sorry for the confusion, but I wrote something similar in my journal, last year, and it had to do with Imperius.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 02:29:40](#)
Re: Private message to Harry

I remember. I was wondering what that was about.

Being able to break Imperius is pretty ace. Was it

you know

from two years ago? Or something else?




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-20 02:31:50](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

Two years ago? You mean...

Oh, no. It was something to do with Mummy. Not really as impressive as it sounds, she had only Imperiused me into not eating sweets. But I was able to break it, after a while.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 02:40:47](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

That's still ace, though.

Maybe you could teach me how you did it sometime.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-20 02:51:01](#)


Re: Private message to Harry

Why, has.. does your Father cast Imperius you sometimes?

I think part of the reason I was able to do it this time was because it made me so cross. She's always disapproved of the way I eat, and I felt like it was more about forcing me into eating meat rather than keeping me from getting tooth cavities.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-20 02:53:40](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

No. He hasn't. It's more, you know, it's always good to learn things. Just in case.

And yeah, I can see how being cross about it would help.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-20 02:56:50](#)

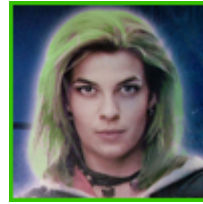
Re: Private message to Harry

That and I was really hungry, besides. Because even things like bread are a little bit sweet, you know, and I would sometimes have the urge to spit them out.

From,
Hydra

2012-02-20 21:25:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius Black and Remus Lupin




It's gone quiet here already. Should be an early night, I think.

 [alt_nymphadora](#)

Sirius?

Did Bea stay down? Is that tooth making her fuss?

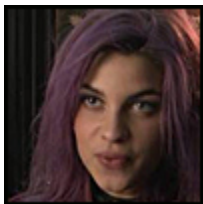


 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-21 03:48:01**
(no subject)

She was fractious at first but then I found Reg's copy of *Collected Elizabethan Poems* and started reading to her from Tichborne. She realised her problems weren't so terrible.

She's fine.

Did you give Beth's advice any more thought?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2012-02-21 03:54:06**
(no subject)

Who's Tichborne? You're not reading her things that will give her bloody awful nightmares, are you?

Sorry. I'm sure she is. Glad you're there with her.

Which bit? About hiring from the Muggleborn labour scheme? She's right that it would make us look loyal. And that might help with our blood thirsty neighbours with that Watch. I still hate the idea of using someone that way. But, I can't say anything against her argument that we'd be better to a Muggleborn than most anyone else they might end up with.

And it could help us with the flat, making it look lived in. But. If we really do that, it means trusting someone who could easily be a plant with free run of the whole place. Or. Yeah, I know, we could ward the shop and the cellars, but wouldn't that just shout that we're hiding something?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-21 04:04:18](#)
(no subject)

Her, no. Me, perhaps. *My feast of joy is but a dish of pain*, blah blah blah. He's a well maudlin son of a Squib, I'll say that much for him.

And yes, mostly hiring from the camps is what I meant. You said the rest of what she told you boiled down to 'We'll call you,' yeah?

I think it wouldn't be awful. We'd have to go careful for a while, make sure the person's not wholly indoctrinated to the Ministry's lies. But the right sort could be a boon in a number of ways.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-21 04:14:17](#)
(no subject)

Aw, you. I'm sorry. I forget how hard it is for you, bumping up against all the things in that house. Especially *his* now.

Don't suppose you've faced that portrait round yet?

I'm not against it. Just, well, I suppose I want to be sure we've thought it through. All of us. And that we're not coming to it at someone else's suggestion, you know?

Not that I don't trust Beth. I do. Only-

I don't know. We had a brilliant time yesterday, really. Never stopped talking. And she's good: she can spot MLE like she has some special way of sensing them or summat.

I'm not sure, though, whether she was really wanting to point out people I should watch out for--and she did--including one or two that I remember stopping in at the garden early on, or whether she was walking me around so some of hers could see who I am. I was pretty sure we were being watched a couple of times, but I could never pick out who it was.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-21 04:23:19](#)**
(no subject)

Don't remind me. I can practically feel my father's eyes on me through the back of the thing; why should I turn it round?

It was probably both - Beth, I mean to say. Her group seems very secretive, even now, while she had all sorts of 'conclusions' about us, remember. Some of them nearly right, too.

And given how many MLE were at the Frost Faire ... I told you about seeing that vending cart? People would stop there, do their business and leave and not twenty paces round the corner they'd be stopped by an Enforcer and more than half arrested. Stayed to watch that for a good half hour.

I don't blame Beth being cautious.

Are you nearly finished there? Should I come relieve you for the locking up?

I suppose that's one thing we wouldn't be able to do, if we have an outsider about the place.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-21 04:25:50](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know what I think about the idea of hiring someone. You'd expect a muggleborn to be on our side, but imagine the rewards that would be theirs, if they reported us to MLE.

And it would be extremely difficult to hide certain things from them.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-02-21 04:43:26](#)**
(no subject)

Hm. Well, yes. That's the risk of it.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-21 05:17:50](#)
(no subject)

And, you know, it's so easy to believe that anyone we could hire through the Ministry would be trained in spying on whomever they worked for. As a matter of course, you know?

That's exactly how it is, top to bottom, in the Ministry now. Maybe it's always been. But recently it's been so much more that way.

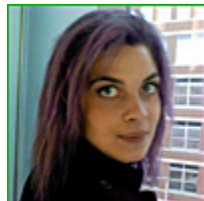
I suppose we should ask Arthur what he thinks we should do. That would be the logical thing.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-21 16:29:11](#)
(no subject)

You're right, Dora: I think talking to Arthur is the right course, actually.

Wonder if he and Molly would accept a supper invitation?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-22 16:05:52](#)
(no subject)

Were you going to ask them--or should I?

Sorry. Just lying here not going to sleep. Again.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-22 16:25:35](#)
(no subject)

Good question. I suppose it would be a natural thing for you to ask Arthur over the tea trolley of a morning, if you see him anymore these days.

I'll give you Reg's copy of Dryden. That ought to solve the insomnia.



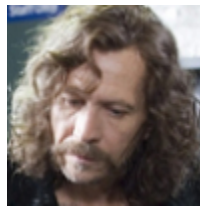
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-22 16:31:08](#)
(no subject)

I haven't seen him much recently.

I think-

Well, I think he might be avoiding it. And he might be right that it's not a good idea to be seen chatting up the cleaners. Not normal for a person with his position or mine, and someone might get an idea about it and then say something and then who knows what might come of that.

What's Dryden about? Sounds better than a potion, though. Just the name makes it sound dull!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-22 16:50:04](#)
(no subject)

Shame, that. You two were friendly enough before; it's this cursed new snooping policy that's putting up additional blocks to what ought to be otherwise normal office

interactions.

Unless you're right and he and Molly are still avoiding us. Though if they're avoiding anyone, one would think it'd be me and fuzz-face, while they cast you in the role of beleaguered and wronged party.

If you want the dull stuff, flip to his *Essay on Dramatick Poesie*. If you want to fire yourself up, then read *Astraea Redux*.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-21 04:39:17](#)
(no subject)

No, stay there. We're on our way. The last ones left a good while ago, and Himself's got all the washing up done.

You know, I've got to say, I'd rather like to see that portrait. I'm more than a bit curious about your father. I mean, he must have

been something, judging by you.


You're right about Beth. And not just Beth. We should be just as careful as her lot are being.

I think we are.

Oh, say. Did either of you have any of that new Mead? Four people asked me tonight if I thought we could get it in to sell in the garden. It was rather nice. No idea who's sourcing it.

Could be an excuse to go back tomorrow or Wednesday! What do you think?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-21 16:37:13](#)
(no subject)

If you really want to meet him, go ahead. Only turn him back round when you've done. Last thing I want is to open that door and face him unexpectedly. Dunno why you're so keen. You've met Phineas Nigellus; on the whole he's a more stimulating conversationalist (at least to me, he was. Or perhaps what I mean to say is that it's more satisfying to render him sputtering and speechless). And what's that supposed to mean, anyway? Judging what by me? Circe, woman, I hope to be nothing like him, thanks.

Dunno if Remus had any of the stuff; smelled good but then no one offers spirits to a dog. Perhaps we could all go back on Wednesday, it's usually a quiet night for the back. Only not too much for you, unless you want to stunt Bea's growth, ha.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-22 16:04:16](#)
(no subject)

What I mean about your father is that I know he was strong-willed and, well, *opinionated*. I remember my mother talking about him. Mostly it was about how he managed with your mother, and it was all a way for her and my dad to talk about her family and how impossible they were, so it was about your mother and my grandfather Cygnus and how they were so

much alike.

I don't know. I just didn't know any of them. I think I saw my grandparents twice, and I don't properly remember that. So it's only that I've got questions. I know he can't really answer them properly. I mean, I know portraits aren't *alive*, but I think if I could understand what he was like, then maybe I could see how it was between my mother and her parents a bit.

Actually, what I'd really like is to hear *you* talk to him, because in my head, the way you quarreled with yours is the way Mum must have been with hers.

I know that doesn't make much sense.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-22 16:23:22](#)
(no subject)

Right, well. I'll just get right on that, then.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-22 16:26:56](#)
(no subject)

Sorry.


I shouldn't have told you that. About wanting to hear you talk to him. I don't really mean it.

Well, I do. But I didn't mean I really thought you would do.

Never listen to anything I say after work, yeah?

I don't suppose either of you've got a sleeping draught tucked away in a cupboard? Even half a dose.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-22 16:53:50](#)
(no subject)

Relax, I was taking the piss, luv.

Tell you what: Next time I'm in a temper we'll head up there and I'll give you a proper

introduction. Fair warning, though, it shan't half be pleasant.

Now, I'll bring the Dryden but here, should we talk to Poppy about this not sleeping business? It can't be good for you to go skipping sleep or taking draughts. Especially when whatever you take will affect Bea, as well.

Is something else bothering you? How can I help?

2012-02-21 20:23:00

Private Message to Dux

Hello, Dux,

Sorry, I know we planned to meet this evening but I'm afraid I might be coming down with something and I shouldn't like to give it to you, what?



 **alt_justin**

I'll go see Matron if it's no better tomorrow. For now I think I'd best have an early night and perhaps finish up some homework while I'm at it.

All right?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-02-22 01:48:03**

(no subject)

What's wrong? You seemed to feel well enough during the day. Was supper off again?

From,

Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2012-02-22 01:51:41**

(no subject)

It could have been, what. I'm rather achy. I've a headache as well, which is making homework not very pleasant.

Mainly I think I'm tired.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-22 01:54:12](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry to hear it, then. Better rest up, and I'll see you tomorrow.

From,

Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-22 01:55:58](#)
(no subject)

Definitely tomorrow.

-Justin

2012-02-21 20:52:00

Order Only: Frost Faire

This Frost Faire is turning into quite a successful event. Not only has the weather has been perfect, but the crowds are big and eager to be entertained, and everyone's in quite a good mood. Which puts US in a good mood: we've collected quite a few more Galleons than we expected and will finish this quarter with a tidy profit.



 [alt_kingsley](#)

We're scheduled for three performances every day as long as the Faire runs (we're rotating *The Cunning Alchemist*, *Ouroboros Outside*, and a new farce for children that Dorcas just wrote, *Sneezes for Kneazles*). Molly and Arthur, that canvas drape you gave us for Christmas is working beautifully as a backdrop. (Wonderful charm work, Molly; it converts for each scene change almost instantaneously, just as slick as can be. The glow-in-the-dark stars are a nice touch, too.) No one could object in the least to any of our material, but there are a few phrases in some of the speeches that we understand will pass along coded messages for the Sherwood network. (Remus and Tonks, could this be a method that might be useful for the communications of the other network you're beginning to tap? I can send you our upcoming schedule.)

Between our performances we're networking like mad. Benjy's made contact with several of our black market potion suppliers (Poppy and Stephen, we'll be able to fill some of your most desperate requisitions). And Arthur's put us in touch with several Ministry contacts which we hope will help keep us booked at various camps and other locations through the end of the summer.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-22 03:29:32**

(no subject)

You ought to bring the act by Laszlo's. I know it's off the beaten track for the Faire but we do expect to have a full house on Friday.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-02-22 04:23:45](#)**
(no subject)

Tell Benjy we're setting aside a special bottle of the sloe gin just for him. Pomona says it's aged to a particularly mellow state.

2012-02-21 21:32:00

Frostin the Faire

I've heard from a few of yeh lookin fer dodgy materials o' various sorts. (Nigel Leary, I'm lookin at yeh, mate! and Salt Peters, too--not yer real name, that, eh, Salt? Smart lad! The rest o yeh know who yeh are, eh?)



 **alt_wagstaff**

An I'm finkin there's not a few o yeh wiv nasty rat infestations, innit, lookin fer Putrifaction Powder to mix wiv a bit o bait. Shame they took that off the market fer what it can do in the wrong hands.

But perk up, mates, Ol Wil's got somefin fer ever one o yeh! An it'll keep yeh just this side o the law, too. (Know that'll relieve yeh to hear it.)

So come on in ter the Frost Faire, yeh? An look fer me, pushin me cart. Ask what I've got in me pack, an I'll know yer one o my lads, won't I? Or say 'Nick Finney sent me' an I'll do fer yeh, quicker'n yeh can say 'Ta!'

[2012-02-22 11:53:00](#)

(no subject)

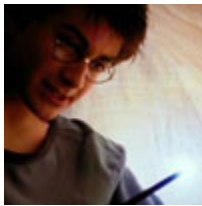
I've got to spend some time in the library today.

Looking up things.

For Saturday.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-02-22 17:00:45](#)**

Private Message to Hermione Granger

You got anything? Anything at all? About swimming and things?

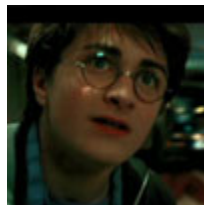
I would ask people if they knew anything, but I don't know if Delacour or Krum have sorted it out yet and I don't know if I want to tip them off or not.



 [alt_hermione](#) at **[2012-02-23 03:54:48](#)**

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

I'm working on it but I haven't found anything so far. Hold on. We can do it.



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-02-23 04:03:08](#)**

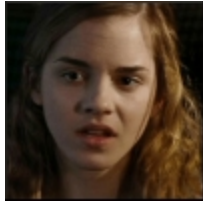
Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

I don't even know how to swim. I mean, not really well.

Is there a spell for that too?

Do spells work different under water than they do normally?

I've read a ton but I feel like I haven't learned *anything*.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:26:22](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Spells work basically the same underwater, that much I know, only of course fire spells won't be as powerful. But they'll still WORK.

You can paddle about, though, right?



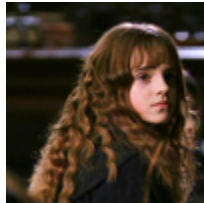
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-23 04:31:19](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Isn't it different talking under water though?

Maybe we should test things. Just to see.

I can paddle, yeah, but I've never tried being under water lots because of the whole not being able to breathe thing.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:35:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Yes, but from what I've read it's about intent, so you can cast things, but if you find a way to breathe so you can keep speaking or trying to speak, it'll be all right. The harder part is wand movements actually. So it says.

You could try it in the bathtub. Or in the lake I suppose but it would be quite cold. I don't know if warming charms would hold.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-23 04:42:11](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Me either.

So all I've got to do is turn into a fish. A talking fish. With hands. Fish don't get cold. At least I don't think they do.

There are water snakes too, aren't there?

So a fish or a snake.

Piece of cake.

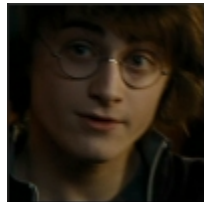


 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:42:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Well, you can talk to snakes, so that's a start.

I'm asking somebody I trust.

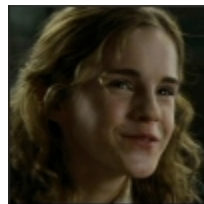


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-23 04:48:04](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Okay.

In the meantime, I'll see if I can turn into a fish if I think about it hard enough.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:51:53](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Oh, that's going to work.

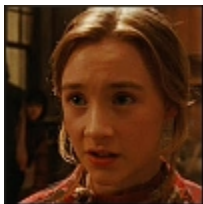


 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-22 17:05:33](#)

(no subject)

So does that mean you won't be in lessons? Because the professors would probably excuse you, considering the circumstances.

I can probably lend a hand later tonight.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-22 17:07:59](#)

(no subject)

Are you allowed to help him? Or will they say that it's an unfair advantage and that he's meant to figure it all out on his own?


From,
Hydra



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-22 17:11:14](#)**
(no subject)

I'm fairly certain he can get any help he can, or else why give him the screeching egg clue to begin with? The task will probably have some kind of catch to it anyway, something that none of the champions will know and can't really be prepared for. That way, part of the judgment will probably come down to how well prepared the champions are, and the other part will come down to how well that they can improvise and think on their feet.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-02-22 17:12:08](#)**
(no subject)

That makes sense. I see what you mean.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-22 21:50:35](#)**
(no subject)

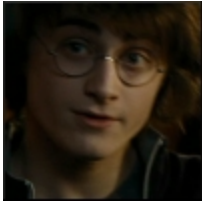
No, I figure I get enough about special treatment and all that.

And yeah, after dinner, that'd be nice.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-02-22 20:20:07](#)**
Private message to Harry Marvolo

Let me know if I can help you in any way, Harry. I may have gone to the Yule Ball with Viktor, but where competition is concerned, Slytherins will ALWAYS come first!



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-22 21:53:42](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

I'll let you know if I need a hand, yeah.

Especially if I don't find anything tonight.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-22 20:21:04](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

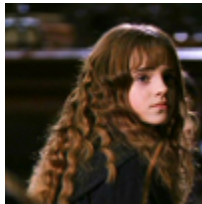
So Hermione, what is it he's trying to find out, anyway?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-22 20:21:44](#)

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

And don't any of you give me grief about Viktor. If there's one thing we DON'T talk about it's the Triwizard Cup, because he knows perfectly well I'm for Harry.

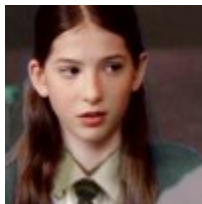


 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 03:55:57](#)

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

He needs to know how to breathe underwater.

Ugh, I didn't want to ask you or anybody but I just can't do it on my own and I don't think he's going to either. ANYONE? I know there must be something but the only options we can think of are dreadfully complex and I'm sure he'd get the spell wrong and then he might die. Especially since he won't have any time to practise!!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 04:00:14](#)

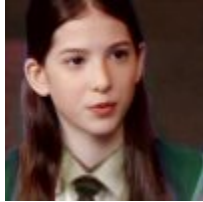
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Breathe underwater?!

Does he at least know how to swim? I know how, but it's not a skill I picked up in three days.

The only thing I can think of off the top of my head is 'master the

animagus transformation and be lucky enough to have an inner animal that's a fish' but that's probably because I was just reading Terry's note.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 04:02:47](#)

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

There's got to be a charm, don't you think?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:27:54](#)

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

Well I thought that too, but everything I'm looking at seems far too complex. And he says he can't really swim although I think he can a little tiny bit, enough to get around anyway, but he'd probably need flippers or something to be effective at all, I think.

What we really need is something that just WORKS and he can forget about. That turns him into a fish or something. But of course he isn't an Animagus and if he was it probably wouldn't be like that!!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-23 04:31:07](#)

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

Hullo, Hermione.

Is that why--I mean, have you seen Hydra this evening? I saw that she wrote to Marvolo.

Sorry, I've no advice about underwater breathing. Except a SCUBA mask, what, and I doubt they're readily available. Or even a good idea, considering.

-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:36:18](#)

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

What's a SCUBA mask?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-23 04:41:38](#)

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

It's a breathing apparatus attached to a tank. Divers wear them so they can go underwater for extended periods of time.

But it's a Muggle device, what, so it's bound to cause a stir, even if he could get one.

-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-23 04:43:56](#)

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

How does that work? I mean without magic -

Well anyway it would cause a stir.

I suppose Muggles knew how to do lots of things. People always said they did. Only I never knew about it except the old drills and things my parents had.

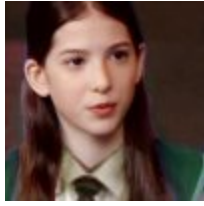


 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-23 05:25:27](#)

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

Yes, Muggles know how to do all sorts of things. Sometimes better than the wizarding way, what.

-Justin



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2012-02-23 04:44:49**

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

So, wait, what do you mean it's attached to a tank? The diver takes air down with him?

Maybe there's a magical way to take a bunch of air with you? You'd need a lot, though, wouldn't the tank have to be rather large?

How does the mask help them breathe?



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2012-02-23 04:53:01**

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

Yes, there's a tank with oxygen and a tube that connects to the mask. One wears the tank on one's back, what, and the mask has vents, I think, and when one breathes, one breathes in the oxygen and then the carbon dioxide goes out through the vents. And frequently there's a section that covers one's eyes, as well, so that the water doesn't bother one's eyes.

Usually one wears a special suit meant for underwater, as well, what.

If I had a photograph I could show you. I've never been, of course, but I've seen them in movies and photographs.

I say, I probably oughtn't to be helping Harry, no more than you talk to Viktor, what? But then, it's not as if I know what Fleur's doing.

(Is Hydra helping him to look, do you know?)

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 04:56:44](#)

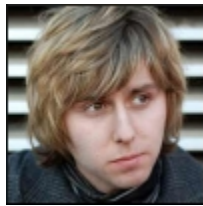
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

True enough! But Fleur's not asking for your help, so.

Hydra -- I think so, she's not here right now (I'm in the common room) and neither's Harry. Someone said they heard her say she was going to the library. So maybe?

Anyway, there's likely a way to make a container that would hold air, and perhaps there's a charm that would put it in, and ... alright, a tube wouldn't be hard to find.

He'd have to swim with a tank on his back, though. And the vent -- what's carbon dioxide, is it bad?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-23 05:09:07](#)

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

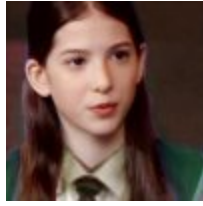
Oh. Bother. I thought.... Well, nevermind. Only I thought Hydra was meant to be working on another project, what? That is--well, I suppose

Harry's bound to be more important. Quite.

Carbon dioxide is what one exhales. When one breathes in, one's lungs process the oxygen and a few other gasses, what. Then the oxygen is converted to carbon dioxide, after it comes back from one's muscles and such. I say, does the Protectorate teach nothing about basic biology?

Well, yes, too much carbon dioxide is bad. It'll make one well dizzy. But I don't think that's really going to be the problem, what. I think the problem would be making certain no water gets in, if you follow me.

-Justin

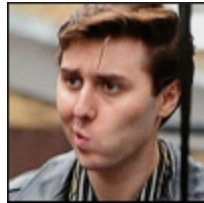


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 05:12:52](#)

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

Is Biology related to Herbology? I've never heard of it.

Anyway, I see what you mean about the water. There's a rune for waterproofing, maybe that would work...



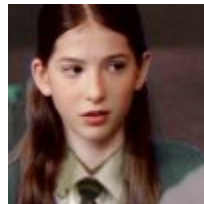
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-23 05:23:14](#)

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

It's--yes, they're related. Biology is life science, what, the study of how living things are created, grow and die.

So, er. Do you happen to know how Hydra's coming along with her other thing?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 05:41:49](#)

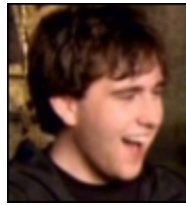
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


What --

oh, the bracelet?

I don't know, I'm sorry. We looked over the runes and I helped her find some books in the library, but I'm not sure how that's coming.

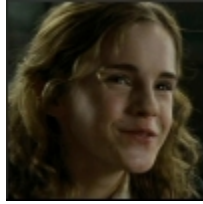
She did tell you it would take a while, though, didn't she? The thing that's going to work the best is to persuade the magic to shift what it's doing, and SHE has to do it because it'll work better from inside. Because the primary rune is 'protect' and not 'control,' if you follow me, so fundamentally the magic is on Hydra's side. But shifting it won't happen in a day.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-24 19:40:48](#)

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

Wait a minute. Herbology--he could use Gillyweed. Tell him that, Hermione. Gillyweed works for breathing underwater.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-24 19:56:03](#)

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

Oh that's an excellent idea!!!!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-24 21:09:13](#)

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

Now that's the first idea that makes any sense at all. Good show, Nev.

But, um.

If they're swimming for the task, it must be in the lake, right? Or are they making some sort of big pool somewhere we don't know about out in the Forest or something?

I mean to say, if it's in the lake, aren't they going to freeze to death? And what about the Squid? Are they going to have to fight that?

That'd actually be sort of wizard, wouldn't it? For the first task it was dragons and that's fire; now maybe it's the squid in water. But there're only three tasks, right? So what's the next one: earth or air?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-23 01:09:18](#)

Private message to Harry

I remember when Mummy used to read from the Malleus Maleficarum, and the descriptions of the floating ceremonies. They would take a witch (who

wasn't always a witch, but someone accused of witchcraft) and tie her thumbs to her feet and then throw her in water, and if she floated, she was supposed to be guilty of witchcraft. And if she sank, she was innocent.

Anyway, I bet that witches during that time - real ones, I mean - had to come up with some spells for breathing underwater, so that they didn't float and look guilty.

I think that the library has some spellbooks on surviving the Inquisition. You could start there.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_harry** at **2012-02-23 01:09:44**

Re: Private message to Harry

Good idea, Hydra.

Thanks.



 **alt_harry** at **2012-02-23 01:10:01**

Re: Private message to Harry

I'm not sure if Delacour or Krum have the water bit sorted out just yet, so if you could keep that part quiet, that would be great.



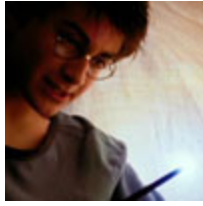
 **alt_hydra** at **2012-02-23 01:11:47**

Re: Private message to Harry

Oh, I will. Do you want any help? Justin's been feeling like he's coming ill with something.

From,

Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-23 01:13:33](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

Sure. I'm still at the library.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-23 01:14:13](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

I'll head up, then.

From,
Hydra

2012-02-22 20:17:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: The ghost again



 [alt_tery](#)

I took the chance this afternoon and crept into a nook to work at the animagus spell. Just the meditation part, where you try to commune with whatever your inner animal is. I still haven't figured out what my animal might be, though. I think the reason I'm having trouble is that I've spent so many years hiding with the real me deep down inside, pretending to be something that I'm not. I've never managed to do that bit I succeeded at before, when I made my eyebrow hair grow. It's been eating at me and eating at me, and I was concentrating ever so fiercely, and I sort of lost track of time. I had my wand out, because I was hoping that concentrating on it would help. And then suddenly there was a voice hissing right beside my ear, almost jolting me out of my skin: 'Someone's coming.'

When I opened my eyes it was all I could do not to let out a screech. That ghost, Donaghan Tremlett, was hovering right over me. He faded away and I scrambled to my feet and let go of the wand so it snapped back into the bracelet. Then I ducked around the corner and started down the corridor, so it looked like I was coming back from the exit to the yard. One of the muggles was coming the other direction, and he eyed me as I went past, curious-like, and nodded to me but didn't say anything.

I got up to the floor where the git's rooms are and leaned against the wall and shook a bit. That had been a near thing. The ghost flowed through the wall and hung there, staring at me. 'You need to be more careful,' he said. 'Don't know what he'd do if he knew you had a wand. He might decide to curry favour with that arse wipe by reporting it, and then where would you be?'

Six feet under, just like you, I thought. 'I have an alarm on it to warn me when someone's coming,' I told him. 'But better safe than sorry. Thanks a lot.'

