

2012-03-01 15:13:00

ORDER ONLY

time to go on the road again.

talked with Minerva earlier, we've got a whole crop on the books to track down. thirteen, all told.



 [alt_frank](#)

bill, now that you're working in a different department, is that going to make things harder, or are you still good with getting us the right sort of paperwork? we're doing reasonably well on polyjuice stores, and we haven't got to the bottom of the supplies from the latest smuggling round, so we can afford to make more. so steve's started making extra batches just to keep on top of things. snape, I'll let you know if we need someone else brewing too, but we should be fine.


we should try to group by region and prioritise so we get to the older ones earlier.

sirius, I know you've been busy with the shop and all, but you game? kingsley, you in too?

macnair, I was thinking that if you could lend a hand, it'd be appreciated. and snape, if you can get away from school for a day or two without attracting notice. if you can't, we'll manage.

al and steve and me are ready to go from moddey as a team. steve hasn't done a lot of field work before, but he's been helpful on the smuggling trips so I think he'll do just fine.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-03-01 20:36:57**

(no subject)

Frank, you know that you are always welcome to whatever polyjuice we can brew, but you would be quite mistaken if you think that Severus is now in control of the ingredients and supplies we have here.

Certainly he is our heaviest user, but if he's given you the impression that he's talked himself into control of ~~my~~ your stores, you've been misled.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-03-01 20:45:53](#)**
(no subject)

no mistaking that, poppy. it's just the sort of potion that needs watching, and I know he can make it. that's all.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-03-01 21:44:00](#)**
(no subject)

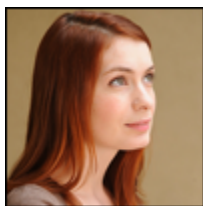
You have seen every interaction with Frank that I have had since our school days, Poppy.


I am thrilled to discover that you still believe I am interested in usurping your domain. Shouldn't Pomona be the person most concerned?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-03-01 22:01:23](#)**
(no subject)

Pomona cultivates the fluxweed, of course, but as you know, we've shared the work of acquiring and storing (which is to say, hiding) the other ingredients, and, as one would expect you also know, the brewing has been my task. Or perhaps you haven't bothered to notice as you've been interested only in requisitioning our ingredients for your own uses--a significant strain on our ability to provide for others' needs.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-01 22:04:31](#)**
(no subject)

And the potions you make are perfectly serviceable, Poppy. Frank was only suggesting that if we needed an additional qualified brewer, that Severus might add a hand. It does take such a long time to do properly, and he's just looking ahead. That's all.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-01 22:25:06](#)
(no subject)

I should hope they are 'serviceable'.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-01 20:41:03](#)
(no subject)

Frank, I could come if you need someone. I could call in ill to work for tomorrow if we needed, but I work so late (well, early if you think of it from the other angle) that there's probably no conflict at all.

And I don't work tomorrow night or Saturday.

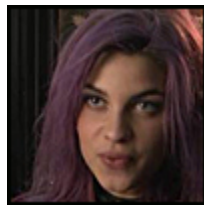


 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-01 21:23:37](#)
Private Message to Tonks

you'd save me a load on polyjuice, that's for sure.
and it's good to know you want to help.

but last time you and remus both were out in the field, it was a problem.

and I can't afford problems.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-01 21:38:03](#)
Re: Private Message to Tonks

Well. We can't all go along, anyway. There's Bea, and the shop to tend. And the garden, depending on the timing.

But you can count on me us to help. And obviously the three of us will talk about which of us would be best to go. ~~Just don't write us off without~~



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-01 21:52:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Tonks

obviously.

and like I said, I could use the help.

I just need to know that what happened last time won't happen again. right?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-01 21:49:49](#)

(no subject)

Dora, I'll go if you don't mind. I've got to get to Hogsmeade by the 10th, at any rate. This will get me closer to there, for one, and help me work off some of this excess energy I've had since that spectacle at the weekend.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-01 21:57:14](#)

(no subject)

depends on how fast bill can get the paperwork through, but we'll probably be working for the next several weeks to get them all so there'll be plenty to do.

and I'm sure you three can sort out between you who goes when if that's what you're willing to do.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-01 21:59:09](#)

Private Message to Sirius Black

key word here being you all know who's doing what so we don't end up like we did last time around, yeah?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-02 04:10:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

That was different, though. They were - well, it was different.

You know Remus is just a worrier. He's better if he's not looking over his shoulder to make sure one or the other of us is okay.

We think we'll take things in shifts, anyway, so it'll all work out.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-02 04:32:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

that's fine by me.



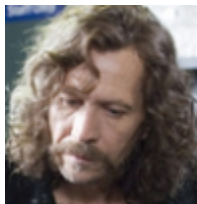
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-01 22:20:10](#)

Private Message to Sirius

What's in Hogsmeade on the 10th?

Have you told Remus you're wanting to go off-
or, oh. You're not both planning to go and just hadn't said yet-
I mean to say, I'm sure we could manage, but how long would you be gone? And I'd thought- well, I suppose I expected we'd talk about something like that before it was all decided- or-

I'm going to stop and see what you say before I bang on anymore.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-01 22:53:29](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius

Well, Harry's in Hogsmeade on the 10th. And I've not told Remus yet, no.

He'll probably tell me how foolish it is. But Harry -

I want to see him. And I think he could do with a visit.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-01 23:23:12](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius

Ah.

Well. All right. I'll just sit tight and let you tell him, then. Before we get too far along, talking about which of us can go help with the babies.

You're thinking you'll tell him... soon?

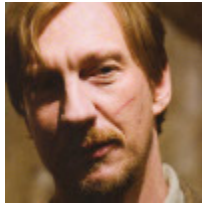


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-02 04:15:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius

Sooner than I planned, apparently.

Oh, bugger. I've just remembered. That's his birthday, isn't it?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-02 02:00:55](#)

Private message to Padfoot

Hogsmeade by the 10th?

What? Why?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-03-04 23:38:12](#)

(no subject)

I can still help, although I'll be a step removed. But I'll be using the same people to forge the documents. And I'm using the same 'back door' to the spells for the security clearance.

Send me the list of names, Minerva, as well as the parents, and I'll start the process.



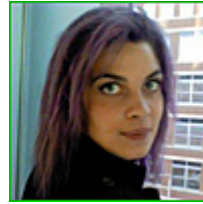
 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-03-04 23:39:24](#)**
(no subject)

I can certainly help, Frank, yeah. We have a hiatus from our performance schedule for the next three weeks and have been checking in with several of the groups in the Sherwood Band. Just let me know when

and where.

2012-03-01 15:41:00

Order Only Private Message to Remus and Sirius



 **alt_nymphadora**


What sort of trade are you doing today?
Still busy in the garden?

Do I need to check again on the Mead? Or did they deliver today? They promised me today.

You've seen Frank's. What are you thinking? Which of us should go? I'm really keen to help with it, if that's all right with you lot. Thirteen to save!

I can't believe she's just not looked at the book at all. All this time? I suppose the Tri-Wizard business has been a strain, but it's awful to think what could happen. Thirteen!



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-03-01 21:52:50**
(no subject)

I've been itching to get out and do something meaningful, as well. But you're right we can't leave Remus alone in that case.

I was going to go up to Hogs Maybe we can take it in shifts.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-03-01 22:11:12**
(no subject)

I think we could take it in turns, couldn't we? Because it won't all be done in a day, so one or two of us could be involved and the third can cover. Just do

I was going to say it's a shame we haven't hired someone to work the garden for us already, but I suppose that would make this sort of thing more complicated.

Or maybe not. I mean, we're each of us good in our own ways at covering things up and telling lies when that's necessary.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-02 01:58:23](#)
(no subject)

Turns are fair. With thirteen to find and rescue, it'll take more than a day. Probably more than two.

It's probably best if we don't all leave Bea.

If you want the first go, you got to the journals before I did! (Plus, there's your day off to consider.)



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-02 02:18:59](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, you.

Actually, I want to talk to you about that. Soon. I'm still thinking it over, though.

We'll see how soon Bill gets the parchmentwork done. I wrote Frank before I considered. Well, it's not likely to be tomorrow or Saturday, is it? And I don't want to put them out, thinking they might have to wait on me to get off. Of course, my shift ends early enough, but they might worry I'd hold things up and, well-

Frank's still cross about last time. That's why he didn't actually ask either of us to come along.

So I suppose I'm saying that depending when they want to go, it might be better if it's you. If you want to go along, that is.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-02 02:26:51](#)
(no subject)

Of course I want to go. For the same reasons I assume you'd like to.

I still wish sometimes I could wrap you in cotton wool, you know. Sirius, too. But it would kill both of you if I did.

At any rate, we can tell them it'll be you if it happens on one of your days off, me if it happens one of the other days. I don't

think we'd squabble again, but -- Sirius isn't likely to bow out, and I don't trust Kreacher to babysit.

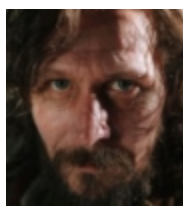


 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-02 02:59:37](#)
(no subject)

I agree about Kreacher and Bea. He's just not the baby-minding sort. Especially a baby of impure status like our girl. It makes me more nervous that he pretends to think she's a bit of all right.

But it's more than Kreacher. I've been thinking about what it was like sitting in that arena. And I've been thinking what would happen to Bea if something happened to all of us. What if the Watch had taken us all in that Sunday they tried to trap us. And Bea was back at Grimmauld, and-

It's awful to think about.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-02 05:01:28](#)
(no subject)

Steady on, Dora.

He pretends to fancy her? Sorry, I know that's not your point. I just hadn't noticed it before.

Anyway, you can't think that way. That's the sort of thing that makes fuzzy-pants over there want to 'wrap us in cotton wool.' It's that line of thinking that keeps people from acting out against the problem. Fear has always been the Death Eaters' weapon. You ought to know that, growing up as you did.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-01 21:54:04](#)
(no subject)

And yeah. Maybe we should ask Poppy or Pomona to make sure someone checks more often. What if Malfoy's seen any of this lot in the book already and they disappear?



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-03-01 22:14:13**
(no subject)

She'd have thought of it, surely, if he'd asked to look. So maybe he hasn't done. When's their next governors' meeting? Or when does he generally ask to see it?

You're right, though. Perhaps one of them would make a point of reminding her.

~~Does it seem to you~~



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-03-02 01:58:53**
(no subject)

I rather assumed the whole point of a false book was to ensure he only ever saw what he was meant to see.



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-03-02 02:30:21**
(no subject)

Although I suppose the trouble is that if a kid showed his magic and Malfoy hadn't seen his name in the book...

Clearly I need more sleep.

2012-03-01 19:12:00

Private Message to Amara Mitiku Lindorm



 [alt_blaise](#)

Mother,

I can't imagine why you thought I would send congratulations to Mr Cooper on his second-round loss in Our Lord's Gladiatorial Games--and to a halfblood witch, no less. But since it seems important to you, I have sent compliments on his work's having been selected and installed as a memorial to the proud fallen, etc.

However. Since you've raised the matter, Mother, I must now say that I have spent the past week in complete shame at having learned (as did everyone else, everywhere) that my mother has engaged herself to a *halfblood*. Fine. A three-quarter-blood, a fact the programmes noted with such absolute precision that his lower-caste status has now been broadcast to all and sundry.

Honestly, Mother. *What are you thinking?*

2012-03-01 22:34:00

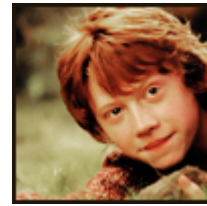
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Thanks, you lot for not doing anything horrible to me today. Heh.

Fisheye, the fake wand is perfect. And George even showed me the charm that makes it turn back into a wand so you can use it again!

And Perks, I'm calling my dragon Cinnabar. He's totally wizard. Right now, he's stomping around the table top and butting my hand with his head to get me to pay attention instead of writing in here! You've really got good at that orijammy stuff.

Oh, and Mum sent a parcel with plum preserves and ginger biscuits. I don't think she meant I should have them at the same time. Though, actually, that might not be bad.



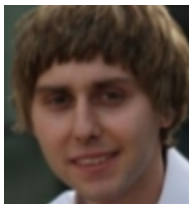
 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-03-02 04:57:02**

(no subject)

Happy birthday, tuna breath!



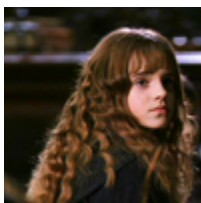
 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-03-02 05:11:03**

(no subject)

Hullo Ron,

What ho, is today your birthday? Many happy returns, old chap!

-Justin




 [alt_hermione](#) at **2012-03-03 05:45:08**

(no subject)

Happy birthday, Ron!



 **alt_ron** at [2012-03-03 05:59:44](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Yeah, thanks, you. It was a good day.

No one hexed me to make me do anything ridiculous this year.

[2012-03-01 22:42:00](#)

So, Weasley, did

Brocklehurst take advantage of Leap Day and pop the question, or not?



I was reading in *Dish!* that Mr Cooper's putting up a monument for the games, which I think is well respectful.

 [alt_padma](#)


And at History Club tonight, we talked all about times when people have had to sacrifice for a greater purpose and how duelling has always been a matter of honour and privilege. I hope it helped give some perspective to people, even though of course, it's terrible to lose friends or family.

I keep thinking about my brother and how he died, and how it wasn't the same sort of thing as Mr Warrington or the others at all. Because he didn't have any way to defend himself and even if it wasn't supposed to happen, I think it's important, what Auror Crouch said about being ready anytime, just in case. And culling the weak, I think that's something to think about, too. Wizards being weak is part of why we let the Muggles push us aside in the old days, and it's because of the Lord Protector's strength that we were able to push back.

I guess He thought we needed a reminder.

And I've been thinking about all our CCF training, last year, and how we've sort of fallen off over the winter. So I'm starting again. Daphne, if you or anyone else wants to join, we're starting with conditioning exercises again this Sunday. Parvati and I will also lead yoga if anyone's interested.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-02 04:32:12](#)
(no subject)

I think *Dish!* is giving you daft ideas.

Oh, wait. You don't even need a magazine for that.

What's yoga?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-02 04:36:16](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Thank you! I was wondering that same question. I love the way Patil throws things like that out so that she can act like you're stupid when you don't know.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-02 04:46:16](#)

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

Yeah. You can say that again.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-03-02 04:42:33](#)

(no subject)

And I think that's a very insensitive way to treat the Towlers and the Warringtons when they're looking for some solace and meaning, Weasley. But then that's not very surprising, is it?

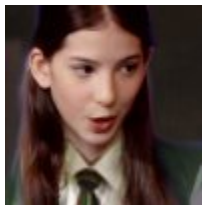
Yoga's a way of breathing and stretching and it really helps with balance and core strength and flexibility.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-02 04:45:47](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Nice.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-02 04:50:52](#)

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

A way of breathing? Have you ever had trouble with breathing? Because I haven't. Except for the time I fell out of a tree and landed on my back. But I don't expect that's what she's talking about.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-03-02 05:07:13](#)**
(no subject)

Oh! Well, I'll have to check with my calendar, but I'm sure I can fit it in.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-03-02 05:14:53](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, nift! We've got a lot to make up but I think we can all manage it. And I'm really glad you're planning to come, Daffs, we've missed seeing you around.

2012-03-01 22:52:00

Order Only: Private message to Padfoot

Why do you need to go to Hogsmeade on the 10th? Please tell me this doesn't have anything to do with my birthday, because the birthday gift I'd most like would be having you home and in one piece and not captured by Bellatrix Lestrange. They pulled the Dementors out, but that doesn't mean that village isn't still crawling with MLE.



 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-03-02 05:07:06**

(no subject)

Is it better, or worse, to say I completely bludgering forgot that it's your birthday?

I thought I'd go up to Hogsmeade right after the full moon. See Harry. He's got a Hogsmeade day and I figured he could meet me in that cave, up in the hills above the village. I spent some time there last year and no one discovered it; it should still be safe.

I'd already promised Hermione before I remembered your birthday. Sorry?



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-03-02 05:20:02**

(no subject)

Oh for Merlin's sake.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-03-02 05:25:22**

(no subject)

So ... What you really meant to say there is, 'It's too bad they're both at the same time but I'll get along without you well enough,' right?

2012-03-02 00:00:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Neville and Luna



 [alt_pansy](#)

I've ordered the cake for this weekend -- if the weather's nice, we'll go outside and play pick-up quidditch or something, and if it isn't, we can just stay inside and listen to records.

Neville, if you could tell Lee and the twins? And Luna, could you tell Justin? You see him more often than I do.

Sally-Anne knows already, of course. And I'll pass it along to Hermione in case she can get away for a little.

Also, Luna, we've got a Tea to plan.


Even though it won't be a Hogsmeade weekend, it's looking like we'll have a pretty good time of it.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-03-02 17:24:00**
(no subject)

Sure, I'll tell them. Looking forward to it!



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-03-02 17:25:06**
(no subject)

Yes, I'll be glad to talk to Justin.

When do you think we should have the tea?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-03-02 17:27:24**
(no subject)

Well, if we're having cake on Saturday, perhaps Sunday? What do you think?

Also, we ought to come up with a fun way of inviting

Hydra, so it'd be sort of a nice surprise.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-02 17:29:38](#)
(no subject)

and we ought to ask Sue and Mandy and Milli and Sally-Anne of course, to see if they have any ideas, and what they think.

Maybe you could talk to Mandy, since she is in your House and all.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-04 01:14:18](#)
(no subject)

All right, I've talked with everyone, and I think our plans are all set for tomorrow. It'll be fun!

[2012-03-02 15:20:00](#)

Private Message to Mum and Dad

Thanks for the birthday parcel. The biscuits are great. Actually, they're pretty much gone already. And I had some of the jam for breakfast and it was really it tasted like home, Mum. So, yeah, thanks.



 [alt_ron](#)


Um. We're looking forward to being home for hols soon. Did George or Fred already ask if we could have friends over for one of the days? We were thinking maybe Quidditch, but maybe a broom trip to keep up our skills for CCF--well, for my lot, but G&F said that'd be fun for them, too. If it's all right with you, we'll start asking people now, so they can get permission and make plans and all.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-06 02:55:29](#)
(no subject)

Of course you may, dear. What day were you thinking? Or did you hope that some might be able to stay overnight?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-06 03:31:55](#)
(no subject)

Could they?! Stay over, I mean. That'd be so snitch, Mum.

Um. How many 'some', did you think?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-06 15:00:31](#)
(no subject)

Of course they could. That is, you know how crowded the Burrow can be, but if your friends don't mind, the more the merrier.

Oh, one thing that occurs to me....perhaps you might include some of the foreign students? If you've made some friends among them, I mean. I don't know whether they have a programme intended for them while the rest of the students are going home for the hols, but it seems sad to me that they'll be cooped up in the castle, and it might be nice to suggest it. Perhaps they might like to see a

British home. Or perhaps some of the friends who've been here before might like to bring a guest?

You know I like entertaining, and if we have some stay overnight, we have Bill and Charlie's room, and perhaps you and the twins won't mind kipping on some of the couches, or on the floor with a bedroll? Just let me know who you think you might like to invite.

[2012-03-02 15:21:00](#)

Order Only: Private Message to Alice Longbottom



 [alt_sirius](#)

Allie.

I'd ask Frank this but I fear he might take it to mean that the three of us aren't fit to go off on a rescue mission.

Er.

Well, has either of you ever forgotten the other's birthday? And if so, how did you make it up to the other? Or how does one.


I've got a chance to see Harry but

And I think the kid probably *needs* a visit. On the other hand, it's the first time Moony and I would be celebrating his birthday as - well, as whatever we are. A couple, I suppose, though that word sounds completely inadequate. Doesn't account for Dora and Bea very well. A *family*, then.

I mean, obviously he'll forgive me but I'd like to do something he'd appreciate. Nothing too soppy, though. It's hard to figure out what's proportionate to the offence.

What do you think?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-02 21:42:42](#)
(no subject)

I wouldn't read too much into Frank, love. He mostly wanted to clear the air, I think. Make sure we all were on the same page, as it were. And you know he likes to run a tight ship.

In terms of your other dilemma, Harry is family too. I can see your wanting to talk to him in person, and it's not his fault nor Remus's that the best time to visit Harry falls on the same weekend as Remus's birthday. And if you can't celebrate Remus's birthday on the actual day, well, a thoughtful small card or gift on the day of and then a larger party when you are back that Bea and Tonks can be a part of

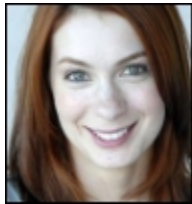
would let you plan something really nice instead of throwing it together last minute. And perhaps you could think about getting away, just the two of you, for a proper mini-break? I think Remus truly appreciates is time spent with people he loves over actual things, you know, and I could come in for a hand with Bea and running the shop if that'd be a concern. I think it's less getting him a big fancy gift, and more showing him how much he matters to you that's key. And he does, of course, so that shouldn't be difficult, but making him feel valued and important will certainly help.


And you ought to take special care not to forget next time around, of course.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-02 22:09:02](#)**
(no subject)

I said ~~not~~ soppy Yeah. Yeah, okay. Right.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-02 22:21:26](#)**
(no subject)

Remus is a sentimental sort, you know.

2012-03-02 20:20:00

Private Message to Auror Trainee Sandoval




 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Trust you are still interested in discussing details of a possible Intensive assignment.

If so, meet me at half-five tomorrow morning. Ipswich 478. Apothecary on corner of High Street beyond owl office. Entrance to upper flat on side of building. Take care you're not seen.

If you take milk in your tea, bring a pint.



 [alt_lana](#) at **2012-03-03 03:18:59**
(no subject)

Yes, sir. I'm definitely interested.

And tomorrow morning is no trouble.

Only, well, could you tell me a bit more about the place I'm to meet you? I understood that your current pseud is married. I won't be meeting your wife or needing a disguise or a cover story, will I?

Is there anything else I ought to bring?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-03-03 03:24:03**
(no subject)


Really, Sandoval.

Does it seem likely that I'd stage an interview with you anywhere that might compromise my cover?

Bring your brain. And something to take notes in if you need to write things down in order to be sure of comprehending instructions.

Don't make me regret considering you.



 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2012-03-03 03:27:03](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, sir.

[2012-03-02 22:10:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, Dux,

I say, any, er, *repercussions* so far? If not, I'd say you'd well got the hang of that bracelet, what?



 [alt_justin](#)

March, isn't it. One month closer. I asked Professor Froissart about whether the trips were optional, you know, over the hols, but he said no. I said not even to spend time with Malfoy or any of the others from when I came for the Cup, what? and he said, no, that the Ministry mean to give us all a smashing good overview of the Protectorate and that he'd be looking to me, especially, to help the others with their English and everything. Which is bally well unnecessary, isn't it, as they've already been here for well four months and most of them speak and understand perfectly (oh, and yes, by the way, if Margaux or Desirée or any of the others pretend they can't understand you, they're just being rude, what!)--so I rather think it has more to do with making sure we specifically don't get to explore anything on our own.

But that means two weeks without seeing each other, what? I don't want to think about it. Unless you suppose you might convince--well, not your mother or father, I expect, but perhaps your aunt and uncle?--to join up with our group on one of our outings? I mean to say, you seem to be able to convince your aunt to indulge you fairly often, what?

If I were to get you our itinerary, perhaps--or maybe you could get it from your aunt through Mrs Froissart? I'm not sure if that's overly complicated, if you follow me, but I'm not bally well sure they'll give us any sort of warning before they take us places.

One thing I do know and that's that Krum has asked to see a camp, so I think they'll probably take us to one. I don't think you'd better come and see, what? But there are bound to be places in New London and round about the countryside and perhaps your aunt would think that educational for you, as well?

Well, it's a thought. I know we wouldn't be able to spend time alone, what, but at least we'd see each other, what?

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-03-03 03:39:21](#)**
(no subject)

No, none on my end. And if they had happened on yours, we you would have known. I think it's safe to say that the alterations have worked. I was sure that they had, you know, but one can't really, honestly say for sure until there's been a test.

Quite a funny sort of test, that.

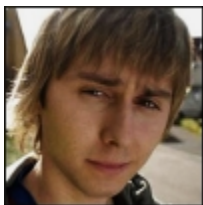
It's too bad that you couldn't convince Professor Froissart, but I suppose he found it odd that you weren't interested, seeing as you're British by birth, and thinks that you'll be pleased that you went along, when all is said and done.


I wish I could come along on some of your outings, too. Not just because you'll be there, but because then I won't have to go home.

I might be able to ask Aunt Narcissa, but... I wonder about Draco's Aunt Amanda. Mrs Froissart, I mean. I spoke with her at the World Cup and at the Ball, and she said that she hoped we could spend more time getting to know each other while she was in England. We're not related by blood but you know how for pureblooded wizards that marrying in is more or less the same thing, so she might be the person to ask.

I can't believe Krum asked to see a camp. I wonder which one they'll take you to. I've never seen one myself, though Mummy and Daddy talk about them all the time. Well, Mummy especially.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-03-03 03:53:59](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I think we shall be able to rest easier if you don't hear from your father or uncle by morning!

But under the circs, I'm well willing to have tested it. Better me than someone else, what? And better now than waiting for ages and ages, too.

If you think you'd have better luck with Mrs Froissart directly, then perhaps that's a better route, if you follow me. She'd certainly have a better idea than your aunt regarding what we're meant to do and when. I suppose from all I've learned of Slytherins, it's well unusual for you lot to take such a direct path, what? But then I guess it's also a Slytherin sort of trait to know which tactic ought to produce the best results and to use it first.

I'm not sure at all why he asked--Krum, I mean. Possibly just to see what the Ministry would do. Do you know, he's stayed friendly with Sally-Anne Perks, although not to the point of asking her to help him over helping Marvolo, of course. I rather think he's not quite as impressed with the Protectorate as he's meant to be.

Do you think your parents might support your coming to a camp, then? I suppose they would do. But would you really care to see it, Dux? It seems to me you'd find it quite unsettling.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-03 04:20:26](#)

(no subject)

I think I know Daddy well enough to know that if something had alerted him, he would have got word to me by now, in some shape or form. But yes, by morning we can say that it's certain.

Mrs Froissart is living at Mellerstain House, so it might not be too difficult to arrange a meeting with her at Hogsmeade on our next visit. For just me, I mean, because if you came along as well it might strike her as off. I could bring up the subject of the Protectorate tour with her then, instead of just sending an Owl out of the blue. It would be far more Slytherin to have tea with her first, you see.

You're quite catching on to how we Slytherins operate, aren't you? I can't help but think it's an advantage, in some ways. I wonder if fewer people would be sorted into Slytherin if things were different. The sorting hat sings terribly silly songs, but I think it's probably very clever.

Perhaps Krum wanted to see how they would respond to his request. I just wonder which one they could take people to, and

not have it, well, take the shine off the image of the Protectorate, for some people at least.

Whenever Mummy came home from visiting a camp she would go straight for the bath, to wash the stench of muggles and mudbloods off, she said. She did smell, too, and I used to think that must be the smell of muggles and mudbloods. And then I met Hermione and she smelled like nothing. Clean, even.

So it might be unsettling, yes, but I do think I would want to see it. If it were a real live camp, I mean. Because in some of the pictures I've seen the muggle workers are always working hard, and they look tired and weary, but they're smiling, too, like they don't mind it so much. But I wonder if that's a lie misconception, too. The same way the smell was.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-03 04:43:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, if you think he'd have got word then we're probably all right. I've not seen any private messages to Professor Raz, what?


Yes, I think I do see what you're saying about Mrs Froissart. Only, doesn't one have to send her an owl to get her to come up to Hogsmeade? I'm not certain your theory holds, in that case.

Do you know, I sometimes wonder what House I would have been in, had I come here to Hogwarts instead of going to Beauxbatons. I'm not sure I've got the makings of a true Slytherin, though, what?

I'm really not at all sure how they can show us a camp, either. Perhaps they'll simply say it's not feasible, what, or that it's too dangerous. I think you're right, though, that a camp might be just the sort of thing your mother might support you seeing. I mean, I don't know if they plan to take us to anywhere fun, what, or if it's all meant to be indoctrinating bally old educational waffle. I say, I'm not sure I can take two whole weeks of that sort of thing and not be able to see you in the bargain!

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-03-03 04:56:22**
(no subject)

No, I haven't either. And I've been keeping an eye out, too.

Yes, I will have to send her an Owl either way. And with an answer like that I wonder if you'd not end up in Ravenclaw, but you told me a while back that you supposed it would be Hufflepuff, because you didn't know that you properly fit anywhere else. Remember?

Now that I think on it, it seems strange that Mummy never took me to see one herself, but then, maybe she realised that I might see that some of the things she described weren't exactly accurate right. But I don't see how there's any way she can object to my wanting to see one.

I'm sure they'll do some fun things, too, won't they? Mrs Froissart will know.

And I know two weeks is a long time, but at least you'll be back at the end of it.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2012-03-03 05:07:33**
(no subject)

Hah, I still think Hufflepuff's probably where I'd end up, I'd quite forgotten we talked about that before. Jolly good show, you!

You really can't think of reasons your mother didn't want you to see how people live in the camps?

I hope they'll let us do some fun things, what, but they shan't be half so fun if you're not there.

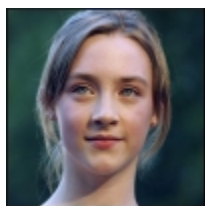
Yes, I'll be back when hols are over. For a while longer. I've

been thinking about that--well, I mean to say, trying *not* to think about year's end and having to go back with all the others. Not that I--well. There are some bally well good reasons to go home, aren't there. But there are also some--compelling--reasons to stay.

Dash it all. It's too late in the evening to be entertaining well depressing thoughts, what? I'd best turn in before I embarrass myself.

Sweet dreams, Dux.

-Justin



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

Just you remember that *I* remembered!

I can *imagine* reasons, yes, but I can't know for sure because nothing Mummy does can be easily predicted or figured out, Justin. Believe me, I know.

I wish you didn't have to go back, either. I think about it all the time, even though I try not to. But it's your home, and -

Yes, well, it is getting late, isn't it. ~~too~~late

Goodnight, see you tomorrow.

Love,
Hydra

2012-03-03 19:03:00

Private message to Pomona

Pomona,

It feels terribly odd to do this, but I'm still buried in parchment work, so coming down to you would be tricky. But would you by chance have time to be a listening ear? Or eye, rather?



 [alt_sinistra](#)

It might be easier if I don't have to talk, just write, anyway.



 [alt_pomona](#) at **2012-03-04 00:08:00**

(no subject)

Wouldn't mind a diversion from my own parchments, at that.

How are you faring, dear?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-03-04 00:12:15**

(no subject)

Honestly? Not that well.

I couldn't sleep this morning, so I went for a walk, and I...

Look. I've known what the thestrals are - people do talk. But it's the first time I've been able to see them. And I spent a lot of time there, just watching them and thinking. And then trying not to think.

Neither one seems to be helping.

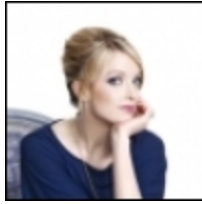


 [alt_pomona](#) at **2012-03-04 00:23:30**

(no subject)

I didn't realise that this was your first...

I'm so sorry.



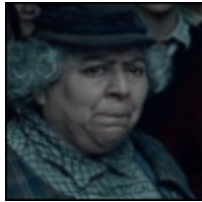
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-04 00:32:22](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

Known people who died - well, as you do.

And both Alde's death and Alcor's hit me hard, as I think you know. But they were also ready for it - they'd done what they'd wanted and lived full lives, and all that.

Saturday was, well. Totally different.

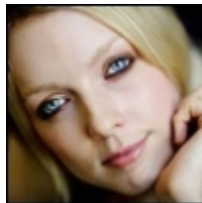


 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-04 00:39:47](#)
(no subject)

I quite understand.

And, well, witnessing death is always traumatic. My first was my Runes Professor, when I was a student. Keel'd over, from some sort of heart ailment--I'll never forget the look on his face.

But recent events are something else again.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-04 00:45:27](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

And - well, to have it include students I'd taught.

I'm trying to be sensible about it, and know that I'm off kilter, and all that. (And Mum must have realised, because I got a long letter from her on Tuesday about some things.)

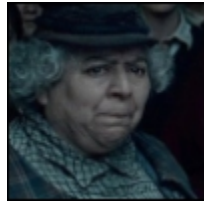
But, well. Is it better to just keep pushing, and doing my bit for the students we have here? Or am I doing myself - and them - a disservice by pretending that it's the same as it was last week?



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-04 00:49:55](#)
(no subject)

Whatever you need to do in public--and don't worry, I peeped into the YPL event for a moment and you seemed perfectly composed--I don't think you need to pretend to yourself.

Don't really think it's healthy, if you want to know the truth.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-04 00:52:47](#)
(no subject)

Is your Raz coming up later tonight?

I think some company in person would do you good, but in this one area...I can appreciate that you might have reservations.



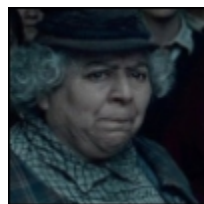
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-04 00:59:24](#)
(no subject)

Yes, and yes.

I put him off for a bit tonight - I really did need to get through a few more bits of parchment shuffling.

There are ways time with him is the only thing that really helps.

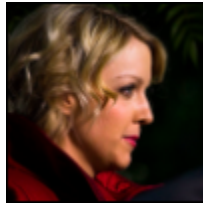
And there are ways in which it's the hardest thing ever, because our experiences are so far apart. We've talked about his past, but I haven't really spelled out mine - and how sheltered I was during the worst of things - the same way.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-04 01:13:28](#)
(no subject)

I do think that's it a matter that will come up, sooner or later, but you've every right to choose your own time and place.

Is your worry that he will become excessively overprotective...or rather the opposite?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-04 01:22:11](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, quite. Mostly, I am aiming for getting through the next week and a half, first. One thing at a time.

On my worry - honestly, I don't quite know how to put it into words. He does get frustrated about not being able to protect me (and this YPL business is particularly hard that way, because they brought our relationship into it.)

But it's also that - well, as I said, I know what he's done. And he doesn't seem that bothered by Saturday.

Intellectually, I knew, he was scrupulous about telling me, and far more than I expected him to be, honestly. But I'm not sure in other ways, how I feel, if you see what I mean.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-03-04 01:29:53](#)**
(no subject)

I do.

Quite.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-04 00:54:40](#)**
(no subject)

It's good to hear that. Both that the outward face is good enough (though honestly, if you asked me right now what Melete said, I couldn't tell you the bits I didn't already know.)

But also the other. It's just figuring out what to do about it that's hard.

In some ways, I'm very glad I've got to focus on this stupid investigation - it's given me something to do so I don't have to think so much just yet.



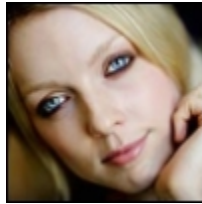
 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-03-04 01:15:37](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, that is always the question. What to do.

I do believe that there is more at work in the world than we know.

I'm sorry you've been lumbered with that nonsense on top of everything else, but at least it's useful as distraction.

Just beware of the crash, after.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-04 01:26:42](#)**
(no subject)

I hope so. That there's some larger pattern. (I've always believed so - how do we get the stars above us, doing what they do, if there isn't some pattern to the world? But where it comes from, I've no idea.)

On the crash - do you have any advice? Mum warned me the same, but all she suggested was taking time off, if I could, and that's clearly a problem. (And even the holidays, I'll have YPL meetings, and those are going to be worse than the investigation, in some ways, as I'll have to manage Stint.)



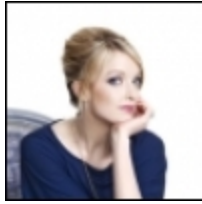
 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-03-04 01:37:59](#)**
(no subject)

It seems quite inadequate, really, but the best thing I can suggest to you is to make time each day for the things that bring you peace. You might spend some time stroking your

Nashira's feathers, if that appeals.

Give yourself plenty of time alone, and don't over-schedule yourself if you can avoid it--though that may not be possible.

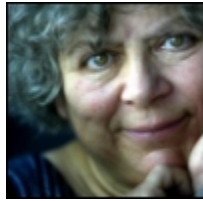
Don't treat yourself harshly, in any way.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-04 01:40:15](#)
(no subject)

Mmm. I'll think on that. I've been just sitting back and listening to more music, as well, and that seems to help, a bit.

As to the over-scheduling - ah, well. That's another point of contention in conversations with Raz.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-04 01:46:25](#)
(no subject)

You are certainly the mistress of your own time and life, but I think there may be something to what he's saying (what I imagine he's saying, in any case).

I have the greatest respect for your drive to help our students, but if nothing else, becoming Head of House taught me that you can only do so much if there's nothing left for you.

Don't be afraid to be a little selfish.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-04 01:52:40](#)
(no subject)

It's the cost of not doing what I'm doing that I keep coming back to. (Which, really, is the problem with this YPL business. I've no illusions about what might happen to our students with someone else in charge, and that makes it hard to put aside.)

But yes, there is that. And when Raz, and you, and Poppy, and my mother all say the same thing, perhaps it is wise to start listening.

Thank you, though. It helped a great deal to talk this out a bit. I should wrap up, now, though, as I expect Raz in not too long.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-03-04 01:54:19](#)
(no subject)

And I agree with you, about the cost; only, perhaps there may be ways to make it more manageable?

Think on it, in any case.

And with that I'll wish you a good night, with a hope for better dreams.

[2012-03-03 21:58:00](#)

Pickup Quidditch

Hullo, friends,

I say, it was well fun to go out for the short while we were able this morning, what? There's certainly a hint of spring in the air. But also a hint of rain, what?



 **[alt_justin](#)**

Too bad that we were a bit rushed over the cake and such. It made a pleasant luncheon, though.

I hope you all had a productive meeting of your YPL business, too. I say, was there a decision taken about what to paint? (Luna, I should think this project just the sort of thing you'd enjoy, from what you've told me.)

Thanks for inviting me, Pansy. It was grand.

Happy birthday again, Ron.

-Justin



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-03-04 14:45:53](#)**

(no subject)

Thanks, you.

And the rest of you lot. Yesterday was brilliant fun.

Let's do it again soon, yeah?!



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-03-04 17:15:01](#)**

(no subject)

Yeah, we're doing the Founders of Hogwarts.

I pushed pretty hard for something from Merlin's time, because I think it's fascinating, but the Founders is really a good idea too, since we have people from all four Houses and everyone can focus on the Founder who means the most to them.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-03-05 01:55:00](#)
(no subject)

Parkinson held a birthday party for Ron? Huh.
Interesting.

It's true we all decided the Founders would be best.
Belinda and Morag were trying to push for a depiction of the Lord
Protector's investiture but like Bones says the Founding of Hogwarts
is really something that's all about the school and so it belongs here.

Have all the Beauxbatons students been talking about the tour?
Evgeni Uloshenko was telling us a little bit about it this afternoon. It
sounds nift.

[2012-03-04 00:20:00](#)

Order Only

Well, things have been hopping over at Laszlo's Unlimited this weekend! I think everyone who went to the Frost Faire last week instead has been spoiling for an evening out without having to pretend to anything.



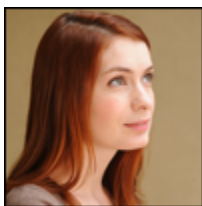
 **[alt_sirius](#)**


It's been the sort of nights where extra hands would have been helpful.

Which is what we'd hoped to talk to you about, Arthur. Beth told Dora that it would go a long way with the authorities in town - to say nothing of making things easier for the Ponds household - if Dora and Junius got themselves a muggleborn.

Arthur, we had in mind that you might be able to help make sure we get someone who'll be trustworthy and not a Ministry plant. But it has to be said that there's a huge amount of risk even in that much. Still, we all somewhat like the idea of being able to help someone get out of the camps with a legitimate excuse - and that it might also help Dora and Remus with their situation at Laszlo's. And then there's the hope that that person would also be able, eventually, to help with all our enterprises.

What does everyone think?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-04 06:28:05](#)**
(no subject)

I'm of two minds about it.

On the one hand, I know they would have all sorts of opportunities they wouldn't otherwise. And that their lives would no doubt be better too.

I'm not certain how to say exactly what I'd be worried about, but we'd be putting them in a potentially dangerous position, and they wouldn't have much choice in the matter, would they? I mean to say... well... they couldn't necessarily join up with Sherwood, or leave the country, not really, not without raising suspicion... and if they found out that they were doing something dangerous and didn't want to do it, what would happen then?

I know you have their best interests in mind, but they have so few choices as it is, and I'm just worried about taking advantage.

And would it be hard for you? To always have to worry about being seen by them?



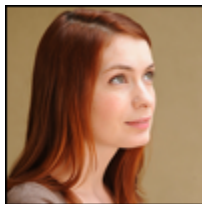
 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-04 23:13:30](#)
(no subject)


I think it might be good, Arthur, if you could pinpoint someone who has a relative or other connection with someone in the Sherwood band. Someone who could vouch for them from the outside, if you will. Maybe even someone they've networked with, from within the camps.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-05 00:14:51](#)
(no subject)

That's the sort of thing we were thinking, Kingsley, that with Arthur's help we might be able to find someone inclined to trustworthiness in the first place, who could be given the choice before we commit to having them. I suppose we can always Obliviate if necessary, same as parents who don't consent to sending their kids along to Moddey Dhoo.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-05 01:09:51](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I think that'd be best.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-05 21:24:15](#)
(no subject)

Shouldn't we be concerned that any of the Muggleborns in the domestic placement programme will have been thoroughly trained in spying that you couldn't trust their answers? Surely those people live in fear that if they step a foot out line (or are accused of doing so), they or a loved one will be harshly punished.

That said, I very much hope there's a way to safely act on this idea. Even if we never felt we could trust the person with any information about the Order, working for you would save that person from the chance of being sent somewhere awful. Thinking of it from that angle, I wish you were in a position to hire a dozen Muggleborns.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-03-06 15:39:43](#)
(no subject)

While it's true that the camps no doubt have a thorough indoctrination programme, I think it's going a bit far to say that everyone has been effectively cowed by it. The papers try to bury the reports but reading between the lines, I'd say there are small acts of rebellion all the time. Besides, the whole idea is to locate someone with every reason to want to help - or at least, every reason to trust us above the Ministry.

And another thing: I suppose it's possible that they speak directly to each one before he or she leaves for service but it's also giving the Ministry a fair amount of credit to think they'd train up every one as a spy. Reckon we can't rule that out entirely, of course.

The main thing that worries me about this scheme is that even with Arthur subtly trying to help us, we can't exactly guarantee that we'll wind up with the person we select. Arthur could go to the trouble and risk of pre-screening someone we think would be a likely rescue only to have the camps switch our candidate at the last go. I mean to say, it's not like picking an orange, is it, or even adopting an orphan, where one can pick and choose from the lot. Arthur can nudge things in our direction but I'm just not sure how much he can interfere without attracting notice.

I wasn't around but I don't think you lot personally selected our Hermione, did you? It's worked out and she's a good girl and clever as a kneazle besides, but you could have had a lad like that poor Dennis Creevey. So even if we decide we want X, we might wind up with Y, couldn't we?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-05 04:26:10](#)
(no subject)

That's an excellent idea. Although if it's someone they've networked with, we might not want to pull them out.

Perhaps there's someone in Sherwood who can suggest someone they've known in the past that they think would be trustworthy, and we can see if Arthur can locate them for us?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-06 03:36:26](#)
(no subject)

I talked with Davidson and he gave us three names to try:

Leonard Link, father-in-law to one of his fighters, Barnabas Sefton. Leonard is in his mid-forties and assigned to the camp at Bassetlaw, but he's been farmed out as a laborer in the market town of Retford. He's worked at an inn there, which means you'd have a good argument for commandeering his services. But more than that, Sefton says he's an amateur cryptographer, made a hobby of it, really, and he might be quite useful for passing along coded messages.

Secondly: Jason Crenshaw. He's actually a half-blood, a long time neighbour of Larry Mason and in fact tried to hide Larry when the muggleborn restrictions were first put in place. When it was discovered he was harboring a muggleborn, though, his wand was snapped and he was busted down to muggleborn status himself. I talked to Larry myself about the case, wondering if Crenshaw might have been embittered by what happened to him, and thus dangerous to approach, but Larry assured us that he would be more than willing to help us, particularly if Larry could send him a message. He's stationed at Derby.

Lastly, Davidson mentioned one more name with a little hesitation, reluctant, I think, to ask it as a personal favour, but it's George Porter, his wife Jackie's brother. He, too, is stationed at Derby. He's thirty-five. She thinks he's assigned to the camp commissary.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-03-06 03:37:59](#)**
(no subject)

Very well. I will see what strings I can pull.

(Sirius, does one of these candidates sound particularly appealing? Do you have any preference for which one I should concentrate on requisitioning?)



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-06 03:42:27](#)**
(no subject)

~~I dunno why I was thinking a witch~~

Er, let us have a chat and get back to you, Arthur.



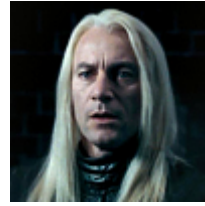
 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-03-06 14:42:11](#)**
(no subject)

I can ask if they have any women to suggest, Sirius, too.

2012-03-05 12:54:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley

Between meetings and realised have not seen February's accounting. Recall asking for it Friday as well.



 **alt_lucius**

Exactly what seems to be the problem providing it in a timely manner?

Also. Understand delivery of flowers to Miss Robins may have ... encouraged a familiarity to which she is ~~no longer~~ not entitled. Cannot imagine what over-sentimental note you might have enclosed. Specified that of an acquaintance. Should she request time or anything similarly foolish, she is to be turned away. Also alert me *immediately* should she re-commence any of her childish nonsense of interfering with the business of my diary or other affairs of state.

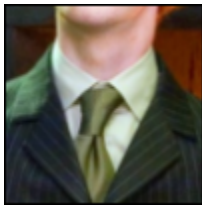
Now. Kindly double-check arrangements for Wednesday evening; in Rizzer's absence we must endeavour to show Rod a memorable birthday.

Rosier ought to be in touch if he has not already with the dates of upcoming camp inspections. Trust you will exercise restraint per our conversations last week; although your brother is now his aide, that gives neither of you licence to discuss sensitive matters that do not directly intersect with Rosier's office or mine.

Two changes for next week: Shift Crispin to 12th in order to accommodate Rookwood's presentation on 19th and add meeting with Yaxley and Hopkirk. Believe Friday was the agreed date, prior to afternoon Court.

Finally: Realise that the past week has been difficult. Good to see you have not let it hinder your efforts (February accounts excepted). Should you find you need time or additional counsel, you have but to say so.

Ah, the WWN Board have assembled. Should be back at St James' square no later than half-two.



 **alt_percy** at [2012-03-05 20:22:56](#)
(no subject)

My apologies regarding the books for February, sir. There is a perplexing item in one of the vendor invoices--Garrard's. It is quite shockingly overbudget, and I have requested additional backup, simply to doublecheck that it wasn't an error on their part before finishing the accounting. I received the additional information I requested by owl this morning and will have the books for you within the hour. You will see the explanatory note by the initials 'MD.'

(I had no idea emerald earrings were quite so expensive.)

With regard to the note to Miss Robins: it merely offered formal condolences with no personal amendment whatsoever and was signed 'sincere regards, (Mr) Lucius Malfoy.' If Miss Robins attributes sentimental meaning to that message, then I must say that she has quite a vivid imagination.

All arrangements are in place and have been doublechecked for Wednesday.

I have heard from Mr Rosier's office and have the tentative dates added to your planner (with regard to myself and Bill, of course discretion will be observed. On both ends.)

Regarding the scheduling changes: done.

(Thank you for that last, sir. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.)



 **alt_lucius** at [2012-03-05 20:30:28](#)
(no subject)

~~Draco?~~ What Re. Garrard's: Noted.

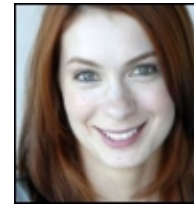
Re. Miss Robins: Noted. Imaginative, indeed, particularly after showing such a vindictive turn once already. Well, let us hope that is an end to it.

2012-03-05 14:00:00

ORDER ONLY

Well, we've had quite an interesting day.

Mellisandra Ollivander came up to me after breakfast smiling -- *smiling*, mind you, letting me know that she'd finally sorted out some fiddly binding process that she'd been struggling with for weeks. She looked positively radiant.




 **alt_alice**

She's been working herself to the bone, especially since the latest smuggling shipment provided some cores she could work with -- she has so few of them that she's really had to be careful; I remember her crying when one of the unicorn hairs melted, and she's singed her eyebrows off twice, the dear -- and I've hardly seen her outside of the occasional meal in what seems like weeks. She's had Patricia working with her, though, so I've had dribs and drabs of news, but this is a definite step forward.

Mellisandra says that she didn't want to say anything until she was able to replicate the process successfully, and so she's got two wands that appear to be in working order -- we're planning on having some of our more experienced adults give them a spin tonight, with all the proper precautions of course, but wands are quite tricky under the best circumstances if the person holding them isn't meant to, so we might need a wider sample of volunteers who actually need a wand. Walden, we were thinking you could help us in that arena -- do you know of people at Sherwood who need wands, and would be experienced enough to not get hurt if they turn out to be unstable? We'd be there just in case, of course, but if things go well, this is very promising indeed.

Also, Bill, any word on the papers?




 **alt_sirius** at **2012-03-06 01:51:44**
(no subject)

That's brilliant news, Allie. Has she had any luck with the unusual core substances, then, or are these based on the few Ollivander standards?

Dora's standing by for a trip in to the country, whenever things are

ready to move, though the timing's less ideal now than at the weekend.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-06 02:35:03](#)**
(no subject)

She did it with unicorn hair first, because it's easiest, but she's bound and determined to work on the other cores as well. She's got a few dragon heartstrings, of course, but she's hoping to test merpeople scales, kneazle whiskers, and other things.

She's been telling me about how back in the day, people used to bring in their own cores, to have wands custom made, and they could be all sorts of things. We were talking about how it might actually help if the Sherwood people were to do the same -- find something on their own that would be suitable. She thinks that might increase the chances that she'd make a wand that would fit them.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-03-06 02:49:15](#)**
(no subject)

That's wonderful news, Alice. Quite extraordinary.


Bill's torn away from his new job duties long enough to check in with his forgers, and we have packets together on about half the children. We can go for the ones in Leeds, Brighton and Scarborough anytime. There are two in London, I note, and their documents are ready, too.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-06 03:04:37](#)**
(no subject)

If there are London jobs maybe Dora and I can go after them right away, Arthur. And best yet, she won't have to skive off work and raise any eyebrows - or hackles.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-06 03:13:11](#)
(no subject)


That works rather well. Kingsley and I can take on Scarborough.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-06 15:47:48](#)
(no subject)

I'm standing by anytime you give me the word, Alice.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-06 17:34:09](#)
(no subject)


I'll be ready within the hour. Let's meet in the usual place.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-06 19:59:21](#)
(no subject)

On my way.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-03-06 15:49:27](#)
(no subject)

Great. Parchments are on their way.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-06 04:05:00](#)
(no subject)


You're right. If it's not necessary, then it's best I don't do anything to cause questions at work. We'll save that for some time when there's no avoiding it.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-03-06 15:48:45](#)**
(no subject)

Excellent. I've placed the parchments in our drop site.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-06 03:12:30](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that's just marvelous too!

We'll start first thing tomorrow. Frank and Stephen can hit up Leeds.

Tonks, love, you and I can take on Scarborough. When would be best? It'll hold til the weekend.

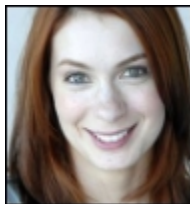
And perhaps Remus and Sirius could handle the ones in London?

And here's to Bill and his team.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-03-06 04:01:39](#)**
(no subject)

It would be brilliant to pair up with you, Alice, but I think Sirius is right this time. He and I'll see to the London ones.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-06 17:35:01](#)**
(no subject)

Well, we've got plenty of opportunities, that's for certain!

2012-03-05 22:19:00

Sundry Things

It was a pretty brill weekend overall, even without Hogsmeade--really, it was a bit of a wrench getting back to lessons today.



 [alt_susan](#)

I went flying Saturday morning, just me and Valkyrie; she's been looking a bit ragged of feather lately and I wanted to spend some time with her. I think she misses visiting her friends at Professor Grubbly-Plank's owlery, now that she's teaching here.

Solo flying is sometimes the best thing in the world, just flying out over the lake in the morning sun with the little wavelets far below.

Ms. Pencarrow was pretty wizard at the YPL meeting; she had loads of really interesting stuff to show us on the Hogwarts portrait tour. We stopped at this amazing room on the way to Gryffindor tower that's absolutely stuffed full of portraits, and I thought right then that it would be a great spot for the Tea.

That was Sunday, and a good time was had by all, I hope! My scarf still looks a little twitchy, as if it's lonesome for its time as a top hat.

Thanks to the Slytherin portion of the membership for the monocles and moustaches--did you get those at Zonko's?

The games with the portraits mostly went well, although we might have had an easier time getting down from the tower if *someone* hadn't called Sir Cadogan a pea-brained pillock!

Those portraits must have some way to communicate with the moving staircases, that's the only explanation I've got.

Still, if everything went normally, it wouldn't be Tea Time of the Strange!

After all that fun, it had better be a life of revision for me--we've got 12 inches to write on the theory behind Wit-Sharpener Potion before we start brewing it, argh.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-06 04:01:03](#)
(no subject)

It's really too bad we can't brew the potion first. I'd bet it'd make the essay much easier.

And you've got to admit, Sir Cadogan is *far* too sensitive.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-06 04:09:10](#)
(no subject)

I actually do better if I write about it first, otherwise I'm likely as not to brew up something horrid...but it's still hard getting the words out.

True! And Milli did apologize. Eventually.



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2012-03-06 04:49:01](#)
(no subject)

So is Tea of the Strange taking applications, now?? Because I don't remember Lestrangle being on the quiz as a strange one!! ~~What about me and Megs~~ So you wore monocles and things?? That sounds like a

laugh!!




 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-06 05:02:36](#)
(no subject)

Well, it started as just the 4 of us from the quiz, but that was mostly just our year, and we thought that, well, some of the younger girls might like a gathering where strangeness is welcome, so...that's how it

happened.

Why, do you know any Hufflepuff or Gryffindor girls who might be interested?



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-03-06 15:10:08](#)**
(no subject)

I've had so much fun paying attention to the portraits since Ms Pencarrow's little talk. I had never really thought much before about how the brightness of the colours could affect a portrait's temperament.

(Although it makes sense once you think of it: that murky group of soldiers throwing dice in the corridor leading to the charms room must be the most quarrelsome bunch in the entire castle.

The tea was such fun. And the food was so yummy. I hope I can get that recipe for those lavender biscuits.

2012-03-05 23:24:00

*Private Message to the Lord
Protector*



This week has been largely uneventful.

Your son continues well. He appears to have recovered from last week's shock.

 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

The Young Protectors' League has settled on the Founding of Hogwarts for the mural they shall be painting. Other suggested topics were Merlin's Court, Your investiture, and the Fall of the Ministry, but there was some thought that the third topic has been sufficiently covered, the second too contemporary, and the first was too allegorical. As I understand it, they are drafting sketches for perusal and approval now. Professor Sinistra is bearing up well under pressure.

Mr Capper, Mr Sloper, and Ms Grey have all agreed to redouble their focuses on their studies. Whether this shall bear fruit remains to be seen. Mr Fleet has also been counseled on the expectations for his NEWTs. I would normally never trouble you with individual students' academic matters, but it seems an appropriate topic for this report.

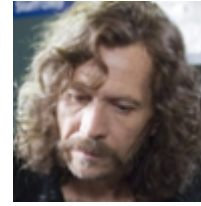
The castle is generally ready for spring, I believe. The students are anxious and cabin-feverish. I hope for an abatement in the weather soon, and thus more regular outings to expend their energy.

2012-03-05 23:25:00

Private Message to Dora and Remus

Well? What do you think of Davidson's suggestions?

I dunno why I was thinking they'd come up with a witch. You know, barmaid sort of thing. Could take care of Bea as well.



 [alt_sirius](#)

But I suppose there's no reason not to try for one of these lot, if there are no other ideas - or if we can't think of a good reason not to make the attempt.

Remus, about going for the London muggleborns: It's up to you, love. I can't remember what Snape told you about whether you can delay Wolfsbane by a night so you can take Polyjuice or how long afterward it'll be before the Wolfbane is safe. Only know that it's probably not wise to mix drinks.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-06 04:57:53](#)

(no subject)

Yeah, I'd imagined we were talking about a witch too.

I don't know why I didn't think about its being a bloke.

A barmaid, though? I thought you were meant to be happily taken. Do we need to have a talk about what sort of work robes we'll be having this person wear?

And a wizard could take care of Bea just fine. Haven't noticed you having any trouble. Even Mac did all right with her. To be honest, I think she likes to flirt with wizards. Have you noticed?

What did you think of the people Davidson suggested? If we're to pick one of them, well, I liked the last one.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-06 05:03:17](#)
(no subject)

Don't be ridiculous, Dora: Being happily taken doesn't mean I don't still like *looking*. And you've got to admit Moony'd look well *daft* in one of those off-the-shoulder peasant blouse things.

But really, you're right. A wizard can care for Bea just fine. It's just there would be rather a load of us if we get a bloke to help out: Him, me, Moony - even Kreacher's male, for all we don't like to let him get too close to Bea (and you never did say what makes you think he pretends to fancy her).

And there's our customers, right? Maybe we ought to take in two - one male, one female, just to keep things even-handed.

Anyway. Sure, I suppose if it's to be a bloke, the last one's fine. Why him, out of the three?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-06 05:13:39](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad I was not just taking a sip of mead when I read that! And now I can't stop imagining Remus in a peasant top with his ratty old cardi pulled over the top. He'd frighten all the customers away.

Possibly I like to flirt with wizards, too, you know. And the two I know best are rather uninterested in me.

Let's start with one first, shall we? And then if it's not a complete disaster, we can start looking for a second.

As for Davidson's list, well. I know the first two had all sorts of skills and whatnot that should probably make us choose one of them, only, the third one, well. I suppose I just liked the idea of helping out someone one of ours cares about. He's Davidson's brother-in-law, right? And I suppose I like to think we take care of our own.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-06 14:18:40](#)
(no subject)

I was thinking more along the lines of those German outfits. You know, with the bustiers? Have to add the cardigan, though, it well completes the 'look.'

Aw, Dora, don't be hard on yourself, luv. You're well attractive; it's our fault you're in this weird situation and it's not like you can bring home any bloke you happen to fancy.

Anyway, I have to admit that when Kingsley gave us three men to think on, I did immediately wonder whether one of them might do for you but then I got to thinking about what Alice said and their choices. Merlin knows there're probably a fair few young lasses who come into a family and aren't given any choice about warming the master's bed now and then (though of course, someone who's well maniacal about purebloods would never ever admit to any sort of attraction along those lines). Course if the bloke came here and you both found yourself - well, I mean to say, you know I'd be nothing but happy for you (assuming we all get on well enough, of course). Remus too, I'm sure.

Still I rather prefer the idea of a woman, somehow, if for no other reason than to make sure you're not the sole female voice of sanity in Bea's life, eh?

But you've a point about helping our own.

Say. That gives me a thought. Remember Mac mentioning that he had a sister? I think I recall Kingsley saying she wound up in the camps.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-06 17:54:55](#)
(no subject)

Ahem.

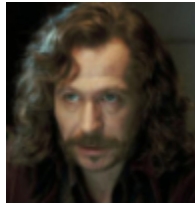
Also. Whoa. Slow down. I said flirting, not... anything more. I'm not on the hunt, and I'm definitely not thinking of hiring someone to be my bloke.


Not to mention that Alice is right. Sorry, but that's just well

awful to think about.

The more I think of it, the more I think we really should look into hiring a woman. (But no German outfits, you.) I wonder if Arthur could find Mac's sister for us. I'd like that. Though, I suppose we don't know anything at all about her. Mac didn't tell me much. At all. Only what he did say made me think things went very badly in his family. We should ask him. Whether she's likely to be the sort who would want to help with what we do, I mean. But it would be nice to think we could help her, so we should ask Arthur, too, if he can find her.

Oh, and obviously, I'm awake. So if you're ready to go, I am.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-03-06 18:09:57](#)
(no subject)

No, no, I didn't mean it to sound as if I'm counting my dragons before they've hatched. Just that I know how awkward it is for you keeping up the pretence of marriage - and how hard it would be to get close to anyone whom you couldn't trust with all our secrets. So it would be a happy accident if something like that came about. That's all. Trust me, I'm not looking to pair you off against your will, either, kiddo.

Kingsley offered to ask about women. I think it might be a good option but ... I dunno. I thought about Mac's sister off and on all morning. You're right he's not said two words about her, really. Well, he hardly says more than two words about anything, does he? But beyond that - we don't know anything about her, as you said. And that's a problem in and of itself. What I mean is, it's risky enough even trying to stack the cards toward a muggleborn we've 'pre-selected,' as it were. If we have to put on a huge search even to find Mac's sister, and then after already raising that flag, we try to jigger our request so she comes out top of the pile Well, you see my point, I'm sure. To say nothing of the fact that she's probably already considered a high-risk inhabitant - by which I mean I shouldn't wonder if someone's put something in her file to consider any request for her suspicious in itself. And that sort of scrutiny we should probably avoid.

But anyway, I do agree it would be good to at least find her and see what we can do about reuniting them. And I think I'll just tell Kingsley that yeah, we think a female domestic would look more natural for you and Junius to request.

Give Bea a last tickle and come down, then. I went round the drop site this morning after Arthur said he left the papers there so we can get this done before tea, if we're lucky.

2012-03-06 09:43:00

Private Message to Draco

Son,

Should like to clear up a discrepancy in the billing of accounts from last month. Can you explain why Garrard's has a charge of 1,200Γ in your name?




 **alt_lucius**

That is not a misprint.

Am in and out of meetings all day, just as am sure you have lessons. Nevertheless I await your reply. Your

Father



 **alt_draco** at **2012-03-06 15:45:27**
(no subject)

They were ~~THAT~~ much?



 **alt_draco** at **2012-03-06 15:50:04**
(no subject)

I had an important purchase to make. Why does it matter? It's not as if we'll be running out of money any time soon.



 **alt_lucius** at **2012-03-06 15:55:58**
(no subject)

The state of our finances is hardly the point.

Am I to take it from the timing of this 'important purchase' and its nature that it was in the way of some sort of Valentine? I hardly think your purchase could possibly be proportionate to the level of attachment someone your age ought to foster. Certainly without first assuring that your mother and I approve of the girl.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-06 16:03:50](#)
(no subject)

I wasn't thinking about the cost being proportionate to attachment. Those earrings simply happened to be only thing I wanted to give, and I didn't even ask about the cost.

They could have been 5Γ and they still would have been what I chose, so you needn't worry about that.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-03-06 16:21:36](#)
(no subject)

Your mother will be pleased to hear that your taste is impeccable.

But for the moment, I am not concerned with the cost as much as the message such extravagance sends. Whether you considered their material worth or no, jewellery (particularly fine jewels) represents a ... desire for *intimacy* - which is understandable, given a young man's appetites, of course - but for someone in your position it may give the wrong impression. The value of the gift combined with its cultural significance You understand that this girl may believe your affection deeper and longer-lasting than you might intend.

Unless you believe yourself to have found a potential spouse, in which case, as I said, it is only proper that your mother and I be given the opportunity to assess the feasibility of a match.