'How'd you manage to get one of those anyway?' he asked. 'That bracelet thing you use to hide it is wicked cool.'

'A friend gave it to me. Some other friends gave me the bracelet.'

He nodded. 'Let me see it again.'

I made the wand reappear and he stared at it. 'What can you do with it?'

I shrugged. 'Whatever I can pick up, here and there. I've smuggled a few books that I'm studying, and a few people have given me some lessons. And I'm trying to master the animagus transformation.'

A slow grin curled the corner of his lip. 'So you can escape.'


'Yeah.'

He kept staring at the wand, and I've never seen such a hungry look before on anybody's face. I suddenly found myself wondering whether he'd ever had a wand of his own. Probably not. 'I can keep watch for you. Whenever you want to practise. Just say my name, and I'll stand guard for you. Warn you so you won't be surprised by someone coming.'

That was a surprise. 'Thanks.'

'Anything to spite the git.' The words hung in the air as he faded away.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-02-23 16:01:05](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I think it's dead cool he'll be looking out for you.
So to speak.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-23 20:13:26](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad you made a friend.
I'd still be careful though.

Ghosts can be unreliable.

~~And I don't like that he knows about your wand.~~

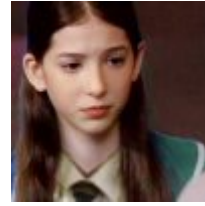


 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-02-23 22:02:28](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I know. But it was the git who killed him. I think he thinks it's a way he can get revenge.

2012-02-22 21:16:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



My mum's birthday is on February 24th.
Which is Friday.

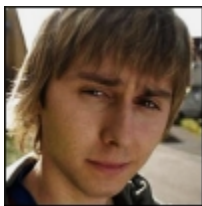
 **alt_sally_anne**

I knit her some socks, which I owed to Mrs Weasley for her to deliver but I really wish

I wish I could visit her. Mum, I mean, not Mrs Weasley. A surprise visit. I don't know how I'd manage it. I thought about trying it in the summer once, when I was living with the Woods, because we would go on these long broom rides and Bagwylydiart is actually sort of close to Wales, but I couldn't think up a good way to leave Oliver behind. And I'd guessed about the Woods and their muggleborns but I had to pretend I didn't know. I sort of hoped I'd get to go back there and maybe, if I lived there for longer, they'd trust me and I could tell them I wanted to go?

But then the Strettons wanted me back and of course it was just as well.

I hate February.



 **alt_justin** at **2012-02-23 03:30:28**

(no subject)


Hullo, Sally-Anne.

I say, I'm sorry you're feeling down. I think there's something going about the castle, what? It's as if Valentine's ending made the rest of the month worse, if you follow me.

I'm sure Mrs Weasley will see that your mother gets the socks, what, and that she knows they're from you.


-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-23 03:36:57](#)
(no subject)

Course she will.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-23 03:36:02](#)
(no subject)

I don't see how you could go while term's in. I mean, maybe you could go missing during the Task, but- I sort of think people would notice if you weren't there to cheer for Harry or Krum or whoever you're going

to-

nevermind

And, um, it's a bloody good thing you didn't tell the Woods. Either thing. That you knew what they were doing or that you wanted to be in touch with your mum even though that's illegal. Because, well, who knows what would've happened after they all got arrested. Or what Wood might've told MLE about you.

It's just good none of them knew.

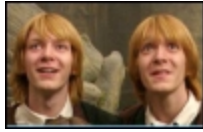
But, uh. Look. This summer, if you wanted to go, we could totally have a thing at ours like the Quidditch, only flying. Like a surveying challenge to get ready for CCF or whatever. Right? And we could set it up so no one but us would know that you went off to see your mum. We could cover for you and make it seem you were with us the whole time.

Anywiz, it'll be March soon. And you know what that means?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-23 03:49:51](#)
(no subject)

I think that's a good idea. Arranging for a summer visit. Do you think Mrs Weasley would be willing to set it up? Or maybe you wouldn't even need to let her know you were arranging it. If she would just pass a package with a message along.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-23 03:51:13](#)
(no subject)

We bet Mum would be game, if one of us asked her. She thinks that keeping muggleborns from their families is rubbish anyway.

But yeah, if you sent a message with your package, she might not even need to know about it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-23 04:09:31](#)
(no subject)

I think the less she knew about it the less likely she'd be to get in trouble on account of us.

And I wouldn't want her to get in trouble.

Not like what happened to the Woods.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 03:52:23](#)
(no subject)

What March means?

Well, International Kiss a Ginger Day, for one thing. Isn't that in March?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-23 04:08:09](#)
(no subject)

Why, I do believe that it is.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-23 15:59:27](#)
(no subject)

Definitely a holiday which should be celebrated far and wide!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 03:55:15](#)
(no subject)

And you're right about the Woods, you're right. And I couldn't go during term.

Maybe summer. It's something to think about. I trust your mum not to say anything -- we'd have to let her know at least something, so she'd cover for me if anyone came looking.

Just getting there would be hard, though, they aren't on the floo network (blood-traitor families aren't allowed). When your mum goes she has to apparate. And it would be a really LONG broom ride from the Burrow.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-23 04:07:19](#)
(no subject)

We'll do it.

This summer.

I promise.

If it's riding a broom from the Burrow, we'll do that. And if it's sorting out another way of doing it, we'll take a few days just us and go. After all, my mum won't care where I am, and if you tell the Strettons you're with me, they won't care either.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 17:46:18](#)
(no subject)


You would like my mum if you met her.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-23 18:15:50](#)
(no subject)

I think I would too.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-23 03:46:50](#)
(no subject)

Everybody hates February. You can't be normal and like it, I think.

Maybe when you learn to appreciate. I know that'll be awhile from now. But it's something to hang on to until then.

Anyway, I wish your mum happy birthday. I'm sure Mrs Weasley will be sure to deliver your gift. And that'll be something. Knowing she has it.

Believe me, you're lucky to have that much. I know.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-23 04:05:19](#)
(no subject)

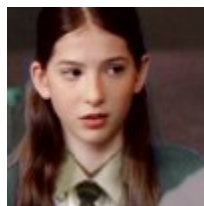
May is worse.

But February is nasty and cold and grey, so I don't care much for it either.



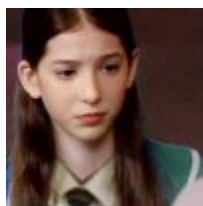
 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-23 15:58:33](#)
(no subject)


What could anyone possibly have against May? It's one of my favourite months of the year. My Gran's garden always looks amazing in May.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 17:45:10](#)
Private message to Neville

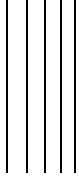
May is when Regulus Black died.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-23 17:45:54](#)
Re: Private message to Neville

Or disappeared.

I suppose he might still be alive but NO one seems to think so.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-23 20:11:27](#)
Re: Private message to Neville

I see.

2012-02-23 09:05:00

Me Ol Tin Plate

Wags-o!

*What're you about, usin my name fer a
watchword?*



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

Nick in Finsbury

Nick, ol' man! Thought they'd sent you up. Where're you keepin yerself, lad? Look me up down the Frost Faire an we'll have a drink, yeh?

Hope yeh didn't mind me usin yer name that way. I've always thought it's nice if yer watchword's a tip o the cap to an ol friend. Somefin that tells people who they can trust.

An if yer back in the game, maybe yeh'll see a bit o new custom from it! (See, I'm doin yeh a favour, innit!)

Come down the Faire, an we'll have a pie an a pint. You'd like these gladiator duels they've got down the arena, too. Real sport, some of em. Yesterday they were settin Muggles on a bear (bear got em, every time), and then there was gryphon baitin, an yeh know that was a show! Heard they're havin proper duellin' today, but maybe they'll throw in a bull or a manticore or somfin to spice it up.

2012-02-23 10:48:00

Private Message to Sarah Yaxley and Shivani Johns



 [alt_lana](#)

Sarah. Thanks for stopping by my booth last night. I sold twice as much as the night before--wish you had come back for a second visit! Actually, though, your timing was perfect: you know that one chap who was looking over the hexed amulets while you chatted him up? Well, as soon as you'd left, he told me what it was he was really after, and, believe me, he's a person of interest now. So you really did help me out! Sometimes I think it's a shame you won't consider MLE, Sarah. You're a natural at drawing people on. You could still keep on with your art. I know, I know. But I can hope, can't I?

So, Vani. Is it today or tomorrow you're bringing the group from your school? I haven't seen you, but I can't leave my booth right now to come look you out. If you're here, stop by. Or I could stop over to the arena at 1:00 when I take lunch.

And is it today or tomorrow Fleet's slated to duel? Really, there's nothing to worry about. You know they'll observe all the rules and there's bound to be expert Healers on staff, right? Only, I must say, it's what comes of seeing a Gryffindor!

Anywiz. Let me know if you're here today. I don't want to miss you!

[2012-02-23 18:19:00](#)

Order Only: Deaths at the Frost Faire

I got a Floo call from Norma Brownmiller, who just discovered what happened to twenty of the muggles she sent to the Faire on a work requisition order.




 [alt_arthur](#)

Several of them are dead, some of them savaged by a baited bear, and some by a Gryphon. And some of them were given various sharp implements, tossed into a ring and ordered to fight each other. And they were not allowed to stop fighting each other until quite a bit of blood was spilt. For entertainment.

I don't even know what to say. It's as if our civilisation has regressed to the state of a couple thousand years ago.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **[2012-02-24 04:12:36](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. We went back this afternoon, between closing the shop a bit early and coming back for the evening's trade (which has been a bit slow all week, and no wonder). And it's true, they're recreating the Roman gladiatorial games, down to the bloodsport. Sunday we all walked round quite a bit and I heard duelling coming from some tents set up near the arena. I was able to nose in as Padfoot for a short while but I didn't want to linger in case someone took notice. They must have been practising; people tonight were saying that there were magical duels today. (Actually, Chauncey Peckham was saying that there were a few duels between some Muggles and Muggleborns today, and one or two halfbloods against a small unit of Squibs. But it didn't sound like anyone died. Small comfort, I know.)

I can't even process it into anything coherent enough for a Grim Truth.

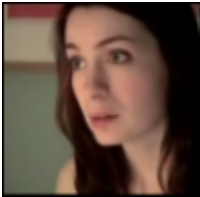
Meanwhile ... Arthur, we - that is, Dora and Remus and I - we'd like to invite you and Molly for supper this Sunday. If you'll come, that is.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-02-24 13:30:13](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, we'll come, definitely. Thank you so much for the invitation.

I'm only sorry that with Percy living at home it'll be awhile before we can reciprocate.



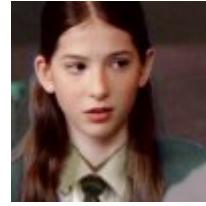
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-24 04:24:27](#)**
(no subject)

How... awful.

I think I'm going to be sick.

2012-02-24 12:55:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Did any of you see the Prophet today about what they're doing at the Frost Faire?

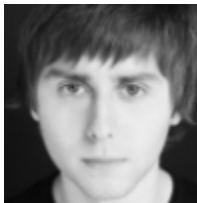
 [alt_sally_anne](#)

They fed twenty muggles to wild animals. Or made them fight each other, like in duels with swords. It was supposed to be a 'Roman Circus.'

There's a 'special supplement' you can send away for (it wasn't in the main paper, at least) with additional pictures -- probably of muggles getting eaten by bears and hippogriffs and so on. They had a few pictures in the Prophet but at least they didn't have anyone getting eaten right there on the page (at least not that I saw). There was a man facing down a gryphon, holding a blood pitchfork. I don't know how anyone could look at that and think 'brilliant entertainment,' he looked like he was about to die from fear. And they had another of a muggle standing over the body of another muggle and holding up this long knife, I couldn't tell whether the other muggle was alive or dead but the knife had blood all over it.

Next apparently they're going to do duels between wizards. Between wizards WITH WANDS, I should say. Because they had muggleborns fighting too, with pitchforks and knives and so on.

It's utterly sick.

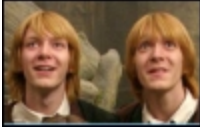


 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-02-24 19:21:00**
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne.

That's...that's revolting, what? I heard Capper and some of the older chaps talking about it over lunch. Enough to put one off entirely, what?

-Justin



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-24 19:27:08](#)
(no subject)

Wonder if Dad knew about it ahead of time. He's probably livid about it.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-24 19:32:34](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Fred and George.

The problem is, what could he do about it? Obviously no one dare complain or else risk being accused of sympathy toward muggles.

It's meant to encourage wizards to think of them as little better than animals themselves.

-Justin



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-24 20:35:08](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's bollocks, of course.

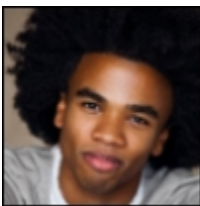
You're right though. He can't complain.


It's gotta be killing him.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-24 19:29:24](#)
(no subject)

No, I didn't hear about it, or read the *Prophet*, I mean. That's awful.




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-02-24 19:30:30](#)
(no subject)

I didn't see the paper, either.


Duel, what, you mean like duel for real? They're not gonna make wizards kill each other, are they?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-24 19:33:58](#)
(no subject)

Oh, so it doesn't count unless it's wizards? You don't think those muggles were facing death for real?




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-02-24 19:35:03](#)
(no subject)

Hell, that's not what I meant at all, Terry. I'm not saying that what they did to those muggles isn't sick.

I meant real duels to the death, not fake duels.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-24 19:35:33](#)
(no subject)


...

All right. Yeah.

I just...

it touched a nerve there.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-02-24 19:36:08](#)
(no subject)

Yeah I'll bet it did. But I don't blame you.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-24 19:44:37](#)
(no subject)

I wouldn't think they'd make wizards kill each other. Surely they'll be formal duels of the 'no one really gets killed' variety. Like duelling club for grownups.

They think wizards are people, and muggles are animals, so.

I keep think about the face of the man with the pitchfork against a gryphon. You can see it really clearly in the picture.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-02-24 23:31:26**
(no subject)

Huh. Nobody seems to have the paper up here anymore.

But Towler says his brother--Mark, y'know, the one that left school year before last-- answered some advert to be part of the tournament they're having today and tomorrow. Says he got to train with MLE, and that the best ones were going to get a private lesson with Malvasius Travers, who's head of security at Buckingham for the LP. He was pretty excited about it.

So I think the wizard part is on the up, yeah? A real tournament and all.

But, um-

yeah-

the other stuff sounds like it was dead awful.

2012-02-24 13:03:00

Mr Marvolo

Mr Marvolo, if you could come to see me in my classroom at your earliest convenience, my boy, I believe I have something that may assist you.



 [alt_horace](#)

Or you could send your girl along, if you prefer.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-24 21:00:18**
(no subject)

Thanks, Professor. I'll send her.

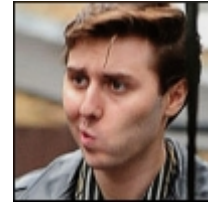


 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-24 21:38:42**
(no subject)

I'll just come see you in person. I've got a few questions to ask you.

[2012-02-24 13:39:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo



 **[alt_justin](#)**

Is it as difficult for you to read about Sally-Anne's mother as it is for me? I hardly know what to say, what, and certainly I think it's not at all fair to compare her situation with mine. Though I rather doubt I shall be here, anyway, come summer.

I say, I wonder if Hydra is still helping Harry with his preparation for the Task? I tried to talk to her after supper last evening and she said she was busy again, what. I rather think she might be cross with me and

well

Has she been...spending time with him, lately?

-Justin




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-02-24 18:46:51](#)**
(no subject)

Well I don't really know what to say, I mean did anybody tell you about my mother?

Hydra's been helping if that's what you mean.



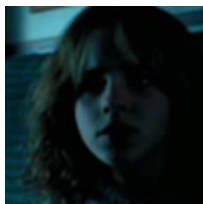
 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-24 18:52:00](#)**
(no subject)

I know that you were separated from your parents to come here to Hogwarts and--I know from reading through the older posts that something dreadful happened, though I shouldn't wish to pry. And I'm dashed sorry, for whatever it was. Which is why I rather thought--well. I quite like Sally-Anne and sympathise, of course. But it seems

well insensitive to point out that at least her mother is alive and well enough and--not in imminent danger, what?

And yes, thank you. That's--Yes.

-Justin



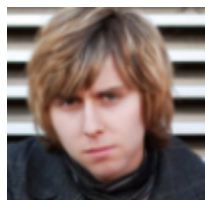
 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-24 18:56:50](#)
(no subject)

It's all right, I just think, I mean, nobody actually talks to me about it. I think now that I'm talking about it it's all right, like poking a hurt spot or something, you know, in a good way.

She got turned into a werewolf, and my father didn't survive it or he would be one too. I haven't seen her since, and I don't know anything about it except, well, she's got a new place to be now, and maybe it's better than being a Muggle, I don't know, at all. Nobody knows what goes on in werewolf camps really.

So in some ways the worst thing has already happened for me, it's a little like Mum is dead, only nobody likes to talk about it.

But you're right, I don't want to say that to Sally-Anne. I don't know if she even really thinks about it.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-24 19:16:57](#)
(no subject)

Good lord.

Well. You're quite right: It must have been rather like losing her all over again. But it's true that werewolves are considered somewhat more acceptable than muggles, aren't they, so perhaps that's safer.

Mr Lupin is a werewolf, isn't he, and he seemed altogether well civilised. And he and Sirius were mates back in school, as well. So being a werewolf can't all be bally well bad, I suppose. Still. I'm dashed sorry, what.

No, I think sometimes one is so accustomed to one's own circumstances that one loses sight of what's better or worse for

those around one. That's part of what Sirius keeps trying to tell us in his Grim Truths, isn't it?

-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-24 19:28:24](#)
(no subject)

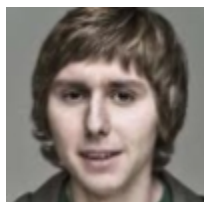
I suppose it can't, and anyway they keep them for the Lord Protector's armies. So she won't be starved or anything like that. But I think things are different now than when Mr Lupin was in school, and also that there's no reason why anybody would like my mum at all, because of me, and the reason she got changed was because I was bad.

So.

I suppose maybe it is what Sirius is saying, I mean, I could be dead now, couldn't I, and you. Only it's dangerous. I mean,

Well I think what I mean is that sometimes I see how I could hate you, how I could be ever so angry with you for getting out and being able to do magic and things, and I really feel that way sometimes, only it doesn't do any good to feel like that, even though it means that I do recognize that things are better for some people in some ways, because it isn't fair. But then life isn't fair, but that doesn't mean we have to accept that unfairness is the way things should be.

It all get muddled up.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-24 20:16:34](#)
(no subject)

Yes, you and Terry both would be well justified to bally well loathe me, what, and I shouldn't blame either of you if you did.

But Hermione, you mustn't believe that it's your fault your mother was bitten, what? That's the excuse they used and I can see it was meant to punish you but please don't believe that you were 'bad' or any of that rot. That's the way they want you to think, isn't it. Or that no one would care about her 'because of

you,' that's rubbish. If they really are that different to muggles, then no one ought to care one way or the other that she had a muggleborn witch for a daughter, what?

Anyway, you're learning just by being 'round Harry, from all I can see. And this lot, the other students on the lock, they're all helping you and Terry to learn. I could've lived my whole life not knowing I could do magic and thinking that all the strange things that happened were because I was strange, what, or ill or something like that. But dash it all, at least we *do* know, now.

I do see what you mean, though, about how it gets muddled. It oughtn't to be dangerous for anyone to learn something so bally well inherent.

-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-24 20:58:51](#)
(no subject)

Well, I don't believe I was bad, but I do believe it was my fault.

2012-02-24 14:56:00

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Gillyweed!!!

Use Gillyweed! I can't believe we didn't think of it. It's terribly obvious really, only you have to be thinking about plants not potions.



 [alt_hermione](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-24 21:03:53](#)
(no subject)

That's brilliant.

What does gillyweed do again?

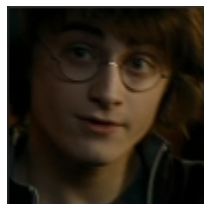
How can we get some?

Slughorn wants to give me something. Maybe it's gillyweed, but maybe it's something else, so we might have to sort out which one would be best.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-24 21:09:42](#)
(no subject)

It makes you grow gills! And fins, too, I think, like swimmers' fins, so that you can swim better, so it should help on every front. And Slughorn would have some -- I imagine you could just ask him, couldn't you, and he'd give it to you? It isn't restricted or anything like that, just expensive.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-24 21:15:49](#)
(no subject)

Well, good.

That does sound pretty brilliant.

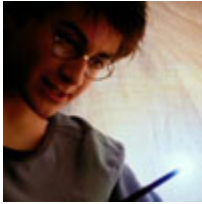
So if he wanted to give me something else, I could just ask for the gillyweed instead.

How long does it last?



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-02-24 21:16:46](#)**
(no subject)

I think it depends on how much you eat. One mouthful is at least an hour, though.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-24 21:38:07](#)**
(no subject)

I could do a lot in an hour.

And the last task didn't take too long.

Maybe I'll ask if he has two?

2012-02-25 00:33:00

Order Only: Private Message to Remus

Bugger all. I've been working on this bloody Grim Truth all day and I'm fucking nowhere.



All I've got is, 'What in Merlin's name is WRONG with you all?' and that's no good.


 [alt_sirius](#)

Maybe Mac's right and these posts are useless. It's not like I can give people a blueprint, 'Here's how to throw off the yoke of oppression' - MLE will simply stop them in their tracks.

And I've had another letter from Justin. Hydra Lestrangle is going to get that lad killed if he's not careful.

Can you let Dora close up alone? I need a fresh bottle.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-02-25 05:40:48**
(no subject)

Yeah, the place is really quiet for a Friday -- lots of people at the Frost Faire. Hopefully not to watch Muggles get eaten by gryphons. Anyway, I'll be there in a bit.

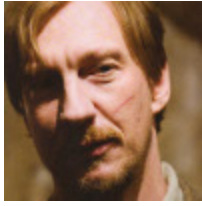
I'm trying to think of some choice phrases for you but 'what in Merlin's name is WRONG with you?' covers most of it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-25 05:44:22**
(no subject)

Super. That's brilliantly eloquent.

I think they're all too relieved that the wizards' duels aren't to the death. Oh you've replied again.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-25 05:42:54](#)
(no subject)

'How would you lot like it if YOU got fed to a gryphon? "Wizard" should not be a synonym for "homicidal barbarian."'

'And you call the MUGGLES a bunch of savages? They gave up this sort of thing over a thousand years ago.'

'Maybe for afters, you could roast kittens on a spit, and then eat them? because that would actually be an improvement over treating murder as entertainment.'




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 05:46:21](#)
(no subject)

What did Minerva always say to us? I'm a wizard not a babbling baboon or something like that?

The problem is I'm afraid some people would say that kittens are much more lovable than Muggles.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-25 05:52:19](#)
(no subject)

'Not a baboon waving a stick,' I think it might have been.

How many people does that arena hold? I know that not every wizard in England is the sort of vicious murderous bastard who'd actually stand in line to watch muggles murder each other, but it's things like this that make me feel utterly hopeless. It's no wonder you can't come up with the words for a Grim Truth. You're not writing for the people who'd actually want to see this sort of thing, but...

Yeah.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 05:56:16](#)
(no subject)

Exactly. Everything I think of is either too subtle or too over-dramatic. Or both. I keep writing out lists of massacres and vicious acts of mass murder and then tacking 'Frost Faire 1995' onto the end like it's some twisted publicity campaign.

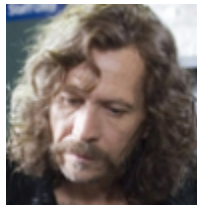
Oh, Morgana's wand, this is bollocks. At this rate the only thing that would make me feel less effective is to go turn round Father's portrait and let him have a go.

Actually, you could tell Dora to come home early and I'll give her a chance to meet the old ~~bastard~~ sod.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-25 05:57:21](#)
(no subject)

What would your father have thought of this business?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 06:03:30](#)
(no subject)

He'd have thought it pretty disgraceful, actually. But then I think he'd have thought letting Voldemort seize this much power and control pretty disgraceful in the first place. And he wouldn't think it wrong for the reasons we do. Still.

I suppose we could ask him.

I'd need another drink first, though. And perhaps a pair of earmuffs. Wouldn't say no to another wand to back me up, either. But ... that might not go too well.

I don't know. I just want to be able to DO something about all this idiocy! Instead of sitting back on our heels and waiting.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-25 06:04:48](#)**
(no subject)

I'll be there soon. With firewhiskey.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-25 06:07:50](#)**
(no subject)

Ta, love.

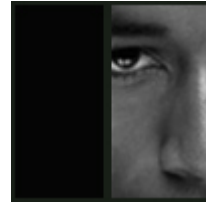
2012-02-25 08:29:00

(no subject)

Listen, you lot.

Whoever made off with my copy of *The Prophet*, I want it back. *WITH* the insert.

Nott. It better not have been you.



 [alt_blaise](#)

2012-02-25 10:13:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius and Remus




 [alt_nymphadora](#)

Listen, I know you two want to go see how Harry does with the Task, so why don't you go on? It's not going to be busy here at all today between that and the Gladiator games.

I admit I'm really curious about the charm they'll use to show the Task. Did you see the place they'd cleared on the ice for the viewing? Way down by the bridge.

Anywiz. Go and enjoy yourselves. We'll be fine here.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-25 17:36:44**
(no subject)

Dora, Remus says give it up, close the shop and come join us. We've got a good spot near one of the pylons on the near side as you approach.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2012-02-25 17:41:04**
(no subject)

Well, all right, then. There's no one here, anyway.

'Closed Today. Off to the Frost Faire to see the Task and Games.' Sounds loyal enough.

Is Junius there as himself? Or am I looking for some complete stranger to chat up?



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-25 17:55:51**
(no subject)

Mr Ponds is in attendance as is his old school chum, Lucien Bright. (Who may or may not bear a striking resemblance to Chauncey Peckham but we'll let that pass, right?)

2012-02-25 11:42:00

*Private Message to Campanella
Wright and Trainee Sandoval*




Wright. Appreciated the loan of your duckling.

Trust you were briefed on our success.
Advanced the project significantly. Will copy
you on the official report.

 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Sandoval. If you haven't secured a placement for your next Intensive, I
might find a use for you.



 [alt_lana](#) at **2012-02-25 19:09:25**
(no subject)

Oh, sir. Thank you.

I mean to say, I'm very glad if you were pleased with
my work. And I would very much like to submit your
name for the next placement if you'll entertain the application.

Thank you!

Did you want to meet to discuss it? Any time could be arranged, I'm
sure. I realise that your schedule is not entirely predictable, but I will
manage whatever's necessary.

2012-02-25 11:42:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger



 [alt_harry](#)

-My stomach hurts.

-The gillyweed is brilliant.

-But.

-What if I vom it up? Because it may taste bad or you know I'm sort of nervous so I might vom right in front of everyone and that would be bad.

-It will let me talk normal under water, right? Because I think that'd help with what I was worried about when it came to doing spells and things, and, you know, the whole being able to breathe thing will help too.

-I'm still nervous about what the spells will be like under water. Like if it will slow things down or I don't even know.

-Will I get too cold? It looks really cold. And the gillyweed gives me gills but doesn't turn me into a fish so it might be too cold unless we do something else on top of the gillyweed?

-I really think the chances are pretty high that I might vom.



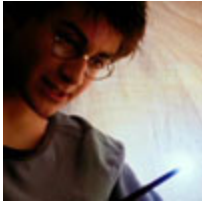
 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-25 16:51:07**
(no subject)


Also. Hermione. We need to talk about what you should do during. Because there will be lots of people there, and, you know,

it might be important to show them all that things are proper and everything.

different from last time.