Which is it, son? Have you over-expressed yourself to a passing fancy or have you prematurely committed yourself to ~~matri~~ lasting devotion?

Now, as for the actual amount of the item: It would be a mistake to assume that because we want for nothing, we shall always be able to have anything. There is a need for temperance and deliberation before making such a lavish display, if for no other reason than if one acquires a habit of over-spending, one may find the out-flows of the estate exceeding its income in short order.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-03-06 16:29:15](#)
(no subject)

Spouse??

It isn't either of those things, Father - over-expression OR premature commitment. I gave a gift that I wanted to give to someone who matters a lot to me. I don't know why you can't just leave it at that. You really should, all things considered. Certainly, you can be assured that I will consider your advice in future cases of gift-giving.



 **alt_lucius** at [2012-03-06 16:43:09](#)
(no subject)

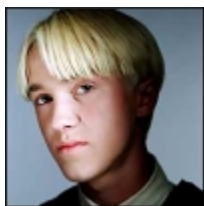
I should what?

Let us consider this matter rationally. Who is this girl who 'matters' so much, for one thing?

For another, you had best be assured, Draco, that I expect greater restraint from you in future. I am sure the sentiment behind the gift may be as ... innocent as you suggest but it would have been far more prudent to spend a moment's thought on the significance of the purchase and to ... revise its scale, given the enormity of it.

At the very least, accessing our account at Garrard's without permission or even notification deserves some measure of discussion. Did you not think the charge would gain notice? Did you not believe your generosity would be discovered?

For your sake, I hope you are correct and this young woman reads no more into the circumstances than you believe her to understand. Though in my experience of unmarried witches, such is hardly ever the case.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-03-06 16:54:15](#)
(no subject)

Who's the woman who matters so much to *you* that you'd purchase her the very same pair of emerald earrings from Garrard's?

I know it's not Mother. She doesn't have a pair like this.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-03-06 17:25:40](#)**
(no subject)

Draco, you ought not to speak of matters about which you know nothing, let alone cast blind accusations when you have none of the facts.



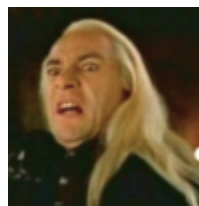
 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-03-06 20:10:18](#)**
(no subject)


During our firechat, the clerk at Garrard's said that you had ordered the same pair of earrings for someone a few years ago.

He complimented us on our taste.

It also happens that Nanella sent me an inventory of all of Mother's emerald jewellery, and the list doesn't include .62 carat emerald studs in a white gold setting.

So I do have facts, you see. Not all of them - and I don't particularly want them, either. Privacy is a shared value, after all.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-03-06 21:04:47](#)**
(no subject)

Indeed?

Let us say, then, that facts devoid of context may lead one to insane and ridiculous conclusions.

For example, I note that despite my asking in several comments, you have not answered my simple question as to the identity of the person you hold in such esteem. In *fact*, you seemed to take care to construct your replies so as to obscure whether the object of your interest is even female.

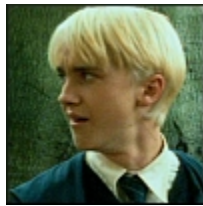
What am I to conclude from *that*?

Do not bother to answer. Merely think on how ludicrous your implications and how disrespectful - to me and to your mother.

Enlisting your grandmother to *spy*?

I am ... disappointed, Draco.

Very well. If you wish your privacy honoured, then you may pay for the jewels with your own funds and re-imburse the family account out of your earnings from that little song of yours.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-03-06 22:42:53](#)

(no subject)

Of course she's female. What kind of bloke wears *earrings*? Barring that guitarist for Dark of the Moor, but even he would never wear dainty jewelled ones...

But you've changed the subject -

I didn't expect that. I thought you must have some kind of explanation. A present for Aunt Amanda, maybe. But if it were something like that, you would have just said straight away. You might not have even noticed what I was implying -

But you did notice.

So you see, you're not the only one who's disappointed.



 **alt_lucius** at [2012-03-06 23:22:52](#)

(no subject)

I certainly have an explanation, my son, but not one I care to share with you at present. My point was that you need to take care at casting about with suppositions. You forget, as well, that in my position one rapidly grows acutely aware of how such allegations start and where they may lead.

You are correct, however, in that we have strayed far off the

track.

Back in your first year, I promised not to scrutinise your journal for hints of your activities: To allow you your privacy and your freedom to make your choices as you saw fit. Had you consulted myself or your mother about this young lady and your feelings for her, surely we should have been able to direct you to a more appropriate expression of that esteem - or, possibly, to have even approved of your selection and authorised it. The clerk obviously deserves some of the blame in blithely ascribing the charges without any hint of notification, as well - not that Garrard's is not known for its discretion but in the case of an underage wizard there are limits. And rest assured, they shall hear of their negligence as well.

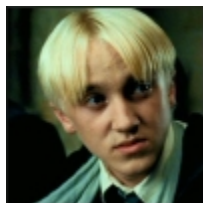
However, it is too late to reverse a gift already bestowed. As I said, you may pay it out of your own earnings, which ought to be lesson enough in the cost of the luxuries to which you have always been entitled.

Shall also afford you the courtesy to believe your statement that you are neither overly amorous nor precipitous in your choice of companionship. Merlin knows I recall well enough the sensation of feeling oppressed by an over-reactive parent. Let us assume, then, that you 'know what you are doing' - for the time being.

One trusts that on my next visit to Hogwarts, if not before, you shall see fit to reveal the person of your secret sweetheart?

One trusts also that you shall in future curb your inclinations towards quite such, ah, *opulent* choices in gifts.

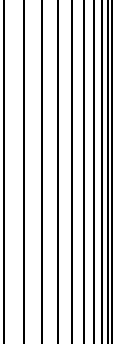
Have we a bargain?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-06 23:58:42](#)
(no subject)

Wha -

WHY would I talk to you about my *feelings*?



About anything?

Fine, I'll agree to your stupid bargain if it means you'll stop writing at me.

2012-03-06 10:02:00

Order Only—Private Message to Alice Longbottom



 **alt_severus**

I expect you would like to hear a report on your son's progress.

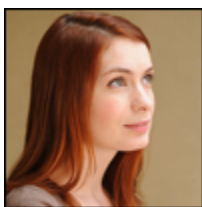
He is doing better than I had expected. His reading is ponderous. I had not the opportunity to witness it before now, but some person should take him in hand. Fluency in reading, particularly reading aloud, is an important skill for a wizard.


He has a great deal of emotional control and he does not shrink from onerous or embarrassing lessons.

His reserve is, in fact, unshakable. I have succeeded in breaching his defenses many times. He invariably behaves as though I never have. Mark, I do not believe him to be stupid. He is well aware of the things that I know. He merely refuses to give me the pleasure of seeing him acknowledge it.

I had come here in hopes of being a help to your son, Alice. Not to mention Lily's. I may be successfully teaching Occlumency. That is a skill that will certainly help him. But there is nothing more.

~~How can I~~ ~~It is very hard~~ How does one gain the trust of a teenage boy? My own experience as a teenage boy does not lead me to have much hope.



 **alt_alice** at **2012-03-06 19:56:27**
(no subject)

I'm so very glad to hear that he's been doing well. I know that teaching that sort of control can be frustrating for both parties at times, and it's good to hear that you are both willing and able to put in the effort it requires.

And I believe that you are giving him a great deal more than Occlumency lessons.

You're giving him hope, Severus. Hope that he can be useful, and

hope that he can learn more about us and what we do without putting his sister in danger. And you're giving him one more connection to us, to the Order, in a much more direct way than he's ever had before.

So thank you for that.

I do think that some teenage boys are a bit tricky to get to know -- but that they gain trust through shared experiences and action. It's one thing to tell them you can be trusted, it's another if they see you are capable of not telling a secret. And shared experiences create more of an emotional connection as well -- when Frank and Neville were getting to know one another properly again a few years ago, they did all sorts of things that required very little talking. Fishing and swimming and kite-building and all that.

I can guarantee you, for instance, that simply by teaching Neville Occlumency, you've gained a substantial amount of trust from him. There are several reasons why -- first, he knows you're helping him do something which would make it possible for him to hide, so he knows you're on his side. Second, you're teaching him something that gives him power and something that would be genuinely useful, so he will respect you for that. And last of all, you're doing something with him.

When it comes to Harry specifically, well, each boy is different, isn't he? Harry's grown up around people trying to tell him what to do or how to think or what other people think of him. I'd imagine he'd find it difficult to openly express himself, but at the same time, he'd appreciate the opportunity if given it. He's also probably used to people going out of their way to curry favour. I'm not sure if there are easy ways to address these, but I wonder if you were to teach Harry Occlumency if it mightn't give him an opportunity to gain trust for very similar reasons.

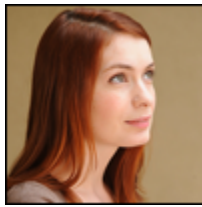
After all, he does have some things to hide. Not many, from what I know, but I warrant that he would certainly see the value in being able to shield his mind.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-03-06 21:35:18](#)
(no subject)

Regarding your son, I suppose so. I am not the most patient man.

As for Lily's—the difficulty lies in how I would go about it. Were I him, I would be mistrustful. Hermione cannot vouch for me without revealing far too much. Perhaps Neville is my route. Someone would need to convince him that I was safe—though 'safe' is hardly the term I would use to describe myself.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-06 23:17:18](#)
(no subject)

I don't think Neville is very close with Harry, necessarily. I do know they were on the same team for a game they played recently, but I'm sure Hermione knows much more of school politics than

I ever could.

I'm hesitant to use this, but Neville is friends with two Slytherin girls, and they are far closer to Harry as they are in the same House and year. It's a bit indirect, of course, and I would caution against revealing too much to them lest it put you in any danger of being exposed.

I also think it would be best if it didn't get out too widely that Neville is learning what he is, so there's that.

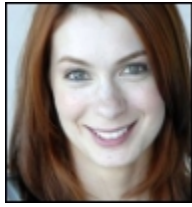
Hermione is also quite sharp, and I believe her capable of subtlety -- she might be able to turn his head a bit to make him notice you positively, and in a trustworthy light. Perhaps if she comes up with a story about how you kept her from getting into trouble.


Also...

I know you wouldn't care for this overly much, but if he heard it from Sirius, that might be a more direct method?

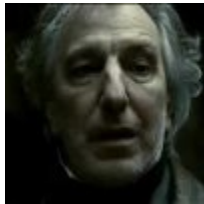
Or if you gave him a letter from Sirius? That would show that you are connected to someone he already knows and trusts, that you are trustworthy yourself, as you didn't turn the letter over to the

MLE, and that you know something that he might need to keep secret.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-03-06 23:18:36](#)
(no subject)

It would be sort of like an old-fashioned letter of introduction, I suppose, but it might work, even if you'd find the source distasteful. And I would have to twist his arm, but I think he would do it.



 **alt_severus** at [2012-03-07 01:51:01](#)
(no subject)

I would rather not be in debt to Sir Dog.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-03-07 03:28:38](#)
(no subject)

That's understandable.

2012-03-06 16:02:00

Private message to Pansy

May I see you tonight, or do you have some oddball tea party that requires moustaches? Because we don't have duelling club, you know. And my homework can wait.



 [alt_draco](#)

Because I really would like to see you.

Do you remember when it was that you first started to realise that your Mother was imperfect? I think you must have been young. I remember when we were just firsties, you would write about how Rosa was a drunk. I was so *scandalised* at the time - though that was back when I was very easily scandalised, mind. Looking back now, though, I think you must have matured a great deal earlier than I did (though I suppose it wasn't *precisely* mature to write about your Mother's drinking in the journals where everyone could see).

Father and I are having a row. It's somewhat about you, but he doesn't even realise it. Really been paying attention, hasn't he? Not that I particularly want him to start doing so...because when he does, he insists on controlling everything and having a say in every little thing I do. And if he doesn't like what I'm doing or saying, he has this way of just *diminishing* it. It's as if I can feel him laughing at me through the ink...

I mean, I suppose I'm glad I don't have Harry's Father, instead.

There's that, at least.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-03-07 01:15:01**

(no subject)

Of course, Draco.

Let's find a corner where we won't be bothered. Or we could walk around until curfew, for some privacy.

I think I first started realising my mother wasn't like other mothers when I first got to Hogwarts. I knew she wasn't perfect before then, I think -- that she made mistakes, and wasn't as thoughtful as she ought to have been, and that sort of thing, but once I saw what everyone else's mothers were like, not just yours, I suppose that's

when I got angry with her. And disappointed in her.

Adults are people too. And people can be stupid sometimes, or selfish, or thoughtless, and can let you down, even if they aren't supposed to.

And I know the feeling. That someone wants to control what you do, and not liking it. The same someone, as a matter of fact. And you're right, he can get touchy when he feels like he's being crossed, or not listened to properly. Which is frustrating if he's not listening back.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-07 01:16:55](#)

(no subject)

s it something I've done?

I don't see how it could be ~~unless he doesn't want~~, but sometimes it's good to know these things ahead of

time.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-07 01:47:24](#)

(no subject)

No, no, it's nothing you've done. Like I said - he doesn't even know it's about you.

In brief: the bill for my Valentine's gift to you came, and he demanded to know who I was splurging on. I refused to say, mostly because he was making a giant fuss about it and acting as if I'd just bought someone an engagement ring. And also because if I DID say, he'd have some kind of big opinion on it that I'd have to listen to, ad nauseum.

I also didn't tell him because I was a little surprised that he didn't already know. Which means that you haven't told him, either, right? So I thought it might be something we should discuss together, first.

Should we tell our parents? Would that be... weird?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-07 02:17:46](#)
(no subject)

I'd feel weird telling my mum, only because of all those rumours about her and Lucius and everything, and she might be horribly pleased but in a nasty sort of way, and you're not my boyfriend because of what she'd want.

You're my boyfriend even though that's what she'd want. Because that's how much I like you.

Or at least she used to want it. I'm not sure if she cares one way or the other any more. And regardless, I just wouldn't want to give her the satisfaction.

And yes, I'm a bit surprised he wouldn't know already too, but he has been terribly busy lately, hasn't he?

I don't mind telling your parents, and I think it'd be weirder to hide it from them, if that makes sense. Only because I know them too. Well, not like we'd have stand in front of them holding hands and say, "we've got something to tell you," because then they'd probably overreact or something. And I could see how it would be frightfully awkward to just up and say it, because really, how do you do that gracefully?

~~Sometimes I worry about what your mum would say~~

If you don't want to tell them, I'd understand. And it wouldn't change anything. Anything that matters. At least not between us. I don't care if no-one knows it or everyone does, we're still us either way.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-07 02:25:47](#)
(no subject)


That's pretty much how I feel - it doesn't change anything if they know *or* if they don't. But I get the feeling that Father isn't going to stop trying to find out. He thinks we have a bargain where I'm going to fess up by Easter hols. Haha, I should say "Eloise Midgen" just to see what colour he turns!

But I haven't even told you the part that really infuriated him. While he was interrogating me, I told him that I knew he'd bought the exact same pair of earrings for someone who is NOT Mother.

He was really, really taken aback. And then accused me of being ludicrous, of course. But based on his reaction, I'm almost certain that he bought them for a mistress or something, years ago.

That's what I meant about him being imperfect.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-07 02:38:20](#)
(no subject)

I see.

That is rather unfortunate. For him to have done, and for you to have found out. If that's what it was.

And I know you love your mother very much.

I was furious with my mum when she started seeing Prospero, you know. Even though father had been dead for years and years. Because it seemed like such a betrayal to his memory.


Which doesn't make sense at all, but these things don't, do they?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-07 02:38:40](#)
(no subject)

And if we're taking bets, my guess is he'd be between beet and purple.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-07 02:44:37](#)
(no subject)

Aubergine, then? I might have to test that, just to be certain.

Mind, he didn't admit anything, but if the earrings were for Mémé or his sister, then why wouldn't he just say? He acted all flustered, instead. You know that it takes a lot

for him to get flustered.

I know your Mother's not perfect, either, but hey - she's not Auntie Bella, right?

I think I could laugh more about the imperfections if I didn't have to deal with them...

Anyway, we can talk more in person. Are you free?

I really want to see you.



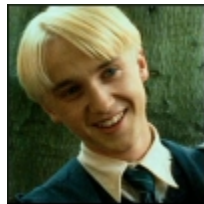
 **alt_pansy** at [2012-03-07 02:46:27](#)
(no subject)


We shall have to come up with colour samples so that you can hold them up.

And we'll just have to deal with the imperfections together, won't we?

And yes, I am free.

And I really want to see you too.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-03-07 02:47:49](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant. See you in the common room in a bit, then.

2012-03-06 19:51:00

YPL Mural project

I've had a few questions about the mural project from those outside Hogwarts, so I'm delighted to say that at our meeting last Saturday, we selected the founding of Hogwarts itself as our topic.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Thank you to all who came prepared with such excellent ideas, even though we could only pick one. (For the curious, other suggestions included the investiture of Our Lord, the Fall of the Ministry, scenes from Merlin's life, Quidditch through the ages, and one focusing on various magical creatures.) It was quite a lively discussion.

Mrs Pencarrow is planning on a meeting Sunday afternoon at 3 for anyone at Hogwarts interested in discussion of some different approaches to the design. She expects to have the basic outline plotted on the wall next week. Those interested may also wish to keep an eye on her journal for daily posts on various portraits and other artwork at Hogwarts as well as the progress of the mural project - I'm finding her posts very interesting so far.

YPL students are reminded to keep their commitments for both painting sessions and the artwork tours and copies of the schedule are in all the house common rooms now. Non-YPL students are welcome to sign up anywhere there is space on the schedule at this point.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-03-07 01:01:24**

Private message to Raz

Right. I have delivered the whole thing, by hand, with my best and brightest smile in place. I don't even want to think about how many inches of parchment there are total.

I've no patience for being out in public right now, even to see Gilly or Mum, so I came back from New London right after the various Ministry errands and I'm planning to hole up in the bath with a mindless book or three until it's time to teach.

(If you're not too tired after your newts, though, you are welcome to come up. Speaking of - any chance you might be able to meet me in New London after the committee meeting, next week? If it's too

difficult to arrange, I understand.)

And before you try to figure out how to bring it up, I've already stopped by to see Poppy and get a potion for tonight. Much as I hate them, last night was bad enough that, well. Even I'm admitting I need it.

I'm ~~gl~~ almost glad it's pouring out - no need to set up early, just find the projection stones.



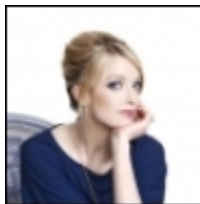
 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-07 03:44:05](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

We've just finished. Things got a bit too intense between Bole and Cox, yet again. This time I didn't hesitate to make it clear that I'll bar both of them from their exam if they can't keep things sportsman-like.

Hooch should be up for covering next week- though I should probably do the courtesy of asking her first, I reckon. I can even arrange it so that I'm there *for* the meeting, if you'd prefer. Unless that would be awkward. Hard to say... only, they did mention me in their report a bit, yeah?

I'm glad you brought it up- I was wondering.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-07 03:56:32](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Oh, goodness. I have to say, the fact it's been Cox as well rather surprises me. He's a lamb in class with me, even with Chambers in class as a distraction as well.

For the meeting - honestly, I don't know. On the one hand, yes, it affects you. Us. On the other hand, it changes the shape of the conversation if you're actually in the room.

It'd be easier if I knew who the other invited parties were, I think, but no luck there when I tried asking today.

As to the last. Well. I'd say I'm trying to be sensible, but perhaps

aiming for not being entirely foolish might be a more achievable goal.

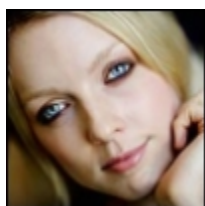


 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-07 04:00:50](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

I could tell you a joke about beaters and bat size and the competitiveness that comes with it, but it's not entirely in good taste and perhaps best told in private.

Well, perhaps I can be milling about nearby, you know, just in case. Just to remind them that they've made me a part of it, too. But not actually in the room, if you see what I mean. Your call, though. I won't fuss if you'd rather I not.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-07 04:07:04](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Ah, that sort of thing. Do tell me sometime, though?

Milling around nearby sounds quite the thing, actually. (And besides, that way, if they do want to talk to you, you're handy.) I went heavy on the "We are both busy professors with strong commitment to our other duties" line of reasoning, but who knows how they'll take it.

I wish I weren't driving you to fuss. But I do appreciate you wanting to. If that makes any sense.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-07 04:10:17](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Milling around it is, then.

And as long as I can confess to wanting to fuss and it satisfying us both...well, I think we're

good.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-07 04:24:33](#)**

Re: Private message to Raz

And see, love, now I'm smiling.

Rather a lot.

Which might tell you how I might be coming around to being fussed over. (And perhaps being more sensible about it.)

Right. Out of the fuzzy robe and slippers for me, and back to trying to get my brain together for teaching.

2012-03-06 20:23:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy



Dearest son,

What's happened? No, he did not ask me to write. Are you well, other than quarrelling with your father?

 [alt_narcissa](#)

I suppose you are already pouring your heart out to Harry or some other good friend but - well, Mother's here, if you want to talk about it.

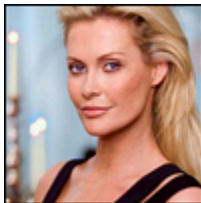


 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-03-07 01:50:56**

(no subject)

You mean he didn't tell you? I can guess why not

How did you know we'd had a row?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-03-07 02:04:51**

(no subject)

Oh, dear.

He simply said, 'Congratulations. Your son is irrevocably a teenager.' But it was the way he said it, of course. So I knew something must be wrong.

But I wasn't certain until you just confirmed it. I'm sorry, dearest.

Let me guess: He's up in arms because you've gone and found a girlfriend and didn't secure his approval first?



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-03-07 02:07:32**

(no subject)

It's possible that has something to do with it.

Sorry, but I don't see why I have to tell him every little thing that goes on in my life. He's only supportive if it's his idea first, after all.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-07 02:22:27](#)
(no subject)

Oh, sweetheart. That's - not exactly true, surely. Neither he nor I expects you to tell us everything, not really.

We *hope* you trust us to come to us with anything, of course.

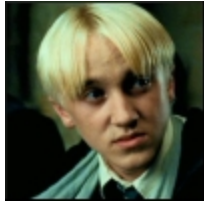
Your father is - well, you'll pardon me if I find it singularly droll that he is showing such reticence to see you grow up. And that's what it is, really. I know, because I feel the same way, sometimes. It's an unbelievably odd mix of pride, to see you becoming such a handsome, strong young man, and sadness, because we know you'll never again be the little boy who used to come running up for hugs and kisses without a qualm or a quiver of embarrassment. Very like the way Rigel is now. And he'll grow out of that soon enough, I expect.

But now it's girls that occupy your attention, which is perfectly natural, of course but - difficult to accept in its way. And trust me, if your father is reacting with ... trepidation, let us call it, well, that too is something I find particularly laughable, considering his own record. He ought to know better than to impose upon *you* with the same interference your grandmother used on *him*!

And I know it doesn't seem this way, darling son of mine, but he does have your best interest at heart. Even if he does a terrible job communicating it. He is a man, after all, and by and large you are a flawed sex.

I'm sorry that you find him insufferable, Draco. I fear that you are, indeed, a teenager, and that comes with the territory, I'm told. But I do understand if he's not making it easier for you to cope. Give him a day or two to adjust to the shock of realising you're every bit the young scamp he was and I promise you, he'll come round.

I only hope neither of you said anything you'll regret too horribly.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-07 02:39:52](#)
(no subject)

Mother, Rigel's a *toddler*. I'm fifteen!

If he has my best interest at heart then why does he have to be so overbearing about it? I think you might be too patient with him for your own good, Mother.

How did Mémé interfere with him? Perhaps I ought to know so that I can remind him, when and if it becomes convenient.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-07 02:56:26](#)
(no subject)

Yes, of course he is. And so were you, my son. I know for you it seems ages and ages ago but for us it's like yesterday.

But you don't want me to embarrass you; you want me to embarrass your father.

Very well. Now, understand: You heard this from your Auntie Amanda. And if you ever say otherwise I shall deny it to the very grave. Yes?

Well. When your father was in his 6th year or so, he dated a young witch of, er, *questionable* blood. Nothing highly objectionable in those days, of course, but the girl's grandmother was, if you can believe it, a muggle. Your father, naturally, did not want to worry his parents over what he took to be a trifle - but in the course of holidays, Easter or summer, I'm not sure which - he contrived to get down to London to see her. Your Mémé insisted that he take your Aunt Amanda along with him and look after her for the day. Well, what choice did he have? He tried to reschedule with his paramour but she insisted on coming along.

So, although he swore your Aunt to silence, she gave him away unthinkingly (after all she was only about nine at the time!) and Margaret forced him to break things off altogether. You see, despite his protestations that it was all a lark, she became convinced that he'd kept it from her because he harboured

deep affection for the young woman! So you can understand he thought the whole affair the height of over-reaction.

Now, I do hope my son will content himself with suitable girls for the most part but of course, I also hope that unlike your Mémé, I am sensible enough to realise that you are much too young for any liaison you have now to mean anything about the future.

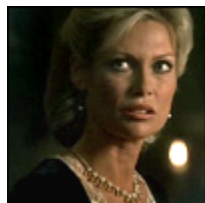


 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:04:44](#)**
(no subject)

Must as I love Mémé, she ought not have done anything. After all, there's no chance he would have married that witch after he laid eyes on you, Mother.

That's exactly it - I'm not thinking about the future, I'm thinking about what makes me happy and content now.

And I don't know why Father doesn't have faith in the way you both raised me - enough to know that I'd never do anything to put my future in serious jeopardy.

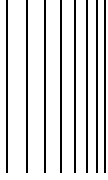


 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:18:05](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Draco. As it happens, of course, we did know each other - after all, he was a Prefect at that time, but I only a lowly fourth-year beneath his notice. It wasn't until we'd both left school for some time that we met socially and, er, 'hit it off,' I think, is the term one might use.

I know you are, darling. And he does, too, I'm sure of it. I can't tell you why he worries except that if he did not, he should not take such good care of us both.

As for being patient with him Well, let us simply say that he is also most patient with me. From time to time, we all need to exert patience with the ones we love.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-07 03:36:20](#)
(no subject)

Well... thank you, Mother. I'll try.

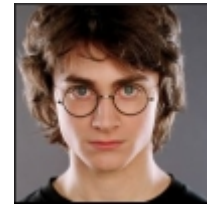
2012-03-06 20:51:00

Private Message to Hydra

Hydra

you've got to

let me explain.




 **alt_harry**

I had to practise. Because they're making me punish Her my mudblood. So Raz set it up with Professor Grubbly-Plank so I could work on it with a niffler she had because if I didn't I probably wouldn't be able to do it properly and I'd get in trouble and she'd get punished even more

and that's what you saw.

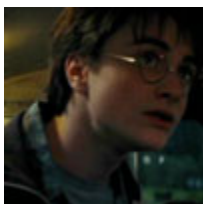


 **alt_hydra** at **2012-03-07 02:03:00**
(no subject)

Oh -

Do you have Tevis.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_harry** at **2012-03-07 02:04:47**
(no subject)

No. I'd never

I know what Tevis looks like, and I'd never do that to him.

Is he missing?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-07 02:10:21](#)
(no subject)

Mummy took him. And this weekend I thought that she might've just left him with Professor Grubbly-Plank, so I was just checking to see...

And then when I saw what you were doing I thought Mummy might have given him to *you*. So that you could cruciate him.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 02:24:09](#)
(no subject)

No. I don't have him, and I don't think she has him.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry you had to see that too.

I didn't want to do it, you know.

I don't like it or anything. At all. It makes me sick. Just thinking about it.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-07 02:31:18](#)
(no subject)

I - I'm sorry you had to do it. Have to.

Why is Hermione being punished?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 02:42:38](#)
(no subject)

Because after the first task she called me Harry.

In the journals. Where everyone could see.

And then there was a lot of talk about how I wasn't keeping her in hand properly, and she wasn't respectful because I wasn't treating her like I ought, and so they decided that the best way to take care of it would be if I punished her myself.

For calling me Harry.

By cruciating her.

They gave me til March to do it, because they didn't want it to interfere with the Second Task preparation. But now I'm done with that.

And that didn't go well.

So it's not like I can get out of it or anything.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-07 02:52:57](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I remember now. I didn't know that she was still being punished for it, I thought it was over.

~~I should stop calling her Hermione in writing.~~

What will they do to her if you don't cruciate her, though? Do you know?

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:00:12](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know.

They might take her away. Or do something worse.

After what happened after the second task, I don't want to find out.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:09:05](#)**
(no subject)

Harry.

They might do that anyway. They can do whatever they want, whenever they want.

It isn't safe to care about anything,

but I just can't help it and I do.

I hate it. I think you must, too.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:17:20](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah.

I do.

And just because it isn't safe doesn't mean I'm going to stop caring either.

Even if they want me to.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-07 03:24:37](#)
(no subject)

I know. Me either. Sometimes it seems like the only thing left.

I don't know what to say now. I feel like...

I don't know.

Will we you be all right?

From,
Hydra

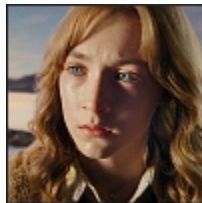


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 03:26:14](#)
(no subject)

I think so.

Yeah.

You?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-07 03:34:07](#)
(no subject)

I think so. I still wish I knew where Tevis was. It would be useful to know legilimency.

But sometimes I think no one should have that kind of power. No one does anything good with it. That's why I want to learn occlumency.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 03:38:54](#)
(no subject)

Yeah?

Maybe Raz knows. Without, you know, having to ask.

Occlumency would be better than legilimency, yeah. Because you're protecting what's yours. Instead of taking something from someone.


And sometimes I don't want to know what people really think.

That would be really dangerous.

And wrong.

If you think Tevis is here, we can go looking for him tomorrow. If you want.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:49:49](#)**
(no subject)

All Mummy said was that Tevis is alive and being cared for. I suppose that ought to be enough, but I don't really know if her idea of "cared for" is the same as mine. I'm not sure that he's anywhere around here, but it seems strange to imagine Mummy bothering herself with him for long...

Yes, that's exactly it about occlumency. It's protection.

Uncle Raz is trying to teach me, as best he can. It's not exact since he's not a legilimens, but he says there's still techniques I can practise.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-03-07 03:54:11](#)**
(no subject)

She probably wouldn't put him where you could find him, though.

And that's sort of ace. You know, actually trying to learn it and all.

Let me know how it goes, yeah?




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-03-07 03:56:49](#)
(no subject)

She might not expect me to go looking, either. It's hard to say. I never know how to predict what she'll do or how she'll react. You probably feel the same way sometimes.

Yes, I can let you know. Maybe he can try to teach you, too, if you decide it's what you want.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 04:02:01](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

And I do know how that feels.

Especially lately.

And you've got a point. If you want to look, just to see, we can.

2012-03-06 20:59:00

Private Message to Hermione Granger

Hydra saw me.

Practising.

~~She looked at me like I was~~

~~I can't do this.~~

I think I scared her.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-07 15:08:36](#)

(no subject)

You can do it, Harry, you must.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 16:25:38](#)

(no subject)

~~Do you know how messed up it is that you have to tell me that?~~

I'm sorry, Hermione.

~~I know. I've got to. And I will. Or at least I'll try as hard as I can~~

You know what? Bugger it all.

Just screw it.

I've got to try as hard as I can to hurt one of the best friends I've got. That's just insane. It's messed up. And it's even more messed up because they don't see you like I do. They don't think you're a real person. So the fact that I don't want to do this is just yet another sign that I'm not who they want me to be and if that's what it takes I never will be.

And now you have to listen to me whinge about hurting you on top of everything.