What do you think we can do to show them?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-02-25 16:51:42](#)**

Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger

Also.

Who did you ask?

You don't have to say. If you don't want to.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:09:54](#)**

(no subject)

It might be cold at first but you'll be moving around a lot so maybe you'll warm up after a bit?

Take deep breaths if you feel like you're going to vom.

Actually, just take deep breaths anyway.

[2012-02-25 12:06:00](#)

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Want to see you again.

Can you slip away this afternoon?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-02-25 18:18:06](#)

(no subject)

Lucius has gone with Our Lord to view Harry's performance in person rather than along the Thames.

I was meant to join them and see Draco but

Yes.

I'll have to be back in the arena in time for this afternoon's duels.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-02-25 18:19:12](#)

(no subject)

Could you return to Marlborough? I shall be there directly. Safer than anywhere else.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-25 18:21:02](#)

(no subject)

I'd hoped to tempt you to the Caldarium.

That's all right. We can make our own heated bath.

Marlborough. Directly.

[2012-02-25 13:19:00](#)

Go, Harry!

Using gillyweed, that's brilliant! I hope that those gills and the flippers and all make the water warmer for you. I'm glad I'm not swimming in this cold!



 **[alt_padma](#)**

Oh, and Perks, it's obvious you've not been helping Krum, no matter what other people might say. That's possibly the worst partial transfiguration job ever.

Or maybe you've simply been showing us all how devious a Slytherin you can be, getting him to trust you and then recommending that ridiculous solution.

Oh, Lakshmi! Did anyone else SEE the size of that crocodile thing? First dragons and now this.

I'm super-glad I'm not swimming in there with that!




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:25:27](#)**

(no subject)

Yes, but the creatures down there must be SO interesting.

It's a pity that since they're swimming there's no easy way for them to be taking notes.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:26:16](#)**

(no subject)

That's probably not the first thing on their minds, no.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-25 18:27:14](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

I'm really glad the gillyweed worked.

At least...I hope it works. Continues to work.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-02-25 18:27:55](#)

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

I bet it would surprise Padma Patil if she knew you were the one to come up with the idea.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 18:29:46](#)

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

Too right about that!

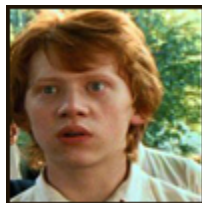


 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-25 18:29:50](#)

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

Maybe, but don't see any reason to point it out to her.

Blimey. I hope nothing goes wrong. If it stops working suddenly when he's underwater....phew. Hope I don't get blamed for drowning the Lord Protector's son.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 18:38:37](#)

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

Don't even think that.

Anywiz.

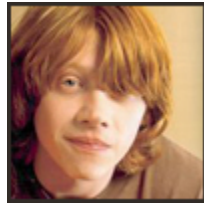
No way that'll happen, mate.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-25 18:44:50](#)

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

What are they doing down there, anyhow?

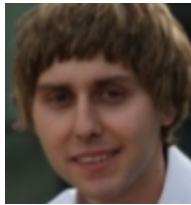


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 18:48:08](#)

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

Don't know what they're meant to be doing with the Grindylows and all. They don't seem to be finding whatever it is they're meant to be looking for, though, do they?

I didn't really understand what the head judge said when he was announcing about the things they're supposed to find and bring back.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-25 18:54:47](#)

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

Hullo, Luna.

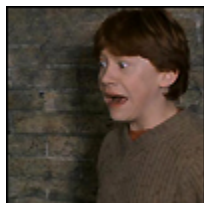
It was Neville's idea?

But I thought Hydra had been helping Harry look for an answer.

I wonder

Oh, bother.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 18:57:06](#)

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

Ugh. Did you see that?!

That was a nasty blow Diggory just took. Those Mer people are fighting for real!!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-25 18:59:20](#)

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

What ho, Ron.

It's no wonder they're fighting for real. Did you notice? Off to the left, there. That corral sort of thing, what?

It looks like.... I say, are those merchildren?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 19:02:46](#)

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

Too right. And you're not the only one's noticed. Do you see Delacour? She's trying to fight over that direction, yeah?

Only-

Er, that's not good...



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2012-02-25 18:25:32](#)

(no subject)

Brutal, what?

I wish they'd explain what exactly they're meant to do. Now that they've gone in.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-25 18:46:23](#)

(no subject)

Oh, did you not hear Mr Bagman make the announcement? Maybe you were staring at Delacour too hard. Eyes and tongue back in, Zabini.

Each of them has a symbol hidden in the lake somewhere and they're meant to rescue it. Without getting hurt. But the Merfolk are going to try to stop them--see the colony? They've got to swim

right past them to get to their symbols.

Oh, and the Squid. And the grindylows. And that horrid crocodile thing.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:50:35](#)**
(no subject)

Of course I heard him. But that was after I asked.

Guess you were too busy ogling Harry to notice. Surely it's not Krum you're panting over. Not


looking like that!



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:51:11](#)**
(no subject)

No.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:53:49](#)**
(no subject)

Well, and obviously it's not Diggory.

Wait. It's not, is it?

Not that loser.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-02-25 18:56:56](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh. Stop being vulgar. I do not fancy any of the champions and I don't fancy Quidditchers.

For Rama's sake.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 18:58:24](#)
(no subject)

Hm.

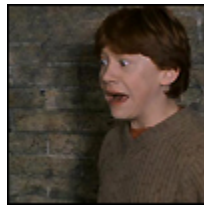
So I guess that let's Marvolo and Malfoy sleep better. Sure they'll be glad to know.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-25 19:01:10](#)
(no subject)

Just like all of Hogwarts breathes easier knowing that Brocklehurst has (for no real discernible reason) put her hooks into you and saved the rest of us from the red menace.

Get stuffed, Weasley.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-25 19:04:10](#)
(no subject)

I'm not-

That's not EVEN

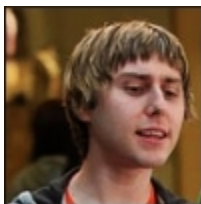
Wait-

Oh, no! Look at Fleur!!!!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-25 18:37:53](#)
(no subject)

That shark head together with those swimming trunks...not a good look really.



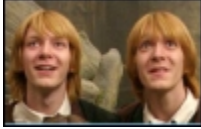
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-25 19:08:53](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Fred and George.

No, but not as disturbing as that lashing Fleur just got, what? Ouch.

Do you think she'll scar?

-Justin



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-25 19:30:58](#)
(no subject)

Hope not.

But if she does, somehow it'll add to her appearance rather than detract.

2012-02-25 13:21:00

Private Message to Lucius and Draco

Lucius, please make my excuses to Our Lord. I shall join you when you return to New London but something's come up here and I've got to stay.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Draco, Mother's sorry to miss seeing you but you'll be home at Easter holidays and we may spend time just the two of us, if you like.



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2012-02-25 18:26:30**

(no subject)

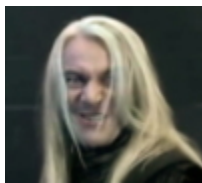
'Something's come up?' What in the world could have 'come up' more important than attending Our Lord?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-02-25 18:29:22**

(no subject)

Diana's very worried about Magnus fighting in the arena this evening. Ursula and I are seeing to her so she doesn't disgrace the games by appearing at all unpresentable.



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2012-02-25 18:34:34**

(no subject)

Worried?

There's nothing at all to worry about. It's not as if he'll be duelling anyone with any lethal force. It's simply a show of prowess.

Tell Diana to stop whinging and come along.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-02-25 18:36:32](#)
(no subject)

Yes, because simply telling a woman to stop crying always works, Husband.

I shall be along if I can manage it. Otherwise I shall see you later in the arena and I shall apologise to Our Lord in person, if that will please you.

[2012-02-25 13:53:00](#)


Phew

I really glad everyone made it to the surface.



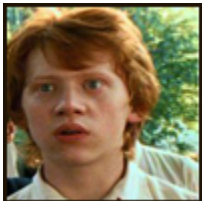
 **[alt_neville](#)**



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:54:36](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

REALLY glad. You've no idea.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:56:07](#)**

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

Yeah.

Too right.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:58:30](#)**

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

Well, I never doubted it would work. It was really a very clever suggestion, Neville.

And the whole thing was very exciting.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:59:02](#)**

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

A bit more excitement than I can handle, really.

I'm just glad it's over.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:59:35](#)**

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

Probably not as much as the Champions, though!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-25 20:23:20](#)

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

He seems angry.

Do you think it's that Harry didn't get first place?

I thought Harry did just brilliantly.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-25 20:34:41](#)

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

Hullo, Pansy.

I think it's that Harry didn't do what he was meant to do, rescuing those young Merfolk instead of getting that bally old symbol.

I don't suppose he's the one who suggested that Harry was displaying fortitude and caring for the helpless, what?

I say, though, I hope Hermione doesn't bear any punishment because the Lord Protector's cross with Harry.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-25 20:55:22](#)

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

Indeed. He was far too busy saving Delacour's life and rescuing those merpeople's kids.

Bother. Now it's going to be horribly awkward because I just know everyone want to pat him on the back and say job well done, but we very well can't say it out loud where everyone can see.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-25 20:26:46](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Neville,

Yes, it was well exciting, what? I say, I do feel rather sorry for Fleur. She's had some bad luck of it.

-Justin

2012-02-25 14:01:00

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, Hydra.

I say, Harry seems to be doing well, what? He's avoided most of the dangerous creatures so far.

He must be very grateful for all your assistance.

I miss

Your mother looks well. I say, did you know she'd be coming today?

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#)

2012-02-25 14:13:00

Order Only

He's going for the hostages!


Did you see?

GO, HARRY!



 [alt_sirius](#)



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-02-25 19:18:01**
(no subject)

Gracious, yes. And doing a fine job of fending off the Squid.

Though he should look sharp. I don't believe the Squid has an especially warm view of our students.

Can you see the Delacour girl? From where you are? I can't, and I'm worried for her. They need to bring her to the surface.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-25 19:22:52**
(no subject)


I can't - the spell's focusing on Harry at the moment.

Oh, wait. Yes, she's got away from the grindylows and

Harry's telling her to just go, go back.

Poppy, is the temperature going to be a problem for him? The gillyweed ought to protect him, right?



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-02-25 19:27:39**
(no subject)

I don't know that gillyweed will have done anything particularly for the temperature. Presumably they equipped them all with some sort of warming charm. Or perhaps they were expected to be able to manage that themselves.

None of them seem to be suffering hypothermia, however. Cold as it is, that would have done for them quite quickly.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-25 19:23:09](#)
(no subject)

My goodness. Can you describe what's going on, Poppy? What hostages?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 19:25:05](#)
(no subject)

There's a pen of juvenile Merfolk being held by the Squid; that must be what's inducing the Merfolk to fight the Champions.

There's Krum! He's got the Durmstrang Eagle and he's making for the surface.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-25 19:26:25](#)
(no subject)

How ghastly. So the boy's trying to rescue them? That's a good sign, but I'm not quite sure that's what the organisers of the tournament intended...



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 19:28:13](#)
(no subject)

Yes and now Cedric's working with him. But he's got something in one hand.

Bloody Erebus is that the Sorting Hat?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 19:45:55](#)
(no subject)

And no, I don't think the organisers intended anything like it. They've just mentioned that both the Beauxbatons' crown and the Protectorate Ouroboros were not retrieved from the lake

bottom.

Bet that's chapped the Lord Protector's arse.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-25 19:53:34](#)
(no subject)

What are they waiting for? Can you tell what's keeping them from announcing that Krum and Durmstrang took this round?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 19:55:22](#)
(no subject)

Maybe that's not according to plan, either.

You know how Voldemort is. He re-sorted Harry when the answer didn't suit him. Merlin only knows what he's trying to do to change this outcome.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-02-25 19:25:24](#)
(no subject)

They've corralled a great lot of merchildren. The Tri-Wizard organisers have, and they seem to have used that as an incentive to force the Merpeople to put up a spirited fight against the Champions.

It's awful, Molly.

And one of the competitors has been injured. The Delacour girl.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-25 19:28:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh, my. Has she been brought to the surface yet?

Never mind if you're busy with her; if she's been injured I'm sure tending her must be your first

priority.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-02-25 19:31:23](#)
(no subject)

She's not up yet. And that's worrying to say the least.

Warming charms will not be enough to fend off shock.

I'm sorry, Molly. You're right. I oughtn't to be writing just now.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 19:35:44](#)
(no subject)

She's up, Molly.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-25 19:36:37](#)
(no subject)

All in one piece, I hope!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 19:26:56](#)
(no subject)

Horrible duels in the arena aside, this is really a tidy bit of magic. You and Arthur should have come in to town to see it.

Though the Ministry officials are certainly editing what we can see, I imagine it's better than staring at the surface of the water for a whole hour.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:30:11](#)**
(no subject)

Well, our vantage here is mixed. Some clearly have a better view than I do. But then, I'm sat on the platform in a triage area with the St Mungo's contingent.

I do wish they'd get that child up here so we can examine her. She took a very nasty lashing, if the reports can be believed.

2012-02-25 14:13:00

Private message to Poppy and Pomona



 **alt_sinistra**

Poppy :

Can you see any of this from where they have you stationed? I thought the dragons were a bit much, but I must say that what they're asking here seems absurd to me. (That long under water, and that many beings to dodge and deal with?)

They seem to all be doing remarkably well with it, all things considered. Though what's that bit with Harry going for the hostages?

Pomona :

I am biting my tongue a great deal, you might wish to know, given the company I'm sitting among, who are, of course, all about Harry and all wishing to put Cedric down, in comparison. Our Lord's presence is only making that worse - and I can hear it spreading to the students sitting near us.

I do hope tonight isn't horrible for the house and I wish I'd be here to help. But it's clear that this evening in New London is a command performance, and the Council members are expected to attend. And for my own sake, and the YPL investigation, clearly going is the thing, though I'm less and less inclined the more I sit here.



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-02-25 19:38:26**
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Aurora. I didn't see you'd written until just now.

I can see some of it, but my view is of the area where the tokens were being guarded by the Merfolk. And that battle has been chaotic, so, no. I haven't been able to see what's become of Mr Marvolo or the hostage merchildren. Or Miss Delacour. Can you see her at all?

Ah-

Nevermind. I believe she's being brought up.

About time.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-25 19:48:12](#)**
(no subject)

Oh. Goodness. The conversation up here.

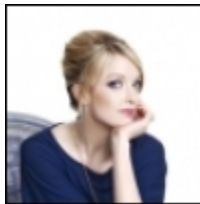
Harry brought Miss Delacourt up - that much, I think everyone saw. At least, it was obvious here.

But I gather that they were each supposed to rescue a symbol of the school - that's that eagle, for Durmstrang, and there's some sort of crown, for Beauxbatons (has an immensely rich history, so Étienne's been on about).

And then the Sorting Hat, for Cedric to bring, and apparently an Ouroboros, to represent the Protectorate.

Except that the crown, and the Ouroboros are still down there, and the Lord Protector's furious.

There's a lot of discussion - the judges are close enough that now they've raised their voices, I can hear about half of it. And various people are chiming in. Brutka's just said something that made them stop and consider, though I've no idea what yet.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-25 20:03:30](#)**
(no subject)

Lots of discussion, alternating between fierce whispering and raised voices (and a lot of quiet discussion in the seats here: I am staying well out of the way.)

Rather a great deal of back and forth about how Harry's actions play into the points, from what I can hear, and I keep hearing the phrases "all beings of the Protectorate" and "bigger picture" thrown around, as if they're trying to figure out what will fly with the Lord Protector and the Council Members.

I must say, Harry's deciding to go for the hostages did rather throw the mouse among the owls. The judges don't seem to be able to decide what to do at all.

2012-02-25 15:01:00

The Second Task Results

After much deliberation, the Judges have made the following determination:



- To Viktor Krum, for unfailingly executing his Task and retrieving the Durmstrang Eagle, returning first of all the competitors, 50 points;
- To Cedric Diggory, for returning second with the Hogwarts Sorting Hat, 40 points;
- To Harry Marvolo, although he failed to return with the Ouroboros of the Protectorate, having shown a concern for the Protectorate's denizens in excess of his obligations to the Tournament, and therefore having displayed his loyalties in what the judges deemed a practical manner, as well as his actions in assisting Miss Delacour, 40 points;
- To Fleur Delacour, for her valiant attempt in the Task, 10 points.

 [alternity](#)
 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

This means that entering the Third Task, Mr Marvolo retains the overall lead; Mr Krum is in second place; Mr Diggory holds third place; and Miss Delacour is in fourth place.

As always, our thanks to the Ministry, the Department of Magical Games and Sport, our guests and representatives from Durmstrang, Beauxbatons and their distinguished government officials for making this Tournament possible. The greatest praise to Our Lord Protector for His continued benevolence and interest in the competition and its competitors.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-02-25 20:19:29](#)

Order Only

Sirius, I'm quite worried about Harry. He's fine for now, Poppy's seeing to him.

But the Lord Protector is beside himself. I hope to keep Miss Granger out of reach though I am not sure I shall be able to do so.

At least we have several Professors to thank for pointing out the merits of what Harry did, instead of what he did not do.

I've no time to discuss it now but I assure you I shall try to keep him safe from His wrath.

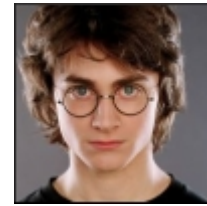
2012-02-25 16:30:00

(no subject)

Well done, everyone.

Fleur, I hope you feel better.

And congratulations, Viktor.



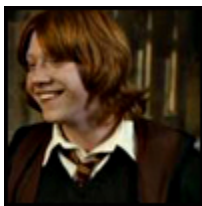
 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-25 21:32:15**

Private Message to Professor Raz

I asked if I could go back in there. To get it back. But Mr Bagman just said they'd already gotten it out.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-02-25 21:44:34**

(no subject)

Good show, mate.

I thought you were wizard when you were fighting through those Merpeople. Cor, but they're fierce, aren't they?

But then you went after the Squid! Or it went after you, or whatever. I mean to say, the way you kept out of the way of its tentacles and blasted them when they got too close? Like watching you avoid a pitch full of bludgers, only more amazing!



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-25 21:50:36**

(no subject)

Thanks.

It was sort of like Quidditch. Cause you had to look above and below as well as side to side.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-25 23:17:09](#)
Order Only

Well done, Harry.

[2012-02-25 18:58:00](#)

True Sport

My Lord, this is true sport!

And with real stakes, even the least of them is stretching to do his best.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)**

Merciful to put the weak ones out of their misery. It's more honourable to die in honest fight than to crawl on through a wretched life in shame.

Particularly for the pureblooded if they prove weak. A chance to redeem their failure.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 01:49:19](#)**
(no subject)

If we needed any more proof that Voldemort's followers are bloody **INSANE**, you'd have just given it to us.


Thanks for making it crystal clear.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2012-02-26 01:57:17](#)**
(no subject)


Shame that you--whomever you are, hiding behind Black's dead face--didn't volunteer to display your abilities in fair fight like the contestants who have come to honour Our Lord tonight.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:10:33](#)**
Private Message to Barty

You don't think he'd be so stupid as to come here, do you?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:09:07](#)**
Private Message to Barty

Not helping.



 **[alt_amycus](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:44:08](#)**
(no subject)

What sport are you speaking of?

The truly pure are never weak.

2012-02-25 18:59:00

Order Only

Did that just happen?

Kingsley, Benjy, Frank - are any of you in the arena watching?



 [alt_sirius](#)

I don't think that was fake like they're saying. I think we just

watched

Oh, Mordred.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2012-02-26 00:05:08**
(no subject)

If you're not here, don't come.

The Protector just stood up and told the winner to kill the loser. It was a quarterblood and a Muggleborn, and completely awful.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2012-02-26 00:08:44**
(no subject)

Really. It can't have been faked, can it?

I mean they had to send in a crew to haul him off.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-26 00:08:48**
(no subject)

The way Malfoy and the others are scurrying, it was real and unexpected.

Guess Voldemort has been holding it in since Harry defied his plan for the second task.

Merlin. If this is all going to be a parade of murder I don't know if we can sit still.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:10:24](#)
(no subject)

No, of course not.

But look. Up at the exits. I don't think they mean for us to leave.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:13:23](#)
(no subject)


Bugger.

What if Bea has a meltdown and we *have* to take her out?

Can we figure out a way to stop the duels? Or to get to the competitors?

Fuck, they volunteered for this?!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 00:17:03](#)
(no subject)

Good lord. I'm not there either.

Keep your cool, Sirius, whatever you do. Not the time to make a scene.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-02-26 00:13:15](#)
(no subject)

Not there; we're just about to start the third performance of the day.

Are you serious?

Of course you are. Merlin.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:16:13](#)
(no subject)

Right now I'm Lucien Bright but I'm not joking, either. It's real.

And they've got guards at the exits now. Whomever tries to leave is bound to be detained by MLE.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 00:19:09](#)
(no subject)

For fuck's sake, keep your head down then.

Isn't there...isn't there ANYONE trying to stop it?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:21:41](#)
(no subject)

I don't know. We could try with Bea.

Only, I don't think it's worth the risk, taking you past the guards.

Merlin. Maybe it is just sick theatre. I mean, they didn't pretend to kill this last one.


I don't know!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 00:14:15](#)
(no subject)

Surely...surely not. Oh, Sirius!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:18:31](#)
(no subject)

It's brutal.

The next bout just happened and

Molly, the witch killed her opponent without being ordered to do it.

Circe, this is utterly sickening.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 00:20:14](#)
(no subject)

I can't believe it! Oh, how awful!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:42:13](#)
(no subject)

Well, we've had several in a row now with no fatalities.

Maybe

Shite. This one does not look good. Merlin.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:29:09](#)
(no subject)

Sirius.

Merlin!

That's Louise down there!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:31:23](#)
(no subject)

WHAT?

You're right!



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:32:41](#)
(no subject)

Ah, gods!

Her opponent is really good. This is going on too long!

But-

I don't want it to end, either.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:33:14](#)
(no subject)

She's got him.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:34:31](#)
(no subject)

She won.

The question is what will they do in the next round? I've a feeling that she wasn't meant to win.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:36:42](#)
(no subject)

It certainly surprised *some* people. Did you see?

I knew it had to be fixed.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:37:44](#)
(no subject)

At least they didn't make her kill him.

Or 'kill' him.

Or whatever it is.

I hate this.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:43:11](#)
(no subject)

Hold Remus's free hand, will you? I can't manage the book for the Order and him at the same time.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:47:36](#)
(no subject)

NO.

That was real.

Oh, Merlin. No!



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:49:19](#)
(no subject)

Did you see HIS FACE???

When HE stood up and said it?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:50:38](#)
(no subject)

Yes. The bloody BASTARD.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 00:50:08](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. That was definitely real.

It looked like the Death Eaters had him under control, too.

Bugger. Bugger bugger bugger.

For the rest of you, there were two halfbloods. One of them clearly meant business. It was fairly ugly but not fatal but then - right as he got his opponent subdued - he looked up at the top box. And Voldemort *smiled*, the bastard, and gave a thumbs down.

And the man complied.

Bugger all.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 00:55:47](#)

(no subject)

Look. Over the other side, in the aisle.

Someone's got up. Let's see if they let them go.

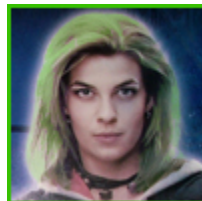


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 01:15:47](#)

(no subject)

Not surprising. I think one of those guards provoked that chap into pulling his wand.

Merlin, Dora, it's Warrington.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 01:20:34](#)

(no subject)

Well, he's getting the better of that other one. Do you recognise him?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 01:32:05](#)

(no subject)

Programme says his name is Cassius Cameron - assistant manager at Flourish and Blotts.

Merlin.

The crowd. They're chanting for Warrington.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 01:32:31](#)
(no subject)

It's horrible.

How can they?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 01:35:25](#)
(no subject)


Look at Voldemort.

He's not happy.

That's twice in one day someone's subverted his plans. Telling a pureblood to kill another pureblood.


Isn't that the definition of irony?



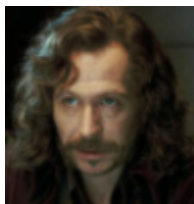
 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 01:33:36](#)
(no subject)


Warrington? Warrington is duelling, as in Lycus Warrington, the bloody director of Purity Control?!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 01:34:02](#)
(no subject)

I can't believe it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 01:36:46](#)
(no subject)

It's worse than that.

Merlin, he just murdered that young man. The crowd shouted for him to do it.

I don't think the magnanimous lord pretender was too happy at losing a pureblood unnecessarily, though.

There's an intermission while they set up the next round.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 01:39:08](#)
(no subject)

They're going ANOTHER round?

How many have been killed, really killed, as far as you can tell?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 01:41:53](#)
(no subject)

I don't think any of them were staged, Molly. There have been four so far. A Muggleborn, a Muggle, a halfblood and a pureblood.

Cassius Cameron was only 24 years old.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 01:34:41](#)
(no subject)


Yes, Bill.

And he's

winning.

If you can call it that.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 01:41:00](#)
(no subject)

I don't believe Warrington could have known. That this would be happening today. I mean, he's a bureaucrat at heart, not some kind of reckless duelist determined to be flashy.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 01:44:38](#)**
(no subject)

Whether he knew or not, you can't deny he's a vicious one. Remember how he treated our Dora when she started at the Ministry?

I don't think anyone knew it was coming.

But look, there's a message in our programmes all about the *stagecraft* on display in this venture.

There's a huge queue for the loos. Wonder how many people are trying to use it as an excuse to leave?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 01:00:47](#)**
(no subject)

Okay, that was a nice piece of spellwork. NOT the venue where I'd want to show it off, though.

What's going on across the way?




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-02-26 01:44:41](#)**
(no subject)

I'm going to take Bea to the loo. If I can, I'll slip out from there.

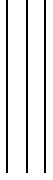
I'm sure the lines are ridiculous.

Wish me luck.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 01:45:16](#)**
(no subject)

Be careful.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 01:46:16](#)
(no subject)

You know it.

2012-02-25 19:47:00

Order Only: Intermission

I've slipped away to check the journal; we're taking a ten minute break for intermission. But the crowd is restless, because there are folks coming up to mutter to people at the fringes of the audience.



 **alt_kingsley**

Sirius, Remus, Tonks...what is going on?



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-02-26 01:51:26**

(no subject)

They've finished the first round and are setting up the second.

Four dead so far, assuming they're all real, which I think they are.

Dora's trying to get out through the lavatory queue, using Bea as an excuse.

Oh, and I just called Barty an insane maniac.



 **alt_kingsley** at **2012-02-26 01:53:51**

(no subject)

Without letting on that you are actually there, I hope.

That would throw the kneazle among the pigeons for sure.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-02-26 02:04:12**

(no subject)

He still clings to the fiction that I'm an impostor.

But. Merlin. He's bloody off his nut.

Second round is up. Muggleborn vs a quarterblood.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 01:53:56](#)
(no subject)

We're bloody stuck in here.

I'm on my way back to my seat. I can't get near the loo, but there's also no way to slip out. They've got MLE at all the exits, and they are turning people back or marching them away.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 01:56:54](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Tonks. I'm so SO sorry you have to witness this. All of you.

(I hope you have lots of toys in Bea's nappy bag to hold her attention. If...if you play with her, you won't have to watch.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 01:59:07](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Molly. We're doing all we can think of.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 02:06:07](#)
(no subject)

Bloody Erebus.

He tried to grab the other's wand.

No. NO.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-02-26 02:13:36](#)
(no subject)


I just came home, and Molly alerted me to what was going on.

Bill, do you know where Percy is today? Molly said he

was getting together with some friends, but was a bit vague.

I hope...Merlin, I hope he's not there.



 **alt_bill** at [2012-02-26 02:15:55](#)

(no subject)

Oh, my.