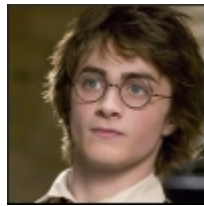
Which doesn't help at all.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-07 16:35:49](#)
(no subject)

Look—I know you feel bad about this but think how I must feel. I don't like seeing you sad but you aren't the one getting cruciated. It doesn't matter if you'll never be that person because at least they see you as a person whereas I'm not at all.

I just mean, Harry, honestly, I'm sorry you feel bad but could you please tell somebody else about it?! I know there's at least one person you could tell, or you could talk to Mr Milland, he understands these things, but I just don't think I can listen to it right now, and be the good little servant and tell you it will be all right, because it isn't going to be because things aren't.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-07 16:45:54](#)
(no subject)

~~I don't want you to pat me on the back or make me feel better, you know.~~

~~I don't want you to be a good little servant.~~

That's

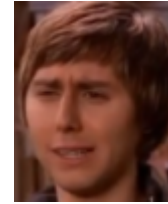
I just want to

I just want us to

Okay.

[2012-03-07 19:37:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **[alt_justin](#)**

What ho, all,

I thought March was supposed to be a better month than February, what? But it seems everyone's well upset about something.

Hydra's upset because of something she saw and because Harry's upset that she saw it. Harry's upset (so I hear) because he's got to punish Hermione--I'm dreadfully sorry, Hermione. I expect you're well upset about being punished when you've done nothing wrong, and quite right, too. And Pansy, Hydra said she thinks you're upset because Draco's upset, what? So I'm upset because *Hydra's* upset, and because other friends of mine are upset, in the bargain.

If it's all the same, could one simply skip ahead to April? That ought to be better, oughtn't it?

Oh, but bother. April's when we're going on that bally old tour and one shall have to keep up a proper façade of being jolly well impressed with every monument they flash before us, what?

~~And it'll be one month closer to~~ Oh, dash it. This place is simply *mad*.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-03-08 01:32:04](#)**


(no subject)

It is, isn't it?

This has actually been a fairly calm year, all things considered.

You should've been here last year, with the Dementors and escaped prisoners. Or the year before that. That year was a bit of a broom ride too. Let's just say that Padma and I ended up duelling in the halls. And that was one of the tamer things that happened.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-08 01:34:26](#)
(no subject)

You ought to do that again.

Bet I could sell tickets.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-08 01:35:27](#)
(no subject)

Bet I'd win this time.

Especially without Carrow to split it up.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-08 01:37:54](#)
(no subject)

Bet you would, too.

What's this stuff people are saying about Patil and Greengrass and some other witches doing extra 'training', though? Is that some secret Dark Arts club they've got up?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-08 01:40:45](#)
(no subject)


I think it's just physical stuff like running and flying to get better at the YPL things.

Do you think we ought to start up duelling practise again? I remember we got pretty good at it last year, when we were worried that Mrs Professor Carrow would pull something in class.

Even though there was that one time I nearly died from growing blue scales.

Maybe it wouldn't be a good idea after all.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-08 02:02:23](#)
(no subject)

Actually, I think it's a brilliant idea. Especially if Patil's It'd be snitch to train with F-F, too, don't you think?

Besides, we're better at everything now than we were then. And we know you've got to read the footnotes now, too. So no blue scales. Right, Fisheye?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-08 02:28:08](#)
(no subject)

Point, fish-face.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-03-08 17:41:36](#)
(no subject)

I'd like some more practise duelling with just us, too.

~~Except I have to spend so much time~~




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-08 01:32:56](#)
(no subject)

And I'm not upset exactly, but yes, Draco hasn't had the best time of it lately.

What did she see?



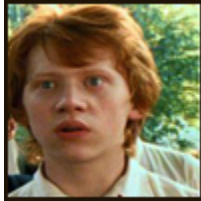
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-08 01:44:58](#)
(no subject)


Hello, Pansy.

Well, Hydra only thought you might be, what? She could tell you empathised with him, at any rate.

I'm not sure I ought to say what it was. She felt enough like betraying Harry's confidence just telling me, do you see.

-Justin

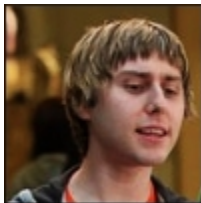



 **alt_ron** at **2012-03-08 01:33:08**
(no subject)

Oi.

You're as jolly as a glumbumble, you are.

What was it that Hydra saw, then, that set all the rest of it off?



 **alt_justin** at **2012-03-08 01:58:46**
(no subject)

Hullo, Ron,

Sorry I'm being gloomy, what? Perhaps it's the rain coming in off the lake.

As for what upset Hydra, I don't think I had better say, as I said. She was concerned about betraying his confidence.

Oh, but I did mean to tell you all something well funny: Pascal saved a few of Fred and George's sweets, what. He slipped them to Delacour and some of the other older girls last night and quick as a wink, Delacour was sporting a gigantic elephant's trunk! She was not best pleased, I can tell you, what? For a moment we all thought she was going to go all veela on us--not the well gorgeous side, what, the er, the rather gruesome face. She looked about to hex Pascal into next week, what? And then Davies laughed at her so she pitched him, right there in front of the whole crowd.

Well, anyway, it was quite a laugh.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-08 02:00:21](#)
(no subject)


She really is lacking a sense of humour, isn't she?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-08 02:17:14](#)
(no subject)

Now THERE'S something you could have sold tickets to see.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-08 02:48:00](#)
(no subject)

Heh. Too right.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-08 17:05:16](#)
(no subject)

Most excellent. Wish we had been there.

To take product notes, obviously.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-03-08 17:05:43](#)
(no subject)

Obviously!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-08 02:57:05](#)
(no subject)

At least we have a Hogsmeade weekend coming up. It'll be nice to get out of the castle, at least.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-09 20:07:12](#)
(no subject)

I'm not upset.

I just wish that Harry would find somebody else to complain to, other than me, the person who he's going to be Cruciating.

2012-03-07 21:22:00

Order Only: Incoming Infant

Alice, Dora's heading your way with Mary Ashton, aged all of four months. We actually found her yesterday but it took some legwork. By the time we collected her, Dora had to get back and feed Bea and then, well, with one thing and another, the two of them had a grand time sharing toys and such. Anyway, she's bringing her along now. I think we both would have preferred to take her poor mum along, too. Only 19 herself and stuck in an unlikely corner of Hades.



 [alt_sirius](#)

As for our other local boy, his name's Puneet Kamathali. We found him this afternoon: His parents work at a curry place over on Thornfield Road. We had to order dinner in order to keep talking to them (and Kreacher was none too happy we returned with 'foreign food!' But I digress).

The problem is that Puneet's parents are quite well-treated, from what they told us. Their parents each owned a curry takeaway before the Ministry fell and their 'masters' essentially leave them to run things on their own. While they naturally want their son to have a good life, they didn't see much point to giving him up. Plus Mr Kamathali was extremely concerned that if we took Puneet elsewhere, he might not be raised in their faith, which apparently is not a problem for them in their current circumstances. But would he be around other Indians? Would he know anything about his ancestors? Etc.

We tried to explain the rings and the ways we can allow them to communicate but it was clear they weren't going to go for it. We had to Obliviate them.

Anyone have thoughts about what we might do to convince them on a second go?



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-03-08 02:59:27**

(no subject)

Well, if they're not closely supervised, perhaps we should let them be, for now. How likely is it that their son will manifest magic where a wizard would see?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-08 03:02:30](#)
(no subject)

How likely is it that a customer will notice or lodge a complaint, though?

I agree we've got some time to mull it over but not indefinitely.

Merlin, I keep thinking about Emily Ashton, too. That poor kid.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-08 03:04:12](#)
(no subject)

Where did you find her?

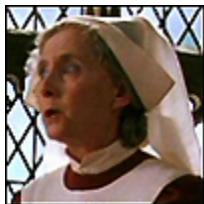


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-08 03:11:05](#)
(no subject)

One of those gents' establishments that tries to make itself sound grander than it is. 'Tonsorial Parlour,' if you please.

Tonsils are involved, all right. Can't even remember the name of the place. The neighbourhood folk call it the 'Artful Todger.'

Mary seems all right, though, and Emily was eager to hand her over to someone who could take care of her better than she could do. It's entirely possible the child is really a halfblood, but Moddey's really the best place for her, anyway.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-08 03:14:46](#)
(no subject)

Tonsils, indeed.

Well, I'm glad you've got the child away from there. I wonder if you could hire the mother out of her grim situation?

Risky, I suppose, because it might raise questions in the wrong minds. Pity, though.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-08 03:18:05](#)

(no subject)

Was the child underweight or, well, difficult at all? Did she sleep for you?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-08 03:29:59](#)

(no subject)

A bit underweight, yeah. Seemed to appreciate the attention she was getting, though. There was one tense moment where we thought she might bite but Remus popped a soother into her mouth and she was content enough with that.

I'm not sure Dora was able to pry the little stuffed frog away from her, either, before leaving with her. The crocheted one Emmeline sent for Bea.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-08 03:33:53](#)

(no subject)

Was Bea very attached to it?

Seems a small thing to part with if it gives joy to that unfortunate child. I realise, though, that it may be difficult to explain altruism to one as young as Miss Albia.

Come to think of it, she must be getting on towards a year. When is her day?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-08 03:38:40](#)

(no subject)

To be honest, no, she never did seem taken with the critter. Maybe she found the texture too rough. Mary certainly took a shine to it and you're right, it's not as if Bea has no other toys.

She's got all she needs.

It is coming up but not for a bit. I'm always adding a month on, I think, so ... I want to say end of May?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-08 03:52:45](#)
(no subject)

30 May.

Mark it down?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-08 03:56:12](#)
(no subject)

Right. That's near the end, innit.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-08 03:01:58](#)
(no subject)

I expect that you told them what will happen if the Ministry catch wind of the child's showing magic, but perhaps you could make it more *vivid* for them when you return?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-08 03:04:44](#)
(no subject)

steve and me got Abby Harrison out of Leeds. her folks were awfully young too. her mum couldn't have been more than sixteen if she was a day. he was young too. they were worried about their parents, I think, but after what happened to the muggle born witches and wizards at the arena, they wanted to keep her safe.

we've got Divyesh with us -- he eats veg, and his folks send him letters about holidays and things. we could have him write a letter, if that'd help.



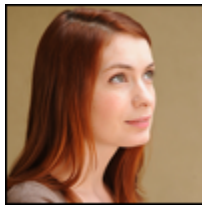
 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-08 03:13:07](#)
(no subject)


I'd say it couldn't hurt. And yeah, Poppy, I can lay on the reminder that he'll be taken away and there's no way they'd be able to take part in his religious education - or any other part of his education - when that happens.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-03-08 03:18:34](#)
(no subject)


Quite true.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-08 23:41:15](#)
(no subject)

Jacinda Chadha can write too. I'm fairly sure she's Hindu, and I know that she and Divyesh are quite close.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-08 03:23:14](#)
(no subject)

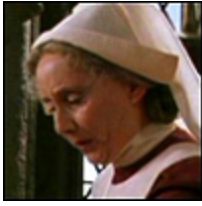
Jack and Branwen are safe and sound from Scarborough, too. Branwen's family are all coal miners, and were incredibly grateful. Apparently, muggle children start working in the mines as young as five.

Five.

Honestly.

I know we don't have the resources, and that we must keep to our mission, but we really need to remember that there are other children out there who are hurting terribly.

It feels like we do so little sometimes.




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:30:23](#)**
(no subject)

Did they have other children, that family?

I'm only thinking that it would make us look harsh-
no, it would make us look as prejudiced as all the
other wizards they've dealt with, seeing that we're only interested
in saving children with magical endowments.

It is awful, isn't it? When you think of it in that light.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:39:53](#)**
(no subject)

I've raised that point with Minerva before, yes.

Branwen was their second child. And several of our
Moddey children have non-magical siblings in the
camps as well.

Believe me, it hurts my heart to think of.

It's a small comfort to think that the non-magical children would
have the support of their parents, for the most part, whereas the
magical ones would be taken away by someone with far less
charitable thoughts than we.

But to give one child a chance, a life, and a bit of happiness while
not extending the same to their brothers and sisters...

you're right. It's the same kind of preferences that are shown by
the very people we are fighting against.

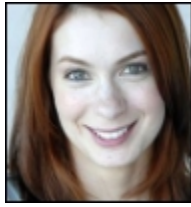



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:43:40](#)**
(no subject)

We've always said the goal is to reunite them
eventually - and sooner, with any luck, through
our efforts.

So, have they arrived? Had a chance to look Mary over for

yourself? And is Dora on her way back, now, or is she going to visit for a bit first?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:46:54](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, they've arrived, and Tonks is staying for a cup of tea before making her way back. She'll be there soon enough.

Mary looks to be a bit on the small side, but she looks otherwise healthy and very much loved.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:55:50](#)**
(no subject)


I'm just ready.

We arrived in a bit of a state. Diaper and other upsets.

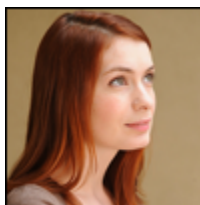
Bea doesn't like side-along much, either. I suppose it is a jolt.


Think I'll come to Grimmauld unless Remus needs help closing. I'd like to have a look-in at Bea, rather. Or say goodnight if you've not got her down yet.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:57:51](#)**
(no subject)

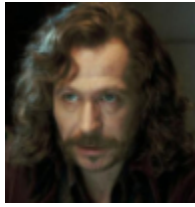
You come along here and I'll help him clean up, then. He should be just about closing.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:51:27](#)**
(no subject)

We'd talked about opening up Moddey to muggle children about a year and a half ago, you know, coming and going from Sherwood before we had our security scare and had to nix it. They don't have many young children

But I do think it's important to keep talking about it, and think of things we could do. Because they are people too.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-08 04:00:52](#)**
(no subject)

Davidson'd rather they had no children at all, in fact. Nor anyone else who's not easily moved, hushed or otherwise able to contribute to the whole.

But that's where I think Lucinda's been helping, getting those less suited for the life out to safer locations in the unoccupied villages.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:27:09](#)**
(no subject)

And of the children who we've managed to get paperwork for, we've still got Ethan Maxwell left too -- from Brighton.

I see he was born on the 29th of February. Which is... interesting.

He's still so very young regardless, so we might want to give him another two months.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-08 03:41:11](#)**
(no subject)

A Leap Baby?

....

Yeah, maybe we had better think on that one for a while.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-03-08 04:01:28](#)**
(no subject)

what is there to talk about?

it's a load of superstitious nonsense is what it is.

and you just know that lot of death eaters would have a field day with him once they found out when he was born. might kill him for all we know.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-08 04:20:39](#)**
(no subject)

I don't doubt they'd kill him but do you really want that sort of - unpredictability - at Moddey? His first magic could well be undoing the Fidelius or sending up a shower of sparks large enough to be seen from space, let alone Buckingham.

Besides, they're supposed to be near impossible to fit with a wand.

Maybe you'd better rescue him but keep him in one of the safehouses for a while, first.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-03-08 04:24:16](#)**
(no subject)

and what? get one of us to watch him twenty four hours a day until he shows? that's not practical, and unless you're volunteering, we've all got better things to do.

he's an infant, not a bomb.

I didn't think you were that big into astrological signs and old witch tales.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-03-08 16:07:20](#)**
(no subject)

They may be impossible to fit with a wand, but on the other hand, I've heard that they can have a strong knack with wandless magic.

But there haven't been enough born in the last century to say for sure.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-08 16:00:45](#)
(no subject)

But it isn't nonsense, Frank! Why do you think midwives help witches do anything to help mothers delay their labour to keep babies from being born on February 29?

Oh, but you're right about what the deatheaters might do.

Ugh, they might give him to Amycus Carrow even.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-03-08 16:01:58](#)
(no subject)

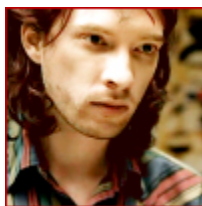
I say we take him. If the parents will allow it.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-08 16:02:39](#)
(no subject)

Oh, dear.

I think you'll need more help in the nursery, Alice.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-03-08 16:03:46](#)
(no subject)

I agree, I think we should take the kid, too.

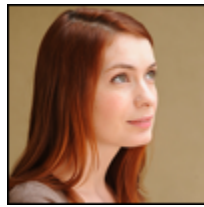



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-08 16:05:50](#)
(no subject)

You make a fair point, Molly, that Moddey Dhoo is going to need more help in the nursery, with all these new kids.

Alice, do you think you can cover it by reappportioning tasks among your staff there? Or do you need me to check with

Davidson's people to see if there's anyone there who might be willing to join you?



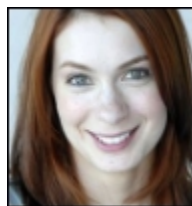
 **alt_alice** at [2012-03-08 21:39:49](#)
(no subject)


Well, we've got eleven adults who are old hands at this sort of thing. Our eight new young people have eased all of our burdens extensively, and we also have five other older children who can be given specific responsibilities here, but they're all still learning magic and so we limit how much time they spend in the nurseries. We've got one full time nursery staff, Jacinda, and the rest of us take morning and night shifts. It's an organizational challenge, but Arabella is very good with charts -- the time table we're all on is a bit stretched, though, and I know that our days and nights are quite full with the babies we already have let alone the ones we'll add this year. And the growing ones require attention too -- once they can walk, things get far more interesting.

Newborns especially require such round the clock care, and adding so many more this year, I think we might have to supplement with one or two more adults full-time for nursery duty. Of course, food is always a concern. With the latest smuggling round, though, we have enough staples to last us before the next growing season with room for two more full-grown adults at the table. We'll put in a bit of an extra effort to add to our supplies with regular fishing, and next growing season, we'll plow another field and continue to aggressively breed our goats and chickens to cover everything.

So yes.

I think if Davidson knows two people who are patient and good with children, lots and lots of them, we'd be grateful.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-03-08 21:51:22](#)
(no subject)

We have a lot of people here who have children -- the McGiverns, the Lees, Frank and myself, and Judith, so if it's a family with one or two young children, we could make that work. And

||||| although magical ability would make the work lighter, it isn't
absolutely necessary.

[2012-03-08 14:25:00](#)

Order Only: More babies

Bill is pulling together the parchment work on the children I've found so far.



Gillian Fitzhugh, from Saltash, in Cornwall.

 **[alt_arthur](#)**

Heather Flockton, from Burnham-on-Crouch, in the Maldon district in Essex.

Jason Baker, from Banbury in the Cherwell district of Oxfordshire.

Tavis MacNichol, Argyll, Scotland.

Jane Briden, Abbotskerswell in Devon.

Walter Cousins, in North Yorkshire.

I am having trouble tracking down two: Ivy Lovell and...a baby named Sirius. Sirius Maxwell.

Merlin, how could the parents dare name him that?

Kingsley, are you available? I think I could break away tomorrow in the afternoon, so let's try for Gillian. We can make contact with Heather Flockton's parents on Saturday. And then, I suppose, we'll just keep working our way down the list. Who else is in? Speak up, there are plenty of babies for all.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-03-08 20:39:58](#)**

(no subject)

Not me. My new job is keeping me too busy to breathe. But I should be able to get you the parchmentwork on the rest by Monday.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-03-08 20:40:30](#)**

(no subject)

You're just afraid you might have to change a nappy.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-03-08 20:40:44](#)**
(no subject)

That, too.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-03-08 20:42:20](#)**
(no subject)

Sirius Maxwell? My goodness.

I hope we do find him. If only because I would give my eyeteeth to see a young Sirius playing with a young Bellatrix in the nursery at Moddey Dhoo!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-03-08 20:44:16](#)**
(no subject)

I saw this and started laughing so hard I spilled tea out of my nose. Rosier poked his head round his office door to find out why I was laughing so hard.

Naturally, I didn't tell him.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-03-08 20:44:22](#)**
(no subject)

Oi! You're lucky I wasn't trying to take a sip of tea when I read this.

But I agree with Arthur ... how could they have been so foolish (and, well, *daft!*) as to name the boy that?

Unless it's like that Lee child from last year, Arthur, and they call him something else in company?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-09 01:08:09](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps it really is a family name.

But it does seem quite odd. I think anyone with a name like that in the family, even if it went back several generations, would think twice about using it now.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-09 01:08:45](#)
(no subject)

No offence, my friend. But you've really managed to render the name rather notorious!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-09 01:15:34](#)
(no subject)

That's not the point at all. It's -

Bugger all. It's the last thing I need, isn't it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-09 01:14:23](#)
(no subject)

Can't imagine a muggle family condemning its children to that one for generations, Kingsley.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-08 21:09:19](#)
(no subject)

I can meet you tomorrow, my friend. Send me a patronus when you're at the meeting point.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-08 23:12:20](#)**
(no subject)

Tonks, dear, are you up for a jaunt this weekend? We could head up to Cornwall or Devon.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-03-08 23:40:12](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yes, please!

I would love it.

2012-03-08 16:14:00

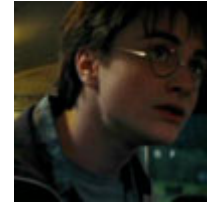
Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

I got an owl from Sinbad.

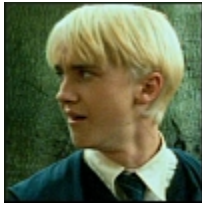
He wants to meet up.

Outside of Hogsmeade. He said to bring food, and gave directions.

Should we go?



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-03-08 23:44:48**
(no subject)

Bring him *food*? Can't he just munch down on a dead pigeon or something?

And what's he going to offer in return, fleas?



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-03-09 03:04:06**
(no subject)

Ew.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-03-09 03:07:14**
(no subject)

I don't think he needs food *that* bad, but we could get him a chicken or something, I bet he'd like that.

And you could ask him those questions you had. From his last letter, you know?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-09 03:12:05](#)
(no subject)

What if someone follows us? What's he got to say that's so important it can't come in one of his letters?

Can he REALLY not feed himself?

Or, better yet, he can just write whatever he has to say to you in the Grim Truth. What a brilliant idea.

You know, I had a thought the other day that part of the reason your Father and other people are so *anxious* about you is because Sinbad is always writing about you in his idiot journal entries.

He ought to find some friends his own age and leave off.

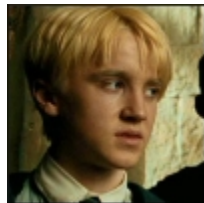


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-09 03:24:50](#)
(no subject)

I know he's not your favourite person.

But he is my you-know-what. And he knew my you-know-whos.

And I've only ever had the chance to see him once, and even then we didn't get to really talk. And maybe if we talked, it'd be easier for him to understand where you're coming from. And what we're going through. And that might help out all of us? You included?



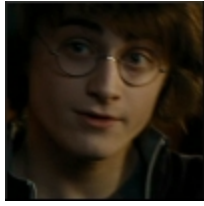
 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-09 03:29:07](#)
(no subject)

He's a complete pillock who has a dire and creepy obsession with you, that's what he is.

He upset Pansy, his advice has no value whatsoever, and he can't even find something to eat.

I'm not bringing him a single morsel.

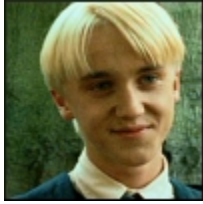
And I'm not going unless we use the invisi thing.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-09 03:33:31](#)
(no subject)

Okay. We'll use the thing.

And you don't have to bring any food, or even be nice.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-09 03:35:33](#)
(no subject)

Why would I be nice?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-09 03:33:44](#)
(no subject)

What'd he do to Pansy?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-09 03:36:34](#)
(no subject)

Sent her a load of stuff that belonged to Regulus when she least expected it, basically.

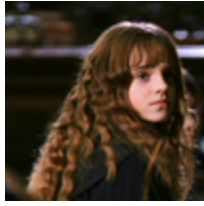
She found it upsetting.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-09 03:42:14](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

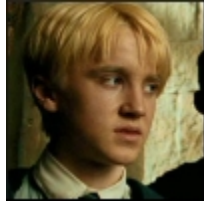
Yeah, I can see how she'd get upset.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-09 03:43:21](#)
(no subject)

I'll bring him food, but I agree with you about the thing.

Harry, of course we should go see him!!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-09 03:50:02](#)
(no subject)

What do you mean *of course*?

I really, really wish someone would make a convincing case for what, exactly, flea-bag has to

offer.

2012-03-09 14:48:00

Private message to Mr Stephen Rosier



 [alt_bill](#)

I have finally unearthed the final quarter report. I found it underneath the quarter report for 1990. Which was underneath the final quarter report for 1985. Which was underneath a rather decayed roast beef sandwich (at least that's what I think it was, although the green condition of the meat makes me somewhat doubtful). Merlin, how did the man ever find anything?

Rita Skeeter has been flogging every day again. My hunch is that she thinks she's been flogged off for quite long enough (the way she gnashes those pointy incisors behind those bee-stung lips is SO entertaining). I'll bet that if you graciously grant her an hour on Monday or Tuesday, you'll have her absolutely eating out of your hand. Especially if you pour on that patented Rosier charm.

I was copied on the memo you received from Janet Wrenkins detailing her problems with the procurement reports in Sector Two, specifically the ones provided by Gregory Nash. You are aware that she's Nash's mistress, aren't you? Or rather his ex-mistress, as of two and a half weeks ago, which is when Mrs Nash caught them in *flagrante delicto*. I have a pretty good hunch that these complaints should be taken as a poison pill meant to get him in trouble. Well, even more trouble than he's in from Mrs Nash, notwithstanding all the grovelling. From everything I know about Nash, his taste in mistresses may be unfortunate, but his accuracy in statistical reports has always been entirely satisfactory.

Don't forget to renew the trap over your rubbish bin. I caught the night cleaner rummaging in there again. (By the way: I've heard that programme finally has a semi-official name: Department for Identifying Resource Reliability and Trustworthiness, or DIRRT. Nice.)

Have a good weekend. (Oh, and as for this weekend's match, I'm calling it for the Wimbourne Wasps over the Chudley Cannons, with at least a fifty point spread. Although please don't ever let on to my brother Ron that I said so.)

2012-03-10 08:11:00

Order Only: Private Message to Remus

Happy birthday. Hope you got the present I left you yesterday.

I tried stopping a few times last night but it was too cold and I didn't want to lose the time to find an empty shelter. Just kept moving. I'm still a couple hours away but I wanted to be sure to send this early.


I'll be home soon, love. Never doubt it.

-S



 [alt_sirius](#)



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-03-10 14:50:37**
(no subject)

I found it, love. Thank you.

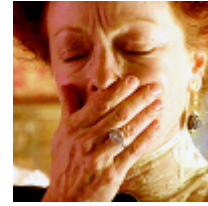
I'll see you soon.

2012-03-10 14:02:00

A grim GRIM litany

People of BRITAIN!

How quickly you FORGET! How quickly you TURN away! How quickly you SPEAK their names no more. A fortnight ago, we gathered for what became CARNAGE!! And now, there is silence.



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

How many of you even asked if Douglas Wentworth was well? If he had been returned to the CHEADLE camp, or quietly DISAPPEARED, or what else? We hold his fate in PRIVATE, for his SAFETY, but he is well and strong and GLAD to be alive.

The DogStar does not forget. The DogStar CALLS OUT the names of those who died. The DogStar will AVENGE their murders.

Arnold Sheard, you who were the FIRST TO DIE, we remember you. You who were a muggleborn WIZARD, brilliant in CHARMS, before you were FORGOTTEN by your classmates and colleagues, we CALL OUT your name!

Christopher Wares, killed without reason, a MUGGLE, who had been husband and father and brother, who before the camps used his strength and broad shoulders to catch stray animals and help injured ones. Christopher, we CALL OUT your name!

Mark Towler, so YOUNG, so BRAVE, a true GRYFFINDOR, fighting for the hope of a better life for his halfblood family and brothers. He DIED on the sands, for no more reason than ENTERTAINMENT. Mark, so valiant, we CALL OUT your name.

Rowland Vandemar, whose FAMILY CONNECTIONS did not protect him, died on the sands. Rowland, whose skill with numbers will be missed. Rowland, we CALL OUT your name.

Morgan Banbridge, a good friend, a SOLID defender, a voice of REASON among the OPPRESSED Muggleborn wizards and witches. A gifted teller of tales and history, who reminded us NEVER to FORGET. Morgan, we CALL OUT your name.

Jack Sharpe, whose great skill was CUT DOWN in its prime, after

being FORCED to take another's life to PRESERVE his own. Jack, if your wand had only joined us, joined the DogStar in fighting against the TYRANT!!! All you who would honour his name and his skill, we are here, we would welcome you in our fight. Jack, we CALL OUT your name.

Imelda Newlin, SHARP sting by wand and by tongue, fierce in defending your LIFE and your PASSION. Queen of the Ravens in your day, wit and beauty and SKILL combined, Imelda, we CALL OUT your name.

And though they were purebloods, we remember Cassius Cameron, Imre Hoffman, and even Lycus Warrington. Unlike SOME, we do not discriminate.

Cassius had a QUICK tongue, and a READY mind. Imre was a fierce PROTECTOR of what he believed, leaving the MLE rather than SERVE the TYRANT! And Lycus, whose loyalty - MISPLACED as it was! - was rewarded by PUBLIC HUMILIATION AND DEATH. See how the tyrant serves his CHOSEN FEW! Cassius, Imre, and Lycus, we CALL OUT your names.

Why did they fight? They were PROMISED much! Some were promised galleons, some better employment. AMELIA SHEARD and CHRISTOPHER WARES and MORGAN BANBRIDGE were promised the chance to rejoin their FAMILIES. Families who should NEVER have been parted.

What did they find? They found DEATH on the SANDS!!!! Wreaths and riderless HORSES will not bring them back! Legal TRIVIALITIES will not bring them back!! And GALLEONS will certainly not bring them back!!!

Christopher, Amelia, Morgan, Mark, Rowland, Jack, Imelda, Cassius, Imre, and Lycus, on THAT DAY when we OVERTHROW the TYRANT, your names will echo FOREVER.

Remember, all ye who watched and did not RISE UP against the tyrant. Remember where you were, and what you APPLAUDED. Turn from the TYRANT, turn to the DogStar, that we will NEVER see such things again.

2012-03-10 21:10:00

ORDER ONLY

I say, we've got quite a crowd tonight! I'm glad I came down a day early to give a hand. it would be an absolute shame if Remus had to work on his birthday of all days! Several people have already recognized me (or rather the polyjuiced me) as "that cousin of Mr Ponds" even though I last came down months ago.

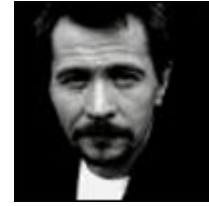


 [alt_alice](#)

Remus, love, it was wonderful to have tea with you on your birthday, and I hope you will like your book. I'm glad you are able to have a bit of a relaxing night, and many, many happy returns.

2012-03-11 23:39:00

Order Only: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall



 [alt_sirius](#)

I've been thinking. It's absolutely unconscionable that we are letting Harry proceed with this punishment of Cruciating Hermione.

Can't you convince her to activate her Portkey? I know we've given her the option before but honestly, Minerva.

It's just not right or fair to either of them. And it's not necessary, is it? I've racked my brain to come up with a reason to let it happen. Even if Harry can't affect the Curse, we shouldn't even ask him to try.

[2012-03-12 07:01:00](#)

Hogsmeade Day

I confess it was odd as much as nostalgic to be back in Hogsmeade this weekend. How do the shopkeepers stand being overrun by so many teenagers? I know it's especially chaotic this year with so many visiting students, but goodness, what a herd! But I suppose it's Galleons in the till. Madam Rosmerta was certainly in a cheery mood, and given the weather, she was packing in as many of them as Honeyduke's and Zonko's.



 [alt_lana](#)

Did we really wait so impatiently for Hogsmeade's days? I remember marking off the days to the next one, and thinking it would never come!

It was good to see some of you yesterday. Avery, you especially. Looking every bit the Head Boy, too, I'd say. Moon and Lavery, look in the post for your card from the Auxiliary. I expect to see you at the luncheon!

Oh, and Patil. I thought you looked very well. It was good to see you taking leadership, too. Amusing to see that whole flock following along, watching to see what you looked at and what you chose in each of the shops. Did you realise?

I'm not sure whether I'll be able to come for the third task since I'm about to shift Intensives again--my last! There's still a chance, since they'll need as many of us as can stand security for that event, but I'm not sure whether I might be on other duty instead. I'd be sorry to miss it: the competition has been so fierce.

Good show, Marvolo! All of us in the Protectorate are expecting you'll carry us to a win!



 [alt_padma](#) at **[2012-03-13 13:52:50](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, Lana, it was marvellous to see you too, and what a pleasant surprise! I'm ever so excited for you for your final intensive; I know it's one you've particularly been wanting to do. Doesn't it seem now as if it's like you've saved the best for last? I'm sure you'll be brilliant, as always.

(I didn't even notice, no! But Lares said he thought Davies was watching me awfully closely. Really, I don't know what it is about Quidditchers that makes them think they can treat any girl like that and she'd give them the time of day. Even if our going to the Yule Ball was just as friends, it was perfectly beastly of him to break off at such last notice. But to then decide he can just march right back into Ravenclaw Corner as if nothing's happened is the height of ego, isn't it?)

Is there a theme for the Jr Auxiliary this year? It must be smashing to get so involved in the community like that. And planning parties and organising entertainments.

Oh, and your *wedding* must be taking up loads of spare time, too--well, that's if you've any to spare! I bet once your intensive's over you'll all of a sudden get really excited and then it'll be there before you know it! I just hope you've loads of help because it'd be awful to not have enough time to make things just as you want them. And I know you really want to concentrate on finishing your Auror training because that's the most important thing, even though Ned's also important.

Anyway, it was so good to see you and I'm so glad you stopped to say hello. And really, we're so, so proud of you!

[2012-03-13 09:40:00](#)

Order Only: A possible placement for Moddey Dhoo



 [alt_kingsley](#)

Davidson let me know about a possibility this morning that I think might interest you. John Turner let him know about a woman attached to his group that they're trying to place, and they think Moddey Dhoo might be the place for her. See what you think.

Her name is Candace Hutchinson. She's twenty-five years old, a Muggle, and she's been a resident of the camp in Bottesford. Apparently, she had a cruel time of it. The camp serves Belvoir Castle, and she was assigned as a general laborer to the sheep breeding operation there. The overseer was a real bastard, by all accounts, and apparently considered other types of breeding to be one of the perks of his job, if you understand my meaning. She wasn't willing, but he didn't care.

She heard rumours of the activities of the Band and managed to flee. But she didn't find Turner's group before giving birth in a ditch, and the baby didn't survive for long. That was three days ago. This was verified by two other muggles who escaped with her.

So she's a bereaved mother. A bereaved nursing mother, which given the fact that you've a crop of new babies in the nursery may be extremely useful. To be fair, we're not sure whether she would be willing to consider working with babies, though. It might be too painful. From what John Turner says, she didn't really want the baby (natural enough, considering the circumstances), but is still shaken up by its death.

Still, John senses there's something about her that might suit, and so he suggested her for Moddey Dhoo. Her companions say she's a good woman, a hard worker with a good heart. 'And sometimes the best thing for a mess of rucked up feelings,' John told me, 'especially feelings you don't entirely understand, is good, hard work.' (Guess he should know.) The birth was arduous, too, and they think she might need a safer place to recover, with more amenities than they can manage camping in the rough.

I thought I'd give you three a chance to consider it before broaching

the subject with her. If you think you might be interested, John and I can talk with her. Hope Gillian and Heather are settling in well. (Well, and that Heather's stopped screaming by now. Not sure I ever saw a colickier baby.) Chuck 'em under the chin for me. Arthur and I are trying for Tavis Macnichol in Argyll on Thursday.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-03-13 16:42:57](#)**
(no subject)

I think al is better at sorting out whether she'd be okay here, but she looks like she'd need a safe place. we'd need another person who could work right away at the very least to make sure that we don't over-work Candace while she gets better. he say anything about knowing of a second person who could help?

gilly is doing fine, and last I checked, steve was putting heather on something that'll clear up her stomach, should improve things significantly in the next few days. here's hoping.



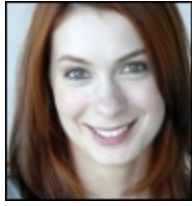
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-13 16:49:20](#)**
(no subject)


Yes, I agree -- if another person came too, it'd be less work for her initially and it wouldn't be as burdensome to take care of her medical needs.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-03-13 17:02:22](#)**
(no subject)

Perhaps one of the two who escaped with her. One's her brother, twenty-three, and one's her aunt, a woman in her forties. I think John's got his eye on the brother for a fighter, though. Let me find out more about the aunt.



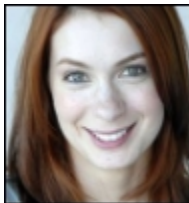
 **[alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-13 17:37:15](#)**
(no subject)


The aunt would be wonderful, if she seems at all like she'd be interested. The fact that they are family means she'd have additional support, and someone who'd want to help care for her besides, during her recovery.



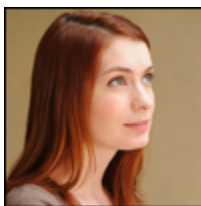
 **[alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-13 20:05:17](#)**
(no subject)


The aunt's name is Florence Peasbody, but she goes by Florrie. She had a husband and three children, but they became separated during the turmoil at the time of the Sleeping Spell, and she's pretty sure they're all sleepers. She was a seamstress before the Protectorate, but she's worked in general labour pool for the past decade, doing anything they assigned her to do. She managed to cross paths with her niece and nephew at some point, and the three of them stuck together since then. I think the nephew (his name's Oliver Hutchinson) would be relieved if the two women could at least be with each other, if they're not staying with Turner's group.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-13 20:11:24](#)**
(no subject)

Very good to know. We'll pass all this along to the others and see what they think at our nightly meeting. I'll let you know what we decide.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2012-03-13 16:48:13](#)**
(no subject)


I'm of two minds. On the one hand, as Frank says, yes, she looks like she needs a safe place to fully recover.

On the other hand, it's a tricky thing if part of her job is to be surrounded by babies so soon after losing her own. It really depends on her, I think. Some people might recover quite quickly from something like that, and look on working with others' babies as soothing, and others might not at all.

That, and it's long hours and for all the safety we'd be able to offer, it *would* be hard work for someone who has recently given birth.

I'd be willing to give her a trial run to see how things go - how she is around the babies, and at the very least give her a chance to get her feet back under her before sending her back if it came to that. We'll talk with Arabella and Jacinda and see what they say, and get back to you.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-03-14 21:45:24](#)**
(no subject)

Kingsley;

After talking it over with the other adults at Moddey Dhoo, we agreed to let Candace and Florrie come here to work on a trial basis, while Candace recovers. Once she's fully healthy, we'll reassess to see if they would want to continue working here, or if working around the babies is too hard for Candace particularly, they could go back to Sherwood at that time.

Frank and I could go up as soon as tomorrow to talk with them in person -- if you'll pass it along to Davidson to let him know we're coming.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-03-14 22:49:17](#)**
(no subject)

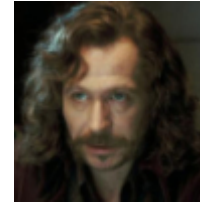
I'm glad to hear it. I hope that this works out for everyone. I'll let both William and John know.

John will be happy to see you again.

2012-03-13 23:42:00

Order Only: Hermione

Frank, Arthur, we're ready to go for another child if we're needed. (I think Remus particularly would like the chance now he's recovered from the full moon.)



 [alt_sirius](#)

Meanwhile, though ... Minerva, you've not replied to my note. I'm guessing it's because you're as stymied about our Hermione's problem as I've been. We don't want her Cruciated; we don't want Harry to have to do it; Harry himself doesn't want to do it and isn't sure he can even if he tries (which I take as a good sign at least); there's no good reason to insist that she stay to be tortured.

Hermione, I know you have your reasons for staying but say the word and you can leave. None of us will think any less of you if you opt out, either.

Oh, and Kingsley: We've had a chat and think a witch would be a better choice, at least for now, for Laszlo to get in the way of help. So, anyone else in the camps, if there are suggestions, or else we'll just put in an application and rely on Arthur to help us screen the candidates.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-14 15:12:42](#)
(no subject)

I asked her not to reply until I decided what to say.

I don't want to leave, it's the kind of thing where I have to do it, and it will be fine. If I go then Harry won't have anybody around to listen to him every day. I mean he'll have Draco but that isn't the same. You can't do everything for him and anyway I think that someday, I mean, he might be the kind of person who could help us ever so much.

I've been Cruciated before.

It's bad. But it isn't going to kill me.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-03-14 15:32:29](#)**
(no subject)

I was originally going to have you and Remus try for Jason Baker, but I'm not sure I've pinpointed his position correctly; it could be the lead I have on his parents is a mistake, another baby with a similar name. So I'm sending you two the parchmentwork for Jane Briden for now.

Kingsley and I will go for Tavis MacNichol tomorrow.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-03-19 17:20:52](#)**
(no subject)

We got the owl. Dora and I are going to go this afternoon.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-03-14 16:04:53](#)**
(no subject)

All right, I've talked to folks here and have a few names to suggest. All of them are muggles

Jessie Bigg, in her early fifties. Before the Protectorate, she had built a career as a banker, quite a high-powered one, actually, but she's spent the past eight years in one of the camps working as a laundress, if you can believe it. I've met Jessie and I like her, and I think you would, too. She's personable, with a wry sense of humour.

Rosemary Roche. Much younger, seventeen years old, which might mean she has more energy, but she's quieter, more withdrawn. A willing worker, though.

Leila Shawe. Thirty years old. Davidson remarked that she's remarkably proactive about finding things to do: if she doesn't have a task assigned, she'll probably rearrange all of your shelving to make the organisation easier, or strip peeling paint off a table and repaint it.

Let me know if you want to talk to any (or all) of them.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 17:20:24](#)
(no subject)

Kingsley, mate, I think we miscommunicated somewhere.

The servant won't be a secret; she needs to be someone who's currently in the camps, not someone who's escaped, since we might be subject to inspections. We were hoping someone in Davidson's group might know of a muggleborn in the camps that we could request -- by qualification, if not by name. (A muggleborn would work better for this, because there aren't nearly as many of them.)

(Sorry, I know you've got a lot on your plate at the moment!)



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-03-19 17:27:47](#)
(no subject)

Of course; sorry, my friend. My apologies for the mix up. I'll speak with the people here and try to come up with some more names for you. Muggleborns this time.

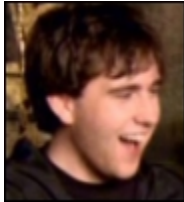
2012-03-14 08:50:00


(no subject)

Many Happy Returns, Sue!



 [alt_ernie](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-03-14 18:02:08**

(no subject)

Happy birthday!



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-03-14 19:54:15**

(no subject)

Yeah, Bones. Have a snitch day!!



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-03-14 19:59:19**

(no subject)

I hope you have an excellent birthday today, Sue!



 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-03-15 02:09:03**

(no subject)

Thanks, all of you! It's been really good so far.

2012-03-14 11:53:00

Seamus!

Happy Birthday Mate! I hope the rest of your day is going well.



 **alt_dean**

[2012-03-14 19:16:00](#)

Two notes, and a special event

My thanks to the three members of the YPL oversight board (and the invited guests) for an instructive and thoughtful conversation yesterday. I greatly appreciate your time, your decision and your feedback, and I'll be in touch regarding various items as we discussed.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

Students:

I'll be back to my usual more varied schedule of availability in a day or two, as I finish tidying up a few loose ends. I also expect to be scheduling some practice observation times, particularly for the exam years. They'll happen whatever the weather: if it's cloudy, we'll use one of the projections. Signups in my exam years first, and then they'll be posted on the board for anyone who wants as there's room.

A presentation:

Ms Gillian Chadwick, lead designer for the recently released Empyrean 3001 telescope, has agreed to come speak to anyone interested at Hogwarts on March 22nd. Discussion at half-seven, in my classroom, and then we'll move outside if the weather is decent.

She'll be discussing the telescope itself, along with the charms, runes, and arithmantic calculations involved in her design work, so there should be plenty of interest to many of you. She'll also be bringing some of their prototype models so you can see the changes through the development cycle.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-15 00:32:26](#)**

Private message to Septima Vector

If you need a bribe for Capper, Gilly's offered to get into more details with him about the arithmancy bits if we like, and if he's sufficiently caught up on his other work. She'll be here at five on the day, so she can speak with him before supper about the consequences of doing poorly, and exactly how many options won't be open to him, but perhaps carrot and stick might do better than stick alone.

He's been to see me twice, so far, rather grudgingly, and then complained I wasn't fully at his disposal this past week at the times he preferred. I've set him up with a few projections to work with, but

if he's being this difficult with me, I can't imagine anyone else is having better luck. I'll tell him, but can you reinforce that I expect him at least one of the practice sessions above, and two would be better?



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-03-15 00:47:21**

Private message to Arca and Volans Sinistra

Mum, Dad -

Haven't had time to put quill to journal properly until this late today. As I said in the quick note on Mum's journal last night, they decided largely in my favour. Huge relief, as I was quite sure it was going to go badly once I saw the invited guests.

In order:

- 1) They cleared me entirely regarding January. I have strong guesses about what actually happened, but they are not apparently pursuing it further. No, I don't know why.
- 2) They're tabling the question of an assistant until the end of term, and agreed to discuss some specific roles and names, rather than a general "it might be nice."
- 3) There's more conversation about guiding Harry Marvolo in particular. I gather from what little was said that it's an ongoing conversation between Our Lord and several Council members, and until they decide on a direction, it's hard to determine our next steps.
- 4) Somewhat grudgingly, I am not otherwise in trouble (they really had no cause, but it was good to hear.)

The rest of it, well. Thinking over a lot of things, really. Mum, thank you for the last package, and the sachets are helpful, and that second tisane, the one you thought, seems to work best. (Not wonderfully, but some, and I'm more willing to use it than a potion.) And Dad, thank you for all I learned from you about how to lay out information to guide the eye to what I want someone to pay attention to.

Love you both, still don't know my plans for the Easter holidays, will tell you when I do.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-03-15 01:08:12](#)

Private message to Raz

Love -

Hoping to spend a little time on the tower tonight, and may not see my journal for a bit (and certainly, I know you're busy as well), but wanted to drop a note to reassure you since we didn't get much chance to talk at supper. I managed a better than usual nap this afternoon, I really am trying to be sensible, and I hope things will improve now. (And I am thinking about what you said, about this kind of thing coming up again. Thinking about a lot of things, really.)

I don't know that I said this clearly enough last night, but thank you. I've no idea how I'd have managed the past weeks without you. Both your desire to fuss, and your care about how you do so awe me. And knowing you were there, waiting, yesterday, helped me more than I can put into words.

Time with you is always better. Love you. So very much.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-03-15 01:29:48](#)

Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Sorry we were rather swamped with other conversation at dinner. To answer the question I ducked (because, really, I do not need my personal life entirely gossiped about by the rest of the staff more than it already is), well.

Raz took very good care of me - a nice quiet supper out, and then we stayed at Spence, and the time with him was very much a restorative. I had a decent enough nap this afternoon, too. Still thinking over a lot of things, and expect to be for some time to come, now I haven't the distraction of the investigation to stop me.

It went well enough in the end, though the combination of the invited guests was about as bad as I'd feared it might be. (Lucius Malfoy was rather more help keeping things on track than I'd expected, and a bit terse by the end at this wasting his time - more at the committee than at me, thankfully.) Bellatrix Lestrange was as pointed as ever, but I'd expected that much. There are apparently deeper political things going on, and I don't even want to try and speculate at the

causes.

Right. Now I'm for the tower for a bit, and maybe not thinking about a few things and thinking about others. Still quite busy through this week, but maybe tea early next?

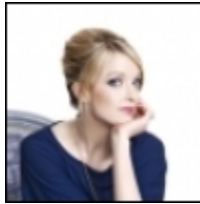


 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2012-03-15 02:16:57**

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

Oh, dear. I'm so glad for you that this farce has wound its way to its conclusion. I trust that the vultures will think twice before playing the fool again. Such a waste. Of your time, energy, and enthusiasm for the programme.

We may take tea whenever you've time and inclination. Between now and then you're to let me know if there is any way I could be helpful.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-03-15 02:36:58**

Re: Private message to Poppy and Pomona

I do hope you're right. And yes, on the waste.

I will let you know if there's anything you can do, but it continues much the same (I do hope it will improve now the meeting's done with - though I've only another two weeks or so before I have to deal with Stint in person for the first time in person since December.)

Tea certainly. And particularly if the weather continues being this uncooperative: I only got about forty minutes under the stars before it was just too miserable to keep trying.

2012-03-14 23:04:00

Private Message to Hermione Granger

I think we should talk.

Can we talk?

About last weekend.

And stuff.

Unless you don't want to talk. Which is okay.



 [alt_harry](#)

[2012-03-16 09:31:00](#)

Hungry time

I did one of my barter network visits to a lovely woman who has been on the network for three years. She had some needlework to offer to trade, really exquisite dresses that she's designed and sewn herself. I asked what she was hoping to receive in return, and she said wistfully, "Some meat would be nice." I was shocked, and asked some more questions. She was reluctant to answer, but finally the truth came out: she hasn't had any meat in a month. She ate the last of the produce she canned from her garden this past week, and she has been subsisting since then on potatoes, cabbage and turnips.



 [alt_molly](#)

This is the hungry time. The quart jars we put up from the last harvest are running out for many, but it's too soon for the spring greens. No wonder so many are itching to get out into their garden plots with their rakes and hoes. They want to be eating reliably again.

I need to ask more questions when I do the home visits, and sometimes be a bit more shamelessly snoop in investigating the contents of other people's cupboards. Pride makes it so difficult for people to admit it, but there truly are neighbours going hungry.



 [alt_lana](#) at **[2012-03-16 15:51:02](#)**

(no subject)

Honestly. People who waste and mismanage their resources have no right to whinge. It's not just poor form; it's an slander against Our Lord's goodness. I shouldn't think anyone with any sense would associate with that sort.



 [alt_molly](#) at **[2012-03-16 17:00:48](#)**

Order Only


Here's what I want to say to her:

Oh? So it's due to 'mismanagement' that it's cold outside and there is nothing growing in people's

gardens?

I eagerly look forward to the Lord Protector solving this by eliminating winter.

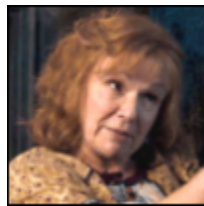


 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-03-16 17:01:40](#)

Re: Order Only

Tempting, but...no. Better not.

She really is a bitch, isn't she?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 17:02:55](#)

Re: Order Only

Bill! Really!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-03-16 17:03:32](#)

Re: Order Only

Well, isn't she?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 17:04:11](#)

Re: Order Only

Well...well, yes.

She certainly is.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-16 17:07:45](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

UGH.

You can just go raid the shelves at HARROD'S if you're ever hungry you wretched, hideous, overfed heartless HARPY.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-16 17:16:33](#)

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

Yes. I'm afraid it's rather easy to see that she's never been hungry at all.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-16 18:33:44](#)

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

Did you get enough to eat when you were little?

Do the Browns give you enough?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-16 18:45:50](#)


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

Oh, I had enough to eat growing up. Mostly because my father had a rather expansive idea of the sorts of things that were edible.

Anyway, Mrs Weasley always kept an eye out for me, and often would invite me to stay for dinner, especially in the spring.

I get enough to eat at the Browns. I just find myself hungry for other sorts of things there.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-03-16 18:47:52](#)

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

Hungry for other things?

Like what?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-16 18:48:43](#)

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

Oh, like a kind word once in a while. That would be nice.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-03-16 20:47:37](#)

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

Yeah, at least when I go to the Stretton's, Gemma is glad to see me.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-03-16 20:53:17](#)

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

I think if my parents had been better at Herbology in school we'd have eaten better. There were probably edible plants in the woods near my house that we didn't know we could eat.

My parents are also pretty terrible at growing things. I've seen Mrs Weasley's garden and I think she could probably grow oranges and lemons if she put her mind to it, she's that good at persuading things to grow. My parents weren't intending to learn to farm and survive out in the woods, you know? My mum wanted to be a researcher in Transfiguration and my father wanted to open a shop.

If Lana Sandoval suddenly HAD to live off the land she'd starve, too, I'm sure she hasn't the first idea which mushrooms are edible and which will kill you by next Tuesday unless you have a bezoar handy.



 **alt_molly** at [2012-03-16 17:09:18](#)

(no subject)

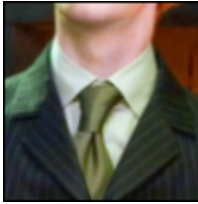
I cannot possibly let such a ~~hear~~ statement pass unchallenged.

If you saw how thin she is you would understand that there is absolutely no question of waste. The woman of whom I speak is elderly, too frail to have much strength for handling pitchforks or wheelbarrows. She did what she could to put up what produce she could but she spent most of last autumn nursing her dying husband.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 17:09:48](#)
Order Only

Shame on you.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-03-16 17:11:20](#)
(no subject)

Well, then perhaps you should have stepped in to help her. Under the circumstances. Or the rest of her neighbours.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 17:13:05](#)
(no subject)

Well, certainly I am doing so now, now that I know the situation. I brought over a bag of groceries this afternoon, and I've told several of her neighbours, who will continue to check on her until her garden is underway again.

But people have their pride, Percy. It isn't so easy to ask for help, especially for a person who has managed up until now.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-03-16 17:14:44](#)
Order Only


What a berk.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 17:39:19](#)
(no subject)

And she wasn't complaining. She only said it would be 'nice' to have some meat.




 [alt_lana](#) at [2012-03-16 19:30:21](#)
(no subject)

Obviously her husband did not make adequate provision while he was alive. Wise squirrels prepare for winter.

Those who cannot manage for themselves are a drag on the resources of the rest.

Really, it's not a kindness to coddle such weaklings; it only prolongs Nature's proper course.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-16 20:44:14](#)
(no subject)

Are we squirrels?

I thought we were people.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-16 20:51:11](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

We're rather attracted to the theory that Sandoval, at least, is a rodent.


It would explain a lot.



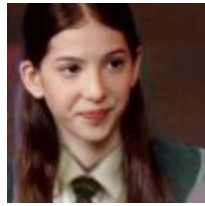
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-16 20:53:40](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Sebastian resents that suggestion.



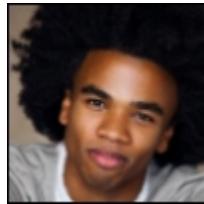
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-16 20:55:59](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


No offence to Sebastian, Perks. He's much more loveable than Sandoval, honest.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-16 21:01:17](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

The GIANT SQUID is more loveable than Sandoval.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-03-17 01:14:28](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Maybe we could convince the giant squid to find Sandoval loveable the next time she comes to Hogwarts. Then it'll drag her below the surface of the lake and we'll be rid of her.



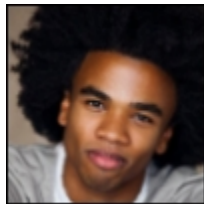
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-17 01:15:03](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good


Good idea. Unfortunately, we suspect the giant squid has better taste than that.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2012-03-16 21:35:44](#)
(no subject)

Really, Lovegood. How can you possibly have been Sorted into Ravenclaw? You're a worse embarrassment than Clearwater, and that should be impossible.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-03-17 00:59:37](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I am Up to No Good

Right. Standards have really been going downhill, haven't they?

Just look at the way they've been letting any sort be Head Girl, the last few years.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-16 17:12:06](#)

Private message to Mrs Weasley

I have some galleons, I can send them to you today, if you can make a delivery to Bag somewhere soon, you know the place?

Spring was always a hungry time when I was growing up, because animals are scarce for hunting and there's nothing in the garden yet. ~~Sometimes I ate~~ I'm fed so well at Hogwarts sometimes I don't think about that anymore.

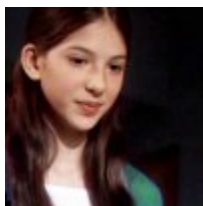


 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 17:22:25](#)

Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley

I do know the place. I visited them this week, too, and they are doing well, so you have no need to worry or to spend your own pocket money for them. That is because their skills have been quite in demand on the barter network, due to a certain individual's skill at tinkering with things, and so they told me that they are doing much better this year than last year. They did ask for potatoes, but that is one commodity that other people still have quite a lot extra, so that was no trouble to arrange that trade.

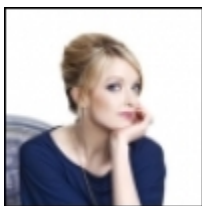
I hope that sets your mind quite at rest, dear.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-16 17:54:06](#)

Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley

It does, thank you.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-16 20:00:22](#)

(no subject)

Oh, goodness, yes. My mother, as you may know, works for the Ministry writing educational materials around food and other supplies, and she's expressed some of the same concerns in her recent letters.

If it would be helpful, I'd be glad to put you in touch with her office,

as they've been working up some additional recipes to help with both types of food and potential nutritional deficiencies in the spring, including some tisane blends and infusions. As the nettle is coming up, it's particularly good, once it's dried so the hairs don't sting, for example, or you can cook it like any other green. I'm sure she'd be glad to send you some materials to share, if you liked.

And after all, as a community, shouldn't we pause to notice these things, and help make the best use of what we have?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-16 20:54:27](#)
(no subject)

I'd be most grateful if you could put me in touch with her, thank you! That does sound like an excellent resource.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-16 23:40:17](#)
(no subject)

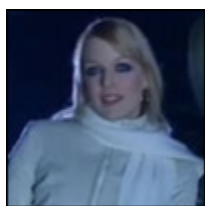
Right - I'll send her a note shortly, and ask her to be in touch, or you can reach her at the Ministry education and publications office: Arca Sinistra. I know she'd love to help.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-17 01:12:12](#)
(no subject)

That would be most kind. Perhaps if you send a note asking her to gather some materials, my husband Arthur Weasley could stop by her office sometime to pick them up. He works at the

Ministry, too.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-17 12:41:36](#)
Private message to Molly Weasley

I did hear back from my mother late last night.

She's promised to gather a collection of materials first thing Monday morning. If your husband stops by any time after about eleven, they should be all ready for him. She mentioned both some older material - the recipe books

I knew about, that at least give a little more variety. But there's apparently some newer material, on dealing with particular needs, and some pamphlets on easy preparations for next year's storage.

And for some nutritional needs, there are apparently stocks of certain herbs and plants that can at least fill in some of the gaps available from very inexpensive sources. The nettle I mentioned, for example, or oatstraw, or raspberry leaf. Not nearly as satisfying as a varied diet, but better than nothing. She'll include information on those, and the sources she knows about, as well.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-17 17:19:22](#)

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Thank you so much, both of you. I will make sure that Arthur stops by to pick them up.

2012-03-18 17:31:00

(no subject)

From Hodge in Upminster:

Wotcher, Wags!



What's the best familiar for a pedlar to keep?

 [**alt_wagstaff**](#)

Needin a new familiar, now. You know that loads o roadmen keep cats--so they'll always have a bit o meat for the soup pot, I reckon, what with the mice, an rats, an birds it'll bring in. But fer my dosh, I'd say a raven's best. Or a hawk if yeh've got the skill to tame 'er. Hawk'll hunt fer yeh, too. But a raven'll keep yer watch, an that's worth more'n anythin, innit, Hodge?

Fer the rest of yeh: keep sendin yer letters. It may take yer bird a while to find me, but it makes friendly readin of an evenin to hear from yeh!

2012-03-18 17:48:00

Happy Mothering Sunday, Mum.

Um. I mean, if it weren't for you, I wouldn't be here, right? Nor Bill and the rest, either, I reckon. So that's a lot you've done right there!



 [alt_ron](#)

Hope Dad did something special for you today. Sorry I didn't remember in time to send a proper card or anything.

So, yeah. We'll see you soon for hols! Are you planning anything special for our first supper back?

Anywiz, have a great rest of the day and all.

Your favourite son,
Ronald



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-03-18 23:01:35**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Good thing Bell said something or I'd have forgotten.

No thanks to you lot, Fred. George. Did you send her something, then?

Was it anything good?




 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2012-03-20 01:28:02**

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

Sent her a sappy card, loaded with exploding tissue flowers and glitter. She'll love it.

Well, the flowers anyway, but maybe not the glitter.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-03-20 01:28:33](#)

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

Right. Especially if she's just mopped her floor. That stuff gets everywhere.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-20 02:02:26](#)

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

Yeah.

It was probably a good thing after all I didn't send anything along with theirs.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-20 01:26:01](#)

(no subject)

How lovely to see this in my journal. Thank you, dear! (Yes, your father and Bill and Percy took me out to the tea shop at Ottery St. Catchpole, where we toasted all the absent Weasleys with strong cups of tea and seed

cake.)

Oh, and as for your first dinner back, I'm not sure, for it depends on what the butcher has. But I have hopes for a nice bit of roast beef, and I'll make Yorkshire pudding to go along with it.



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

(no subject)

Thanks, Mum. Roast beef would be spectacularly snitch!

2012-03-19 10:28:00

Attention, Students

We are aware that the weather has been inclement for the past several days but that is no reason to flagrantly break school rules. No running through the corridors; no *magic* in the corridors.



It certainly includes the setting off of timed glow-bombs in the lower stacks of the Restricted Section! Madam Pince has several shelves of very rare texts there which are sensitive to light and heat. She is perfectly capable of equipping anyone who needs access to these volumes with a low-level lantern charm that will not damage the manuscripts. Moreover, she wishes to remind the NEWT students that access to the Restricted Section is a privilege and if another such incident occurs, she will be forced to bar entry to all students, regardless of level, in which case we will all need to fill out request forms for every book and get them signed by professors, just like before passing OWLs. Which I'm sure no one wants to have to do, so please respect our library and its librarian and remain within the authorised entry areas.

Thank you.



 **alt_penelope at 2012-03-19 15:20:42**

Private Message to Lettice Frobisher and Julius Avery

Frobisher, that certainly includes hexing one's Housemate over leaving the window open in storm season. While I can sympathise and understand the frustration of one's OWL revision notebook getting drenched, it's not really Rohani's fault. It's the sort of thing the elves should have seen to when the weather came up. Really, I'm not sure why you didn't keep your books well away from the windows in the first place. Whatever the issue, it did not merit the sort of disturbance we encountered Friday night.

Avery, you'd mentioned that Rohani went to you Prefect to Prefect with the counter-complaint, so I wanted to keep you informed as to the extenuating circumstances. Naturally, Frobisher felt if she went to Anderson, she'd only side with her fellow Prefect against Frobisher, even though they're all yearmates.

I've spoken with Professor Vector about the situation. Frobisher will do a detention, while Rohani has offered to share her revision notes to replace Frobisher's own. Unfortunately, Frobisher, Rohani isn't taking Care of Magical Creatures so you'll have to see if someone else will supply notes. I'm sure that under the circumstances your classmates will be happy to help.

About your request, unfortunately, we can't do anything about the dormitory arrangements unless Chambers, Bradley or Anderson are willing to shift over so that one of them is between you two and you're further from the window. I think if you and Rohani just give each other the benefit of the doubt it will ~~blow over~~ settle down soon enough. I mean, you two have shared a room for nearly five years without this kind of animosity. Surely it's possible to get through another month or two and perhaps you can all pick different beds next year if it's still a problem.

Honestly, Frobisher, I don't think it was deliberate, just an accident. After all, Friday morning looked like it was going to be gorgeous all day; Rohani didn't realize that storm was going to develop over the course of lunch.

I've also had a word with the elves about checking all the dormitory windows in future.