When I had lunch with me Wednesday, he mentioned he was planning on seeing the Faire sometime this week. But he didn't mention which day he was planning on going.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-26 02:39:34](#)

(no subject)

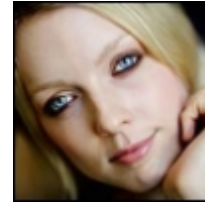
BUGGER.

Second round is done.

Death toll is now SEVEN.

2012-02-25 19:57:00

Private messages to Narcissa Malfoy



This...

I have to say, this isn't what I was quite expecting. I know some of it must be stagecraft of some kind, but, well.

 [alt_sinistra](#)

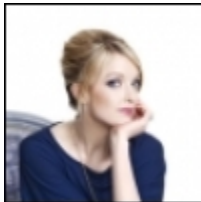
(And are those people trying to leave, across the stadium?)



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-02-26 01:02:50**
(no subject)

I admit I was fooled myself. Our Lord apparently arranged some surprises known only to Him and the organisers, to give the event spontaneity and excitement.

I realise it might not be everyone's cup of tea. Lucius says everything is well under control.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-02-26 01:05:45**
(no subject)

Everyone certainly is on the edge of their seat, it seems.

And of course, it's reassuring to hear that from Lucius.

Are you all right, by the by? I know you were missed this afternoon - and not just by Draco.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-02-26 01:12:33**
(no subject)

Yes, thank you. I'm fine. But Mrs Derrick, whose husband just fought two duels ago, was one of the volunteers to represent purebloods. She had some anxiety this afternoon and asked me to stay with

her.


I'm sure you understand.



 **alt_narcissa** at **[2012-02-26 01:08:03](#)**
(no subject)

They're rabble. It's lucky we have



 **alt_narcissa** at **[2012-02-26 01:09:40](#)**
(no subject)

My apologies. My husband just asked me something.

It's lucky we have MLE to keep the entertainment
from being disrupted by those with no sense of
history.

This whole exercise is meant to evoke the original Gladiatorial
games, after all. And clever stagecraft it is, too.

Excuse me, Aurora, I have to attend Our Lord a moment.



 **alt_sinistra** at **[2012-02-26 01:17:29](#)**
(no subject)

Of course - you have so much else to balance, I
shouldn't take your time.

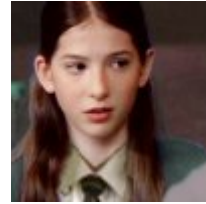
And I'm glad you were able to be helpful to Mrs
Derrick.

2012-02-25 20:10:00

Private message to Professor Sinistra

Are you at the Frost Faire?

People are saying that the duelling, between the wizards I mean, is to the death. There are posts in the journals, you know, and someone's got the wireless on and



 **alt_sally_anne**

Really?!? I mean people say a lot of things and I don't like to listen to rumours. But I know you're there and ~~won't lie to me~~ wouldn't make something like that up.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-26 02:19:33**

(no subject)

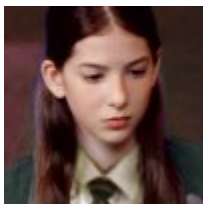
I am, yes.

It, well

I've been told, and the programmes say, that it's stagecraft - just done very well. There's even a new little blurb that just came up - must be because so many people weren't sure.

And I wouldn't dream of questioning my source for that.

But at the same time, it looks so extremely real. ~~And after the play last year, I think I can tell it is.~~



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-02-26 02:23:50**

(no subject)

I see.

The people who've 'died' so far, did you know any of them? To check on later, I mean.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:31:28](#)**
(no subject)

Not well, but there's two former students of mine in that list ~~so far~~.

One a seventh year my first year teaching, the other more recent. That's quite a good idea, to check on them later.

[2012-02-25 20:15:00](#)


Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Did you know to expect this?



 [alt_selwyn](#)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 02:19:39](#)


(no subject)

NO.

And it's taking virtually everything we have to keep Him from ordering more mayhem.

Where is your box? How hard would it be for you to get up here?



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 02:21:10](#)

(no subject)

I'm not far away, I --

Arista's here, you know. We thought --

I'm on my way.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 02:23:52](#)

(no subject)

MERLIN.

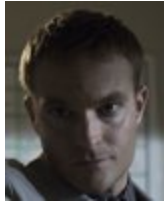
He's unhinged.

This started because of the Task, Harry not performing to His satisfaction.

Oh, blast and damn - that halfblood. I've tried to put a muzzle on Barty as well, stirring Him up.

Culling the weak, indeed!

The last thing we need is another pureblood to die.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 02:26:55](#)
(no subject)

I gather the programme note about 'stagecraft' is not precisely accurate?

The 'weak' -- as if the true strength of a pureblood is shown, or not, in a single duel, rather than a lifetime --



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 02:28:32](#)
(no subject)

Some idiot from MLE thought I was trying to leave the arena, rather than attend on Our Lord, but I should be there shortly.

Is it true? It's now a pureblood against a pureblood? SURELY Our Lord will see ~~reason~~ begin to calm down.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 02:32:26](#)
(no subject)

I - believe - I have assuaged Him for now.

Narcissa's working her particular brand of calm.

Hex whomever you have to for insolence but *get up here*.

And no. That's quick thinking on Burdett-Coutts' part, assuring everyone it's all part of the illusion.

We can notify families afterward. Nightmare that'll be.

Burdett-Coutts is already planning a meeting to rethink the Closing Ceremonies.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 02:35:41](#)
(no subject)

He would, even at a time like this.

I'm almost there.

2012-02-25 20:20:00

Percy?

I wasn't sure of your plans today....could you please check in with your old mum and let me know when you'll be coming home?



 [alt_molly](#)



 [alt_molly](#) at **2012-02-26 02:22:42**

Order Only

Oh, Arthur. Surely he's not there.

Surely he didn't....didn't volunteer?



 [alt_arthur](#) at **2012-02-26 02:25:11**

Re: Order Only

We don't know if he was even thinking of going to the Faire today, Molly.

I'm sure he'll be fine.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-02-26 02:26:05**

Re: Order Only

Merlin.

Mum. No. No, he wouldn't.

If he'd been thinking about doing something like that, surely he would have mentioned something to me. Asked for a practice session or something.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-26 02:42:53**

Re: Order Only

Molly, calm down. It's an elimination tournament. We're in the second round. If he were going to be out there, he'd have had his first match already.

That's not to say he's not here but ... not in the competition.

He's safe.



 **alt_molly** at **[2012-02-26 02:57:31](#)**
Re: Order Only

Oh, thank goodness.

I mean...well. Thank you, Sirius.



 **alt_sirius** at **[2012-02-26 02:58:40](#)**
Re: Order Only

I understand, Molly. Truly, I do.

You've no idea how tightly Remus is clutching Bea right now.

2012-02-25 20:32:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Professor Sinistra's there, and she says that they're being told it's all fake. Or at least the deaths are supposed to be fake.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

From the way she said it I'm pretty sure she thinks it's real.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-02-26 02:38:06**

(no subject)

Are you lot all listening to the wireless in your Common Room? Everyone's gathered around it here.

Nobody's talking much.

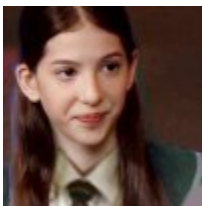


 [alt_lee](#) at **2012-02-26 02:38:53**

(no subject)

Yeah.

It's as if even the commentator isn't sure quite what to say.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-26 02:44:20**

(no subject)

Teddy and Milli got into it over whether the deaths were real or fake and the prefect threatened to use petrificus totalis on both of them if they didn't shut it.

Since then no one's said much.

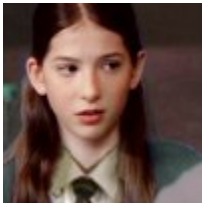


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:38:56](#)**
(no subject)

We're all reading everything we can find in the journals.

Did you know Towler's brother's there? So far, no one's said anything about him.

Have you seen anything?




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:41:29](#)**
(no subject)

I haven't seen anything in the journals about anyone named Towler.


The wireless is on here, too. If they mentioned someone named Towler it was while I was in the loo.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:50:52](#)**
(no subject)

~~His brothers~~ We're all going spare up here about it.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:49:06](#)**
(no subject)

Well whatever's going on, it's snagged the git's attention.

I saw him looking at his journal, and he just switched on the wireless.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:50:11](#)**
(no subject)

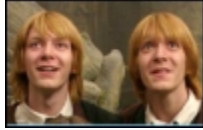
You'd better stay out of his way tonight, Professor. As much as you can.

Dunno how he's going to take all this.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-26 02:50:42](#)
(no subject)

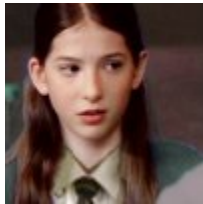
But what is going on?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-26 02:51:40](#)
(no subject)

Near as we can tell, people are getting killed in the arena at the Frost Faire.

It's not real clear, but it sounds like the Lord Protector is ordering some of the deaths.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 02:51:42](#)
(no subject)

Duelling.

At the Frost Faire.

Like Roman Gladiators. Some of them are just duelling for show but some of them are fighting to the death -- unless it's all staged, which is what they're saying officially.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 02:50:47](#)
(no subject)

How cross will he be when he finds out some of the pureblood vs. half-blood rounds were won by the half-blood?

You might want to get out of his sight, if you can.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-26 02:53:51](#)
(no subject)

Shit.

All right. Thanks for the warning.

Uh, I can't get away from him. But maybe...I'll try to get him as drunk as I can.

And when he's drunk, I'll pull out my wand when he's not looking and try a distraction charm. Or a cheering charm. Or something.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:54:54](#)**
(no subject)

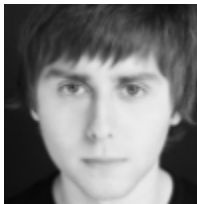
Be careful!




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:56:17](#)**
(no subject)

That sounds like a good idea, so long as you can get him drunk enough that it's too much effort to hurt you.

The good thing is, the wireless announcer thinks people have been listening all along, I guess, or at least he doesn't really want to recap. So for now he'll probably assume all the half-bloods were duelling other half-bloods so far. But if one of them wins...

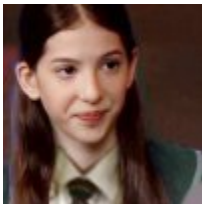


 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:49:08](#)**
(no subject)

What's happening now?

Sorry, no wireless here.

-Justin



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-02-26 02:53:40](#)**
(no subject)

The quarter-finals just started.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 03:17:01](#)
(no subject)

I don't know if they are pretending or real or what
but I can't listen any more.

2012-02-25 20:59:00

Private message to Chloe

Take Arista to the loo. I don't care if she says she doesn't need to, take her NOW.

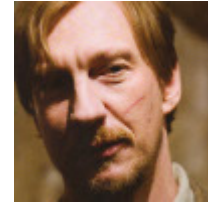


 **alt_selwyn**

[2012-02-25 21:06:00](#)

Order Only

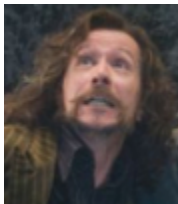
One of the half-blood duellists -- Jack Sharpe? -- beat one of the purebloods.



The Lord Protector stood up and murdered Sharpe where he stood. From the stands, with the Killing Curse. I think he might have been planning to murder the pureblood who lost, as well, but changed his mind.

 **[alt_lupin](#)**

The Malfoys are up in the Protector's Box; so is Dominic Selwyn, I think. They don't look at all happy. I wonder if they're finally realising precisely what sort of monster they've placed their trust in?




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:12:40](#)**
(no subject)

He was definitely about to cast the Curse on the other one. And he'd pissed himself, did you notice?

Well, you could probably smell it.

Sweet Circe, this is madness. This must be what it feels like to go mad.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:46:57](#)**
(no subject)

I remember. What it was like. What he was like.


What it was like fighting him.

This isn't new, it's just with a larger audience.

And now he can make everyone cheer him on.

Merlin help us.



 **alt_bill** at **2012-02-26 03:16:04**
(no subject)

I don't even know what to say.

Bugger. Bugger. Bugger.

Now everyone can see. Now everyone can see what he is.

2012-02-25 21:13:00

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



There is no way that was faked.

As IF the Lord Protector would stoop to play-acting the killing curse.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

That was real. It's all real.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-26 03:15:21**

(no subject)

Oh, and sorry, for those who aren't on the wireless:

A half-blood and a pureblood duelled. The pureblood lost, and the half-blood looked up at the Protector's Box because I guess he He the Lord Protector was giving a thumb's up or thumb's down to say if the person should be killed.

And instead of doing a thumb's up or thumb's down, the Lord Protector stood up, took out his wand, and cast the Killing Curse on the half-blood.

He let the pureblood live. And now they're playing music.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-02-26 03:17:47**

(no subject)

What?

I

That

Excuse m




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-26 03:19:31](#)
(no subject)

Some of the girls listening to the wireless here are crying.

I've just walked Evelyn up to the staircase to her room. Told her not to listen anymore.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:20:42](#)
(no subject)

Pansy went up to our dorm room, too.

I can't

I guess I wouldn't find it any better NOT hearing than hearing.

Although EVERYONE looked at me, I think, when the announcer said what had happened. At least it felt like everyone. They always forget Milli's a half-blood, too.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 03:34:27](#)
(no subject)

I understand, Sally-Anne.

And you're coming up just as soon as it's over.

And we can spend the rest of the night sleeping over.

Or trying anyways.

I don't think much sleeping will be going on tonight.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:36:36](#)
(no subject)

Yes.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 03:41:34](#)
(no subject)

Is Professor Sinistra okay?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:47:39](#)
(no subject)

Not really.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 03:52:58](#)
(no subject)

I would imagine not.

Everything I can think of to make her feel better just sounds stupid.

But maybe we can get her some tea or something.

The kind that calms you down.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:56:25](#)
(no subject)

Do you have any? We could have an elf deliver it to her rooms before she gets back.

Only if there'll be enough left over for us, though.

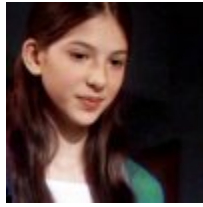


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 03:57:58](#)
(no subject)

Yes. I had some ordered after I got my books.

I still have plenty left.

And we could use one of your ribbons to make it a bit pretty and more like a present.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 04:00:19](#)
(no subject)

Good idea.

They haven't done anything but play music for ages but no one seems to think it's actually over. (Probably because they're not letting the people in the arena LEAVE.) I'll come up and get ribbon.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 03:19:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

So it's not faked, I guess.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-26 03:21:27](#)
(no subject)

The git just whipped out his wand and blew up his wireless.

Which I think is a good thing. He won't be listening to any more of it tonight.



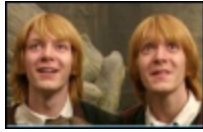
 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-26 03:24:54](#)
(no subject)

putting journal away

it's too dangerous to keep it out where he can see it

he

shi



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-26 03:26:32](#)
(no subject)

Bugger.

Understood, Professor. Just...just check in when it's safe to do so.
Please.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:36:09](#)
(no subject)

Harry looks like he's going to throw up.

I don't know what he wrote to his Father, though.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-26 03:45:41](#)
(no subject)

He wrote to his FATHER? The Lord Protector? While he's busy KILLING PEOPLE?

Bloody hell. He really is a Gryffindor.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:48:03](#)
(no subject)

I'm beginning to agree with you.

2012-02-25 21:15:00

Private Message to Amara Lindorm

I'm surprised you let Fergus participate, Amara dear.

You must be relieved that he's out for the evening.

But losing to a halfblood? It's lucky his reputation is for artistry, not duelling.

Do take care not to lose him prematurely. We're so looking forward to the wedding.



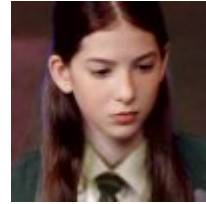
 [alt_narcissa](#)

2012-02-25 21:15:00

Private message to Professor Sinistra

I'm listening to the wireless.

Are they still saying it's all play-acting?



 **alt_sally_anne**



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-26 03:20:50**

(no subject)

They've switched to music right now - no commentary.

No, wait.

Someone's explaining that that man, Sharpe, was a blood traitor, and they were watching him, and intended this.

The other, the one he was duelling - he's a friend of my youngest brother's.

It. It's very difficult up here right now.



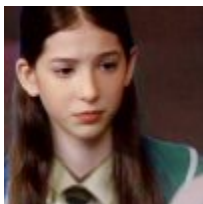
 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-02-26 03:25:37**

(no subject)

What? They're saying WHAT?

I see.

I'm glad the friend of your brother is okay.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-02-26 03:27:39**

(no subject)

And I'm sorry you had to see that.

Even if it was just a blood-traitor who deserved to die.

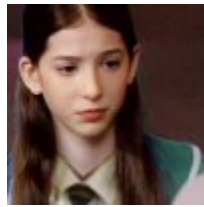
I hope the wireless isn't on in Hufflepuff.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 03:29:54](#)
(no subject)

The crowd is not happy, no. And there's a lot of whispering, people being restless. But of course, leaving is out of the question.

If you're listening - I don't think tonight's going to improve.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:32:39](#)
(no subject)

We have the wireless on in the Slytherin common room.

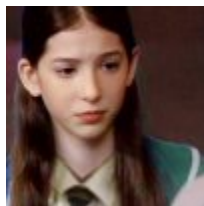
There are people who've gone up to their dorm rooms. But I don't think I can do that until it's over for the night.




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 03:35:47](#)
(no subject)

If I had a way out right now, I'd take it.

Some things are beyond knowing.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 03:38:28](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad not to be there.

Did people cheer?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 03:44:11](#)
(no subject)

It was silent.

Then the planners got up applause, but it took a minute.

Everyone's just sort of waiting now, for what happens next.



alt_sinistra at [2012-02-26 04:10:53](#)
(no subject)

If you're still listening...

Did they just air anything from the top box?



alt_sally_anne at [2012-02-26 04:12:02](#)
(no subject)

No, it's still music.

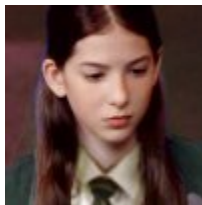
Why? What happened?



alt_sinistra at [2012-02-26 04:14:41](#)
(no subject)

I didn't hear the whole conversation, but Our Lord was clearly displeased with a question from Mr Selwyn, Mr Crouch, and Mr Malfoy.

Such as was visible some distance away, if you were looking and listening



alt_sally_anne at [2012-02-26 04:16:01](#)
(no subject)

I see.

Will they be alright? He didn't



alt_sinistra at [2012-02-26 04:19:27](#)
(no subject)

They're back in their seats, so I. Well, I hope so.

We're a bit away from there.

Our Lord's ... something on the arena floor, now.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 04:59:41](#)
(no subject)

Hypatia's blood and bones, it's over now, and they're letting people leave.

If you're still near Draco, you might let him know his parents are going back to Kensington, and his father appears to be largely all right (certainly insisting that.)

I don't know when I'll be back tomorrow - if you would do me a favour and post a note on the staircase tomorrow morning that I'm cancelling office hours in the afternoon, I'd be most grateful.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 05:04:31](#)
(no subject)

I'll let Draco know (and Pansy, too) and I'll leave the note.

2012-02-25 21:18:00

Private message to Padma

Is the wireless on in Ravenclaw?

You lot should be listening, if you're not.



 [alt_seamus](#)



 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-02-26 03:20:46**
(no subject)

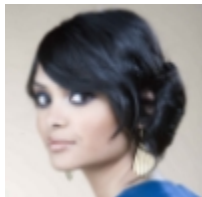
Okay, I'll tell Hermes Tamblyn to turn his set on.

Why, what's happening?



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2012-02-26 03:21:53**
(no subject)

Just turn it on.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-02-26 03:24:50**
(no subject)

Okay. So, the games were all an elaborate sting to set up a blood traitor to be personally executed by the Lord Protector?

Wow. I wonder if he was part of that Dogstar group!



 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-02-26 03:25:59**
(no subject)

I mean, that's exciting and all. But why so urgent to turn on the wireless?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:30:31](#)**
(no subject)

It wasn't JUST the sting to set up a blood traitor, the games have been really exciting.

People are getting killed. Maybe. Or maybe it's all staged, though the one who got executed by Our Lord, that was for sure NOT staged.

2012-02-25 21:35:00

*Private Message to Lucius Malfoy and
Dominic Selwyn*



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Look. I see what you're thinking. You're right. He cannot be allowed to put himself into the arena.

I have no doubts, and yet, it would be tempting not just Fate, but all the unhinged masses in the stands. We can't allow it.

If you'll back me, I'll offer myself to Him as proxy.

It would be an honour to serve in His stead.

But we must be agreed first. No discussion or He'll never accept it.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2012-02-26 03:40:51**
(no subject)

Won't work.

Bella would fight you to the death for the honour, and He'd still go.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-02-26 03:43:54**
(no subject)

Dammit.

Lucius? What do you think?

If you're both behind it, Bella might see reason.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 03:45:34](#)
(no subject)

If we could come up with a distraction for her it might work.

She's very difficult to distract, however.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 03:43:21](#)
(no subject)

And frankly given His mood at present I'm not sure He wouldn't send you both down into the arena as a bonus round.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-26 03:44:32](#)
(no subject)

...

Dammit.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 03:48:34](#)
(no subject)

That is a salient argument, Dominic.

And my fear, as well.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 03:47:21](#)
(no subject)

Dominic's assessment is true enough but beside the point.

Barty, this has gone far enough. There ought to be no further unnecessary blood tonight.

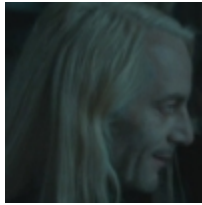
I believe Our Lord has more than demonstrated His prowess. To duel the victor in the contest would only increase fear to no purpose. Especially since it would be impossible to predict whether Our Lord will, ah, *forget* Himself in the heat of the moment and might take an action He shall later regret.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-26 03:49:35](#)
(no subject)

What do you suggest, then?

How do we keep Him from taking up His wand?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 03:52:43](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps Dominic has hit on a solution. If you and Bella were both to offer an exhibition to please Him, of true duelling at its finest, it might persuade Him.

If you're willing to propose it.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-26 03:55:41](#)
(no subject)

I would certainly do it at His request. I will not propose it.

His servants should not destroy one another, even if, in His present mood, it might amuse Him. Imagine what the masses would make of that.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 04:00:37](#)
(no subject)

As you wish.

Then we have but one alternative: We must all advise Him, uniformly, not to enter the ring with to-night's victor.

Agreed?



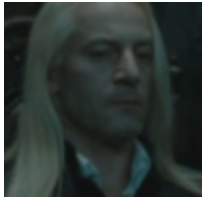
 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 04:03:12](#)
(no subject)

Agreed.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-02-26 04:05:22](#)
(no subject)

Agreed.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 04:20:40](#)
(no subject)

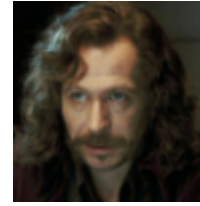
Not a word.

Either of you.

2012-02-25 21:49:00

Order Only: Quarter-Finals

They're starting.



 [alt_sirius](#)



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-26 02:57:30**

(no subject)

Right. So far, so good. Two quarter-bloods have been eliminated - but not killed.

Oh, Bugger. It's that halfblood again. The dangerous one.

Jack Sharpe.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2012-02-26 03:06:59**

(no subject)

Oh, Mordred.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-26 03:07:03**


(no subject)

Bugger.

Bugger.

He just used the Killing Curse on Sharpe.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-02-26 03:13:19**

(no subject)

What...the pureblood he was fighting?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:14:59](#)**
(no subject)

No.

Remus just wrote about it.

Sharpe won, against the pureblood. Simon something.

And Voldemort grew so incensed that he - he cast the Curse from the stands.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:07:44](#)**
(no subject)

There's a witch screaming about three rows away from us.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:09:20](#)**
(no subject)

I'll be joining her in a minute.

If Remus doesn't first.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 03:11:07](#)**
(no subject)

Okay.

The band is playing something for a moment while they clear the field.

That was Not Fake.

That bloke pissed himself. No wonder. I think Voldemort was about to kill him for having the gall to lose to a halfblood.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 03:18:07](#)
(no subject)

Well, and to be the second one to lose to that Sharpe.

Poor man. What choice did he have? Obviously, he had to try to win. But look where winning got him? Had to kill one man--

no, wait--

Sharpe's the one who had to kill his first round, too. Merlin. He had to kill and then be killed.

2012-02-25 22:06:00

Private message to Mum

Thank Merlin you talked Theo out of it.

That. That last one was Simon.

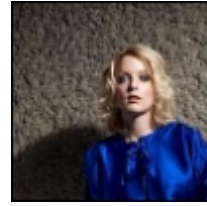
He got defeated by one of the half-bloods, and

And Our Lord used the Killing Curse.

~~First time I've seen it for real~~

I could see his wand move from Sharpe and then

You have no idea how close Simon came. Another few seconds.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

2012-02-25 22:23:00

Private Message to Father

I'm sorry I made you angry, Father.

I know that I made the wrong decision to leave behind the symbol of Our Protectorate. I made a choice, and that choice wasn't the one you wanted me to make, and I accept that. And I'm sorry for bringing shame to our Protectorate and to you.

Please stop.

Show how merciful you can be, and how powerful Our Protectorate really is.

I am the reason you're angry.

Not these people.

Be angry with me.

Punish me.

I deserve it.



 [alt_harry](#)

2012-02-25 22:26:00

Entertainment at the Frost Faire

I've spent the day here at the Faire with some friends, and I must say, I got much more for the price of my ticket than I bargained expected. I'm so glad I came. The Faire has been spectacular, as everyone has said. We had planned to spend most of my time at the booths with wares and the dramatic entertainments, but then the word came that Our Lord was gracing the Challenge Rounds with His personal presence. I am not sure whether even the organisers realised what a keen personal interest He would take in these events.




 [alt_percy](#)

Oh..oh, my. We have indeed been honoured, even to the extent that He condescended to offer a personal demonstration of His mastery in duelling!

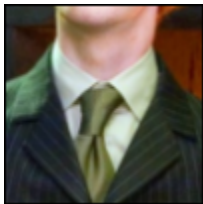
It's...I'm not sure that my words can do it justice. A remarkable spectacle.




 [alt_molly](#) at **2012-02-26 04:40:29**
(no subject)

Percy! Percy, you're THERE? In the arena, at the Faire?

We've...we've heard a little bit about it. On the wireless.



 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-02-26 04:47:31**
(no subject)

Well. Well.

It's over now.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 04:47:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Percy.

Just...just come home. As soon as you can, dear.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-02-26 04:55:49](#)
(no subject)

They've lifted the...well, the exits are open now.

I'm on my way.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 04:41:16](#)
Order Only

Oh, bugger, he's watching this?

[2012-02-25 22:27:00](#)

Order Only: Finals

All right.

So, they've got everything calmed down now (still no one trying to leave, though it looks like a load of people want to do just that!).



 [alt_sirius](#)

Warrington won his fight but no one made him kill anyone.

He's getting a bye in the Semis, so they're going to do the other Semi-Final bout now.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 03:59:24](#)

(no subject)

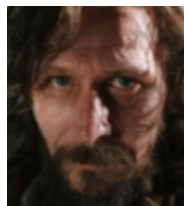
And now there's a break while they set up the final (Warrington won, so it'll be him against the halfblood who won her semi-final round. Er, Imelda Newlin).




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 04:05:25](#)

(no subject)

I can hardly believe that a riot hasn't broken out in that arena yet.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 04:09:05](#)

(no subject)

No one dares leave, Bill.