2012-03-19 12:39:00

Order Only

Dora's up and having tea. We'll be setting out to find Jane Briden shortly.



 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-03-19 17:47:01**
(no subject)


Be careful, you.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-03-19 17:49:02**
(no subject)

I won't do anything you wouldn't do.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-03-19 17:52:04**
(no subject)

Not exactly a ringing endorsement for safety, that, but I suppose I deserve it.

Just if Dora gets the urge to conk you over the head with a blunt object, Apparate away.

2012-03-19 14:31:00

Order Only: Remus or Dora

Bloody Erebus.

It's that Malone woman. Gloria, right?

Remus, she's asking about her outfit. I get the impression you told her you'd quite like the look of the new fashion - that diaphanous layer meringue sort of thing - but. Sweet Circe, she looks like a walrus in a tutu in that getup.




 [alt_sirius](#)

Tell me you did not encourage this?

And how do you normally get rid of her, Mr Ponds? I've only got a moment; I told her I needed to bring out more of the tea cakes. Bugger, now she'll want one.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-03-19 18:41:50**
(no subject)

What?!

Bloody hell, I'm sorry you're having to deal with her. I never said anything about wanting to see HER in those flimsy robes, I just failed to agree with her the other day when she was insisting they were indecent.

If she thinks they're indecent then why's she wearing one now? Maybe you could run her off if you brought THAT up.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-03-19 18:48:19**
(no subject)

Failed to agree with her? Well, they'd be decent enough if she had a little less showing - or a little less to show.

She certainly seems to think you wanted to see what they'd look like on her. Or maybe it's that she wants to see if you'd care to take them off of her.

She's sure not disappointed that Junius is all alone this afternoon.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 18:54:03](#)
(no subject)

I NEVER SAID

Bah.

I felt sorry for her, when she first came round -- her husband left her because he was a pureblood and thought he could do better. She's a half-blood and might be slightly less than half, at least she's hinted at that on occasion. It was rather a blow, apparently, and I tried to be kind, and she took that as interest, which it wasn't.

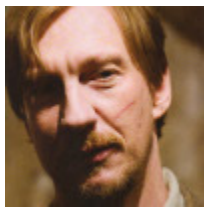
I've been trying to maintain a conscientious professional distance with her but she's not taking the hint.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 18:59:20](#)
(no subject)

Love, I've seen this type before and you'll need a Bludger the size of King's Cross station to get this one to take the hint.

Seeing as 'I'm a married wizard' apparently means nothing. And I don't mean today. I mean all the times she comes round looking for a 'man's opinion' or a 'wizard's touch' and all that.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:06:11](#)
(no subject)

Mmm.

Clearly we need to find a nice SINGLE wizard who comes round on a regular basis, and point her at THAT bloke.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 19:22:38](#)
(no subject)

If we had such a bloke we could do better for him than Gloria Malone, I should think.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 21:45:44](#)
(no subject)


Hang on, then.

I didn't see all this earlier. (Was trying to talk people out of their baby, you know. Such a distraction from important negotiations like this.)

Sounds as if what you blokes need is me to deal with this horrifying would-be manhandler. (A 'wizard's touch', eh? Terrifying, that.)

We could see how she stands up to a properly cross wife, do you think?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-20 02:43:36](#)
(no subject)

I certainly won't complain about you giving that tactic a try!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-20 13:24:34](#)
(no subject)

You might do, yeah. I've been watching this little drama unfold for a few months now. Since before you spoke up about things, in fact. She tends to hold back when you're 'round, which is probably why you've not thought anything odd. I've seen her walk past the shop when she saw you through the window, too. Luckily, she's never come on before quite as strong as yesterday.

Apparently the only thing she's noticed about her little visits is that the Ponds dog doesn't seem to like her much. She was

vocally relieved that Padfoot wasn't there to bring on her nerves.

Still, it's not as if our Remus is going to succumb to her wiles, is it? Apparently the only thing *he's* noticed is that she's obviously lonely. (Not hard to spot but not half what's wrong with her, I'd say. But you know him, he's dead oblivious to that sort of thing.)

She ought to just give over and sniff about somewhere else. That Wagstaff fellow in the journals sounds like he's not too picky; maybe we could throw her in that direction.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-20 14:02:35](#)
(no subject)

That Wagstaff bloke sounds like he'd talk her out of her robes and everything else she owns before he larks off and sells it all to the next witch he chats up.

I'll pay her a visit before we open tonight, maybe.

If we're going to open. Wonder if this rain is going to let up by then.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 18:43:00](#)
(no subject)

'Walrus in a tutu,' I almost wish I could see that.

Almost.

I normally stay thoroughly businesslike and wait for her to get bored, ordinarily. You might try pretending you'd completely forgotten the conversation you had with her earlier in the week because she's just not particularly memorable as a customer; that might offend her and she'll go off in a huff?




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 18:50:16](#)
(no subject)

No, you do not want to see it. Trust me.

Unless of course you've got a secret kink for that sort of thing? Or Junius has? Don't tell me this has all been part of your clever plan to set up a credible reason for Junius to leave Dora. Because if that's what you have in mind we'll all have to have another little chat when you lot get back.

Speaking of that, where are you? Haven't you found the little girl by now?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 18:51:52](#)
(no subject)

1. Don't even joke about that. That's the stuff of which nightmares are made.

2. We've found her. Her parents -- especially her mum -- have rather a lot of questions.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 19:00:48](#)
(no subject)

Ahem.

Mr Ponds, luv. Could you step back out here and help a bit?

Actually. What've you got in your pockets? Anything charmed?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:05:25](#)
(no subject)

No. I'm carrying some money, a handkerchief, and lint. I left behind my pocket watch because it has my initials on it, and if we got searched for some reason it might be a bit suspicious.

Why?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 19:10:11](#)
(no subject)

Ah.

Well, Helen wants to see something magical. I only had one of Bea's soothers, but the charm on that doesn't seem enough to satisfy her 'scientific interest'. She's really serious about it. And I'm doing a rubbish job answering her questions. At least come out and talk Charms with her--you're much better at that than I am.

All I can do is make my nose change shape, and that just made her go pale.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 19:13:04](#)
(no subject)

Something magical like what, Dora?

We could send Kreacher with something if you like. The kettle?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 19:25:48](#)
(no subject)

Anything with a nice set of Charms on, really. Something with layers, I guess, so it does more than one thing. One of the things we found in Kreacher's nest would do.

Only, we wouldn't get it back. She wants to keep it and take it apart.

The mum, she's really intelligent. Well, the dad, too. But she's been studying us--wizards, I mean--for a long time. Not just watching us like all of them must do to try to see how to get round the guards and keep from being punished, but studying as in trying to figure out how magic works. I suppose so they could figure out how to protect themselves or how to fight it.

So she's asking all these questions. Wants to see some artefacts so she can try to see how they work.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 19:31:48](#)
(no subject)

Like to see us try to get Kreacher to give up something we've already taken back from his nest, and to a Muggle. Though that's not to say he'd need to know.

Would you be willing to give up your knickers organiser? Or whatever that thing was you decided to keep?

Oh, how about a self-inking quill? That's easy enough and we've got some in the shop.



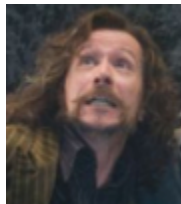
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 19:35:44](#)
(no subject)

It organises socks.

And you're right about Kreacher, so he'd never bring that thing: it's got your mum's monogram on it.

A quill's an idea. A bit simple, but hang on.

Helen says she'd like to see one of those, definitely. But she wants to know if she couldn't have something else. If we're really going to send for something.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-20 13:10:01](#)
(no subject)

My mother had a monogrammed knickers organiser?

I can see why you'd want that, then. Novelty value alone.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-20 14:04:15](#)
(no subject)

Socks, luv.

It doesn't look well to be that fixed on your Mum's knickers.



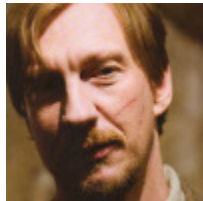
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:32:02](#)
(no subject)


Well, my pocket watch is just sitting on my dresser. We could send Kreacher with that.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 19:34:08](#)
(no subject)

Your father gave you that, though.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:35:51](#)
(no subject)

No, I keep that one in the drawer. The one sitting on the dresser is for everyday -- my own watch has my real initials on it. The one I carry around has JP on it.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 19:37:07](#)
(no subject)

Wait. What about that snow globe?

From the Frost Faire, you know.



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

You are BRILLIANT.

Sirius, look under the counter. There's a little snow globe someone left behind a few weeks ago, on one of the tables in the beer garden -- I kept it in case they came back looking, but they haven't.

It's a souvenir. Shows about a dozen scenes and makes noises if you shake it.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 19:40:20](#)
(no subject)

Snow globe, right.

Of course, to go and get it I've got to face the HMS Malone again.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:46:33](#)
(no subject)

You could send Kreacher to go get it!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 19:48:04](#)
(no subject)

You don't have an elf, Mr Ponds. Why do you think you want a muggleborn for the shop?

(Speaking of which, thanks for telling Kingsley he'd got the wrong end of the wand there.)

Besides, I've left her alone out there for far too long.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:47:12](#)
(no subject)

Send him with a quill, too, while you're at it, and one of those coasters that keeps you from spilling your drink.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:39:51](#)
(no subject)

And who wants to remember the damn Frost Faire, anyway?

(It doesn't show any of the horrors. Just things like making the bridge, fireworks, that sort of cheery thing.)




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 19:53:16](#)
(no subject)

Tell Kreacher to hurry. Jane's father Robert wanted to know if he could have one of our wands. Dora told him about the trace, so now he wants a journal.

'You expect me to give you my daughter,' he said. 'Why shouldn't I expect you to give me something YOU value?'

Maybe I'll send Kreacher back for that pocket watch, eh?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 20:01:34](#)
(no subject)

They're clearly going to let her come with us, but apparently Jane's mum Helen has spent the last decade wondering exactly how magic works and she doesn't want to let us go until she understands.

It's a shame we can't let her spend a day with Arthur. Apparently she used to design muggle aeroplanes. Robert was a librarian.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 20:06:39](#)
(no subject)

Don't you dare.

I told Kreacher to add in Father's copy of *A Concise Theorem on Magickal Prackticalitie*. He put up a fuss but I ordered him to bring it to me. Just put a concealing spell on it when you give it to them.

Call him and he'll come to you.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 20:09:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh, for goodness sake.

That elf.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 20:13:10](#)
(no subject)

Well, that was probably to be expected. What'd he do this time?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 20:14:39](#)
(no subject)

Called us all the worst things he could think.

And you know how foul that can be.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 20:20:22](#)
(no subject)

I wish we'd thought to warn the Bridens in advance.

Fortunately, they seemed to find him funny. 'Like being insulted by a giant frog,' is what Helen said.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 20:12:35](#)
(no subject)

I think Helen was going to ask if she could keep Kreacher, and study him, too, until she got a good look at the wretched little monster.

I'm putting a charm on the book to make it invisible to everyone but Jane's parents; a 'don't notice me' charm in case that one fails for some reason; and if somehow both charms fail, hopefully it will look to anyone who picks it up like a muggle romance novel from the old days. The sort where the woman on the cover is swooning in the man's arms.

They were delighted by the book -- both of them. Good thought.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 20:12:47](#)
(no subject)

I wish we could bring the parents with us.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 20:13:55](#)
(no subject)

Yes, dash it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 20:18:18](#)
(no subject)

Yeah but Moddey's already getting overrun - and look what happened after the Fus escaped. Even if we do need more hands there to help, a whole family up and disappearing just raises too many

questions.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-19 20:22:07](#)
(no subject)

No, I know. And they knew.

Only, it's sad.

I'm on my way with the baby. Remus is staying to deal with the clean up. The fake parchmentwork.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 20:14:05](#)
(no subject)

They want to see us Apparate. Of course. Dora, do you want to take Jane and I'll finish up paperwork here? There's still a death to fake and paperwork to file.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-19 20:16:45](#)
(no subject)

It's a good thing you used to read so many of those bodice-rippers, Moony, or they might be stuck with a copy of Bede's *History of the English People* or *Canterbury Tales* or something equally

boring.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-19 20:19:05](#)
(no subject)

I KNEW my reading habits would stand me in good stead one of these days!

2012-03-19 16:31:00

(no subject)



 [alt_narcissa](#)

From the sound of things here in the *Witch Weekly* office, dutiful children all over the Protectorate remembered Mothering Day in all sorts of creative and clever ways. I am most happy with Lucius' gift - a set of gold cuffs I had admired not too long ago - and as always a romantic supper in some previously undiscovered corner of the realm. This time it was Winsford and the externally unremarkable *Salamander's Nest*, which turned out to feature a truly cosy interior and a perfectly superiour rack of lamb. (They've a charming sort of farm as well, which we toured, and saw the darling little creatures awaiting their first shearing - not for another few weeks, I'm told!)

It has been just the sort of restorative we both needed, now that the Faire's vestiges have been cleared away fully and New London's streets are no longer clogged with peddlar's booths of every shape and description. Even returning to the Manor has done little to please me these last few weeks; the grounds have been as grey as Merlin's beard and thoroughly drenched. We shall be glad for it when the gardens flower but for now all one can do is stare out the window into a dreary sort of fog. Winsford's weather was hardly an improvement but at least the scenery was new.

I've been asked to assist with the St Mungo's Jr Auxiliary luncheon but I understand that its project is to be combined with the third and final Tri-Wizard task and that Miss Kendra Carmichael is to provide her expertise on their fundraiser. I can't wait to hear more about it at the luncheon. Or perhaps at the planning committee on Wednesday I might be able to tease some intelligence from the ladies.

But I must say that I quite look forward to the school holidays and time with Draco and Hydra, and Harry, we hope. I daresay this year was preferable to previous ones in that we were at least able to *see* them over the Christmas holidays but I do think 7 months is too long to go without spending time together. One grows apart.

Oh, Barty, before I forget: We were so pleased to run into you last week at Hatchard's. Such a surprise, but it was an excellent opportunity to confirm that you'll be at the unveiling. Now, are you still considering Mrs Lindorm's invitation to the wedding? I really think you ought to go, dear; Amata always holds marvellous parties.

It's been years since we attended one of her weddings. And just think, you even know the groom again.

Speaking of which, I understand Ned has asked you to stand up for him at his approaching nuptials. It's touching how devoted he's grown to you. So far from his ambition of a few years ago. I daresay MLE is much more exciting than the import and export trade, however.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-03-19 22:11:20](#)
(no subject)

Narcissa. Yes. Very good to see you. And, yes, I suppose you will see me at both of the upcoming events. Cooper's rather the man of the moment, isn't he?

Re. Pennifold, I don't know whether it's devotion so much as a gambit to make me more favourably disposed when they ask leave for a honeymoon. Did I tell you I've taken on Sandoval? Think she'll prove useful. Things are moving forward on this project of mine.

12:08

6:11

2012-03-19 20:39:00

Order Only: Prospective muggleborns for Laszlo's



 [alt_kingsley](#)

Well, I've talked with the folks at Sherwood again, asking them for prospective muggleborns they know of in the camps who might be good possibilities for helping out you lot at Laszlo's, with the beer garden or Bea. Or both. Here are the new names. Arthur, I'll send you the information on what camps they're in, so you can begin tracking them down, if Sirius, Remus and Dora think that one or another of them might suit:

Ellie Summer, aged eighteen. She was sent into service at the age of seven, placed with an older lady who, by all descriptions, treated her as sort of a human pet. She did the sorts of things that would be useful in the beer garden: lots of serving of food at the woman's parties, mixing of drinks and so on. Once she hit puberty, the girl was sent back to the camp with a sniffy note to the effect that since she was no longer cute and elfin but gangly and a trifle spotty, she was, of course, 'no longer tolerable.' She had a bit of a hard time readjusting to barracks life again. No known relatives among Davidson's people, only a couple of friends among two of the escapees.

Laurel Sinclair, aged twenty. She worked as a nanny with a pureblood family, so presumably she'd be competent with Bea. She was described to me as quiet, but with an eye out for improving herself: in fact, she was once cruciated when she was discovered with her nose in a book in the family's library. The parents sent her back in indignation once their teenage son became smitten with her, although she did nothing to encourage him. She was with Luisa Sinclair's group in Ashfield until her magic manifested.

Jeanne Harris, aged sixteen. She's never been in service, probably because of some physical features: she was born with a large port-wine stain on her face, and has bad lazy eye and her eyes don't track together.) She's described as 'really clever.' Her older sister is an escapee who joined the Sherwood Band, who is quite worried about her.

Midge Gardner, aged twelve. She's Paul Roth's niece and hasn't been sent out for service yet, but she's been assigned to work in the nurseries in the camps for the past year. (I'm doubtful about this last candidate; that seems awfully young.)

Anyway, talk it over and let Arthur know if you want him to pull strings to start the process to get one of them placed with you.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-20 02:40:56](#)
(no subject)

Well. I quite agree about the twelve year-old. That's much too young.

The others we'll have to talk over.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-20 03:14:21](#)
(no subject)

Agreed, if reluctantly. I hate to disappoint Paul.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-20 02:46:27](#)
(no subject)

That first girl sounds a bit like Dennis.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-03-20 03:04:53](#)
(no subject)

Dennis?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-20 03:15:44](#)
(no subject)

Creevey, I think he means.

Raised like a (proper) house-elf to revere its masters.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-03-20 03:17:36](#)
(no subject)

Harry's first year, his Father gave him a little muggleborn boy as a present. Dennis. His brother, Colin, is at Moddey, but the Order wasn't able to get Dennis, and he wound up being raised at Buckingham, more or less by the House Elves.

He viewed himself as a House Elf -- and the students treated him as either a pet, or an annoyance. It was horribly sad, and also horrifying. He was ... eight years old, I think?

He died -- killed by the same horror that petrified Hermione and Terry.

It's not quite the same thing, being raised to think of yourself as someone's pet, but somehow the story reminds me of him anyway.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-20 16:14:39](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Reminds me of Tim Clark at Moddey, too, although in Tim's case Allie said there seemed to be mutual affection between him and his caretakers. More like an adopted son for all that they still had claim to ownership.

This business is beyond ugly.

Still, I'd say given what we hope will come of this venture, she or Miss Sinclair would be the better choices. Perhaps we can find a way to get Jeanne out to Moddey, as well as whichever of the other two (assuming we're able to get one of them safely ensconced here).



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-03-20 16:15:25](#)
(no subject)

And Midge, too, come to that.

2012-03-19 21:03:00

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

I'd really like it if you'd come with me for Mother's nuptials on the 6th. The thing itself will just be the necessary witnesses, Cooper and Mother. She's told me I needn't be there, and I'm certainly not going to protest that. But there's a reception and then a supper, and I hope you'll come.



 **alt_blaise**

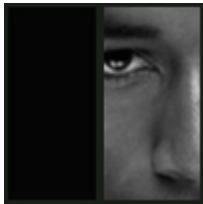
I think you'll have your own invitation sometime this week, though knowing Mother, she may have decided it would be more appropriate to include you on the card to your parents. Whatever. I'm inviting you, and it would make me feel very much better about the whole business if you'll be there.



 **alt_daphne** at **2012-03-20 23:21:21**
(no subject)

Oh, Blaise, I would love to be there ~~only Barney...~~

Of course I'll come with you. I wouldn't miss it!



 **alt_blaise** at **2012-03-21 03:05:57**
(no subject)

That's excellent.

Good.

I'll come for you at half-five, and we can go together in the carriage. The reception's to be at the Banqueting House in Whitehall. Supper will be at Jermyn's with a more select group (by Mother's standards, though, so it could still seem quite a crowd).

Mother says she'll be changing between the two and that if you wish to do the same, you could send your robes along with hers to be held in the lounge where she and the others will be shifting dress.

2012-03-19 21:46:00

Order Only: Jane Briden

She seemed healthy and charming, and is now safe at Moddey. Her parents ... well, you probably saw, but her mother apparently has been curious for years exactly how magic works and seized the opportunity to ask us everything she could think of.

Sirius sent us a book of magical theory to leave with her; that was a good thought. Jane's father was a librarian, back in the day, and her mother apparently designed aeroplanes.

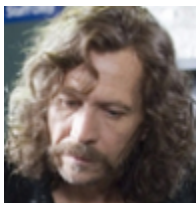


 [alt_lupin](#)

The cidering operation they're working on is fairly pleasant, as these places go. Everyone seemed to be getting enough to eat. I saw to the death certificate, after Dora took her off; I thought it would be straightforward enough.

There was a muggle woman minding the paperwork, and when I told her Jane Briden had died she didn't believe me, at first, because she was perfectly healthy, and then she started to cry like her heart was going to break. Apparently she knew the parents, and had met the baby. She wasn't asking questions, but I put a Confundus on her because I was afraid she'd start asking them later, after I was gone, and persuaded her that the baby had taken sick this morning, that someone -- possibly even her -- had sent for a Healer, that I was that Healer, but there'd been nothing I could do.

It was inconvenient but also reassuring, in a sense, that her life was not so unmarked as to slip away unnoticed. It ought to be harder, to take children and have no one but their parents notice or care. There should be shock, and grief, when word goes out that someone's baby has died.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-03-20 03:12:59**

(no subject)

All things considered, I'm just as glad there was no trade tonight, with the way it's been bucketing.

It was good to have a quiet night by the fire.



 **alt_molly** at **2012-03-20 13:46:08**
(no subject)

Oh, the poor woman. That was difficult, but it sounds as if you handled it as best you could, Remus.

Sometimes when I let myself think too much about what exactly we're doing with Moddey Dhoo, it makes me choke up a bit. Separating these babies from their parents...it seems so cruel. And then I have to remind myself that we're saving them from something even crueler. It's hard, though.



 **alt_arthur** at **2012-03-20 13:55:05**
(no subject)

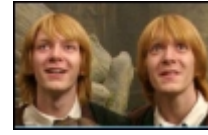
Designed aeroplanes? Oh, how I wish I had gone to fetch Jane myself. I would have bent her ear about aeroplanes design as much as she would have bent mine about magic. I've always wanted to know what kept aeroplanes up in the air without magic.

I see Kingsley hasn't reported it, but Tavis MacNichol is at Moddey Dhoo, too. His parents live on a sheep farm in Argyll, and it was a little difficult to get them to open up to us. Quite the dour Scots. But in the end, the mother insisted on giving us some sheep cheeses to take, along with the boy, and she said she hoped there would be a way that we could come back regularly to get more. 'So he'll know the taste of a proper ewe's milk cheese as he's growing up.'

2012-03-20 08:39:00

It's the first day of spring

and we'd like to call the attention of our foreign guests to a charming little custom of the Protectorate of which they may not be aware.




 [alt_gredforge](#)

If you kiss a ginger on the first day of spring, you'll have good luck all year!

Well, what are you waiting for? There are plenty of Weasleys to choose from! And one or two others with enough locks afire to spread plenty of good luck around.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-03-20 13:53:00**
(no subject)

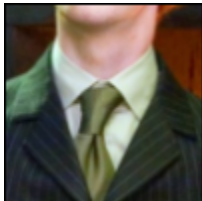
You hoping Delacour will take the hint?

Keep dreaming.



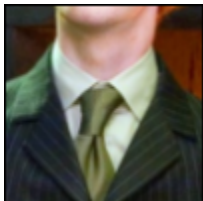
 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2012-03-20 14:09:04**
(no subject)

If she doesn't, there are plenty of others who might!
We consider it a public service.



 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-03-20 14:09:41**
(no subject)


What stuff and nonsense.



 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-03-20 14:10:42**
(no subject)

No one's ever done that to me.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-03-20 14:11:42](#)**
(no subject)

Speak for yourself.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-03-20 14:13:04](#)**
(no subject)

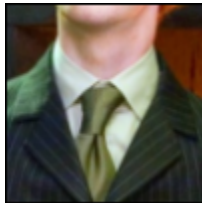
Not the sort of thing you should boast about, Percy.

We expect when it come to kissing gingers, the people who know you decide to pretend you have brown hair for the day, just so they can pick somebody else.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-03-20 15:39:05](#)**
(no subject)

Well, not because of your brothers, anyway. Rather in spite of them.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-03-20 17:15:34](#)**
(no subject)


Indeed.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-03-20 14:14:45](#)**
(no subject)

I've never heard of such a thing!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-03-20 14:16:40](#)**
(no subject)

Sure you have, Mum. You're living it.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-03-20 14:17:47](#)
(no subject)

Absolutely.

I have marvelous luck, every time I kiss a ginger.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-20 14:18:34](#)
(no subject)


Oi! No soppo stuff, now!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-20 15:00:20](#)
(no subject)


Well, when you put it that way, I suppose I do, too!



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-03-20 16:40:24](#)
ORDER ONLY

hear hear



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-03-20 14:40:25](#)
(no subject)

You would bring this back up again. Maybe I should hex you two this year for starting this bogus tradition. You better hope I don't get kissed. Otherwise I am coming after you.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-20 15:01:25](#)
(no subject)

We suggest getting a one day black dye job.



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2012-03-20 15:24:54](#)**
(no subject)

I can arrange that for you.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-03-20 15:40:45](#)**
(no subject)

There's no such tradition. Honestly, you two.

I suppose you had to change tactics this year since you could hardly call it 'International Kiss a Ginger Day' when our visitors know perfectly well it doesn't exist outside of the Protectorate. Outside of *Hogwarts*, even.

For Merlin's sake.

2012-03-20 09:15:00

Attention One and All

Consider this your fair and only warning. The following will get you hexed today, or worse.



 [alt_ginny](#)

Puckering at me.

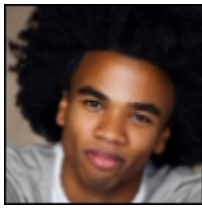
Looking at me longingly, wishing for a year of luck.

Being less than 3 feet within my personal circle.

Touching my hair.

(this is not an all inclusive list)

I am not a portal for good luck. Such acts will not end well. I suggest you all not listen to Fred and George today. Their pleasure is your misfortune.



 [alt_lee](#) at **2012-03-20 18:05:29**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

She really doesn't need to worry.

None of the blokes I know are tempted in the least.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-03-20 18:12:29**

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

Ouch.

I wouldn't go that far. But I think most will try to sneak up on Delia Forney or Wilhemina Rigg instead.

[2012-03-20 12:34:00](#)

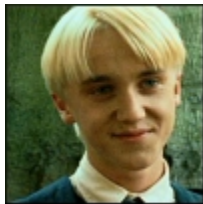
Private Message to Draco Malfoy

A Short Poem Meditating on the Vernal Equinox

I prefer your hair as it is
And think it rather dashing.
That being said,
It's a pity you aren't ginger,
Because that means I'll have to kiss you
Twice as much today
Just to be sure that I get a bit of luck
And who knows?
You might get lucky too.



 **[alt_pansy](#)**



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-03-20 23:17:39](#)**
(no subject)

Twice as much kissing, is it? Is this all an elaborate ruse to make me forget how jealous I got around this time last year?

Not that I'm complaining...



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-03-20 23:42:20](#)**
(no subject)

Well, seeing as how you're the only one I'm planning to kiss today, I figured I'd need to make it worth my while.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-03-20 23:43:50](#)**
(no subject)

It's funny how much can happen in a year, isn't it?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-03-20 23:49:24](#)
(no subject)

Too right. Though I suppose I ought to thank Weasley for being born ginger, otherwise it might've taken me longer to admit to myself that I fancied you.

2012-03-20 12:46:00

Order Only

So, Alice, are you coming by the shop today so we can all have a proper dose of good luck?



 [alt_sirius](#)

Joking aside, how are all the new little ones settling in?

Arthur, Kingsley: I think we're pretty well agreed that much as we'd like to help all four of the girls Davidson's people recommended, the two older ones are the best choices for our particular situation. If there's something that can be done about the others, we're all for it, though.


So, what's next? Can Dora pick up an application overnight or should one of the Ponds come and request one on business hours - I think, Arthur, given that we'll need your involvement in putting together the application and in seeing that it gets to the right people afterward, we oughtn't ask you to bring the parchmentwork directly to the shop. Best leave you out for the time being.



 [alt_arthur](#) at **2012-03-20 18:59:24**
(no subject)

I can owl you the forms, though, without anyone being any the wiser. Expect them this afternoon.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2012-03-21 02:09:28**
(no subject)

We're all a bit short on sleep at the moment, but our new nursery workers are enormously helpful. Once everything's settled a bit more, I'll sit down and write a nice long update.

I think everything has been going wonderfully smoothly so far, though, and because it's my lucky day today, I think it's safe for me to say it.

[2012-03-20 12:47:00](#)

Various reminders

Thursday: Ms Chadwick will be here to present about her recent work in telescope design, and more about the general opportunities for those interested in creating new magical tools and resources. Half-seven, in my classroom, to start.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

YPL: I understand that some of the plans for our guests during their time in New London over the holidays will allow for some of our students to join them on some days. Details of the itinerary are still in process, but you may wish to inquire of your parents or guardians about their plans for your time, and which days you might be available. (Your parent, guardian, or other suitable adult would be responsible for transportation to and from a central location in New London yet to be determined. I would be glad to discuss the planned events if they have any questions.)

CCF students: In about two weeks, we'll be meeting to do the specific planning for your continued training this summer (along with the other YPL summer plans). If you have any comments in hindsight about particular aspects of your experience, the selection process, the various exercises, or other details, I'd love to hear them before we leave for Easter holidays. Please stop by my office hours, or arrange another mutually agreeable time to talk.

Fourth years: A reminder that we are meeting for two hours tonight (beginning at 11 this evening) to make up for last week. Thanks again for your willingness to make the change. You needn't bring your telescopes: if the weather does by chance let up a little, I'll have a couple of specialised scopes handy that suit our topic for the evening.

And my own schedule: I do plan to be around this afternoon and evening (rather than my usual Tuesday plans), should you wish to stop by with a question or comment.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-20 17:37:36](#)

Private message to Gilly Chadwick

Gilly -

Very much looking forward to Thursday. And my appreciation to Juniper, please, for her giving up an

evening with you. Meet you at 4:30, you can talk to Capper (may it do enough good), have supper with the staff (Étienne Froissart has some questions for you, I think, and Pomona and Septima are both looking forward to seeing you) And then you can show off your work.

Sorry for not making it in tonight - combination of catch-up and time with Capper is on my schedule. (And to be honest, I'm tired enough I'm not quite sure I trust apparating the distance at the moment.)

On the rest: not as much improvement as I'd like, as you might guess from the above.

Mum's been sending those romantic suspense novels you mock so regularly. I know why you do, but at the same time, there's something quite restful about them. You get an interesting bit of (mostly historical, in these) setting, you get people meeting, horrible things happen, and then everyone good lives happily ever after. Stars in their order, where you expect them to be.

There's one you might actually like, *The Eye of Her Heart* - an alternate history Maddelena de Medici, who ran away to wizarding England rather than be married off to a dissolute illegitimate son of the Pope. Adventures along the way. More suspense than romance, anyway.

Two Mum threw in because she knew they'd drive me up a wall in the right way. *In Bright Array* has the astronomy all wrong but done so it's fun to figure out where they went wrong in their research. (And, of course, I do know the story of the squib astronomers they based it on.) Might even use it for extra credit in class sometime. And the other, *Love's Augury* has divination all over its plot and a series of improbable magical challenges and is just hilariously bad. (The cover is all over pink, purple, and symbols, too.)

And truly, I've not much attention for research at the moment, even if the weather were cooperating more than it is. So having something that I can lose myself in is rather the thing.

2012-03-20 15:26:00

Private Message to Mandy Brocklehurst

Um, look.

I don't know how to say it any other way, but the thing is, I just don't fancy you.

I mean, I think you're nice and all. But.

I don't want to snog you.

Or to have you trying to snog me.

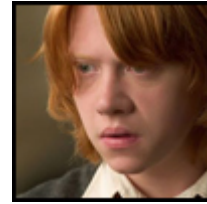
See?