It's worse than the World Cup. I can't even begin to describe this tension.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-02-26 04:11:52](#)

(no subject)

Well, it's pretty tense here outside the arena, too. The word's getting out. Maybe from the wireless broadcast. People are milling around and looking pretty sick.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-26 04:11:09](#)
(no subject)

Something's just happened up in the Top Box.

Malfoy, Selwyn and Crouch are all

HA!

He Cruciated them.

Well, it's not good. But it was satisfying. Too bad few people seem to have seen it.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-26 04:17:31](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, looks like we're back.

Okay, Warrington and this Imelda Newlin witch.

Maybe this will end and we can all get out of here.

[2012-02-25 22:36:00](#)

Order Only

It's over.

Warrington killed Imelda Newlin, and is the champion. He's approaching the Protector's Box now.



 [alt_lupin](#)

Hold on. This is odd.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 04:39:32](#)
(no subject)

I want to go home. Please.

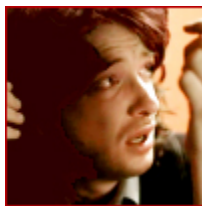



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 04:41:51](#)
(no subject)

Gods, this is

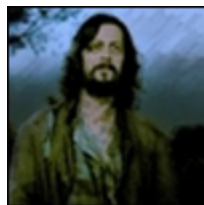
I

Yeah.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 04:42:33](#)
(no subject)

What?! What's happening?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 04:44:05](#)
(no subject)

Warrington went for his wreath but Voldemort told him that now he's got to duel him.

Small wonder Malfoy and the others got themselves Cruciated. They must have tried to stop this with what little sense they still had.

Warrington looks pale as chalk.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 04:45:47](#)
(no subject)

That was quick, at least.

I never thought I'd say it but good on Warrington.

He didn't try to fight. He cast the Dark Mark over us all.

2012-02-25 23:34:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hullo, again.

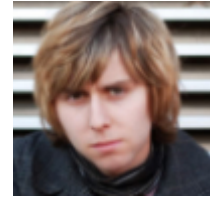
Sorry about that, earlier.

Had to use the loo.

(Terry, I hope you're all right, what?)

Someone's turned on the wireless so I've been listening for the last little while.

It's over, though, I think, what? He's going to get his laurel wreath and



 **alt_justin**




 **alt_justin** at **2012-02-26 04:37:45**
(no subject)

Oh, God. No.

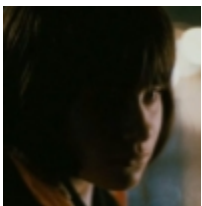
Are you lot listening to this?

-Justin



 **alt_ron** at **2012-02-26 04:38:15**
(no subject)

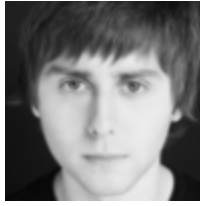
Yes.



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-02-26 04:38:29**
(no subject)

What?

What is it?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-26 04:40:19](#)
(no subject)

Pansy.

He's forcing the champion to duel him. The Lord Protector.

Bloody hell.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 04:42:12](#)
(no subject)

Warrington threw down his wand and said he wasn't worthy. The wireless says he took it up again at 'Our Lord's urging.'

He knows he's going to die. He must know.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 04:43:48](#)
(no subject)

How awful.

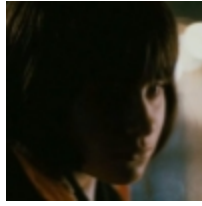


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 04:45:16](#)
(no subject)

The wireless says it's over.

Warrington cast the Dark Mark. Instead of attempting the Killing Curse.

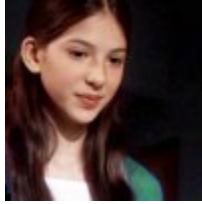
The Lord Protector killed him.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-26 04:49:04](#)**
(no subject)

Please tell me you're coming to the room now.


I know I'm not going to be able to sleep at all,
but I'd rather not sleep with you.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-02-26 04:49:53](#)**
(no subject)

I'll come up right now.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-26 04:51:50](#)**
(no subject)

Good.




 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 04:39:30](#)**
(no subject)

Please tell me this is not happening.

He's going to duel this Warrington bloke?

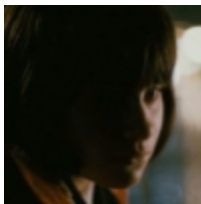
-Justin




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-26 04:40:46](#)**
(no subject)

Did you hear Him say that all the rest was tame.

Tame?!




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 04:40:47](#)
(no subject)

Who?

Not L


You mean He is?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-02-26 04:41:54](#)
(no subject)

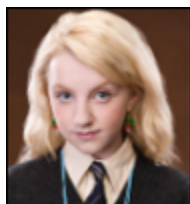
Yeah. Him.




 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-02-26 04:44:16](#)
(no subject)

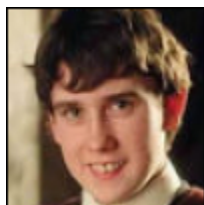
Oh, surely...

Surely he can't...win?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-02-26 04:44:33](#)
(no subject)

The other man, I mean, the man who was fighting.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-26 04:45:02](#)
(no subject)

Of course not.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-26 04:45:38](#)
(no subject)

Merlin. If only.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 04:46:35](#)
(no subject)

He knew he couldn't win.

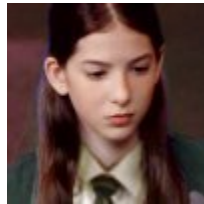
That's why he started by trying not to duel at all. And then when the Lord Protector made him duel anyway, he cast the Dark Mark. The symbol of the Council, back before they were the Council. During the War.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 04:48:09](#)
(no subject)

He was a member of the council? Like L

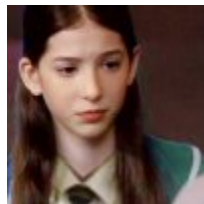
And He killed him just... just because?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 04:50:14](#)
(no subject)

He was.

And...who knows.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 04:57:58](#)
(no subject)

I think Mr Malfoy, Mr Selwyn, and Mr Crouch tried to talk Him out of it.

Professor Sinistra mentioned He was cross with them, late in the tournament.

2012-02-25 23:46:00

Grim Truth 95/2/25

Greetings, British Wizarding World.

If you were in the arena tonight, you need no words to tell you the Grim Truth.



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_sirius](#)

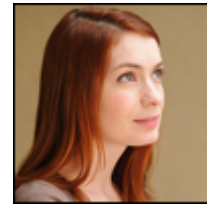
2012-02-25 23:55:00

ORDER ONLY

Sirius, Remus, Tonks...

I'm sorry. I'm so sorry you had to see that.

I know there's probably a mad rush to get away, but are you back home safe and sound?



 [alt_alice](#)

And Molly, is Percy back?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 05:00:11](#)

(no subject)

He is.

Arthur's with him now. He's pale and quite in shock, I think. He mentioned he almost splinched himself getting here.

I'm going to put down my journal now and go be with them.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-26 05:01:29](#)

(no subject)

Mum, I can come over tomorrow to be with you all. Maybe I'd better.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 05:02:20](#)

(no subject)

I think that would be quite a good idea, dear.

Perhaps now would be a good time to talk to him. To make him see sense.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-02-26 05:00:23**
(no subject)

Oh, Alice.

Yes. Yes, we're home.

They dropped the wards after it finished. I suppose they were up to keep people out who hadn't paid, but they kept them up so none of us could leave-


I'm sorry.

We'll be better tomorrow.

But thanks

for asking



 **alt_alice** at **2012-02-26 05:02:49**
(no subject)

All my love, Tonks.

To all of you.

I know sometimes, when you see something horrible, it feels like it's stuck there and will never go away. Believe me. I've seen my fair share. But tomorrow will be better. I promise.

2012-02-26 00:37:00

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr

I'm back at Kensington safely, thank you.

Have you adequate remedies for the aftereffects? Lucius and Dominic mentioned sending to St Mungo's for a restorative, since they were staying to confer with Nicola and Gabriel.



 **alt_narcissa**

Would you really have duelled Lycus? What if you'd lost? Or if He had decided to duel you for your pains?

Truthfully I am just as glad you suffered the temporary discomfort rather than risk a more permanent consequence.

Poor Lycus. Yvaine must be beside herself.



 **alt_crouch_jr** at **2012-02-26 05:54:56**
(no subject)

Thank you for letting me know you're home. Would rather have seen you home myself, but I understand.

I'm at Marlborough, and I'm fine.

Of course, I would have duelled Warrington or any other at His request.

I would not have deprived Him of His satisfaction as W did, however. I would have given Him as much fight as one of His best can muster.

I'm sorry. I suppose you'd rather not hear that, though you asked.



 **alt_narcissa** at **2012-02-26 05:59:11**
(no subject)

No, that is hardly the sort of comforting platitude one wishes to hear under these circumstances.

| Sometimes I think you are all quite mad.

2012-02-26 01:03:00

Private Message to Seamus

Were there other ones? Before all that at the end?

Because

Why did you make me listen to that?

All I can do is think about Sanji. I'm not sure I'll be able to sleep tonight.

Fawcett's gone to the Hospital Wing and so did Jacobsen (she's a firstie).



 **alt_padma**



 **alt_seamus** at **2012-02-26 16:46:15**
(no subject)

I'm sorry. I wasn't thinking about that, it was just -- I thought you lot in Ravenclaw should know what was going on. Everyone in Gryffindor was listening.

Towler, his brother was one of the ones who duelled and lost, early in the night.



 **alt_padma** at **2012-02-26 16:49:08**
(no subject)

Well, he's lucky then it was early. It sounds like things maybe just...got out of hand?



 **alt_seamus** at **2012-02-26 16:52:43**
(no subject)

It doesn't sound like he was lucky, actually. The Headmistress called both Kenneth and Nick up to her office last night, really late. Their brother died.



 **alt_seamus** at [2012-02-26 16:53:23](#)
(no subject)

We didn't know that last night, though. It wasn't clear from the wireless -- we couldn't tell what was happening.



 **alt_padma** at [2012-02-26 16:55:17](#)
(no subject)

Wait. You mean that all the people they said weren't really killed, that it was just showmanship...they really did get killed?

For sport?

WIZARDS and WITCHES?



 **alt_seamus** at [2012-02-26 17:01:06](#)
(no subject)

I... I don't know, I guess.

I just know Mark Towler duelled last night, and he's dead now. I owled Mr Rosier, because I don't understand why --

2012-02-26 07:27:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Towler.

When she got back last night, the Headmistress sent Hooch to bring Kenneth and Nick up to her office.



 [alt_ron](#)

He was one of them

that died


Mark, he was one of the first people that played chess with me here. He was older than Percy, but he never minded. Didn't seem to.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-26 14:28:53](#)
(no subject)

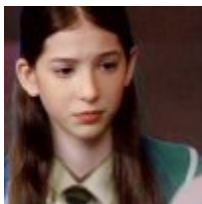
Don't know if you saw, if you looked at some of the other journals, but Percy was there. At the arena. He witnessed it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 16:50:20](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry to hear that.

He must've known Towler rather well.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-26 16:44:48](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Ron.

What are they saying, then? I haven't got my hands on the paper today, are they admitting now that everyone who was killed was killed for real?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-26 16:53:42](#)**
(no subject)

So the first ones weren't pretend.

And you knew someone who died.

I'm sorry, Ron.

I feel sick to my stomach all over again.

Professor Sinistra, one of her brother's friends was in the fight where He decided to kill the winner, the person her brother's friend was fighting against.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-26 16:56:22](#)**
(no subject)

Everyone here doesn't know what to say about it.

Harry still looks furious, and Draco

I can tell he was rather shaken after last night.


And Teddy kept going on and on about how he wished he'd been old enough to duel in it, but that's Teddy. Everyone else was trying to look like it was interesting, but it wasn't working at all.

And today, it's like we're not talking about it at all, because if we did, we're afraid we'd say something wrong about it.

I'm glad I could say that it was awful, even if you were the only people who knew that's how I felt about it.

Do you want to chuck rocks at the Squid today?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-26 20:48:21](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 21:39:04](#)
(no subject)

Okay, tuna brain.

2012-02-26 10:17:00

Private Message to Dux

Hydra,

I'm sorry. I've been acting like an idiot.

May I see you?

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#)



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-02-26 15:48:01**

(no subject)

What?

Oh, right, I suppose I know what you mean. But I don't really care about that anymore.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-02-26 15:52:11**

(no subject)

You don't care...?

Because of Harry, I suppose. Right.

Dash it.

Yes, quite right.

Well, I...shan't bother you, then. Sorry to disturb.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-26 15:56:18](#)
(no subject)

What about Harry? I haven't seen him since the Task. Is he going to be punished as well? I suppose he will, unless what happened at the Frost Faire games was his punishment.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-26 16:00:35](#)
(no subject)

Well, you and Harry. I mean to say, I knew it might--

Wait, what do you mean 'punished as well?' Who's been punished and for what?

If you...want to tell me, that is.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-26 16:11:55](#)
(no subject)

It's Harry's fault that this happened. Only I suppose not really, but still...

Before the task Mummy asked if I had helped Harry prepare, and I said yes because of course that's what she wanted to hear. And then after what he did, rescuing those hostages, she said that she hoped my softness wasn't rubbing off on him. And then she said it was probably time I had another lesson, and she took Tevis away when she left.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-26 16:19:28](#)
(no subject)

What? WHAT?

Drax Hydra. That's.... I'm sorry, but I say, that's well *monstrous*.

But I thought--so she really wasn't pleased that you've...well, made progress in securing Harry's affections, what? I mean to say, I gather that's what you were hoping to do, at any rate.

Does that mean

Or...was it, er, genuine, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-26 16:31:21](#)
(no subject)

Affections? No, she didn't ask about that. Draco was talking about how much time he and Harry spent in the library preparing, and she gave me a *look* so I said that I had been helping, too.

Which was true, at least on Wednesday night.

Justin, Harry and I grew up spending time together. Not as much as he and Draco did, of course, but even so, I would want to help him win the Task even if Mummy wasn't expecting it. It's got nothing to do with his affections, or mine.

Why? Did you think something was going on?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-26 16:39:29](#)
(no subject)

Well, I--I'd said that I'd be able to spend time with you on Wednesday and then you were with *him* instead.

And I thought, perhaps, you were cross because I'd been ill the night before. ~~Which was a stupid thing to have said~~

Only, then what about Thursday? And Friday, what? I thought you were helping him the whole rest of the week.

Which isn't helping our problem, do you see. So I thought perhaps you'd decided not to bother, what?

But if--

Well. As I said, I've been acting like an idiot. Forgive me?

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-02-26 16:52:40](#)**
(no subject)

And I suppose I was waiting for you to just tell me when you wanted to see me...and it's true I was a little cross at the thought that you might not want to just because of the bracelet. But I didn't help Harry because of that, not at all.

And after Wednesday I just focused on homework and things... including the bracelet, actually.

I should have spent more time with Tevis, instead.

I mean to say, of course I forgive you.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 17:17:00](#)**
(no subject)

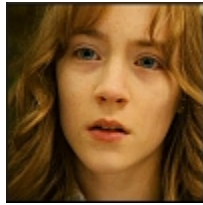
Well, I shan't pretend it's not frustrating, not being able to do as much as we'd like.

But it's just--I took some bad advice. Well embarrassing, what.

And I'm dashed sorry about Tevis. I'm sorry I wasn't there last night.

So. May I see you?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-02-26 17:23:56**
(no subject)

I think I have made some progress, but I'd like to get Sally Anne's opinion first, before I say for sure.

I just keep wondering what she'll do to him. My first thought was that she'd just toss him into the lake or break his neck, but then...what if she eats him? I always tried not to love him as much as Tully, because I was mad for Tully and then... well, I just didn't want something bad to happen to Tevis, too. But now that she's taken him I realise that I cared for him as much as I ever did for Tully.

Yes, please.

From,
Hydra

2012-02-26 11:08:00

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Thank Merlin that's over.

So Burdett-Coutts thinks there's no point in trying to sweep it under the rug -- he thinks the best course of action is to embrace what happened, say that this serves as a reminder that we truly live at Our Lord's pleasure, and to honour the fallen as heroes.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

The other suggestions I've heard:

1. Slander the dead, and claim that every dead person had displeased Our Lord. The advantage here is that we've laid the groundwork there with that half-blood, though the very idea that Our Lord would sully his wand on a blood-traitor...!
2. Claim it was all some sort of terrible accident.
3. (This was, not surprisingly, suggested by a discreetly passed note) -- blame Burdett-Coutts, as the organiser of the Frost Faire. Or, I suppose, find a way to lay the blame at Warrington's door, since he's dead and no further punishment can possibly go his way.
4. Some younger associate of Burdett-Coutts suggested that in addition to embracing the idea that we live at Our Lord's pleasure, we suggest that risking ones' life in the games is such a desirable honour that future tournaments are planned; we don't have to actually hold them, but he seemed to think that with the correct publicity we'd see some eagerness for such an honour. I think this is a bit of a risky strategy unless we are QUITE sure we can avoid holding future tournaments.

I'm inclined to follow Burdett-Coutts' strategy. I dislike the idea of slandering the dead, particularly Warrington, who displayed impeccable loyalty to the last.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 17:18:32](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and many happy returns, Lucius. I hope next year's celebration is a bit less ... fatiguing.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 17:37:40](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Thank you.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 17:37:04](#)
(no subject)

Indeed. Sounds as if we had overlapping notes and conversations.

Know who suggested #1; Gaude has an impeccable sense of humour. Do believe he was saying it more in the way of breaking the tension.

Definitely not 2. We shall appear doubly incompetent.

Re. #3: Hm. Was this anonymous note in Yaxley's handwriting, perhaps? Imagine he'd have been keen to sully Lycus's name given their history.

Inclined toward Gabriel's plan, if not even his associate's. In fact, have already conferred with Ari and Stephen, who have both offered to assist in terms of compensation for the 'glorious dead.'

Have you named an interim for Warrington's post? If not, you might consider the magnanimity of offering pureblood status to the families who would benefit from it.

If we're careful we might just salvage this. After all, there are good reasons Our Lord admits only the very best into His Circle.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 17:57:57](#)
(no subject)

I do believe you are correct: this could well be Yaxley's handwriting.

Re double incompetence, Gabriel is still pushing to have us continue with the fiction that Jack Sharpe was executed for blood-treason. I disagree with this completely; it undermines an otherwise sound plan. I think we should simply say that the announcers were wrong. Sharpe, if anyone, deserves the honour of being raised posthumously to pureblood status, and there's precedent with the Abbot family.

I trust there's no intent to do this with the dead mudbloods, only those with at least a trace of true wizarding blood.

I haven't had time to think about an interim director of Purity, but you're right, it's rather urgent.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 18:06:40](#)
(no subject)

Agreed completely on the matter of Sharpe. Gabriel's in no position to argue the point; it was a spur-of-the-moment decision on his part and adequate for the purpose it served but if this stratagem is to succeed then it must have uniform consistency.

Elevating the mudbloods had not occurred to me, no. But thank you for the laugh.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2012-02-26 18:02:45](#)
(no subject)

Although come to think of it, Stephen hinted last night at a willingness to come out of retirement and fill in, temporarily.

In some ways he'd be perfect, but it's been years since he's had anything to do with the Ministry. At the very least, he'd need a top-notch aide, someone trustworthy and knowledgeable. Rather like your clerk -- who I don't imagine you'd willingly part with.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 18:10:19](#)**
(no subject)

Really, Dominic, your gallows-humour is working overtime as well, it seems.

Give up my clerk? I've only just barely broken him in. Not even quite completely (which reminds me - must have a word with him on Monday).

Stephen presents an intriguing solution, though. At least for the nonce.

What about one of your people in Communications? That might assist the transition and our present difficulty.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2012-02-26 18:11:39](#)**
(no subject)

You know, your lad's older brother works for me in Communications. I'll owl him immediately.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 18:34:04](#)**
(no subject)

Good.

Your fortitude is admirable. Have the shakes subsided, then?



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2012-02-26 18:39:03](#)**
(no subject)

No.

But one carries on, regardless.

[2012-02-26 12:03:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

What do you think he'll do to me?



 [alt_harry](#)




 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-26 18:49:36](#)

(no subject)

To you?

I don't know. I wouldn't know what to predict.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 18:56:25](#)

(no subject)

I don't know either.

I told him that it was me, you know. To punish me.

I don't know.

Professor Raz isn't back yet. Once he is, maybe we can see what he thinks?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 18:51:32](#)

(no subject)

I can't stop thinking about it.

About how angry he was when he left.

I should have left Fleur. I should have known they wouldn't let her die down there, that they would have just gotten her out, and taken the Ouroboros.

I wasn't thinking.

Everything happened so fast and she was bleeding and looking really pale and during the fight it all made so much sense, what to do, and

that getting those kids out of the cage would be the best way to stop them from fighting.


If I'd have known how angry he'd get

If I'd thought a bit more, I mean, they weren't going to let her die

But I didn't.

It just happened so fast.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-26 19:02:42](#)
(no subject)

But you didn't really know what the goal of the task was or what they would award points for - I mean, that's what you could say. Not that you were trying to save anyone but that you thought that might be what you were meant to do. Because you had to save a stupid egg last time, after all. Right?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 19:10:37](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

I mean, I knew the symbols were a part of it, and when I saw the Ouroboros and the Sorting Hat, I knew that Cedric was meant to take the Sorting Hat one.

But there was so much else going on too.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 19:16:05](#)
(no subject)

He got so angry.

When he had to leave right after, I thought it was a good thing he had to go right away.

But I'd rather

I didn't think he'd do *that*.

He wouldn't have done it if I'd won. If I'd taken the Ouroboros.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-26 19:19:41](#)
(no subject)

You mean what happened at the Faire games?

I don't know, I'm not sure there's really any proof that it had anything to do with you.

Father was really tense when he showed up at the castle yesterday, and when Mother said she wasn't going to be able to make it he almost lost his rag and went on about what HE would think. So it seems to me he wasn't in a very good mood at all yesterday, even before anything happened.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 19:23:36](#)
(no subject)

Yeah?

You think?

I was too busy trying not to vom before things started to really notice.

I still didn't help matters any.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-26 19:29:46](#)
(no subject)

Seriously, mate, do you think any one is able to control what *He* does anymore?

I remember when we were little and he'd be around, you know, for events and things. He'd always sort of smile (I think he was trying to smile but he isn't really capable of doing it naturally), and ask if I was being good. Even back then I could tell that he was only speaking to me because he was trying to look like a normal person, and that part of him resented having to try in the first place.

I think he's decided he doesn't care about trying anymore.



 **alt_harry** at [2012-02-26 19:50:44](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

That's... not good.

For anyone.



 **alt_harry** at [2012-02-26 19:55:35](#)
(no subject)

I saw all the messages your father was writing yesterday.

And Director Selwyn.

And Auror Crouch.

Is he okay, do you know? Your father?



 **alt_harry** at [2012-02-26 19:29:23](#)
(no subject)

I've been thinking, too.

About what we talked about for March.

And I don't think it would be a good idea any more.

You know.

To do something that unexpected.

Especially if he's there for it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-26 19:31:18](#)
(no subject)

I was thinking about that, too. Not because I'm afraid of the pain, but because yeah, doing something unpredictable seems like too big a risk, now.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 19:47:54](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

Agreed.

I think the best thing we can do is just try not make him angry.

2012-02-26 12:06:00

Private message to Gabriel Burdett-Coutts and Stephen Rosier



 [alt_selwyn](#)

Stephen, if you're willing to come out of retirement temporarily, I can have Warrington's office readied for you immediately. You'll need more of an aide than a clerk, I'd say -- someone well-acquainted with the office. I'll see if I can have someone for you in the next hour or two.

In the meantime, the suggestion has been floated that all the half-bloods who duelled so valiantly (yes, Gabriel, INCLUDING Sharpe -- especially Sharpe, in fact) be posthumously elevated in blood status, including their siblings, any children, etc. I think this might be an excellent thing to include in the closing ceremonies later today, but that means their families must be found, properly attired, appropriately reassured, and in the arena by ... was it 5 p.m.? It's not a great deal of time. One representative from each family will do, I'm sure.

Stephen, all the paperwork can be handled later, save for a nice certificate that can be presented in the ceremony itself.

2012-02-26 12:17:00

Private message to Bill Weasley

I've owed you as well; don't bother replying if you're already on your way.

Come to my office as soon as you can get here.
(You're not in trouble, don't worry.)



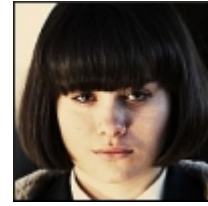
 [alt_selwyn](#)

[2012-02-26 12:17:00](#)

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy

Happy Birthday, Lucius.

It was lovely to see you at the Triwizard tournament yesterday, even though it was only for a little while. I hope my gift arrived. I saw it in a catalogue, and remembered how much I enjoyed going to the opera with you and Aunt Narcissa, and thought you might find them useful, or at least amusing. And perhaps we can all go again this summer. I'd like that.



 [alt_pansy](#)

~~I heard what happened last night~~

~~Are you feeling~~

~~I was worried~~

I hope you have a very relaxing birthday. And that you know how very much I care for you.

Your

Little Bit.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-02-26 17:47:32](#)
(no subject)

Pansy.

I'm sure I'll enjoy them. My apologies, Little Bit; I have not been at leisure to open any parcels yet this morning. I have only enough time to skim the journals for important messages (of which yours is, of course, one) and refresh myself for the closing ceremonies this afternoon.

As for relaxing, that is not on the cards - at least, not for several hours more. It was good to see you looking healthy, however, and dare I say, happier than I have noted you in some time. Perhaps over the Easter holidays we might have more leisure to spend time together so you may apprise me of all your activities this year.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-26 17:58:39](#)**
(no subject)

I would love to see you over Easter hols. And yes, this term has been going rather well. I've been thoroughly enjoying getting to know our visitors, and I'll tell you all about it in person.

I know you must be frightfully busy, but I'm glad you took the time to write me back.

2012-02-26 12:42:00

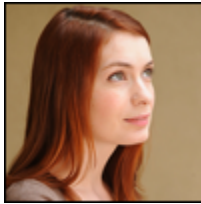
Order Only: Owl from Selwyn


Merlin. I just got an owl from Dominic Selwyn. I've been ordered to show up at his office immediately.



It's got to be a full-scale panic there today. Looks like I'll be in the thick of whatever damage control is being planned. Will report back when I know more.

 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_alice](#) at **2012-02-26 18:59:45**
(no subject)

Be careful, Bill.

[2012-02-26 12:49:00](#)

Tonight

It looks to remain clear tonight, so if anyone would like to join me for some relaxed star gazing on the Astronomy tower, I'll be up there after supper until curfew.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

There's a particularly good chance to see a half dozen of the brightest objects in the sky at once this week, during the first hour after sunset, and the crescent moon makes for good stargazing in general.

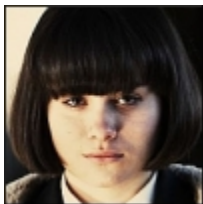


 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 18:03:06](#)**

Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Pansy Parkinson

Thank you, both, for your thoughtfulness - I'm sure the tea will be a help tonight.

How are you both doing today?



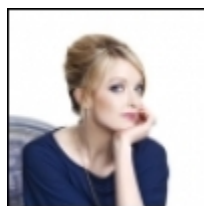
 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 18:06:59](#)**

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Pansy Parkinson

I'm glad.

I think everyone is still sorting out things. But the star gazing sounds like it will be lovely, and a nice distraction, which is something we all need would enjoy. I'll be there.

Thank you for passing along what you did. I appreciate it.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 18:14:37](#)**

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Pansy Parkinson

Thinking about it this morning, I know I want some distraction tonight, and I'm sure I'm not alone.

And yet, something undemanding. I'm certainly not up to complex work myself, today.

On passing things along, well. I'm glad I could answer Sally-Anne's questions.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-26 18:23:09](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Pansy Parkinson

I know that for me at least, looking up at the stars, especially familiar ones, it's like seeing friends. And it's nice to see them in the places they're meant to be, right where you expect, and know where they'll be in a day or in a year or in a hundred years.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 18:25:48](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Pansy Parkinson

Yes, exactly. I've thought that since I knew there were stars to look at. (And to be honest, it's driven a lot of the projections project.)

They're there, and they move as you know they will. And occasionally something exciting happens - a nova, or a comet or a meteor shower. But even the novas are about the natural lifespan, the way things are supposed to work. It isn't a surprise.




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 18:15:53](#)

Private message to Poppy and Pomona

We weren't sure if there was going to be further discussion, or another command performance today, but apparently not, so I'm back in the castle now, in my rooms.

Poppy, were you horribly overwhelmed last night? I know a number of students were listening on the wireless, though that was much better than being there.

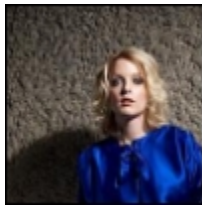


 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-02-26 21:26:44](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

It was busy, yes, and straight through the night. Night terrors, bed wetting, upset tummies, breathing difficulties, and not a few *bona fide* bouts of hysteria.

Things are quiet now, though I expect they will pick up again tonight. Thank you for extending yourself to the students with your offer for this evening: that's Healer's work, as well.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 21:30:45](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona


I quite understand, having been close enough to hysteria myself, most of last night. I'd regret the copious applications of alcohol when we got back to Spencer, but it was the best of a bad lot of choices,

I think.

As to tonight, well. It seemed the thing. I know it will steady me, and the responses so far make it clear that I'm not the only one.

Yesterday was - I don't even have the words. And knowing that students were listening (Miss Perks carefully asked me some questions that made that clear) was even worse.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-02-26 19:00:24](#)

(no subject)

Thanks, Professor. I think that'll be well grand, just to spend a quiet night like that.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-26 19:01:49](#)

(no subject)

I've heard that from several people, yes. I'm glad the weather's cooperating.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:05:32](#)**
(no subject)

I'll be there too.

Maybe you could tell some of your stories, Padma. About the constellations. You're awfully good at story telling, and I know that I always find them really interesting, and there'll be people there who haven't heard them before.




 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:14:52](#)**
(no subject)

That's an excellent idea, yes.

I had a book on the Babylonian stories out for something, too, and perhaps I'll bring that up.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-02-26 21:21:54](#)**
(no subject)

That actually sounds like quite the perfect thing to do tonight. Thank you, Professor.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-26 21:33:25](#)**
(no subject)

You're very welcome, and I look forward to seeing you.

2012-02-26 12:56:00

Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Dora




 [alt_sirius](#)

Dora? How are you this afternoon? Better? We thought we'd let you have a lie-in.

I'm torn between wanting to see for myself how they treat this at the closing ceremonies and thinking we ought to open up Unlimited for anyone who needs it.

What do you think?




 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-02-26 19:27:40**
(no subject)

We're supposed to be having supper with Arthur and Molly, remember? To discuss part of Beth's proposal.

I think they'd probably be willing to put that off.

I think we should open up Unlimited. People need a place to come and hear that it's not THEM that's crazy.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-02-26 19:30:57**
(no subject)

Yes, I think we ought to open, as well.

And yes, especially with Bill getting called in (though I admit I'm damn curious about that!), I think Arthur and Molly will want to be available when he gets back.

I am well curious about those ceremonies, though.

Mind if I went on a reconnoitre alone? Left you and Dora to it?

We'll have to find another time for Arthur and Molly, though. Not a whole week off, I hope. We should really get back to Beth before too much longer.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-26 19:39:18](#)
(no subject)

We should be fine, if you really want to go.

So long as you think you can control any urges you get to challenge Barty Crouch Jr. to a duel.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 19:40:58](#)
(no subject)

Oi, I think I controlled myself pretty well last night, all things considered.

Though if I were going to challenge him, the morning after he's been Cruciated would be a good time for it.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-26 19:41:41](#)
(no subject)

Blokes like him thrive on that sort of treatment as long as it's from 'their Lord.'



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 19:45:47](#)
(no subject)

Makes you wonder what else gets him off, doesn't it?

...

On second thought I'd rather not know.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-26 19:49:33](#)
(no subject)

It's a shame Bellatrix is already married to Rodolphus.

If she were married to Barty, one of them would eventually wind up dead and then we'd be rid of that one, anyway.




 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-26 19:53:22](#)
(no subject)

Not likely. If Bella were married to Barty, she'd ignore him just as resolutely as Roddy in favour of her one true love and life would be no different.

Well. Except that then Rod might actually grow his own pair.



 **alt_lupin** at [2012-02-26 19:42:51](#)
(no subject)

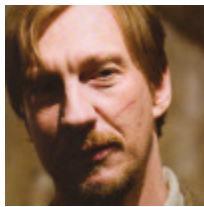
And you did control yourself pretty well last night but I think I'd like you to PROMISE you won't reveal you're in the arena.




 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-26 19:44:40](#)
(no subject)

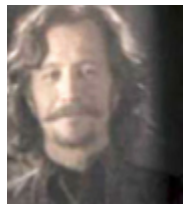
Oh, relax. I thought I'd go as Padfoot.

That way if I do lose control I can simply rip his throat out.



 **alt_lupin** at [2012-02-26 19:48:25](#)
(no subject)

You're trying very hard to distract me from the fact that you still haven't promised.




 **alt_sirius** at [2012-02-26 19:50:04](#)
(no subject)

Sorry, was I?


What am I promising? Not to get myself caught or killed? Was that it?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:52:37](#)**
(no subject)

Close enough.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:56:44](#)**
(no subject)

So promise, you git.

I'm amazed your animagus form wasn't a weasel.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:59:27](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, fine.

I solemnly swear that I shall not reveal that I'm in the audience, get myself captured or killed or otherwise do something that might prevent me coming home to you tonight.


Satisfied?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:59:47](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-02-26 19:41:01](#)**
(no subject)

If Arthur can slip away from the office, perhaps we can meet in the afternoon. Things will be a bit mad there, but maybe not so much in his department.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 19:48:41](#)
(no subject)

Good thought.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-02-26 21:31:09](#)
(no subject)

We'll be fine. You go.

And Beth will wait. I rather think we all may need a bit of time for rethinking after yesterday.

Not that any of us or any of hers are likely to be anything but more committed. Still. She'll understand.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-02-26 21:52:33](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, you.

All right, then?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-02-26 19:30:24](#)
(no subject)

Last night they had Percy there and Molly was thinking it might be a good time to actually get through to him.

He's probably been called in, now, but -- you know, she probably wants to be there if he's ready to talk. Right away. I don't think they'd be averse to talking another time.

[2012-02-26 13:31:00](#)

Order Only: Private message to Molly and Arthur



 **[alt_lupin](#)**

Let's put off our supper. We're thinking of opening up Unlimited, even though usually we're closed on Sundays, and I thought you might like more time as a family, anyway, if Percy shows a willingness to talk.

Has he, by the way?

How are all of you doing?

Any word yet from Bill?



 **[alt_molly](#) at [2012-02-26 20:45:55](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Remus. Arthur and I agree it would be best to postpone your kind invitation.

Percy is...well, he hasn't said much. It's unfortunate Bill's been called away, because I think Percy might speak most easily to him (and I admit it: I'm worried about what Selwyn wants of him).

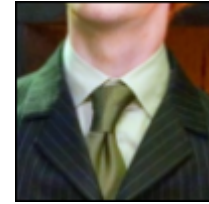
I think Arthur is going to try taking Percy aside and talking with him a bit this afternoon.

How are you all holding up? For surely it was just as bad for you.

2012-02-26 14:51:00

Private message to Mr Lucius Malfoy

Please be assured that I am standing by and able to assist if you need me to come in. For anything.



(And...well, I am sure it may sound a little strange under the circumstances, but I do sincerely wish you many happy returns on the occasion of your natal day.)

 [alt_percy](#)



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2012-02-26 21:26:31**
(no subject)

Thank you, Weasley. It has been one of the ... busier anniversaries in recent memory.

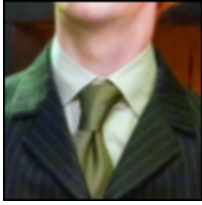
Believe the arrangements are well in hand, given the somewhat unexpected gestures Our Lord extended last evening. However, should like you to contact Ari Baddock to-morrow and also Victarius Runge with information on the families.

In confidence, since you will likely know by evening and need to know by morning: Stephen Rosier has offered to take up Warrington's post in the interim while Dominic selects a permanent replacement. Believe from the subject of Dominic's private messages that he has decided to loan your elder brother to Stephen as an aide.

Rosier and Baddock, along with several other members of the Council, are involved in the process of re-examining the genealogical lines of the deceased, particularly Sharpe, in order to determine if their heirs and direct relations may be decreed pureblood. For the others, there are other compensatory plans in which the Council shall be involved. Expect there shall be a number of meetings to determine the appropriate details. It is not often Our Lord chooses to exact such - direct - sacrifice on behalf of the people, though it is of course a testament to the bravery and honour of the Protectorate.

One other thing. Kindly arrange a delivery to Miss Robins. Although to my knowledge she was no longer directly involved with Mr Cameron, believe that his loss may have come as a blow to her,

regardless. Something suitable for the condolence of an acquaintance, if you please.



 **alt_percy** at **2012-02-26 22:22:47**
(no subject)

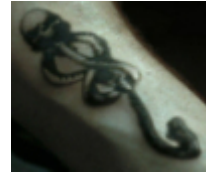
Understood, sir. On all counts.

Of course, the circumstances are...regrettable
unusual. But I'm absolutely certain Mr Rosier will be
more than happy with Bill's services, sir.

[2012-02-26 15:01:00](#)

(no subject)

Curse you open the veins white hot knife
THAT'LL sear the dross away



Frie fire

 [alt_amycus](#)

fire if i were there there'd be none of this shit for mud nonsense,
Justine

Mud for shite

Tidbit dont you dare keep
teh bleedin bottle from m
and clean up this fucking glass while you're at it

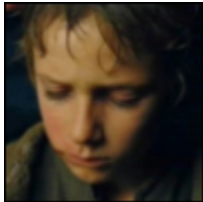


 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-26 21:51:06](#)

i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

You should talk about pieces of shite, you berk.

(Let us know you're all right, Professor.)



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-26 22:19:11](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

hurt. a bit. well, more than a bit. but safe. i'll be all right.

he's on a right tear.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-26 22:25:31](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

Anyway. I'm real good at dodging. After all these years.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-27 01:58:36](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

He slept off the liquor enough to *reparo* the wireless so he could listen to the Closing Ceremonies.

And when he heard that they'd elevated some of those lower bloods to pureblood he flew into such a rage that he blew up the wireless all over again.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-02-27 01:59:29](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

Wow.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-27 02:01:18](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

Yeah, we'll bet that really chapped his arse.

Stay out of his way as much as you can, yeah?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-02-27 02:04:42](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

Well, it's not like I can exactly avoid him when he's got me locked in his rooms with him.

But I'm keeping my eyes down and mouth shut and staying crouched in the corner. He thinks I'm too hurt to move much anyway. Well, I am.

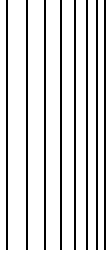


 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-27 02:06:24](#)

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

All right. We weren't gonna come right out and ask, but the hell with that.

What did he do to you this time?



 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2012-02-27 02:08:44](#)**

Re: i solemnly swear that I am up to no good

Don't worry about it. It's nothing permanent, anyway, thanks to that book on healing. (Thank Neville again for it, would you?)

2012-02-26 15:21:00

Private Message to Professor Raz

We need to talk about yesterday.



 [alt_harry](#)




 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-02-26 20:47:07**

(no subject)

That we do. Don't know if I have any

I just returned to the castle a bit ago. I'll be settled back into my rooms within the hour.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-26 20:53:53**

(no subject)

If you need a bit more time, I can come by tomorrow.

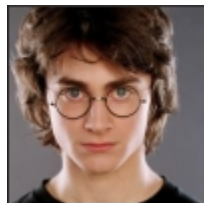


 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-02-26 21:00:43**

(no subject)

No, it's better that we get to it today, before you have to show up at your lessons.

The truth is, I don't know how many answers I have for you. Your Father is displeased with a number of people right now, me included. I believe he's on the verge of determining that I haven't done my duty in a satisfactory way. To you, specifically.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-02-26 21:13:17**

(no subject)

Right.

Okay.

I'll be by soon.

And for what it's worth, I'm sorry. For what ended up happening. All of it. I tried to do what I thought was right, but I fouled it all up. Again. And I'm sorry you're in trouble because of me. You don't deserve it.

You've been

You've been doing everything you could, and I know it, and it's my fault that I haven't done things properly, not yours. And I know that you've done what you've done for My Father, but you've also done it for me. And you've never done me wrong. Ever.

No matter what ends up happening, I want you to know that.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-02-26 21:16:49](#)

(no subject)

Hey - you didn't foul up and you don't need to apologise.

You Father wants me ~~and others~~ to turn you into someone you're not, and the fact of it is that I can't, because *I'm* not the person he thinks I am. Anymore, I mean.

He's going to find that out, sooner or later. And it's nothing to do with you.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-26 21:20:32](#)

(no subject)

Okay.

...okay.

I'll be up soon.

2012-02-26 15:23:00

Order only

Stephen Rosier is the new Director of Purity Control.

I'm his new assistant. For now. After that...we'll see.

Mum, Dad, don't expect me back tonight.

This can only be good for the Order. Although I must say I don't much like the way people get promoted around here.



 **alt_bill**



 **alt_arthur** at **2012-02-26 21:45:46**

(no subject)

Good lord.

All right then, my boy. Floo us when you can talk, no matter how late it is.



 **alt_molly** at **2012-02-26 21:46:53**

(no subject)

Oh, my.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-02-26 21:46:58**


(no subject)

Sounds like it's not the promotion strategy you need to worry about, Bill, it's the retirement package.

Sorry. I know that was a touch maudlin.

I'm just about to leave for the Closing Ceremonies. Are they throwing you into that? Any idea what we can expect?



 **alt_bill** at [2012-02-26 22:14:07](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I'm involved.

Sorry, don't have time to explain more. Just...a worthless gesture is planned for the families involved. Raising them to pureblood status. That'll be a great comfort, no doubt.

Yes, that was sarcasm.



 **alt_nymphadora** at [2012-02-26 21:49:06](#)
(no subject)

Good. (Honestly. At least something good might come of it all.)

And good luck. Be careful, yeah?

2012-02-26 15:35:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am up to No Good




Ron? Where are you? Bill's here.

 [alt_gredforge](#)

He came to get the Towlers. No idea why, though he said they'll be okay.

He said he's taking them to see the Headmistress, and then he'll be leaving with them in about ten or fifteen minutes. If you see this and get down to the corridor outside her office, he'll be able to see you before he goes again. Let Ginny know if you find her before then.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-02-26 21:45:20**
(no subject)

Huh?

Bill?

Yeah, okay. I'm on my way in. Tell him not to leave yet, can you?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2012-02-26 21:48:44**
(no subject)

Yeah, sure, but hurry!

2012-02-26 17:21:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall



I spoke with Mr Marvolo today.

He appeared pale and did not wish to discuss his feelings. I believe that I successfully communicated with him. I told him that the occurrences at the Frost Faire were his fault. I believe, from his response, that other people have lied to him and told him they were not.

 [alt_severus](#)

It was not a pleasant conversation, or a long one. Nevertheless, I hope that in future he will, perhaps, think to turn to me. 'The Razzer,' as they call him, is not the best mentor for a young man.

I shall communicate same to Miss Granger via a different method.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-02-27 00:03:07](#)
(no subject)

Has it occurred to you that perhaps you were not the most diplomatic? Severus, really.



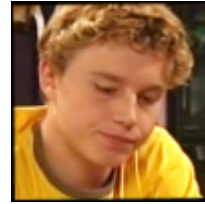
 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-02-27 02:17:05](#)
(no subject)

It seems to me that nobody tells him the truth. I believe that to be important.

2012-02-26 19:17:00

Closing Ceremonies

Cedric turned off the wireless last night but he let us listen to the Closing Ceremonies this afternoon.



 **alt_zacharias**

Didn't know the Towlers were going to be there. Anyone else? And the thing the commentator said about the riderless horses, that was sort of cool. Not that I'd want to have to die just for that kind of a tribute.

So. Think they'll have another Frost Faire next year?

[2012-02-26 20:18:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater

I'd give anything to be able to be with you tonight.

How are things at the school?



 [alt_percy](#)



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-02-27 02:59:07](#)

(no subject)

Well, it's not as bad for Ravenclaw as the other Houses. I was glad Cedric turned off the wireless in Hufflepuff. I wish I'd known they unearthed Tamblin's but by the time I found out it was too late and--well, we all just sort of couldn't stop listening. I guess Madam Pomfrey has been up to her pinny in bed-wetting and night terrors and anxiety attacks but mostly from Gryffindor and Hufflepuff. Sorry, but it's true. Ironic, huh? Gryffindors are supposed to be brave.

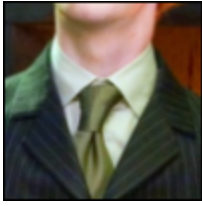
Well, *some* Gryffindors are, anyway. Were you there? When Mark was killed? I'm sorry, Perce. It must have been awful.

Someone heard a rumour that the Lord Protector argued with Mr Selwyn and Mr Malfoy. Is that--I mean, is Mr Malfoy all right?

We heard the Closing Ceremonies, too. Is it true that there might actually be *more* competitions like this in the future? That's...remarkable. I mean, I think it'll take a while to adjust to that kind of thinking.

But I suppose Auror Crouch had a point about being strong and keeping oneself ready at all times.

I wish you were here. Well, I guess properly I wish I were *there*, or in New London.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 16:48:40](#)**
(no subject)

I was there, yeah. When Mark was ~~kil~~ his round ended. And all the rest.

It brought a...a regal solemnity to the Games. I suppose that's the best way I can describe it. It makes everything matter more. You know?

2012-02-26 20:22:00

Frost Faire closing ceremonies

Listened on the wireless. Congratulations to the Towlers -- if you were my year, I reckon they'd have to chuck you out of Brothers in Wizardry. Should make it easier to get a job when you finish school, though.



 [alt_seamus](#)

And my foster father Mr Rosier is the new Interim Head of Purity Control, they mentioned that on the wireless but also I got an owl at lunch.

It's been quite a weekend. Actually I sort of wish I could crawl into bed and sleep for another two days.



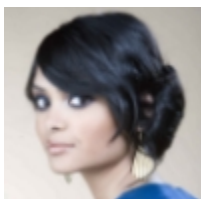
 [alt_seamus](#) at **2012-02-27 02:27:41**

Private message to Padma

What did you think of that business with the Towlers being purebloods now (officially)? Do you think it'll actually change the way people treat them? I mean there are a few rules that won't apply anymore, at

least.

Are you doing any better? I'm sorry, I should have kept my mouth shut about the wireless last night.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-02-27 03:31:15**

Re: Private message to Padma

I think it's weird. I mean, it's one thing to use the threat of being deemed a halfblood if you're pureblood, or sent to the camps if you're halfblood, or something like that.


But telling someone who's a halfblood that suddenly they're pure enough to be pure? I dunno.

It's the kind of thing my parents would hate. Like, telling a family of Vaishyas that they can be Kshatriyan, it's just not done.

You probably think it's weird to think that way but be besties with a

halfblood but I dunno, you're different. Maybe it's because the wizarding half is noble, it almost cancels out the non-magical side.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-02-27 03:22:26**
Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

Are you even serious?

Congratulating them? He's dead, Seamus. That's not something you congratulate people on. Not even if someone invites them to some ceremony and tells them they get to be pureblood now. I mean, he's dead.



 **alt_padma** at **2012-02-27 15:05:50**
(no subject)

I'll tell you one thing: Belinda's been after me to read *Pure Hunger* but now I'm not so sure.

2012-02-26 23:15:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

I'm still having a bit of trouble falling asleep.
Although star gazing was rather nice.

Are you still awake?




 [alt_pansy](#)

I feel like I didn't get to spend nearly as much time with you today as I wanted. Perhaps we can spend more time together tomorrow? Even if it's just studying.

Harry looked awful during the closing ceremonies broadcast.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-02-27 04:29:00**
(no subject)

I'm glad you got some enjoyment out of it, then. I would have gone if you asked, but since you didn't I stayed down here. It seemed like the sort of gathering that was really aimed at Siz's ~~half~~ pet female students, anyway.

He looked awful because he is awful, there's really no other way to say it. Feeling massively guilty, for one, and fretting over what the consequences will be, for two. And then he still has to Cruciate Granger soon, too, which we had a plan for but now it's definitely gone pear-shaped, so... Yeah, he's been better. I tried to tell him it wasn't his fault, but I don't know how well I got through.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-02-27 04:33:01**
(no subject)

I can see why he'd feel awful.

I feel awful for him.

And don't worry about not going up with me. It was more a girl thing anyways, and maybe we can go stargazing together some time just us.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:38:59](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I do, too. Though I'm also worried for Father. And for myself.

Though I've not said anything about that to Harry, I'm pretty sure we both know that the other is thinking it.

Sure, we can stargaze together. Or you can stargaze while I gaze at you, hey? That way it'll be less like being in lessons.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:42:43](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

I am too.

I think it's a lot better to worry together than worry apart, though, so there's that.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:42:58](#)**
(no subject)

And from what I've heard, stargazing with a boy very rarely involves actually looking up. And is not like lessons whatsoever.

But that's just what I've heard.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:45:10](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I don't think we've been taught that method in Astronomy class yet. It's supposedly meant to be studied independently, but with a partner.

Supposedly.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:47:26](#)**
(no subject)

We'll just have to find out for ourselves.

Besides. Stargazing really is an excellent way to take one's mind off of things.

And it relieves stress.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:51:00](#)**
(no subject)

Too true. And about a million times more effective at both of those things than a trip to the Matron for a potion.

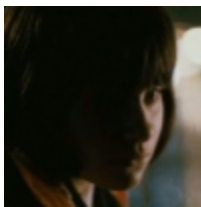
Not to mention more fun.

Try to get some sleep if you can, yeah? I'll walk you to breakfast in the morning, and then maybe we can fit in some stargazing after supper.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:51:46](#)**
(no subject)

I'd like that very much.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 04:35:07](#)**
(no subject)

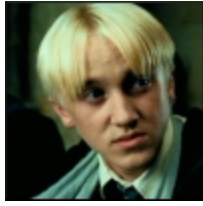
Will you promise me something, Draco?

Will you promise me that you'll never duel like that?

For sport? Or glory, or whatever stupid reason they were up there?

I just

I don't think I could stand it if you were put in that sort of position.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-02-27 04:41:04](#)
(no subject)

Duel like that.. to the death, you mean?

I really like winning and glory and even sport, but I'll choose breathing before any of those things.

Every time. Promise.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-27 04:44:30](#)
(no subject)

I figured as much, but it's good to hear anyways.

2012-02-27 09:02:00

Private message to Hopkirk

The team has been out since early yesterday morning, divided into partners. South New London, mostly, keeping near the council estates and the pubs and shops between them. I've planted myself in observation distance.

They've been instructed to perform the reversal spell with discretion, but I want to see for myself that they're not pulling up every rat and pigeon they run across. Especially Harkiss, desperate as she is for Foxe's commendation. And to avoid yet another re-assignment.

This sausage roll is absolutely disgusting. Inform Braithewaite and the rest that we're moving luncheon up to eleven.



 **alt_bellatrix**

2012-02-27 10:48:00

Private message to Bill Weasley

I am sorry I didn't see you last night, but Mum told me about your late Floo call.




 [alt_percy](#)

I wanted to pass along my heartiest congratulations, Bill. It's really splendid to have your talents recognised in such a gratifying way. I know that they say it's temporary, but really, now that you've been given a chance to shine, I'm sure you'll show them all that there's no reason you can't rise to the very top!

I listened to the wireless account of the Closing Ceremonies. The announcer described it all as quite an impressive spectacle. I understand that you were part of that as well.



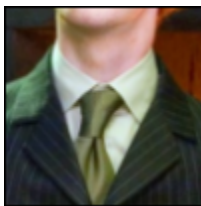
 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-02-27 16:55:40**
(no subject)


Grabbing a quick moment to reply:

Thanks, bro. It was really unexpected, but yeah, I'll do my best to make the most of it.

As far as the Closing Ceremonies goes, my part wasn't much. Just scrambling to get various people in place at the right time. I've really hit the ground running and I'm going to be hauling arse to keep abreast of things, at least at first.

(Are you doing okay? I understand that watching the Games were rather traumatic for a number of people. And you knew one of the contestants, didn't you? That's what Mum said.)




 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-02-27 16:58:11**
(no subject)

I did. Mark Towler. He was the third one killed, but he wasn't the last. He was in my House, a year ahead of me. I played pickup Quidditch with him a couple times, and lots of chess games.

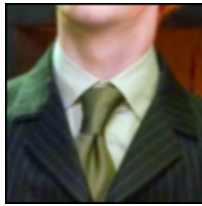
I keep seeing him, Bill. Lying there in the sand in the arena.

Why did he do it? That's what I can't get over.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-27 16:58:49](#)
(no subject)

Well, I guess he hoped for some of the prize money.
That's understandable, I suppose.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-02-27 17:00:50](#)
(no subject)

No, no. Not him.

The Lord Protector.

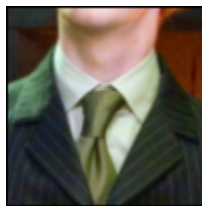
Why did he suddenly declare that the matches had to be to the death?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-27 17:02:56](#)
(no subject)

I don't know. I don't think anyone knows.

What do you think?




 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-02-27 17:04:24](#)
(no subject)

I don't know what to think.

What about you?




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-02-27 17:05:20](#)
(no subject)

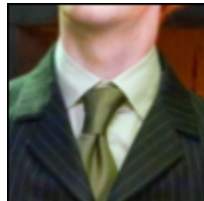
I think it's because he has absolute power.

He did it because he could.



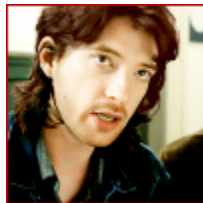
 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:06:59](#)**
(no subject)


Have you talked to Dad?



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:07:33](#)**
(no subject)

He hinted last night. I put him off. Wasn't ready.

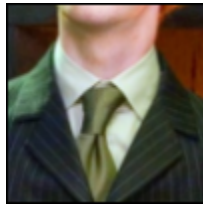


 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:11:28](#)**
(no subject)

You should. He's had years of experience working at the Ministry, you know, and more than that, he has a wise head on his shoulders. He's seen a lot.

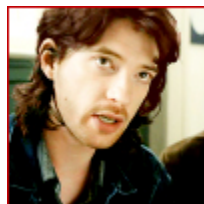
And Perce?


I'm so sorry that you lost your friend.



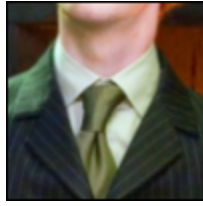
 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:12:09](#)**
(no subject)

How are his brothers holding up? Mum said you went to Hogwarts to fetch them to the Closing Ceremonies.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:12:40](#)**
(no subject)


Still in shock, I think. It takes a while for this sort of thing to sink in, I suppose.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:13:06](#)**
(no subject)

'This sort of thing.' What a way to put it.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:13:29](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah.

My Floo's open twenty-four/seven for you,
anytime you want to talk. All right?



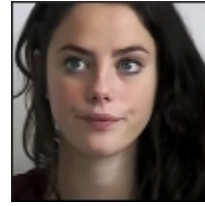
 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-02-27 17:13:50](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks, Bill.