I mean, it's just, well, it's embarrassing. That's all.

Right, then.

Glad we've got that straightened out, yeah?

Yeah.



 [alt_ron](#)

2012-03-21 21:08:00

Private Message to Rizzer and Lucius

I had a rather interesting conversation with Amanda today. Rizzer, do you know of any reasons Hydra might wish to accompany the Beauxbatons and Durmstrang exchange students on several of their stops over the holidays?




 [alt_narcissa](#)

According to Amanda, she sent her an owl asking to meet in Hogsmeade this last trip and asked Amanda whether any of the Hogwarts students would be invited along. Well, you know how pathetic Hydra can make herself when she's a mind to wheedle something. Amanda spoke to Étienne, who said he might be willing to arrange to chaperon but only if it were all right with the family - and with the other delegation.

Lucius? It shan't upset the cauldron if she were to come to a few of the events, perhaps the museums or some of the attractions in New London? I'm not sure what's on the agenda that might tempt her.

Of course, if it's going to stir up a billywig nest, then she may simply be told it's not feasible. Or Rizzer, if you think it's unwise, then I can convey that to Amanda as well.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-03-22 01:45:43**
(no subject)

Hm. Well, I imagine she might be hoping to avoid or put off any time spent at home, seeing as the state of my brother's marriage is less than peaceful- now more than ever.

It's hard to say how Bella would react (isn't it always?). Though off hand it does seem like the sort of hospitable act that she would associate with you, Narcissa. And ever since Bella's got it in her head that Hydra is suited more to your way of life than hers...well, she *might* approve?

Don't quote me on that, though.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-22 02:13:15](#)
(no subject)

Poor Roddy. I can only imagine why he's finding it difficult of late. But if Hydra wishes to avoid St James' Palace or Le'Strange Hill, surely she may do so without traipsing about the realm?

Do you really think this is an example of Hydra attempting to emulate my methods? Or that Bella still thinks Hydra ought to model herself after me? If so, then doesn't it make more sense for Hydra to spend time at the Manor over holidays, and not with foreign boys and girls?




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-22 02:22:22](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps she wants to "traipse," as well. She doesn't get many opportunities to make her own choices, and if she spoke to Amanda about this of her own accord then maybe she ought to be encouraged, if only so that she continues to assert herself to people other than you or me. Even if it is in that rather pathetic fashion of hers...

But then, if you are interested in having her for the hols, then I'm sure you've a perfect right to her. She'd enjoy that a great deal, I'm sure.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-22 02:39:07](#)
Private Message to Rabastan

I'm sure she would enjoy it as would I, Razzer, but the point is that is not what she *asked* permission to do. And as usual, she asked someone other than her mother.

I find it intriguing that of all things she might spend her holiday doing, she chooses to go where the visiting students are going. She hasn't formed an attachment to someone in their ranks, has she? That young man from the Ball?

Does Rod know?



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-03-22 02:54:10](#)

Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Mr Finch-Fletchley, you mean? They are still friendly since the Ball- actually, Hydra told me a while back that Bella encouraged her to maintain the connection. Something about it making Harry take more notice of her, or some such twaddle.

Rod wouldn't be pleased, and that's putting it bluntly. Which would explain why she's avoided involving her parents in this, eh? I suppose it well could be that she'd like accompany her new friend as he tours the Protectorate...

I happen to know that Roddy's taken steps to ensure that all of Hydra's interactions with boys remain, shall we say, innocent to the lily-white degree. So if there is an attachment, with Mr Finch-Fletchley or anyone else, at least there's little risk of it going beyond companionship.

Dunno if that means she ought to be allowed to go or not, though.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-22 15:50:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Rabastan

Let me just see if I have this straight, Rabastan:

My sister tells Hydra to use this Finch-Fletchley boy to spark Harry's jealousy. But your brother has charmed our niece to prevent any untoward contact?

Is that what you're telling me?

I am not sure which of them to throttle first, to be honest.

You do realise that chastity charms are not infallible? And do nothing to protect the subject from emotional attachment.

Oh, those two. I am relieved I did not see this before morning or I might not have got a wink's sleep.

Let us hope that they both of them show more sense when Rigel grows old enough to give them any worry.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-03-22 02:36:30](#)
(no subject)

It could introduce a wrinkle - it depends on which activities are more easily expanded to include someone outside the appointed complement of students. Did my sister say which events Hydra had in mind?

Otherwise, I agree with Rizzer: Regardless of the reason, it is gratifying to see her taking *some* initiative in her own future, even if only on a limited scale.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-22 16:00:43](#)
(no subject)

There's a rumour that the students are to be shown a camp, Lucius. Hydra mentioned that specifically (I rather think Amanda was hoping we would decide that it's too indecent for Hydra to see).

Beyond that, she did not know much about the itinerary to give specifics. Amanda thought perhaps the field trip to Tintagel and the proposed tours of New London would be appropriate. She also proposed including her with the Bath portion - apparently there's some discussion of whether any of the Combined Cadet Force would be invited for that (or any of the museum tours).

Surely they're not being taken to a camp, though? How could one guarantee their safety?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-03-22 16:07:50](#)
(no subject)

Yes. It was not on the original plan for their tour but it was a specific request and so the Ministry have devised a ... sample, if you will, suitable for them to see.

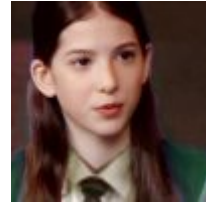
In fact, if this is where Hydra's interest lies, I believe it may be helpful to her education. Surely your sister would not object, nor Rod, if it comes to that.

As to the other events, I believe there shall be some provision for the top students to receive special privileges and commune with the visitors at points throughout the holiday.

I shall discuss it at the Governors' meeting this evening, shall I? Then we may tell Amanda and Émile which activities were selected for general participation and which ones we may be able to except for Hydra's direct involvement.

2012-03-21 21:36:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Fred and George, when's your birthday? It's the first of April, isn't it?


 **alt_sally_anne**

You're turning SEVENTEEN this year.

You won't be able to read under the lock anymore! Will you still be able to write, at least? When does Lee come of age?

I just realised this is in ten days.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-03-22 12:36:09**
(no subject)

Oi! That's righr, isn't it?




 **alt_pansy** at **2012-03-22 13:51:43**
(no subject)

That's right.


That's no good at all.



 **alt_terry** at **2012-03-22 14:02:51**
(no subject)

No. No, it can't be true!



 **alt_terry** at **2012-03-22 14:28:07**
(no subject)

I thought you were turning 16 this year. But if I can never speak to you again, if you'll never be able to read what I write...

oh, bloody hell



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-22 14:46:16](#)
(no subject)

We could pass it on.

If you wrote us, we'd pass it on to them. In a private message or something. Or just pass them a note in person.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-23 01:30:46](#)
(no subject)

We don't think anything that's written without the I Solemnly Swear lock is a very good idea for the really secret stuff, even if it's marked 'Private message.' We sort of have the idea that the Private message (without our lock, we mean) is only as 'private' at the Protectorate wants it to be. And we don't exactly trust that.

Passing a note in person is risky, too, unless, dunno, it gets burned right away. But on the other hand if anything gets passed on verbally, we have to make sure it doesn't get overheard. (Maybe we should look for a spell to ensure that. Or try to create one, maybe.)

Lee can read stuff for us under our lock. And write back. He doesn't turn 17 for a long time yet, not till next year. He's one of the youngest in our year. And after that, we can use Ron or Nev.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-23 01:52:43](#)
(no subject)

or, you know, whichever of us you come across first.

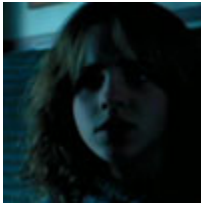
You're right about working on making sure you couldn't be overheard though.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-22 16:13:47](#)
(no subject)

And there's Pig too.

...I'm sorry.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-22 21:45:30](#)
(no subject)

We'll find a way, Terry, I swear we will.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-23 01:40:22](#)
(no subject)

Look, Professor, it'll be tougher to talk to you, but we'll find ways to work around it, and we are NOT going to abandon you. Not now, not ever. Not until you get out of there and you're totally free, and even then, we'll probably be coming round your place and playing pranks on you and kipping on your sofa and drinking up all your butterbeer until you're ready to kick our lazy arses into next week.

It's going to take some ingenuity, that's all. Some Twingenuity! We've been thinking, and making some plans. Getting some ideas.

But meanwhile, after March 31, Lee's gonna keep writing and reading for us, under the lock. Or little Ronniekins, once we get home. You'll be hearing from us every week, from them, or from Pig.

We promise. And Weasleys don't break a promise like that.

(Other promises, all the time, sure we do! Like most of the ones we make to Percy. But never ones we make to you.)



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-23 01:05:04](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

I say, it almost doesn't seem right to continue using this lock if its inventors aren't here, what?

Oh, dash it: Will the lock keep working if Fred and George can't see it?

-Justin



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-23 01:44:13](#)
(no subject)

No, we want everyone to keep using it. We MADE it to be used. Terry really needs it, and it's no good if no one uses it to talk to him. Hermione, too.

It'll keep working fine, even when we've aged out, no problem.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-23 01:42:00](#)
(no subject)

We won't be able to write under the lock when we turn seventeen, no. That limitation was built right into the structure of the spell. Well, maybe we could figure out a back door way to do it, but it would weaken the spell's protective security too much, and we're not willing to take the risk.

Yeah, ten days.

Don't worry. We're doing a lot of thinking about what it means. Planning.

You know our plans are always brilliant.

[2012-03-22 19:25:00](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

I've been thinking about some things since we talked really.



Before I say anything—you're positive nobody reads this. Right? I mean, for sure positive. Really sure. Your father doesn't.

 **[alt_hermione](#)**



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-03-22 23:30:13](#)**
(no subject)

I'm pretty sure.

Not all the way sure.

But Draco and me would've gotten in trouble if they did. I think.

And you and me. Before now, I mean.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-03-22 23:32:33](#)**
(no subject)

You're right. There isn't any point in worrying.

Mr Milland is actually Snape.

I didn't tell you before, I'm sorry, I didn't think he wanted me to, but I asked, and just—anyway that's why I keep saying you should talk to him, and you can't tell ANYBODY, you have to promise me.

~~and thank Merlin I didn't die~~



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-03-22 23:34:49](#)**
(no subject)

What?

I mean

I was wondering why you kept going on about him and everything

but

really?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-22 23:35:28](#)
(no subject)

And I won't tell.



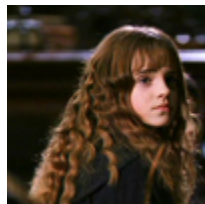
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-22 23:36:38](#)
(no subject)

And you asked -- you asked him? if you could tell me?

Does that mean he knows I know it's him?

And... what? I should talk to him?

What does he want to talk to me about?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-22 23:39:32](#)
(no subject)

1. Yes.

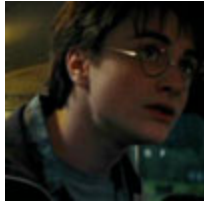
2. I wouldn't have told you if I thought you would.

3. Yes, I asked him, I wouldn't exactly have said anything if I hadn't, it isn't my secret to tell, is it?

4. I suppose he presumes so, because I told him that I thought I would tell you soon. But I didn't say when exactly so he doesn't know exactly.

5. If you want to.

6. Your mother I think, and other things, like learning Occlumency, and also just your life. I think he wishes he could help you out, only he isn't very good at things like that, so he kept saying things that were mean, but he didn't mean them to be mean. I don't know.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-22 23:44:47](#)
(no subject)

Oh. Yeah, occlumency would be good. I guess.

and that makes sense, with what you know who said last time we talked.

So did he really meant what he said, then? About how I should feel bad, because it was my fault?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-22 23:49:28](#)
(no subject)

Well I don't know if he means it like you took it, but I know he thinks that nobody in your life tells you to be responsible for your actions, and that it's important, and I try to tell him that you don't need someone to tell you because you do know, but I think he doesn't know that because he assumes that nobody would just feel that way with nobody telling them to.

I don't think that even makes sense.

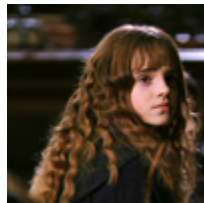


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-22 23:51:51](#)
(no subject)

It does.

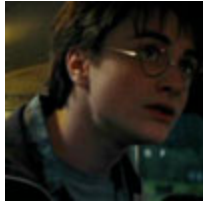
sort of.

I guess.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:01:39](#)
(no subject)

Well he isn't very easy to understand always, but I really think he wants to know you Harry. I mean he's perfectly fine on his own, I suppose I wouldn't say nice, but he really cares about you in a strange way.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:06:41](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

I'm not sure that's... you know... the best thing, but okay.

What does he know about my mum?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:07:51](#)
(no subject)

Well he hasn't really said exactly, but I get the impression that he dated her. When they were young I mean, or something, he doesn't really say—I mean he doesn't want to say. But he told me once she was his best friend.

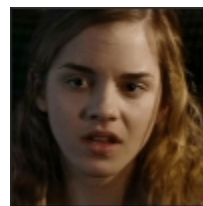


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:10:11](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Okay.


Well, I guess that sort of makes sense. You know. About why he'd care.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:12:39](#)
(no subject)

Well I think so.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:03:50](#)
(no subject)

Hang on.


You know who said something about the you know what.

You know.

The... the prophecy thing.

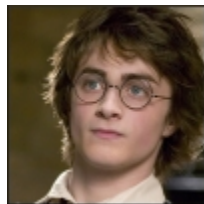
Is he the one you know who was talking about?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:06:52](#)
(no subject)

I'm not sure I'm allowed to say.

I mean it, I mean, please don't ask me, I don't know if I'm allowed to say at all. You can ask Mr Snape. Professor Milland, you know.



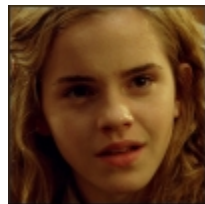
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:08:29](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

Sorry.

Sorry.


Okay.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:13:30](#)
(no subject)

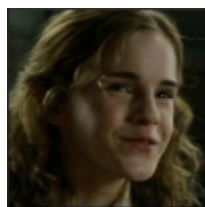
You don't need to be sorry. Honestly Harry I don't know why you think you have to be sorry about everything, just don't ask me that, and I'll tell you if you can't ask me about things, alright?? And then you have to not ask because if I said something bad could happen.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:18:33](#)
(no subject)

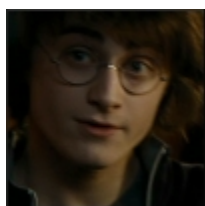
...that works.

I guess I just wanted you to know it was okay? That you couldn't say?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:22:33](#)
(no subject)

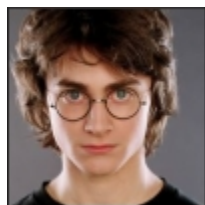
I'm glad it's okay. Because it would have had to be that way anyway, but it's better if it's okay.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:32:15](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Well.

I'm glad we're talking again.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:16:11](#)
(no subject)

And I know sometimes you can't say things and sometimes you don't want to say things and that's okay.

but I do want to make sure of something.

if you ever get in trouble

serious trouble

I want to know you can get out.

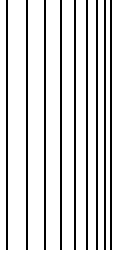
Safe.

Can you?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-03-23 00:18:03](#)
(no subject)

Yes. If I wanted to I could.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-03-23 00:22:24](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

Good.

2012-03-22 20:28:00

Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Professor,

Loathe as I am to disrupt what I am sure is a stimulating evening, would you be so kind as to join the Governors in the Headmistress' office?



 [alt_lucius](#)

There is a matter one would have thought trifling but which has apparently engendered such debate as to keep us through the appointed hour and then some besides. Suspect that were you to appear we might resolve the issue in short order and thence entreat Peakes to release us back to our other appointed duties.

If you don't mind, of course.

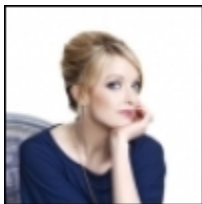


 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-03-23 00:40:14**
(no subject)

I. Um.

Yes. Of course.

I'll be right down - just give me a moment to let Gilly know and make it down the stairs.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-03-23 02:09:19**
(no subject)

I do hope that was as helpful as you'd hoped.

I'd say I'm surprised at how much time it took to sort out. But after any number of similar discussions, I'm used to the way people have such strong opinions about one or two students for no reason that makes any outside sense.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-03-23 02:16:13](#)
(no subject)

Quite helpful, thank you - and again, my apologies for causing you any concern. Assure you it was in no way my intention.

If you think that took an inordinate amount of time, try the meetings when they haggle over the budget.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-23 02:21:01](#)
(no subject)

Glad to be of use, then.

(And as to the concern - well, certainly not your fault. Still a little on edge about unanticipated meetings, apparently, but I'm sure that will improve given a little more distance from last week.)

One of the things I'm very grateful for with the YPL work is that we have relatively few fusses over the budget. At least there, though, it can be easier to see why someone's being stubborn.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-03-23 02:46:11](#)
(no subject)

Indeed. It would be even more useful if you had clear notes as to whom in addition to Miss Lestrangle will receive invitations to which events throughout the fortnight.

Pig-headedness, alas, is not confined merely to questions of pocket. One trusts that the endless YPL meetings are over for the moment?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-23 03:07:27](#)
(no subject)

I believe I've got the final solutions noted:

2 April: Museums in New London: CCF students and the six 3rd years we discussed (Miss

Lestrangle, Miss Sandoval, Miss Stevens, Mr Jugson, and Mr Cuthbert and Mr duMaurier.)

8 April: Yorkshire Dales visit. Open to CCF and those students by request (as families may have plans for that Sunday)

11 April: Cambridge visit. CCF and YPL students by request - as many of the CCF students as wish, plus another 20 from other years.

12 April: Time on their own (in suitably sized groups) in New London: CCF students and the six named above invited to attend if they wish, and stay for the evening event.

As to the YPL meetings, alas, I've two days of them, at the beginning of our break. It's the only sensible time to really plan the summer events properly.

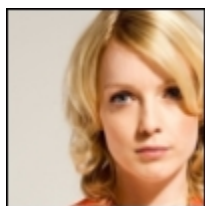


 **alt_lucius** at [2012-03-23 03:23:55](#)
(no subject)

Excellent. And Newcastle, of course, to include Hydra, Jeremy and those students in CCF who display the proper inclination.

Trust you may see to it that they are given the opportunity in time for holidays.

If you're going to be in New London at the first of the month, then, perhaps you might see if Narcissa could arrange for you to go to her salon. I have it on authority that a spot of pampering to look forward to makes even lengthy meetings seem more tolerable.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-03-23 03:30:40](#)
(no subject)

Yes, indeed, on Newcastle, though that is a more delicate list. I'll get word to the relevant students by the end of the weekend, which should be adequate time for discussion with parents and permissions and all that.

As to New London - thank you, for the idea. (And if you're sure

it wouldn't be an imposition on Narcissa's time.) I believe Raz has a few ideas of his own in mind, as well.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-03-23 03:35:13](#)**
(no subject)

Well, our Razzer's talents in the area of recreation are unparalleled, to be sure.

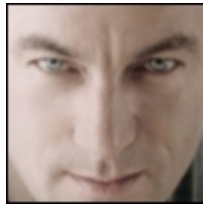
I am not certain that he is as well-versed in the protocols of witches' leisure.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-23 03:38:58](#)**
(no subject)

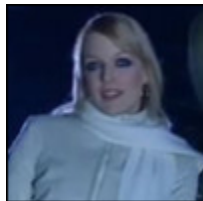
Glad to amuse.

He does really quite well with me, though I'd scarcely claim to be a typical witch of his acquaintance.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-03-23 03:42:02](#)**
(no subject)

Hm - nonetheless, should he suddenly acquire a keen knowledge of various perfumes, pomades, pedicures or Merlin knows whatever else is purveyed beyond the cloistered walls of the beauty parlour, my advice to you, my dear, is: Check for Polyjuice.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-23 03:45:29](#)**
(no subject)

I suspect I might notice a few other things, but no. Those are not his strengths.

Glad I could help tonight, and now my class preparation calls me, I fear.

2012-03-22 22:20:00

*Private Message to the Lord
Protector*



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

As I said the last time we met face-to-face, I shall attempt to fill in the gaps now—and then provide a longer report on Monday.

It is, as one might expect, difficult to keep the floors clean; the students have a collective unrivalled case of spring fever; and, of course, the mural progresses. These things undoubtedly do not interest you.

Slightly more interesting may be that Ms. Gillian Chadwick has been talking up engineering jobs. I expect that you will have a crop of builders to help expand the borders of New London soon. Unfortunately, Mr. Capper—of whom we have spoken so much—will likely not be one of them. He has not responded to guidance as well as we had hoped.

Your son is doing well.

The staff would like to recommend Francois du Maurier to your attention. He has excelled in his studies, but he has generally few prospects, as his family emigrated to our kingdom upon the beginning of your reign; they do not have the same history as his peers' families do. Similarly, Miss Effie Stevens may have been overlooked: she deserves a good word.

That, I suppose, must conclude my report.

2012-03-22 22:32:00

Order Only—Septa

Arthur, Molly, I hope I have not done wrong. Several teachers suggested to me this week that your daughter Ginevra might benefit from being mentioned to the Lord Protector, along with other students who are not from traditionally well-thought-of families.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

I nodded, smiled—and refrained from mentioning her name, though I did others'.

I suppose that if it is discovered by the well-meaning professors in question, I shall have to say that I had some doubts about Ginevra. I hope that you shall understand, and that I have done right by you and your child.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-03-24 23:40:12](#)

(no subject)

Minerva,

We certainly have always depended upon your greater knowledge of the Lord Protector, and goodness knows we trust your judgement. How could we but do so, as you are the Head of the Order?

Frankly, I shudder at the very thought of any of my children being brought to his attention (although I am sure Percy, for one, would disagree!). If YOU believe it best, then we certainly do, too.



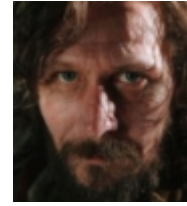
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-03-24 23:40:40](#)

(no subject)

I certainly agree with Molly here, Minerva.

[2012-03-23 15:31:00](#)

Order Only



 [alt_sirius](#)

Arthur, this application is a monster! No wonder the Ministry had so much trouble getting people to participate. Six pages of application, four - no, five supplemental schedules depending on one's answers - and that's leaving out the mandatory attestations pages with all the clauses one has to sign. 'If selected, I the undersigned do hereby swear and give oath that the Muggleborn Assistant assigned to me or my place of employment shall not be used for inappropriate, seditious, illegal or illicit purposes' and all that.

Well, we expected that much. But Merlin, they make it difficult to try to stack the deck (also the point, I know).

And then it's all in septuplicate (Why are they so obsessed with seven? Numerologically, sure, but Circe. Seven!)

I think we've just about done the thing properly. We put down that the candidate had to have letters and maths, just to be on the safe side. We're not sure what to say about Laszlo's Unlimited, though. If we put down Food Service or Bartending as a secondary requested skill, well, it might trigger them to come and investigate things a little more fully (c.f., the question about agreeing to an inspection of the place of business wherein the Muggleborn will be working if said Muggleborn will have contact with Citizen cutomers in the course of the Muggleborn's duties). Well, I mean to say, the Ministry know about the cafe in the back and our minor annoyance Mr Hill seems to know that not everything in our back garden is officially sanctioned on our licence, else he wouldn't demand quite so much in shakedown Sickles (and yes, he was back again this week, which may be why I'm particularly sensitive to the thought of their 'inspections'). But at the same time, we don't want to leave it off because it might be the kind of thing that tips the balance toward Ellie.

Or perhaps this really isn't such a good idea, at all. Maybe this is an indication that Beth is trying to get us caught somehow, under the guise of doing something altruistic.

I don't mind saying it feels dirty just to fill the blasted thing out. The idea that something so supercilious could also be made into a distilled process is maddening. If there's anything you can think of that will

help assure it gets us either Laurel Sinclair or Ellie Summer, mate, give it to us. Dora will drop the application on her trip in Sunday, so we've the rest of the weekend to make any changes we need to make (and make sure it gets fixed on all sets of the application).

Dora and Bea are up. Arthur, Bill, if you've any advice, we'd love to hear it.

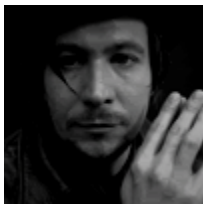


 **alt_arthur** at **2012-03-25 00:00:33**
(no subject)

I am sure you will be even more annoyed at having to fill out everything in septuplicate when I tell you that three of those copies are popped into an envelope once received and never ordinarily see the light of day again, but are instead put in 'permanent storage.' Storage for what I have no idea, nor does anyone else I know. You are right, it is absurd.

Put down 'general customer service tasks.' That should not raise any awkward questions, and yet has the virtue of being entirely true, in case of any further investigation. You might note specific abilities that might be needed for the various tasks, something such as 'able to lift and carry twenty pounds for at least six feet.' That could be either a box in a stock room or a bus pan of dirty dishes, but you needn't tell them which one!

Anything you can put in to hint you think the candidates you will interview are not fully human will not go amiss, as much as it may set your teeth on edge. (I remember one application once, which requested that potential employees should be 'fully housebroken.' I couldn't help but feel outraged, but Jenkins was instead impressed, saying that it was clear that the applicant had 'thought of everything.')



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-03-25 00:33:58**
(no subject)

Thanks, Arthur. Yeah, we listed the lifting under the physical requirements but I suppose we could put another pass on the 'Justification of Need' section. We've been drafting it on spare parchment until it's right before putting it into the form itself.


We've already put down that she'll have separate facilities. Merlin

forbid a servant use the same bathroom as the rest of the family. Where we're struggling is whether to indicate the desired camp of origin. Laurel was in Ashfield; have we any idea where Ellie was at last report? And what justification can we use to bring someone all the way down from there when there are plenty of muggleborns closer to hand? I suppose that'll have to be your sleight of wand.

And yes, it's causing some interesting discussions among the three of us but it's necessary, if we're going to do the thing, to put up the proper show.

It's a busy night, too - weather finally had a break in it. Everyone wants to get out of the house before the rain starts again.



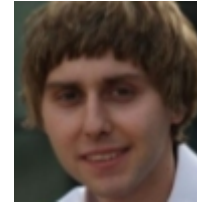
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-03-25 18:36:59](#)

(no subject)

Leave the desired camp of origin blank, and I'll fill that in once I pinpoint Ellie's location. As for sleight of wand, in the section where it says 'For Administrative Use only' fill in: 'WEAS-A45' and send it to me directly. That will assign the file to me. Ordinarily, applications are doled out randomly between five or six staffers when they come in, but I'll record it in the book myself as being assigned to me and take it from there. It's all right; we do have the power to assign ourselves particular applications and shepherd them through personally.

2012-03-24 11:54:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_justin**

Professor Froissart finally sat us down this morning and gave us the itinerary for the tour, over holidays.

I don't think I shall be able to get away for Quidditch, what? They've got us well occupied.

But there are several days when I think you lot are invited to come along--and didn't your Professor Sinistra say as much? Some museum days and such, probably well boring but it'd be more interesting with mates along, what? It's April the 2nd, 8th and 12th. Any of you planning to go?

And there's the 7th, as well, when we're to see a camp. Or they say we are, anyway. I don't expect they want too many people along on that, however.

Terry, they've told us we'll be in Lincoln on the 9th. I don't suppose there's any way to get to you, but perhaps it'd be possible to leave something where you could get it? If there's anything you need that we can get? Perhaps they'll show us where Lincoln Castle used to be visible, what?

-Justin




 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-03-25 04:54:45**
(no subject)

They're going to take you to an actual camp?

I heard someone say that YPL students could apply to go along on part of the trip. I'll apply, I guess; it'll be nice to see mates, as you said.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-26 01:23:11](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I told Professor Siz I'd like to go along for the trips.

Showing loyal, yeah? And seeing mates, too. That's a bit of all right.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-26 01:39:34](#)
(no subject)


Hullo, Ron.

Showing loyal, yes. Though it shouldn't be too difficult if one's only going to an amusement park, what?

When were you planning to have people over for Quidditch--I suppose one can simply change the date so you could still come along for the other days.

-Justin

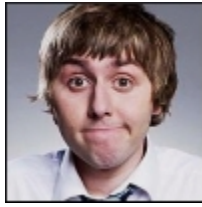


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-26 02:38:23](#)
(no subject)

I didn't see an amusement park on the list of places we could go along to. Which one are they taking you to, do you know? Probably Camelot. I hear it's more, um. Well, I haven't been, but it's all based on the King Arthur part of history and that's a bit more exciting than the rides and games and stuff at Blackpool. Though that is at the seaside, so maybe that's where they'll take you.

I asked to go to the camp, actually. I mean, my dad works with Muggles and Muggleborn Labour and all, so I know some about all that. But I haven't actually ever got to see a camp, probably for a lot of reasons, but anywiz, I thought I should go if I can. And I doubt there'll be loads of people who really want to go. Do you think?

So, yeah. I asked to go to the camp and any of the others that haven't filled up yet.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-26 02:53:56](#)
(no subject)

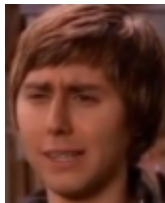
Oh, I thought that was one of the days? No, I've got the itinerary all out of sorts. It's an amusement park, that's all it says, what. On the 11th.

I say, I'm surprised they've invited you lot to as many days as it seems but then, I suppose if they're encouraging us to make all sorts of connections and friends here, what, then it stands to reason they'd try to make sure we've the opportunity to spend time together.

I rather think the point is more to keep us all looking too closely at how things really are, and going off on our own and such. Like the tour I was given when I came to visit before the Quidditch Cup, what? It's just going to be more of that.

But they can take us to an amusement park and no one shall have to pretend it's fun.

-Justin

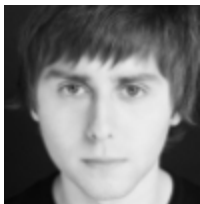



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-26 02:55:57](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and I don't know about there being not a lot of people who want to see the camps, what? I mean to say, I expect that if one doesn't live near one or have family who work there, one might grow highly

curious.

-Justin

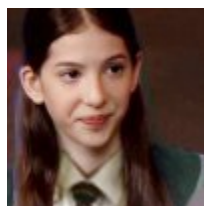


 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-26 01:36:02](#)
(no subject)

They said it's a camp. I'm surprised you hadn't heard about it, Sally-Anne: Krum's the one who asked for a camp tour specifically.

And I think they're letting a *few* of you go, as well, because--well, because Hydra wanted to come along on that part, what. I honestly don't know if they had already decided about the other things. But it would be good to have other mates along.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-26 01:42:25](#)
(no subject)

I knew he was going to ask. I'm just surprised they're actually going to let you see one. It only shows the 'glory of the Protectorate' if you're dead sure the people along hate Muggles, you know?

I wonder what Hydra will think.

Anyway, I told Professor Siz I'd like to go along and that I wasn't fussed about which trip (or trips).



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-26 14:33:59](#)
(no subject)

Yes, well, on the other hand, if anyone has a visibly shaken reaction, what, then they know they've still got a job to do to convince those blighters that this way's better, if you follow me.

Hydra...well, she was curious, as I said to Ron, and she also thought that if her mother got wind of the thing, it's not the sort of thing she could object to Hydra wanting to see. But there's also--Hydra's really quite surprising, you know. One thinks of her as awfully delicate, what, but just when one comes to believe it's best to shield her or that she's going to be troubled, that's when she comes right out with some well brilliant spell or just stiffens her back and gets on with the thing, what? I say, I think she's a


good deal braver than I am, in point of fact. And she never whinges even when she's good call for it.

I suppose one has to learn to be well strong, in that family, what?

Well, I hope to see some of you, anyway, and to hear what Fred and George have cooked up for their birthday.