2012-02-27 11:28:00

Private message to Blaise

Lizzie and I have been trying to put together little care hampers for Darius and Charles, for when they get back. Mid-week, is what I've heard.



 [alt_daphne](#)

So far I've got gourmet biscuits from Fleet's Bakery in Chelsea, drinking chocolate from Harrod's, and a tin of tea and a small packet of scones from the Owlery tea room in Marylebone (I can't wait to attend one of their high teas - supposedly they're exquisite).

That's it, so far. Do you think it's enough? Too much? Barney offered a few phials of some dreamless sleep potion... *not* the stuff that Madam Pomfrey hands out. I don't know if I should include those, though, and not just because I've no idea where he got his hands on them...

It's just that I feel a bit uncertain about how *they're* feeling. Darius and Charles, I mean. I'm not sure regular etiquette for the death of a parent applies, considering the circumstances. Lizzie is in perfect mode and isn't really thinking about the nuances of the situation, I fear. I don't want to go about this the wrong way and show my own ignorance, or end up doing something entirely graceless.

What do you think?



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2012-02-27 19:04:37](#)
(no subject)

Ah.

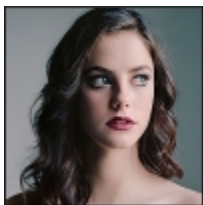
No, I do see why you're concerned.

As for the things you've got together, I think you've hit on the right sort of things. And the tea is a far wiser choice than whatever Bole's potions might be.

Oh. Actually, I've two wrapped boxes of dried apricots that Mother sent--well, I've got several, but you only need the two--and I happen to know that Charles fancies them.

That doesn't answer the question, though, of whether we're meant to

acknowledge what's happened or how. If you want, I could speak to Draco about it. He might have a different view.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-02-27 19:29:59](#)

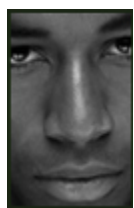
(no subject)

Oh, fruit is a good idea. But one never knows what another will prefer, do they? But if Charles fancies the apricots and Darius doesn't, well, Charles can go ahead and take Darius' for himself.

I thought about asking Draco, but when I think back to all the times that something has happened with his parents, he's always strongly preferred NOT to discuss it in any public capacity. Remember when his father and Miss Professor Carrow dueled? "My Father is absolutely fine," is what he kept insisting. Even though most of us knew it wasn't true. But I don't know if he acted that way because it's a kind of protocol for the family of the Lord's council members, or if it was because it's simply Draco's way.

And then... well, they were invited to watch their father duel. Do you suppose they think he's a hero, to be killed by the Lord's own wand? Or do they feel disgraced, seeing as he didn't put up any fight whatsoever?

In any case, surely a little care hamper, given with discretion, couldn't cause too much offence?



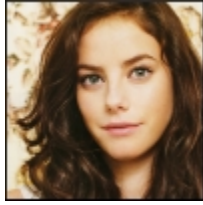
 [alt_blaise](#) at [2012-02-27 19:33:17](#)

(no subject)

You're right about Draco, and really, I'm as glad not to ask him. One never knows what will strike him the wrong way. I would have, though, for you.

And about the Warringtons... that's it exactly. Of course, one can't see what he could have done differently, and he chose a perfectly appropriate gesture for his final moment. Only, I wonder if Charles and Darius don't half expect all of us to be wondering if their father had done something to earn Our Lord's displeasure. They can't relish coming back to school with that question hanging over them.

So, in fact, a care hamper might help them a great deal, as a gesture. Given discreetly.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-02-27 22:02:54](#)**
(no subject)

That's very kind of you, Blaise. Draco usually responds to inquiries from me quite well, so if I decide that I absolutely must have his input, I've no qualms about asking him myself.

I'll see to it, then, that the hampers are waiting for them in their rooms when they arrive back at the castle. Let's see - I'll make Alfred plant Charles', and Corey Whitacre, I think, for Darius.

Until then, it's probably best to put the word out that we should watch *them* for cues on how to proceed, while making it clear that any talk on the matter should remain here in Slytherin house (which usually goes without saying, but you never know...)

I'll see to it that I'm in the common room after supper, if you want to give me the fruit then?



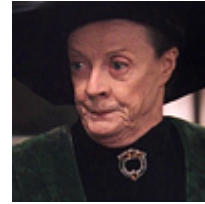
 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-02-27 22:12:13](#)**
(no subject)

Of course.

2012-02-27 11:38:00

Staff meeting this evening

Hogwarts Professors, there is a staff meeting this evening at eight o'clock.



The business of Hogwarts must continue, regardless of events outside our walls, and I believe we have much to discuss with regards to the spring term.

 **alt_mcgonagall**




 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2012-02-27 16:40:55**

Private Message to Horace Slughorn

You are quite right that we need to discuss events, but it wouldn't do to say that where students might see; and I do believe that it is very important to give them structure and normalcy, as much as is possible.



 **alt_horace** at **2012-02-27 17:48:46**

Re: Private Message to Horace Slughorn

Yes, indeed, Minerva. Thank you for seeing to it.

For my own charges, they seem relatively calm, though of course it would be fair to say all of Slytherin realised immediately that Charles and Darius would not be returning to school right away. Mr Derrick is re-settled, as you know.

I presume that Prof. Vector will want to discuss Thos. Capper? Really, I don't believe there's anything more to say, Minerva.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-02-27 16:45:47**

Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

Of course I'll be there.

I meant to inquire, yesterday - are you all right, after Saturday? The students who were up on the tower last night were quiet, as one might expect.

I kept the public conversation to safe topics - stars, mostly - but I did

hear a few bits of more private conversation. And I sent a couple off to check in with Poppy, as well, when it was obvious they'd had greater problems eating or sleeping.



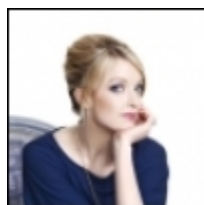
 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-02-27 16:48:58](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

I am personally fine.

I have been asked to check in with our Lord Protector once a week in future - about the goings-on at Hogwarts, and particularly about young Marvolo's progress. I am not certain that this is a good sign for any of us here, but it is not punishment.

There has been quite a high incidence of students having trouble in the aftermath. I had believed the youth of the Protectorate to be made of sterner stuff. They have certainly been tried enough.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-27 16:57:11](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

Good to hear that you are. I'm not.

I do see the difficulty with that kind of report (I've been, as you know, under scrutiny for the YPL work, and expect some more - well, they said any day now). On the one hand, I understand the importance of close oversight, on the other hand, it does take time and attention from the real work of doing.

As to the students - I've honestly heard a mix of responses. And from what I've heard about the wireless broadcast, I think it was honestly confusing what was happening and why, and that left room for fears and terrors to grow.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-02-27 17:04:16](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

The question of time and attention is one issue, but more than that - when the Lord Protector sent his son to Hogwarts, he told me that he trusted me with his son's growth. It was the closest he has

ever been to *sentimental* with me. He made it clear that he trusted me and Horace, in particular, his old teachers, with his son's education.

Now I wonder - have I lost that trust?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-27 17:08:46](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

Oh, yes. I can quite see the concern there.

I don't even know what to suggest - certainly both you and Horace have vastly more experience of students than I do.

It seems impertinent to ask, somehow, but do you know what Our Lord most appreciated, or found useful, about his education here? Perhaps there is a way to bring that out more clearly, now?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-02-27 17:15:10](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

That is the problem. He has said many times that the 'freedom of Hogwarts' appealed to him most; or, in any case, he did when his son first began here. But that is not what his actions seem to say.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-27 17:16:05](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

Ah. Yes. I do see the problem.

We do seem to have a great deal to discuss, tonight.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-02-27 17:17:41](#)

Re: Private messages to Minerva McGonagall

Quite.

[2012-02-27 21:26:00](#)

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra and Pomona Sprout



Well, that could have been worse, eh?

Aurora, I must say, I'm surprised you took up on Mr Capper's behalf. Not that I would ever expect you to give up on any student, far from it, but I fear Septima has convinced you to back a losing Abraxan.

 **[alt_horace](#)**

I would certainly think you have enough other projects to be going on with without adding this level of intervention for a student who ought to be able to save himself.

Pomona, she's your junior; see if you can talk some sense into her. It's not that Capper's unintelligent. He simply refuses to acknowledge any subjects but those that touch his particular focus.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-28 02:38:32](#)**
(no subject)

I hate to lose a student, especially one of Capper's real (albeit narrow) brilliance, but I must admit I am growing ever more frustrated by his indifference to my own subject.



 **[alt_horace](#)** at **[2012-02-28 02:43:10](#)**
(no subject)

Exactly my point, Pomona. I too loathe to allow him to slip through the cracks but it must be said that we ought not to be expected to care more about his success or failure than he does.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-28 02:44:58](#)**
(no subject)

Horace,

I had the great good fortune to have Alcor be patient with me - and so I understand it, argue for me in more

than one staff meeting. (Granted, a bit earlier in my Hogwarts career.)

I find I intend to follow in his footsteps, yet one more time.

As to your last: I certainly disagree with both you and Pomona, but I do hope we can do so as mature colleagues. If you - either of you - do not wish to assist him, that's your choice, of course. Just grant me the same courtesy.

I also wish that Capper would see the very real need to manage his other subjects, of course. But I do not wish to give up all hope until the end.



 **[alt_horace](#)** at **[2012-02-28 02:52:05](#)**
(no subject)

So he did, so he did, my dear, but you must admit that while you certainly showed an early aptitude and preference for your subject, you still attempted the others--and more to the point, you *listened* to his early interventions, even if it was against your inclination.

And of course, it's all very well for you, since Astronomy appears to be about the only other topic he applies himself to, apart from his beloved Arithmancy.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-28 03:00:02](#)**
(no subject)

If you call three and a half years of nagging, persuasion, and then finally bribing me with extra telescope access if I'd only do my other homework to a reasonable standard 'early intervention', yes.

It's a pity that's a bit harder to apply to Arithmancy, though. It was quite effective.

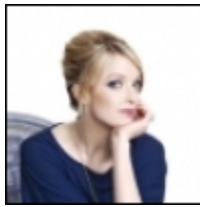
As to his work in my class - his calculations are stellar, of course. His charts, alas, are nearly as miserable as his work in most of his classes, and he cannot seem to remember more than five constellations at once.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-28 02:54:14](#)**
(no subject)

I do hear you in that regard, Aurora. My concern is more with his stubbornness--or perhaps difficulty adapting. I truly am not certain which is the case.

I'm not about to run around telling you how you ought to be managing your students--and I admit my lack of Arithmantic acumen may be biasing me here--but I am at a loss to know how we are to bring him to acknowledge the seriousness of the situation



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-28 03:04:12](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Pomona.

I know Septima's had more than one conversation with him about his future if he doesn't do better than seems likely at the moment - well, as she pointed out tonight.

At the same time, you're right that that's clearly not doing what's needed. Perhaps conversations with people who regret their lack of options? Do we know someone who might be willing to be realistic?

(Now that I think of it, Gilly Chadwick might be willing, and she's a good example of the need to be able to earn a living with a range of skills.)



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-02-28 03:24:51](#)**
(no subject)

Miss Chadwick might be helpful, but I was thinking more of someone like that unfortunate Shunpike lad from several years ago--positive example and horrible warning side by side, so to

speak?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-28 03:25:52](#)
(no subject)

That might do, yes.

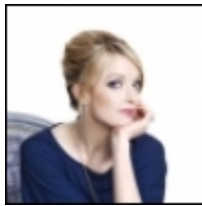
If we're going to do that, anyone else who might benefit from the conversations? Shame to waste an opportunity.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-02-28 03:30:31](#)
(no subject)

The only wrinkle I envision is that, well, most of our former students of the 'horrible warning' sort might not be terribly willing to volunteer.

Perhaps there are means of persuading them?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-28 03:33:29](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps.

It might depend on how far one wishes to stretch favours, too. A good meal or two would be easy to arrange, comparatively. Introductions to someone who might help them find a (moderately better) position is a little trickier.

I might have another idea or two about that, but it'd take me a few days to inquire.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-02-28 03:41:44](#)
(no subject)

You are more likely than I to be aware of the situations of students who've left school more recently; I'd be happy to follow your lead in that regard.

Which reminds me--while your point about Alcor stands, you must admit that the times are rather different, and our students must be prepared for things as they are now.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-28 03:45:47](#)
(no subject)

Very true.

Which is precisely why I am so insistent on providing what help we can now, while there's hope he'll have more choices than some of my age peers.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2012-02-28 03:05:19](#)
(no subject)

Indeed, indeed. And there's the consideration that, intractable as he seems to be, the lack of a uniform approach may actually harm the case of those more optimistic professors who make the attempt. If a few of his professors stoop to help and the others force him to take responsibility for himself, I think it unlikely he will see how much ground he must recover.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-28 03:12:01](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps you might define your terms, on what 'stooping to help' and 'taking responsibility' might look like in practice.

I'm scarcely talking about doing his work for him, of course. Simply suggesting that some additional attention for the next few months might help him make up enough ground to pass enough OWLs to let him settle down to his preferred focus.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2012-02-28 03:31:00](#)
(no subject)

Then you have not been listening to Pomona or Gwendolyn nor indeed, any of the others whose experience of the young man differs from your own. Simple suggestions have had no impact.

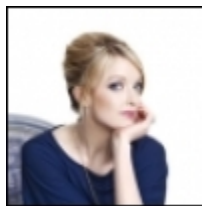
Our esteemed colleague Professor Vector does not expect us to do his work for him, no - no one has suggested that, so kindly let us not create straw men to knock down - but she has prevailed on each of us to offer him additional tutelage outside of normal

lessons.

As I said, I have little enough time for my own projects; I do not see how you expect to make more room in your busy schedule for an intensive programme for his benefit.

And as you said, we are both professionals and, I hope, friends, both with his interest at heart.

What does Rizzer think? He was very quiet during the discussion.

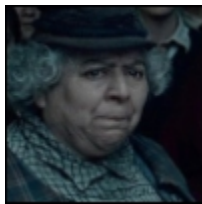


 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-02-28 03:43:19**
(no subject)

I make time for what is important to me - and that first and foremost is teaching, even those who do not share my passion. I'll talk about stars with anyone, you know.

That is why I have office hours. Requiring him to attend them, or even working up a set of assignments for him to practice on regularly would not disrupt my schedule overly.

As to Raz, we both had other business to attend to after the meeting, and I admit Capper was not a topic of conversation over the weekend.

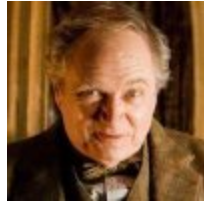


 **[alt_pomona](#) at 2012-02-28 03:49:52**
(no subject)

Frankly, it has been a most strenuous weekend, and we are unlikely to reach unanimity tonight.

Perhaps we might find a middle way?

I for one would be willing to offer tutoring, but only if I'd some confidence my efforts wouldn't go begging.



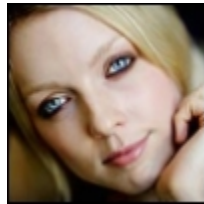
 [alt_horace](#) at [2012-02-28 03:52:57](#)
(no subject)

If Septima wishes to prevail upon the lad and exact a promise for an honest effort, Pomona, then I am willing to indulge her faith.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-28 04:07:31](#)
(no subject)

Would you care to discuss the matter with her, or shall I?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-02-28 03:57:34](#)
(no subject)

You're quite right, Pomona, on all counts.

It seems that the basic issue is that none of us wish him to fail, but several of you - you, Horace, Acton, Gwendolyn in particular - do not wish your work to be in vain.

Which is quite fair on the one hand.

On the other, if he were persuaded to commit to taking the matter seriously, and enough were willing to tutor him - he doesn't have to pass all his OWLs, after all. Just enough to continue, that would satisfy.

I thought Brutka was quite quiet, as well - perhaps he might be willing?

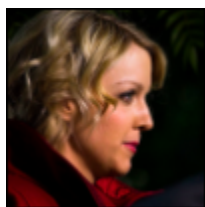


 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-02-28 04:20:45](#)
(no subject)

He does rather keep his own counsel, doesn't he?

Capper is a passable Transfiguration student, so perhaps some headway might be made there, and his schedule is likely to be more open than Horace's or my own,

since he doesn't have Head of House responsibilities to contend with.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-02-28 04:25:52](#)
(no subject)

He does, yes. Though I've found it interesting, when he chooses to speak up. Saturday afternoon, for example.

Right. He's obviously going to pass Arithmancy - he could probably do the NEWT now, honestly. If Brutka's willing to get him to standard for Transfiguration, I think I can for Astronomy, if he does buckle down.

We'd need .. oh, two more, to have it be a sure enough thing. Helena, in the Exam office, keeps throwing me comments that they're looking at some new approaches to testing various topics - something about a different style of question.

But if you both are willing (assuming, yes, he really does work), that would do, I think. I'd rather than that have someone try and coach him through History, though I suppose that's an option, And it would leave Charms out of it entirely, which might be safer for all concerned.



 **alt_pomona** at [2012-02-28 04:34:26](#)
(no subject)

Wait, he's taking Divination, isn't he?

If Septima can overcome her theoretical objections, she might encourage him to explore the connections between that subject and Arithmancy.

I'm afraid he doesn't have the sort of manner that might make Cordelia more favourably inclined.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-28 04:36:47](#)**
(no subject)

He is. Though I've no idea why either, sharing Septima's take on that topic.

But yes, that might be enough to do it.

Right. As I said above - shall I bring it up with her? Or would one of you rather? I'll have the second years up here in not too long, but I'd have time to get a note out once they're going.

2012-02-27 21:55:00

Private Message to Diocletian Brown

Thank you, thank you so much for convincing him not to.

You are *such* a good brother, and you can remind me I said that the next time I'm cross with you.

I can't believe he's making *jokes* about it on his journal. ~~I'd like to k~~ I guess it's just his way of playing off the nerves.

And thank Haruman too, when you see him, for dragging him off to the pub--and getting him drunk on Ogden's Extra Bold, I'll bet.

Don't give me the look I *know* you're giving me--I'm not 11 any more, I can read between the lines.

Not that I have to do much of that, where Tibs is concerned.

Love you,

Lavender



 [alt_lavender](#)

2012-02-27 22:05:00

Private Message to Tiberius Brown

You are an idiot.

I hope you know that.



 **alt_lavender**

I love you

Your very cross sister,

Lavender

2012-02-27 22:27:00

*Private Message to the Lord
Protector*



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

Tonight I shall write briefly, although as I grow to understand what sorts of information interests you, I shall write at more length.

The castle is, as you would expect, quite awed by recent events.

The Warrington boys are as yet not returned. We have discussed what to do with them. Fortunately they are Slytherins, and I think unlikely to cause trouble.

Your son is, I am told, concerned that he caused others' deaths by displeasing you. I suspect that he will try harder to be a dutiful child in the future, whether or not that was your intention.

We prepare for exams, now, with increasing diligence, and for the final task as well.

2012-02-28 08:42:00

Private message to Mummy

Dear Mummy,

I know that you're busy and I don't want to bother you so I'll make this very short.




 [alt_hydra](#)

I was just wondering what it is you might have done with Tevis? I'm not asking for him back. I know that this is my punishment and I will accept it.

I'm not even that worried or concerned about him, only some people have asked where my rabbit's gone, and I'm not sure how to answer them. And I want to be sure that my answer doesn't displease you. That's all.

From,
Hydra




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **2012-02-28 15:56:08**
(no subject)

It is very nearly impressive that you resisted the urge to include your father on this note - I am sure that it must have been a strong one.

I believe that your lessons are beginning shortly, however, and I will not converse with you on the journals until I know that your lessons are over.

Now, be off with you.



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-02-28 15:56:48**
(no subject)

But

Yes Mummy.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-28 23:50:08](#)
(no subject)

Mummy, I'm out of lessons now.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-02-28 23:56:43](#)
(no subject)

You've had all day to think about the matter, and you find that it's *still* important to you?

You must examine your priorities closer.

I didn't take the creature to punish you, I took it because your actions dictated that he should be taken. Compare it to your marks: when you receive a T in Arithmancy, is it because you are being punished, or because your actions dictated the mark? Because you lack of seriousness, studiousness, and maturity? All of the above.

You told me you had helped Harry prepared for the task. I know not what these preparations were, but Harry's actions during the task indicate that he, like you, is unable to prioritise. Since you have and will continue to have an influence in his life, your must not allow your tendency to go soft at crucial moments rub off on him. Certainly Narcissa has made certain that her own weaknesses haven't rubbed off on Lucius. I don't see why you cannot do the same.

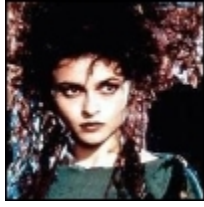


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-28 23:59:11](#)
(no subject)

~~But I'm not Aunt Nar~~

Of course, Mummy, I understand. The rabbit did keep me from prioritising as I ought to. Only now, if I just knew what happened to ~~him~~ it, I think I could move forward and focus on doing the things you want me to.

From,
Hydra



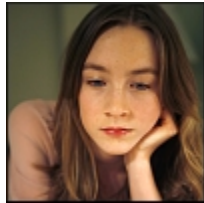
 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-02-29 00:01:46](#)
(no subject)

The rabbit lives and is cared for - just not by you.

Now, I suggest that you sit back and *focus* on just why that is, or I won't hesitate to remove your

horse next.

All for your own good, of course.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-02-29 00:02:48](#)
(no subject)

Of course, Mummy. Thank you.

From,
Hydra

2012-02-28 08:45:00

*Private message to Minerva McGonagall
and Septima Vector*



Minerva, Septima -

Horace, Pomona and I had quite the conversation last night after the meeting via journal, but in principle, we think we have something like a plan regarding Mr Capper. (Or rather, I dug in, and they seem to have come round.)

 [alt_sinistra](#)

It relies on you, Septima, to convince him to buckle down and truly work from now through exams (and over the holidays, especially). If he'll follow through, I believe we've enough staff willing to work with him to ensure he can pass enough OWLs to remain at school.

I am (and I still owe you that favour, besides), Brutka seemed at least open to the idea. Horace and Pomona are - grudgingly - if he can be persuaded not to waste their time. And perhaps he can either be convinced to the more Arithmantic side of Divination, or to the sheer blunt memorisation for History. (I rather agree that Charms is a dead loss, and Defence not much better.)

The other suggestion, was, perhaps arranging conversations with those in his position who both made good choices about having a variety of skills and who haven't. Tracking down someone who'd be willing for the latter might be harder, but I can put a feeler or two out if needed - the YPL gets letters from some of them, asking for whatever advice we can offer.

Are there other students, who might benefit from that, as well, even if they're not so badly off as Capper?

If you don't think you can talk him round, Septima, then - well, I'm as busy as Horace and Pomona are, or more. But as long as there's any hope, I'll sleep better at night knowing I've tried, personally.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-02-28 14:29:42](#)**
(no subject)

I do not believe there are any other students in quite the straits Mr Capper is in; I shall, however, make discreet inquiries.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-02-28 14:46:04](#)**
(no subject)

One does hope not, yes.

2012-02-28 09:50:00

Private message to Barney

It was just fruit, for the hampers we're putting together for Darius and Charles. You can even ask Lizzie...

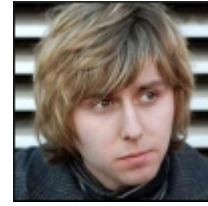
Or - I know, I'll just show you the exchange in my journal when we're at lunch.



 **alt_daphne**

2012-02-28 11:03:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Bellatrix Lestrange confiscated Hydra's rabbit.

I know, it's well ridiculous to be worried about her and her rabbit, after everything that happened at the weekend, what? But it's--so--bally well **cruel** I can't even explain how jolly well cross I am on Hydra's behalf.

 [alt_justin](#)

To make matters worse, she just wrote to her mother to ask what might happen to the jolly old thing and her mother flat-out refused to answer her. I just walked Hydra to Charms before going to Transfigurations and she showed me her journal.

'I will not converse with you on the journals until I know that your lessons are over' was all she had to say about it.

It's well intolerable. On top of all that occurred at the games, it's bally well *vicious* and to no particular end, what? I rather wish Sirius could write about this sort of thing in bloody detail so people can understand what these monsters are willing to do to their own, what, let alone innocent chaps like Ron's mate, Mark Towler.

Oh, and speaking of that.... I'm jolly well sorry I wasn't around to sympathise properly. Only I hadn't seen Hydra for several days and--well, she was already upset about Tevis before hearing all the business in the arena (she wasn't in the common room, but she did say she could hear some chatter about it in her dormitory). So we were rather comiserating together all day, what?

But Ron, I am sorry about your mate, and Terry, I hope you're on the mend. Dash it, I hate feeling well useless about it all.

But, I meant to ask, Sally-Anne: You corresponded with Prof Sinistra about the games, yes? She didn't take it odd that you were asking her, then?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 16:40:29](#)
(no subject)

Oh, poor Tully. And poor Hydra. What a horrid thing to do. I'd wondered where Tully was, because I'd heard people saying he'd gone missing. She had a rabbit before Tully who died rather horribly -- anyway, I'd wondered what happened.

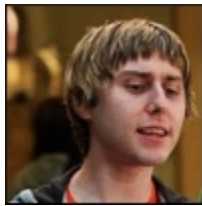


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 16:51:46](#)
(no subject)

Poor TEVIS, I mean.

Tully was the one she had before.

I don't know why she likes T names so much.



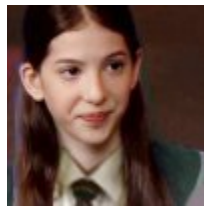
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-28 16:57:02](#)
(no subject)

Yes. And I know, it's hard to tell one rabbit from another.

She asked because people were asking, do you see, and she didn't know what it was safe to tell them. I suppose 'people' might have just been you, I don't know.

I'm trying to get her to see the appeal of 'J' names, what?

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 16:58:43](#)
(no subject)

It wasn't me who asked. I was afraid Her roommates might have, though.

Actually, her old rabbit looked quite different. It's just the names are so similar, I sometimes get them mixed up. And 'J' names would be a nice change!




 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-02-28 17:38:48](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that is so sad.

Pets can be the best sort of comfort. And to take one away--it is very unkind.


Perhaps her mother will relent and give her the rabbit back. I hope so.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-02-28 17:39:20](#)
(no subject)

Knowing her mother? Better not count on it.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-28 17:52:32](#)
Private Message to Sally-Anne and Luna

We might need to put on a tea this weekend, I think. To put our mind off of things.

I've asked, and I think she'd want to come too.


Hydra, I mean.



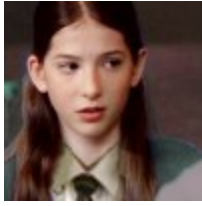
 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-02-28 18:10:31](#)
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Luna

I think that's a very good idea.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-28 18:44:09](#)
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Luna

I'm glad to hear it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 16:45:44](#)
(no subject)

And -- yes, during the tournament I wrote to Professor Sinistra because I knew she was in the stands.

She didn't take it odd I was asking her, but you know I spend some extra time in her office almost every week, because she pays me a little money to help her with some of her cleaning and organising. There are all sorts of astronomical instruments that have to be completely taken apart to be properly cleaned, and even if you're not using them they get a bit dusty. And sometimes while I'm there we talk a little. So I know her a bit better than a lot of the teachers. Also, she goes out of her way to be kind to me.

I've been wondering if she's one of the Wand Smugglers, actually. She's very careful about what she says but she doesn't lie, either, which is part of why I asked her.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-28 16:57:20](#)
(no subject)

A Wand Smuggler, really?

I don't think so, what? If she were, why would she take up with Professor Lestrangle?

I just realised how daft that is coming from me.

But, seriously, Sally-Anne, it's not as if everyone who's kind to a halfblood must be a smuggler, what?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 17:03:38](#)
(no subject)

That IS daft coming from you! 'The heart wants what the heart wants,' isn't that something the French say?

And I KNOW not everyone who's kind to a half-blood must be a smuggler. But you can tell when someone doesn't think less of you.

Narcissa Malfoy is kind but in a very different way. It's the graciousness of someone who can afford to be pleasant to her inferiors. Professor Sinistra isn't like that. I don't know how she treats Hermione, though.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-28 17:47:53](#)
(no subject)


It's not that she's kind.

It's that she tells what's actually going on.

And it'd be a rather good move on her part to sort out what's going on to get all friendly with Professor Raz, wouldn't it?

Although they do seem so sweet together. Not like she's pretending.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-28 19:50:29](#)
(no subject)

Unless he's a part of it too.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 16:47:52](#)
(no subject)

And I still think Mrs Weasley is one of them, even if all the Weasleys think it's hilarious I'd suggest their jolly old mum is a Woman of Mystery.

Also Madam Pomfrey. I've been pretty sure of her since the QWC. I'd trust her with nearly anything, if I had to.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-28 16:57:48](#)
(no subject)

I don't know about Mrs Weasley but I do think you're right about Matron.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 17:05:03](#)
(no subject)

Have you met Mrs Weasley? If you'll have ANY time free during spring hols we should have the Weasleys organise a pick up quidditch day at the Burrow. Those are brilliant fun. And you'd get to meet her.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-28 17:36:10](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant idea, Perks. In fact, consider yourself invited, Finch-Fletchley.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-02-28 20:06:38](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, thanks, but I rather think that the whole point of all the touring they've got planned for us is to keep us going off on our own, what?

Although. I suppose I could present it to Professor Froissart as just the sort of thing *I'm* meant to be doing. Possibly.

Well, I shall have to think about it.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-28 17:54:35](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Or if she isn't a wand-smuggler, Madame P knows how to keep secrets. And how to keep people from getting in trouble.

And yeah, I'd trust her too.



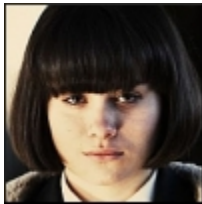
 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-02-28 17:34:32](#)
(no subject)

I may not have my parents in my life, but I sure don't envy her for hers. Her mother's especially notorious. For being cruel. You know she's the one who was supposed to have killed Sirius Black in France. And I've heard read other stuff about her. She supposed to be a really, really good at her job, mostly because she's just as ruthless as can be.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-28 17:45:39](#)
(no subject)

Bellatrix Lestrange is TERRIFYING.
And she's as awful to Hydra as she is to everyone else. Her mum 'helped her get over her fear of heights,' did you see where she mentioned that a week or two back? I'm sure it was by terrifying her over and over until she learnt to hide it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-02-28 17:51:26](#)
(no subject)

Well.

I can't say I'm surprised, but I do feel sorry for her.

If Tevis doesn't come back, perhaps we ought to buy a new rabbit that belongs to one of us, and Hydra can take care of it while we're at school. So it can be practically hers, but not something her mum can take away.

And Darius and Charles Warrington are in our House. Their dad was the one who died in the final duel.

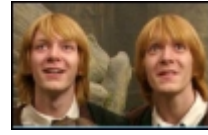
They were there.

We haven't really talked about it, because what can we say, really? But I know Daphne's getting together a basket for them.

2012-02-28 12:52:00

Private message to Julius Avery

We like the idea very much and have just the product you want: we can provide one for each of you, for a galleon each. We're giving you a deal because yeah, we agree, it will certainly boost morale.



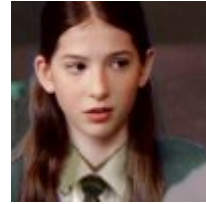
 **alt_gredforge**

2012-02-28 15:51:00

Private message to Pansy

Are you going to duelling club tonight?

I'm going, I think. I'm not sure it's going to be much fun, but I'm going.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-02-28 23:18:19**

(no subject)

I'll go if you're going.

Just to see what they say, more than anything.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-02-28 23:23:26**

(no subject)

You're on.

2012-02-28 16:13:00

Private Message to Fred and George Weasley



What in Merlin's name are you two playing at? If either of you are planning anything remotely inappropriate, so help me, I will make sure you spend the rest of the year in Detention.

 [alt_penelope](#)


And if it's Avery making light of things, I'd appreciate a chance to find out his intentions. I don't suppose you'd have any impulse to talk to him before he embarasses the whole school.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2012-02-29 15:24:22**
(no subject)

Sorry we didn't see this sooner so we could reassure you we had something entirely appropriate planned.



 [alt_penelope](#) at **2012-02-29 16:10:04**
(no subject)

Yes, well, I'm glad that it broke the tension and that for once Avery was thinking of the greater good and not his own convenience.

But, honestly, you two. Those wands really could get you into trouble if you're not careful about it.

Just... Just give out they're the Zonko's ones, or something. If you don't care about your own futures, think of Percy and Bill, and your parents, will you? Even Ginny stands to lose her contract if someone in her family is involved in any sort of scandal. Merlin's beard, even Ron has been doing a fair job keeping his nose clean lately, and that's saying something! I'd hate to see all that jeopardised because of a harmless prank or two.

So *please* be careful, all right?

[2012-02-28 17:30:00](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Look, you can't avoid me forever, I mean we practically live together, and—



Look, I want you to know that I care an awful lot, alright? I mean, I know that you're sure things are your fault, and I know some people probably think so too, and maybe it's true but if it is it's the kind of your fault that isn't really—because you didn't ask to have the father you have. I mean that sometimes our actions cause something to happen and that's true, but we don't really get to blame ourselves, like me with my parents and everything.

 **[alt_hermione](#)**

I just mean, you told me that I couldn't blame myself for what happened to my mum and dad, and if that was true, you've got to stop blaming yourself, alright?



 **[alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-28 23:32:53](#)**
(no subject)

sorry.

I just

I didn't know what to say, I guess.

I thought it was just the three people and that was bad enough, but after they started laying all those wreaths down and I knew it was all those other people too

and Charles and Darius. I mean. He killed their dad. Right in front of them.

So yeah.

I tried talking about it with Raz, about what I could do to stop it from happening next time, because we talked and he said what I wrote might've made it worse even, and he was sort of

he didn't know. Not really. I mean, we talked a bit about how he doesn't like it when people beg, but he doesn't like it when people

are disrespectful either, and when he's angry, pretty much everyone just waits til its over because if they say anything it makes things worse.

So I shouldn't have said anything I guess. Which is something else I did wrong.

And I guess I didn't say anything to you because I might've made it worse for you by writing what I did and it just seems like whatever I try is just the opposite of what I ought to do so I don't know why I even bother trying at all. and the whole point was to not get you and Draco in trouble any more but I can't even do that.

And I don't want to hurt you.

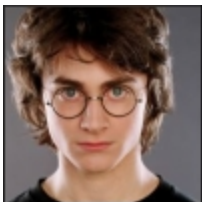
I don't.

It's the last thing I want to do.

And I still have to do it.

And it makes me sick thinking about it.

And I don't know if you'll get extra punishment because of what happened this weekend, or if Draco will, but that'll be my fault too.



 **alt_harry** at **2012-02-28 23:42:05**
(no subject)

and I can't bloody do anything about it because I've just got to sit there and take it or it'll be that much worse.

I can't do anything. I can't ask them to punish me instead, because that's how they punish me, by punishing you, because they know that's worse.

And I can't do what we'd planned with Draco, because I don't want him angry with me like that again.

Draco says he was angry before the task started.

Raz says I didn't do anything wrong.

But I made everything worse. Even though I was trying so hard not to.



 **alt_harry** at [2012-02-28 23:38:21](#)
(no subject)

I know.

About your parents.

It makes sense.

I mean, the whole actions causing something we don't mean to and stuff and it being kind of my fault but not really.

But that doesn't bring back seven people

ten people

they only put down seven wreaths, but there were three other ones too.

ten people, Hermione.



 **alt_harry** at [2012-02-29 00:48:03](#)
(no subject)

I guess it's easier to write about it than talk about it.



 **alt_hermione** at [2012-02-29 04:12:54](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

Look Harry, I mean

When I said before, it was because Mr Milland said something to me about what he said to you, and he told me that he didn't want it to be

I just mean, I know this is terrible, and I know you know that it's terrible for everybody else too, and I appreciate that about you, I

mean it's something that makes you a good person and not horrible. And I don't think Mr Milland wanted to say you were a horrible person, he told me that, because I think he felt bad about making you feel bad, he just didn't want to lie and say that the things we do don't matter because they do.

But that doesn't mean that you're bad.

I wish I could come out of my cubby now that I see this, only I think I'd better not. It's very late and you know how people can be. But I just don't think any less of you, if that matters.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-29 04:20:10](#)
(no subject)

He talked to you? About what he said to me?

Be careful with him. I don't like that he's using you to try to get to me like that.

And he told me I should feel bad, so I don't care if he feels bad about what he said.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-02-29 04:22:16](#)
(no subject)


He isn't using me Harry. It's not like that okay? It wasn't creepy or anything like that, and I would know if it was, I swear.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-29 04:23:03](#)
(no subject)

Okay, then.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-02-29 04:22:27](#)
(no subject)

It's okay.

You don't have to come out.

I mean, writing it all down sort of helped anyways.

And you and Raz and Draco. You've helped too. And it does matter.
You matter. A lot.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-02-29 04:22:49](#)**
(no subject)

Well that's good anyway.

2012-02-28 17:34:00

Order Only—Private message to Severus Snape and Harry Marvolo



Mr Snape,

Harry is still avoiding me. I thought you should know. I mean, I don't think that you were trying to do anything too bad when you spoke with him, but he didn't take it the way you meant it, I think.

 [alt_hermione](#)

I'm sure you're right that he wants the truth about things, that's why he likes Sirius so much, but maybe not that kind of truth, when it hurts so much for him.



 [alt_severus](#) at **2012-02-28 22:39:11**
(no subject)

I would have thought he were more used to that sort of pain. His actions frequently cause harm to others, and he knows it then.



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2012-02-28 22:40:26**
(no subject)

Well, it's different when it's Draco or me, because nobody has ever tried to kill us, and also because we can talk about it. I mean, of course it isn't fair at all, but Harry at least knows that we know what's going on. I don't think the people at the Frost Faire did, do you?



 [alt_severus](#) at **2012-02-28 22:44:00**
(no subject)

Day after day, I am surprised that you find charity in your heart to spare for the person who is the tangible embodiment of your oppression.

In any case, I do not wish to frighten him away. I will take your advice. You know him far better than I.

I removed your Anti-Allergen Elixir from its heat just now. It is cooling, and it is quite perfect.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-02-28 22:45:44](#)**
(no subject)

Is it really?! I thought I botched it on the last step, the dungbeetles—I was sure I didn't crush them fine enough.

As for Harry, it's not always easy, but he can be very kind—and he always wants to be kind, anyway.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-02-28 22:47:12](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, it is really. What could I possibly gain from lying?

As for Mr Marvolo, that is a matter that only you can judge.

[2012-02-28 21:36:00](#)

Duelling Club

That was well funny!



And I think we'd all agree that we could use a laugh about now, yeah?

 [alt_susan](#)



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2012-02-29 02:41:19](#)
(no subject)

Too right! Who says Slytherins don't have a grand sense of humour?

Well done, Avery and Derrick.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-29 02:44:24](#)
(no subject)

There's just something about seeing someone get hit with a fish--you can't help but laugh!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-29 02:52:46](#)
(no subject)

Those weren't REALLY their wands, were they?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-02-29 02:55:27](#)
(no subject)

I guess they could have put a charm on them or something, but I think they were probably trick wands...

...and I can't *imagine* where they might have gotten those in this school, can you?




 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-02-29 03:23:04](#)**
(no subject)

Of course not, Perks. They got them off Fred and George Weasley.

Ordinarily that sort of contraband could get those two into quite a heated cauldron but--under the circumstances--it would seem counter-productive.

So long as a rash of these fake wands don't start showing up everywhere. I don't think MLE's Wand Authentication Squad would take too kindly to them, even if they are dead useless.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-02-29 04:03:57](#)**
(no subject)

You've got to admit, it was dead hilarious when Avery's wand turned into a haddock. And when Derrick gave up trying to cast spells with his--what kind of fish was his, anywiz?--and started just thwacking Avery with it!!!

Awesomely wizard, that.




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-02-29 04:09:40](#)**
(no subject)

Extremely!

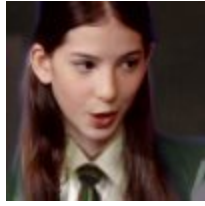
And really, they don't deserve a hard time--after all, you can get trick wands at Zonko's can't you?

They aren't exactly contraband.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-02-29 04:19:18](#)**
(no subject)

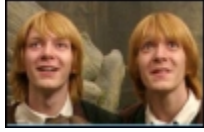
They are when they're not licenced, Bones.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-02-29 05:22:10](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

So that stick up your arse, Clearwater -- is THAT licenced?



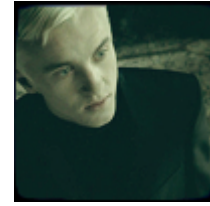
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-02-29 13:18:04](#)

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

Think how much it would improve her posture!

2012-02-29 10:00:00

Private message to Druella Black



 [alt_draco](#)

Dear Nanella,

How are you? Mother told me that Pascoal took you on holiday to Bath for Valentine's. I know how you adore that Georgian architecture - Pascoal made an excellent choice. We're you able to get a table at the Loathly Lady? It's new, but supposedly an incredibly culinary experience, especially if you like duck fat. (They really need to come up with a new word for *duck fat*, though; I'm sure part of the reason *foie gras* is such a delicacy is because it's not called *fatty goose liver*).

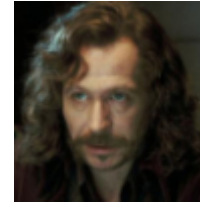
Anyway, you can tell me all about that in your next Owl. The reason I'm writing you here is because I would like to ask a favour of you. Mothering Sunday is coming up and I'm considering options for Mother's gift. I'm interested in getting her some earrings, perhaps set with emeralds - for Spring, hey? Only I shouldn't like to get her something that looks like anything she already owns. That's where you come in: if you could slip over to Malfoy Manor some time this week and take an inventory of her emerald jewellery, it would help me to come to a decision. Oh, and keep it under your robes, of course - I want to surprise her.

Thank you, Nanella. You'll be doing me a great service - and your daughter, as well.

Love,
Draco

2012-02-29 19:39:00

Order Only: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Potter



Hermione,

How's Harry? Send me the dates of the rest of the Hogsmeade weekends, will you? I think I can manage at least one visit soon.

 [alt_sirius](#)

Tell him to hang in there. You, too, kiddo. I know you've got some tough times coming.

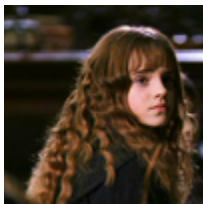
Sirius



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-01 05:51:10](#)

(no subject)

A little down. Mr Snape said something to him—I don't know what exactly, but it wasn't helpful in any case—and he's been upset about it. He'd love to have a visit from you, I'm sure.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-01 05:51:32](#)

(no subject)

Oh, and—next weekend is Hogsmeade!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-01 16:08:24](#)

(no subject)

Do you mean the 10th?

Right. Best get a move on, then.

2012-02-29 21:44:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall



min

I know you've got a lot on your plate right now, but it's been a while since we've heard of any muggle born babies in the book.

 [alt_frank](#)

any new additions?

last time, we had to really scramble to get them all before they started showing, and I'd like to get ahead of it if we could.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-03-01 05:49:22](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Lord.

There's no getting ahead of them this time, Frank. There's thirteen. How we shall ever get through them,

I do not know.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-01 06:12:11](#)
(no subject)

merlin.

we'll do our best to get as many as we can.

I shouldn't have let it go this long without asking you.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-03-01 06:17:32](#)
(no subject)

It's entirely my fault.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-03-01 06:33:36](#)**
(no subject)

we'll prioritise, like last time, try to get the paperwork through for the older ones first.

kingsley and sirius and al can lend a hand.

as can macnair.

and stephen mcgovern if needed.

[2012-02-29 22:00:00](#)

Saturday's YPL event

YPL students:

Our first meeting with Mrs Pencarrow, for the mural and art project, is on Saturday at 2. She'll present an overview of the project and common artistic techniques. We'll then decide on a topic (bring your best ideas).



 [alt_sinistra](#)

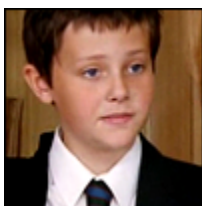
Finally you'll have an opportunity to sign up for time to both work on the mural and for the tours of the Hogwarts paintings and portraits she'll be offering (you'll be expected to attend two over the next 6 weeks.)

Our guests are welcome to participate as well, of course, to the degree they wish - please come to the meeting and sign up for times that suit you.

Fourth years:

Due to a necessary meeting, I'd like to reschedule our class on Tuesday night the 13th.

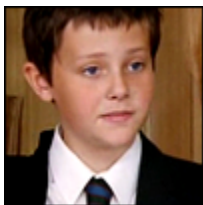
I'm open to either meeting at midnight on Sunday (going into Monday) the 11th, or for two hours the following Tuesday (the 20th) beginning at 11 instead of midnight. If you've a strong preference, let me know and we'll decide in our evening class next Tuesday.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2012-03-01 03:05:56](#)

(no subject)

Professor, what if we can't draw?



 [alt_michael](#) at [2012-03-01 03:06:31](#)

(no subject)

I mean if someone can't draw. Theoretically. Not me, specifically, Professor.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:11:11](#)
(no subject)

I had the same question: there are apparently a number of tasks that don't require artistic talent. Mrs Pencarrow has told me that people often enjoy painting the base color for larger areas of the mural, others like preparing the pigments or mixing the paint.

She will be doing much of the drawing - setting up the overall design and such - but there will be room to include people who do want to stretch their talents in that area as well.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:26:48](#)
Private message to Raz

I've just gotten the formal list of YPL concerns.

I'm to respond in writing to points from the specific (28th January), to the general (apparently our meetings are inefficient, and the programme is not fulfilling all its expectations), to the personal (how our relationship is impacting work with students, with specific reference to Miss Calderwood, the matter with Stint, and Harry.) That last seems to have been tacked on later.


They also listed out the possible outcomes, from finding me free from blame, to forcing the addition of an assistant, to removing me. (And, if they find cause, taking up whether I should remain here, or face charges before the Wizengamot.) I know they don't have cause, but that that's even on the list is, well.

Written response due to them the 6th, meeting on the 13th (with them and 'other interested' but unnamed parties) to respond to questions.

On the plus side, Campanella sent the report on the actual instructions Fulton received. They finally confirmed that it's neither my handwriting nor my likely phrasing, but not said whether they know who it actually was.

Forward, I guess. Somehow. And honestly, I'm sort of glad for something to focus on.

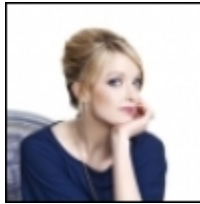


 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-01 03:57:12](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Bloody Erebus. That's all rather... more than expected.

Give me a bit of a think on this. Well, you're observing right now. Let's talk after, yeah?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 04:03:04](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

It is, rather. On one hand, it's clearly so much foolishness. On the other, I can't but take it seriously. Though very glad I got so much done this month - I'll need all that to support my arguments.

As to the observing: I'm mostly set up for class already. Just sort of sitting up here in the lee of the door and looking up.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-01 04:16:56](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

I'll wait till I see the list for sure, but I'm inclined to say that the board is mostly just probing around to see if you can provide a good explanation for why the programme is designed as it's been designed, and are throwing in bits about me to throw you off balance. But I know you- you believe in the way you've decided to run things, so much so that you wouldn't dream of letting anyone else fill your shoes. I think if you keep that in mind, it will make this all the more bearable, love.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 04:20:38](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

I... yes.

It's - all right, I think I can do this better than most people, and I'm stubborn about that.

It's not so much that I think mine is the only way. (Maybe I do, but I try to be open minded.) But more that I care that whoever

does it does right by the students, and there are so many possible wrong ways.

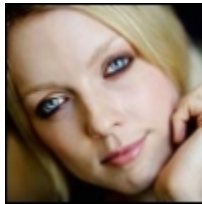


 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-01 04:36:15](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

I'm sure that there are people on that board who would admire how you put the students first. though I fear that they might keep silent about it in the face of the others. Because as a whole the board cares more about making sure that the YPL creates Protectorate-loyal students.

So, basically, if you substitute "doing right by students" with "doing right by the Protectorate," then you're golden as a gold snitch.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 04:41:50](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Right.

Repeatedly. In large letters. With rubrication and flourishes. I can manage that, I think.

On the bits about us, actually. Half-had the thought of going about it by pointing out that the Protectorate wants people to have more little witches and wizards, and that modelling relationships to students is a part of that. But I'm not sure I want to go there, either.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-01 05:03:08](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

If you're saying you want to have my baby you could at least buy me dinner, first. Or, you know, a pie?

But yeah, best not start planting seeds. In heads or elsewhere.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 05:08:08](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

That made me laugh, love. Much needed, thank you.

It was mostly on my mind because I got the quarterly selection of pamphlets from the Department of Wizarding Repopulation again yesterday. Though they swapped out the matchmaking service one, finally.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-01 03:28:01](#)

(no subject)

Wizard! I'm really looking forward to it.

Do you think she'd mind if we asked her a few questions about how she became an artist, after school

and all?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:34:12](#)

(no subject)

I believe she'd quite enjoy that, in fact. She's been most interesting in the meetings we've had, and very passionate about her field.

You'll be required to attend a couple of the tours she's giving, but she's said people should sign up for as many as they like once everyone's had a chance, and I know she has plans to look at a variety of different topics in those, as well.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-01 03:39:29](#)

(no subject)


I wonder how she learnt so much about the Hogwarts portraits...I guess I'll have to ask.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:43:51](#)
(no subject)

I believe she plans to spend a fair portion of her first few days here visiting them, mind - she's certainly read about them, but part of her interest in this project is a chance to spend more time with them than would normally be possible.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-01 03:51:22](#)
(no subject)

I haven't done it much lately, because we're all so busy now, but when I was a first year I used to talk to the portraits quite a bit, especially during spring term.

I bet I could have found out all sorts of interesting things, if I'd known the right questions to ask.




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:55:48](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps this might inspire you again, then?

And I'm sure it's pleasant for the portraits to have someone take an interest occasionally.

There's one in one of the hallways near here I have a chat with every so often.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-01 03:59:23](#)
(no subject)

Maybe so! Actually, I think that sounds like a good theme for a Teatime of the Strange.

Yeah, a few of the portraits would get shirty, but most of them were pretty friendly, which was nice as I wasn't much on people at the time.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 04:06:08](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad that's gotten better for you.

I still have the books Mrs Pencarrow gave me to prep for this - do you want to borrow them until Saturday?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-01 04:14:39](#)
(no subject)

That'd be brill! Thanks!



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 04:16:17](#)
(no subject)

I'll bring them down to lecture with me tomorrow, then.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:32:25](#)
Private message to Poppy and Pomona


I've finally gotten the full list of concerns the YPL oversight board would like me to address. I'll be scarce until Tuesday evening, after the written response is due.

And Pomona: regarding our conversation Monday night, thank you for treating me like an adult. I do respect where you're coming from, even when we disagree, and I hope you always know that.

Horace's approach just brought out my worst hackles. And Bathsheba's constant references during the meeting to how things worked better twenty years ago didn't help, either.

That's not the now we're living in, is it?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-01 03:40:01](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Oh, bless.

Do let me know if there's anything you need. Are you sleeping any better?



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-01 03:44:02](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Are they making quite a meal of it, then?

I'm glad to be well out of that sort of political nonsense, but I'm sorry you've got to put up with it.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:47:58](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Yes, they are. And for really no good cause.

On the other hand, losing myself in parchment is appealing this week.

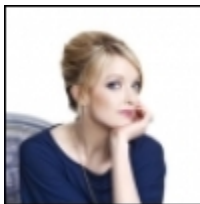


 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-01 03:55:35](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Oh, don't worry, *I* know it's all a ridiculous load of bollocks.

Sadly, that won't stop them from carrying it as far as they think they can.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:59:00](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Thank you on the first.

And yes, on the second. They're clearly grasping on most counts, but if I take it less than seriously, that's a problem of its own.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 03:47:07](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

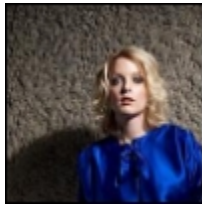
Better is not the word I'd pick, really.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-01 04:19:50](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

For diagnostic purposes--and not to be either contrary or glib with you--what word *would* you pick? Feel free to use several if several apply.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 04:34:37](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

If I don't answer, you're going to insist on my coming down, or you coming up, aren't you.

Right.

Less insomnia, more nightmares. Still don't want sleeping potions, thank you.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-01 16:24:21](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Did you manage any rest last night, dear?

If not, might it be time to discuss measures you might take to improve things? I appreciate your wish to avoid potions and do not in any case intend to force treatment upon you, but I would be happy to suggest alternatives if you reach the point where you would be willing to consider them.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-03-01 16:33:54**

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

A little.

Wednesday nights are hopeless anyway, as I teach two sessions, and then need time to wind down.

On alternatives, I suppose I'd be willing to listen.

That sounds very grudging, doesn't it. I do appreciate the care, Poppy, truly. Just, well.

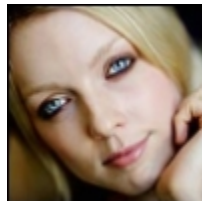


 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2012-03-01 17:57:54**

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Well, at the very least, we could charm your pillow and duvet for peace and rest.

You're not in the habit of reading or working in bed, are you?



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-03-01 18:12:40**

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

That couldn't hurt, no, you're right.

As to your question: my usual habit is to shoo everyone back to their dorms, tidy up whatever special telescopes or devices we've been using. And then come down, have a bath (and usually read the gossip rags), then curl up in bed with something more pleasant.

Nothing serious, and not work.

Right now, that's this rather lovely new historical romance about Tiphaine Ragueneau (*If He Were But Here* - nothing distressing, though I admit I'm having some trouble giving it the attention it probably deserves.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-01 20:30:29](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

That seems a sound approach to preparing for sleep, though they do say that if you have difficulty, it might be necessary to make changes in what you habitually do in preparation--as those things may have become associated with the reverse. In such cases, the common advice is to do nothing in bed aside from sleeping so that your mind will come to associate one exclusively with the other.

Perhaps I should have asked, as well, whether you often, seldom or never allow yourself to fall asleep in a chair or in other places than your bed. I will, however, present the issue merely as a matter for your consideration. I'm sure you can see the correlation and may judge for yourself whether any changes of pattern might be useful in your case.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-01 20:42:15](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

I'll think about that, thank you. And there are a few patterns to consider. I am rather looking forward to the weekend - they tend to be easier.

As to falling asleep elsewhere - mostly not, though I've nodded off on the daybed in my office a time or two.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-01 17:44:39](#)

(no subject)


I think this project sounds quite exciting!

My father used to allow me to paint all over the cabinets and walls in our home. And I loved it, experimenting with all sorts of crazy colours and designs, and it made the space seem so much more dear and personal to me.

My foster parents don't quite see the point of that sort of thing

though, I'm afraid. The walls in my room are bare white, and my foster mother insists thinks it best that they be kept that way.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-03-01 17:54:03**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Heh.

I think I only ever went to your house once, and Mum made me stay outside. But, um. It's pretty hilarious to think what your idea of 'crazy' colours could be!