-Justin



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-03-28 03:30:02](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Justin. Here's the thing: I'm able to see out of the castle, but you won't be able to see in.

I've been thinking. If I ever get away from the castle, well, it'll be because I've found a way to escape. Which means I'll be on the run from the git. If he isn't dead already. I'll need stuff to help me blend in, stuff to give me a chance to make it on my own.

I reckon they'll show you where the castle was. The Castle Road leads up to the East gate, and Drury Lane curves around the Observatory Tower, on the corner. There's a little glade of trees at the corner of the curve, with a clearing in the middle. Could you bring something for me, and maybe bury it in the glade there, if you can slip away without being seen? I dunno. A book bag or a knapsack, or something like that? With maybe a change of clothes. I don't have anything decent, and I'll need to escape notice.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-28 03:38:34](#)
(no subject)

Terry,

Jolly good show! Yes, that's just the sort of thing we could arrange, I'm sure we could do.

We can put all sorts of things in for you and yes, I'm well confident that I could get away long enough to plant it, what.


I say, you'll need more than clothes. Some sort of bedroll, and some money, I should think.

Perhaps if the others get me items this week I could pick up

anything else we're missing in New London at the weekend before our tour begins.

-Justin



 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2012-03-28 03:41:50](#)**
(no subject)

That would be brilliant, thanks. If I ever get away and can find it, I'll owe you.

You'll have to mark it somehow where you've buried it so I'll be able to find it. Maybe Fred and George might have an idea about that.

Thanks. Honest. It'll help a lot. Knowing it's out there, waiting for me.

2012-03-25 20:35:00

Private Message to Susan Bones and Zacharias Smith



 [alt_ernie](#)

So did either of you ask to go along on any of the outings with the visiting delegations?

I don't want to miss too much of the time at home, of course, but it seemed the right thing to do, to put in for some of it. So I asked to go along to the camp and to Cambridge. I've never been there, but it's got to be wizard, right?



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2012-03-26 02:32:22**
(no subject)

Yeah, I did as well, same thing. And I didn't ask about New London but we're going to be going there at least once over hols, I think, so that's all right.

Does your dad ever take you along when he goes to the camps?

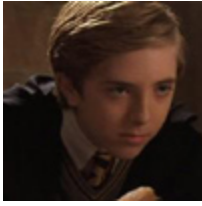


 [alt_ernie](#) at **2012-03-26 13:52:11**
(no subject)

Not often. I remember once when Mum was ~~about to~~ have really busy, Dad took me to help her out. Mostly I remember playing gobstones on a floor in a little room, but I think I remember the guards, too.

I'm not sure. I was really small then.

And then, I did go along with him last summer. When we applied for CCF, you know, I thought I might want to work in the Ministry in one of the departments that manage things in the camps. Dad said I ought to see what it's like in the camps before I think seriously about that sort of career. He said he could work out an internship with one of the camp administrators if I'm still serious about it after OWLs. He thinks even if I mean to work at the Ministry, knowing how things really work in a camp could give me a boost over other people competing for the job.



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-03-26 22:32:23](#)**
(no subject)

So did they put you down for the camp visit?

Professor Siz says they're taking people who aren't very familiar with the camps or haven't gone before or something. Which means I didn't get chosen.

I mean, it's not like they just let kids go anytime they want, and I was really wanting to go and see how this one compares to the one I saw last summer. I'm kind of curious about what they'll tell the foreign students about the camps, too. I mean, it would be interesting to know how they explain them.



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2012-03-27 01:31:46](#)**
(no subject)

Huh.

Yeah, I'm going. Could be interesting, I guess.

I suppose I'd rather go to the camps than Cambridge but either way, the real point is that Krum's going to be there, innit?



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-03-27 02:01:27](#)**
(no subject)

Rub it in a bit more, why don't you?

Have you got him to sign something for you yet?

Actually, I think the real point is that it's easy for them to pass over Hufflepuffs and not pay attention to what we request, yeah?



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2012-03-27 13:48:48](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, relax, Ern. It's gonna be boring, loads more 'Here's what's so great about us' so the foreigners can go home and tell everyone how much better we are. That's all.

No, I don't think Krum speaks a lot of English, does he? Every time someone asks him for an autograph he sort of looks at them like they've got two heads.

And steady on. It's not like Professor Siz isn't Hufflepuff herself, you know. But yeah, I suppose there'll be twice as many Slytherins and Ravenclaws. Still. Least we're not Gryffindors, hey?

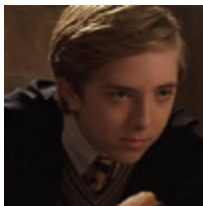
Anyway, speaking of that, Fleet and Bobolis were thinking of having another get-together before hols. You going to bring Pip this time?



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-03-26 03:27:53](#)**
(no subject)

I put in to go to the Dales, myself--I've heard it's really beautiful up there.

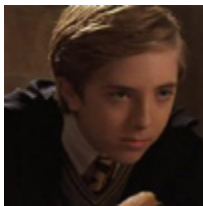
I was thinking about Cambridge too--do you suppose it's too late to sign up?



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-03-26 14:11:28](#)**
(no subject)

Well, but the Dales trip's on Easter. Mum wouldn't like it if I weren't home. The whole family comes. And now she's got kitchen help, she really goes all out for it.

Anywiz, I need to have some time for revising, too, so I'm not really wanting to go on more than one of the other trips besides the camp.



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-03-26 22:36:23](#)**
(no subject)

What about you: did they put you down for the camp visit?

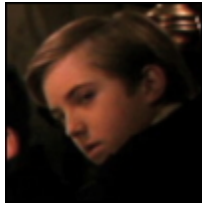
They're not letting me go, which is really sort of annoying. I mean, I think I've got a good reason to what to go along.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-03-26 22:59:05](#)
(no subject)

I don't think I'm down for it, either; unless I hear otherwise.

Honestly, it sounded a bit dull to me--give me the countryside any day.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2012-03-26 23:37:40](#)
(no subject)

Oh. Did you not ask for it, then? The camp, I mean.

Those of us who did, heard back at lunch. And I didn't get chosen.

I don't know why I'm surprised. I guess even with Professor Siz overseeing the programme it's easy to put Hufflepuffs at the bottom of the list for things.

[2012-03-26 11:15:00](#)

Holiday outings

I've worked out the lists for the Newcastle and New London day trips: you should receive confirmation at lunch today one way or the other. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we coordinate staffing and other details.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

We still have a few remaining spaces for CCF students for the Yorkshire Dales trip (8th April), and for both CCF and YPL students for the Cambridge visit (11th April). Please see me today if you are still interested. Confirmation notes about those trips will be out tomorrow.

You are reminded that your parents are responsible for getting you to the central meeting point in New London each day: specifics will be sent to them later this week, or they may confirm with Felix Green in the WEA office if they have other logistics questions. Basic expenses (including meals and any admission fees) will be covered by the programme, but you may wish to bring pocket money for extras. Promptness and exemplary behaviour are both expected and required.

I'm glad to take questions here. Otherwise, I'll be in my office during my usual Monday hours after supper.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-26 15:36:37](#)**

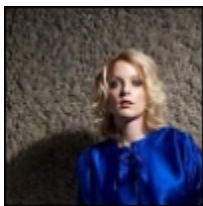
Private message to Gilly Chadwick

Again, wish I'd not been called away Thursday (and it's causing more headaches than I want to think about) but a good half my students were very taken with you and are still talking about it quite cheerfully.

(Well, we knew that was likely. But they're also taken with the idea of engineering and what you do, which is probably more useful to society.)

Supper Tuesday? I will be in town to deal with various details. I've talked to Campanella, but would you ask Delilah and Sigrun? I keep alternating between feeling I've thought of everything re: managing Stint and being sure I'm missing something crucial, and friendly conversation and more pairs of eyes never hurt. Usual place is good.

Did Raz ask you anything, while you were here? He's been a bit more intent on several lines of conversation since. Not that he doesn't have adequate reason on his own, but I wondered.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-27 23:54:08](#)

Re: Private message to Gilly Chadwick

I know you meant well, telling him what you did. And that you've a tidy list somewhere adding up to why you did it. (And an argument about how people can't make good decisions without data.)

But honestly. If it had been almost anyone but you, I'd be furious. Nearly am anyway.

Raz doesn't need more stars in that chart to illustrate his point. And he certainly doesn't need more reasons to worry.

Look. I am doing my best. I know he and I need to talk, but I need space to do it in. I just have to get past next Tuesday, and I will.

Just ... let me be till then, please? Not sure I want to talk to you more for a bit as it is.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-26 16:00:42](#)

Private message to Felix Green

Oh, Hypatia's calculations. Did not need one more thing on my plate, though you will kindly notice I am not volunteering myself to staff everything. (Raz would have my head if I tried, even if I felt up to it, which I don't.)

I do plan to come see you tomorrow - had been hoping not to make the trip, but it's clearly the fastest way to deal with the expense signatures and other details. And I need to finalise the security process with Campanella, so all the chaperones are working with the same guidelines.

On the staffing:

The 6 third years should be presumed confirmed unless I tell you otherwise, though I'm still waiting on permission from several of their parents.

2 April: Helpmann pointed out (useful, for once) that he's not truly required for most of this round of meetings. Please swap the wrap-up of previous events discussion to first thing Tuesday morning (with the code discussion), and he'll be glad to supervise the museums day.

7 April: I've been instructed that it's entirely too delicate a visit for anyone else to handle, so me.

8 April: Dales : Vilas offered to take this one - apparently he's fond of a bit of a hike and ramble himself, and as he says, Easter is not a family holiday for him. Featherstone, if we need him. (Honestly, though, I don't trust his stamina.)

11 April : Cambridge visit. Stint has volunteered, which makes me wonder, but Campanella is glad to go too, and I trust her to keep him in line.

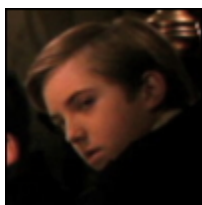
12 April: Helena's offered and if you'd free yourself for this one, it'd be appreciated. I think you'd be a more enjoyable chaperone than the other options.

And if anyone (else) has questions about the Camelot Park trip, we certainly can't stop people arranging a private outing there that day. Just the programme is not coordinating anything of the kind - and more importantly, not paying for it.

For next week:

Can you confirm you've tested the full transcription quill? Otherwise, beyond the Helpmann change, no changes to the agenda, and could you get that out? And would you schedule me for lunch with Mum on Monday (she's handling where) and you and Campanella on Tuesday (would you book a quiet table somewhere handy), so we can talk through some of the security issues more privately?

If you need to firechat, I'll be in my office between 1 and 2. Otherwise, see you tomorrow.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2012-03-26 17:47:47](#)

Private Message to Professor Sinistra

I just received my notice about the Newcastle camp visit, and I wondered why I've not been chosen to go.

Have I done something that put me down the list? I

thought I'd met deadlines for everything and that my attendance and participation had been acceptable, so I can't think why I didn't make the cut.

Only, I know my parents would have given permission. My father's said I ought to get as much experience of the camps as I can if I want to go into Muggle or Muggleborn affairs administration, which I do.

I'm not complaining, but I wonder if there's been a mistake, is all. Or if you could at least say why I'm not being allowed to go.

Thanks.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-03-26 17:56:30**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Ah. Yes.

The number of students who can be included on that trip is very limited for several reasons, and priority for spaces was given to those who have not had the opportunity to learn more closely about the camps through a parent's work.

If you'd prefer to put your name in for one of the other still open trips instead, I'd be glad to do that.



 **alt_ernie** at **2012-03-26 18:09:39**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Oh.

That seems Thanks for explaining.

Am I still being considered for the Cambridge trip, then? That's the only other one I could really do, what with Easter and all, you know.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-03-26 18:20:14**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

You are in fact on my list for Cambridge already, though we could probably squeeze you in on either of the New London days if you wanted.

(Sorry: I've been staring at so many lists this weekend they're all starting to blur.)



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-26 23:04:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

I've been thinking about this conversation since this afternoon...

I wanted to reassure you that not being selected is not a reflection on your skills or dedication or anything else like that. (And I'd be glad to reassure your parents of that, if they have any questions.)

Far more that I was given a very specific set of priorities for that trip.



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2012-03-27 02:24:34](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Thanks, Professor.

I'll tell my parents if they have questions they can ask you. I think it'll be all right. I don't think I'll tell them I asked to go and didn't get selected.



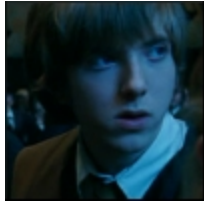
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-27 02:33:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

That can be simpler, yes.

I did have a thought - had you considered putting in for one of the counsellor positions this summer? Or is the CCF commitment enough time away from your family for you?

We'll be doing a little conversation about it in my meetings next week, with the selection process sometime in May. You're certainly someone whose application I'd be glad to support.



 **[alt_ernie](#) at 2012-03-27 02:51:15**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Thanks. I'll think about it.

I don't think it would be a problem, being away in summer hols, you know. It's just on big traditional holidays, my parents expect we'll all be together. That's the problem with Easter, you see.

I suppose I want to keep things in balance, too. With my studies, I mean. What's the time commitment during the year, for counselors? I suppose I could ask one or two of them, only I think they must feel they shouldn't say anything that would sound against it.

Only, I wonder if it's a good idea to apply for YPL Counselor if I might be chosen Prefect. Or are you expecting I wouldn't be chosen for that? Have you heard anything said about that yet? Or is it just the Headmistress who chooses? Surely she asks Professor Sprout about which Hufflepuffs she'd support, though, and maybe you, as well?

I mean, I don't want you to think I'm assuming anything, only it would be very nice if you could tell me how these things work so I'd know better how to decide about the YPL position.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-03-27 03:08:01**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

I should start by saying that I can only talk about the past few years: there have been some conversations among the people I report to that may change how things work in the future, at least a bit.

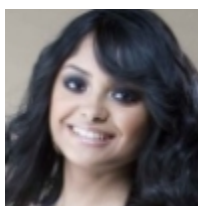
(As you may have gathered from my earlier comments, I am not the only person who makes decisions about YPL policies or priorities.)

That said: so far the term-time commitment has been minimal beyond what you're already doing. It's generally helping out before or after events - setting things up, sorting materials after, getting notes out. No one person needs help every time,

and it's flexible based on your other commitments. Rarely more than an hour before or after, or sometime during the week before.

As to the Prefects - certainly a number of our counsellors have also been Prefects. It can be a lot to juggle, but I'm clear that Prefect duties need to come first.

(As to whether I have any influence - well, Professor Sprout certainly asks my opinion from time to time, as I ask hers and the other heads of house about candidates for the YPL positions. But I also try not to presume on their decisions.)



 **alt_padma** at **2012-03-27 02:21:00**
(no subject)

Thanks again, Professor, I think it's going to be ever so informative.

Oh, I wanted to tell you, Parvati and I wrote to our parents and they've given us permission to organise a trip to Camelot on the day the others will be there. You said that would be all right, right? It's sort of an early birthday party for us, we decided. So I guess we'll be seeing people there as well as in Cambridge and New London.

Mum also wanted me to say that she'd be happy to sponsor tea or lunch on one of the days, like maybe the day that the others are in Glastonbury or something.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-03-27 02:36:50**
(no subject)

Camelot is a public park - we certainly wouldn't dream of restricting who else might be there. We're just limiting the additional student coordination to a few specific activities for a variety of reasons.

As to your mother - that's a most generous offer, and I'll be in touch with her by owl.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-03-27 02:52:03](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, I know it's a public place, Professor, it's just that Pav and I haven't been there since we were little and we thought it would be nift to go again, this time with all our mates, you know. And we've made several mates in the Beauxbatons and Durmstrang groups, which is good, isn't it, because that's what we're all supposed to be doing. But we wouldn't have planned it for the same day if there was supposed to be something private going on, or anything. That's all.

Anyway, Professor, I'm glad that we're able to go on a few of the events but I'm also glad it's not every day over the holidays. I think we all need a proper rest. I hope you're not going to get stuck helping take all of the others all over the country? Well, even if you are, I hope you get to spend some time on yourself, too, Miss.




 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-27 03:14:53](#)**
(no subject)

The point of the Cup is to make friends, you're quite right.

And no - the YPL planning committee is sharing out the supervision when there are Hogwarts students involved. Gives all of us a chance to spend some time with you, and all of us a chance for a bit of a break as well.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-03-29 17:49:58](#)**
Private message to Professor Sinistra

Thank you for putting me on the list. I'm quite looking forward to seeing Cambridge. I've heard it's very beautiful.

I was wondering, might I be allowed to meet up with some friends the date of the second New London trip?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-03-29 18:04:56](#)**

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

I understand it should be quite a nice outing, yes, especially if the weather clears a little.

As to your other question - formally, we can't add third years to the party. That said, I know you often don't get a chance to get out on your own during holidays, and I don't think there would be a problem this time.

You'd have to arrange permission with the Browns, and get yourself to the meeting point and home, but as we'll be meeting in Diagon Alley, that shouldn't be too difficult.

You'd also need to check in with one of the chaperones. There will be two, but I'll add you to the list for Mr Felix Green (a clerk in the WEA office who helps me with YPL business). He's not that long out of school himself, and very easygoing - as long as you check in with him and let him know by journal if you get separated from your friends, you should be just fine.

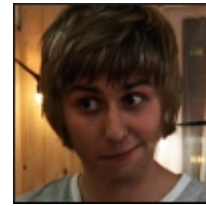
If Mrs Brown has any questions, please let her know she's welcome to ask - I'll be here till Saturday, then in New London myself if she prefers owl to journal.

[2012-03-26 14:56:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, Dux,


I say, I saw Professor Siz's message. Does that mean you've been told whether or not you can go?



 [alt_justin](#)

-Justin

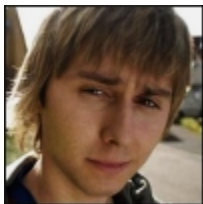


 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-03-27 13:48:38](#)**
(no subject)

Well I can, but Remy gets to come along, too, and other YPL students besides.

I suppose I thought that they might just let me slip in and tag along, with no one the wiser, but that was silly of me. Of course it had to turn into an opportunity for the other students, too.

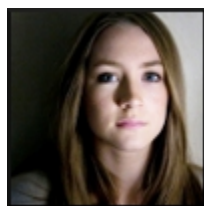
From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at **[2012-03-27 14:05:31](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, but...isn't that to the good? I mean to say, if you're the only one along, it would look well odd, wouldn't it? Plus Mrs Froissart and the others would be more likely to keep a close watch on you. This way we'll be more in the crowd, what?

-Justin



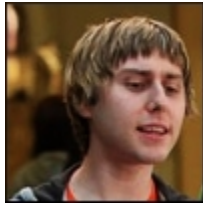
 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-03-27 18:32:33](#)**
(no subject)

I know, only Remy likes to talk a lot and take control of things, and I just hope that he won't be a bother.

But it's really that I was hoping to overhear what the visiting students *really* think of all the places they see. And I knew that

they wouldn't be entirely frank if I came along, but I can be good at not being noticed, sometimes. Only now they're sure to be quite careful about what they say, what with loads of us Hogwarts students around.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at [2012-03-27 18:49:57](#)
(no subject)

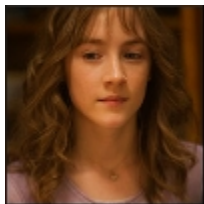
Some of them probably shan't mind saying what they think, regardless, what? Fleur certainly isn't afraid of speaking her mind and even if she were to keep quiet, she's not half as good at hiding her thoughts as she believes.


But even if they don't, Dux, what can they say? What can any of us say?

As for Remy, perhaps he'll be a useful diversion, what? Everyone focused on him, gives us a chance to find a quieter group to be part of, if you follow me. Or even a group of only two, what.

May I see you after Duelling tonight? For a little while?

-Justin

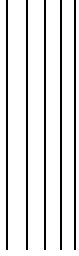


 **alt_hydra** at [2012-03-28 01:20:22](#)
(no subject)

I don't know what anyone can say, but I was curious just the same.

Of course you may see me after duelling. And during, too. I'm just on my way, so I'll see you there?

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-03-28 01:25:20](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, I'm coming down as well.

-Justin

2012-03-27 10:09:00


(no subject)

It'll be fun going on all those trips and things over hols. It looks like we're going to get to show everyone around a little. And I've never been to the dales.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-03-27 14:16:27**

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

You're going on everything too, right?

I've already got an owl. From Mr Rosier. About how to be a proper ambassador and things. So I bet this'll just be SO much fun.

2012-03-27 19:15:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



alt_pansy

So. When is the quidditch meet up going to be, Ron? And who else is going where? I'm going just about everywhere, I guess. Which is okay, I mean, its not like I want to spend ages at home, but I wanted to know what other people were doing too. And who was going to Newcastle.

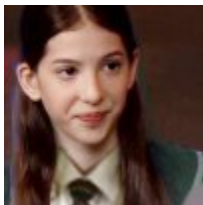


alt_ron at **2012-03-28 00:49:29**

(no subject)

I was waiting to find out who could do it when, yeah? So if you're doing everything, then tell me what day you could come and we'll do it then. Mum said any day.

So wait. You're going to the camp, then? Who else got chosen for that?



alt_sally_anne at **2012-03-28 01:56:44**

(no subject)

Not me. I'm going everywhere BUT the camp. (Well, everywhere the YPL is invited, so not Camelot, unless the Strettons say 'oh, I know what we should do today: go to an amusement park!' which will happen right around the time pigs sprout wings and fly without the assistance of a Witch or Wizard who is skilled in Transfiguration.)

Anyway, I don't know who's going to the camp, but I heard MacMillan's not, and he's put out about it.



alt_pansy at **2012-03-28 14:04:47**

(no subject)

Well, if you tell them that it's for school, maybe they'll let you go on your own? You could tell them your admission fees and food and everything are going to be paid for and everything. And they could think it's paid for by the school or the YPL or something.

And why's he so keen over it, do you think?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-28 02:11:54](#)
(no subject)

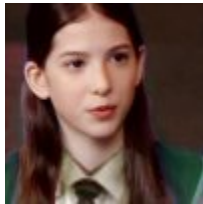
I think this whole thing has given Professor Siz a monumental headache. Someone firecalled her today and she just about took their head off. I think it had to do with the camp visit, actually. It sounds like they specifically DON'T want anyone who's been to one before.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-28 03:36:01](#)
(no subject)

I could see how they'd want to give people a chance? Or something? But why wouldn't you be one of those?

Honestly I just signed up because I thought it was the sort of thing we were supposed to do.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-28 03:52:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, I didn't specifically ask to go on that one. I told Professor Siz I'd like to go on some of the outings but I wasn't fussed which. I actually sort of expected I'd wind up on that one because who'd WANT to go to a camp?

Everyone, apparently!

Anyway, maybe they reckon the Stretton estates are the next-best thing to a muggle camp?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-28 03:43:52](#)
(no subject)


I'll be free on the 9th and 10th. So either of those. I think. I really need to write things down better on the calendar thing in my journal. But those days should work.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-03-29 19:46:55](#)**
(no subject)

I'm free either of those days, too. I mean, I'm pants at flying, as everyone knows, but I'm still looking forward to it.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-03-29 19:49:14](#)**
(no subject)

I could come either of those two days, too.

2012-03-27 23:49:00

*Private Message to the Lord
Protector*

While I have no immediate matters to report, I wished to confirm my understanding of your message.

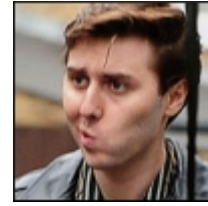


 **alt_mcgonagall**

At this time next week, or perhaps sooner, I shall have my thoughts on "Professor Raz" and "Professor Siz," as I gather they are called among the students.

2012-03-28 12:13:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

Terry's suggested that we put together a survival kit, what, and that I might take it with me when the group visits Lincoln over hols. He's told me where to hide it so if he is ever able to escape, he can take it along.

I think it's a smashing idea. And since some of you will be going along to a few things before then, you might even get me items to put in it after hols, what? I say, at first I thought we only had two days to put it together but there's the Yorkshire trip and all.

So if you've got something to contribute, you can give it to me before the end of the day Friday or on the train, or on any of the events on April 6, 7, or 8 (those of you who are coming, that is).

Terry mentioned clothes, what, and I thought a bedroll and perhaps some toiletries, maybe even cooking tools if we can put that bally old shrinking spell on them, yes? And some money, of course. Perhaps a map, maybe to yours, Ron and Fred and George? Or if that wouldn't be wise, then to somewhere else safer. Sally-Anne, perhaps he could get to the Strettons' and blend in, what?

And we shall need a good knapsack to carry it all, perhaps with an expansion charm on it. That's well advanced magic, though: Fred, George and Lee, could you manage that? Perhaps Sally-Anne's clever enough to do it. That might be more difficult as I don't think I've got anything appropriate, what. And while I might be able to get one in New London at the weekend, then we might not have time or privacy to put the charms on it while we're all in our groups.

So does anyone else have something we could use? I suppose that's the start and we may all add to it as we can. The Lincoln trip is on 9 April, so as long as I have the contents by then, I shall be able to convey them.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-28 16:55:00](#)
(no subject)

He shouldn't come to the Stretton's -- a stranger would stand out. He could go to one of the villages full of Sleepers; that would be better. (Creepy, though.)

Terry, can you do a summoning charm? Because maybe Justin could put it in a hollow tree, or something, and you could summon it once you got away? It might be easier than digging.

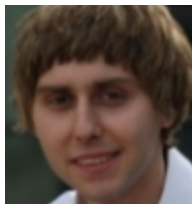
Fred and George, maybe you could make something that would always point to wherever you are? Or a charm that Terry could activate that would be like a portkey, only a beacon instead, you know? A "here I am" that would only work for you, but would point you to him?

I can't do an expansion charm yet, and undetectable expansion charms are a lot harder, and Terry's would really need to be undetectable. Although really, we don't want to hide him as a muggle. We want to hide him as a wizard. So maybe a little aging potion so people think he's old enough to be out of school, and robes that are a little tattered?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-28 16:58:19](#)
(no subject)

And Fred and George won't be going on the trips but Ron will, so they can just give things to Ron to give to you to put in the knapsack.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-28 18:06:48](#)
(no subject)

Yes, quite.

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-28 18:05:54](#)
(no subject)

Come to think of it, if he can get out, and tell us, he could send word to Sirius, what, and then the wand-smugglers would help him. They've tried to do before, after all.

I thought about putting a charm on the bag that would give off a light or sound when Terry's nearby it, what, but that's not well safe, is it. Because what if he escapes at night and needs to slip away quietly? It's got to be well concealed, though, so no one else can stumble upon the thing.

Perhaps there's a similar sort of charm that would only be noticeable by Terry, what?

-Justin



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-29 03:25:08](#)
(no subject)


We've got it. This is a spell we sometimes use to find each other when we're exploring.

Professor, you can get your hand on small stones there inside the castle, we assume, right? Find two that are as close to each other in size as you can find.

Take the two and pass your wand over them both in a figure eight and say, 'gemina vocationem ad geminos.' Then send one of the stones to Justin and keep the other yourself, somewhere safe. Maybe put it into one of the beads on your bracelet.

Say Justin buries the backpack and puts the stone over it. If you can get away, take your stone out, tap it with your wand and say, 'vocant vibrationis.' Turn in a circle, and you'll feel the stone vibrate when you're turned in the direction of the one that Justin's placed over the backpack. It'll vibrate harder the closer you get.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-03-29 03:26:42](#)
(no subject)

That's really clever. I'll do that. Thanks!

Someone will have to send me Pig, though. I don't know who has him now.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-29 03:27:25](#)
(no subject)


He's here at the school, in the owlry. We'll send him so he'll arrive Friday night. The git's usually drunk then, right?



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-03-29 03:29:01](#)
(no subject)

Usually, yeah. I'll ask the ghost to keep a watch out, distract him when Pig arrives, if needed, too.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-03-29 03:29:38](#)
(no subject)


I'll send your birthday present back with him, too.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-03-29 03:30:31](#)
(no subject)

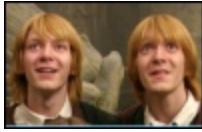
It's gonna be okay, mate. You know we're not going to forget you or abandon you.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-03-29 03:32:22](#)
(no subject)

I know.

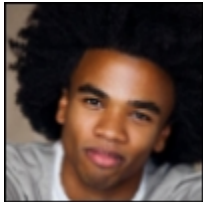
It's just going to be harder. A little. That I can't talk right to you, whenever I like.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-03-29 02:17:54](#)**
(no subject)

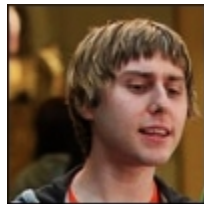
This is dead brilliant, Justin, and yeah, we'll do everything we can to help, including the charms. We're good at those, but we'd be willing to cross check stuff with Perks.

Lee, how about we use that old book bag of yours, the one in the bottom of your trunk? You got a new one for Christmas when the strap broke, right? We could just repair the strap on the old one.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-03-29 02:18:51](#)**
(no subject)

Sure, I'd be willing to donate it to the cause.

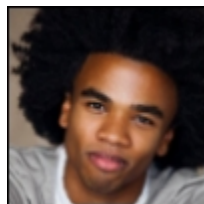



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-03-29 02:33:27](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Lee,

Capital! Do you think you could fix it and bring it to the Great Hall tomorrow?

-Justin



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-03-29 03:08:42](#)**
(no subject)

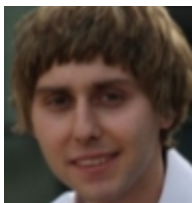
Yeah, I'll hand it off to you at dinner. We'll have it fixed by then.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-03-29 03:06:59](#)**
(no subject)

My sister and I go camping every year with my Great-Uncle, and we have extra gear. I can go through the stuff when I get home from break and send you what

might be useful. It's already charmed to shrink real easy. Things like a set of nested plates and bowls and tableware, and a tarp that can double as a one-person tent. I think we have a very small pot that will cook stuff without fire, too.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-29 15:13:48](#)

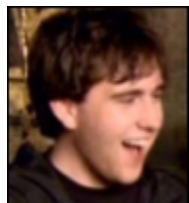
(no subject)

Neville,

That's positively brilliant, what! I say, that's just the sort of thing I was thinking. I'd thought to pick up supplies in New London but if you could find them easily when you get home, what, that'll be smashing.

Provided it shan't put you out, of course. Are you able to come to any of the outings, then, Neville?

-Justin



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-03-29 17:55:01](#)

(no subject)

It'll be fine. We probably have too much camping stuff, and my Great-Uncle isn't very organised. I don't think he'll miss anything I'll pull out.

I'll be going to Cambridge.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-03-29 14:55:48](#)

(no subject)

I don't have any camping equipment or anything like that. But I have some Galleons that I've saved, and I'll give those to Justin. The Browns gave me some pocket money to spend on Christmas presents, but I ended up mostly making mine instead. And I can knit you a jumper. Mrs Weasley taught me how to speed knit using magic, and she just sent me a whole bunch of yarn.

I have some amulets that will protect you from evil eyes, too. We can put those in. Just in case.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-03-29 15:17:05](#)
(no subject)


Luna,

I didn't mean to pick your pocket, what! You needn't pauper yourself, please, do keep some money back. The jumper will be well perfect, I'm sure, provided you can get it done in time, what.

Are you coming along to anything, then?

-Justin




 **alt_luna** at [2012-03-29 17:52:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I don't mind in the least, because nothing would give me more pleasure than spending the money for a friend.

I've got my name down for the Cambridge visit for sure. I've heard my foster sister Lavender Brown talking about the Camelot trip, but I'm not sure yet whether ~~they will want~~ I will be going along.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-03-29 20:19:24](#)
(no subject)

Hm, yes, I see.

Unfortunately, Cambridge is after Lincoln but perhaps you might send the jumper by owl, what? We shall be in Newcastle the day before.

Oh, here's Hydra. Cheerio.

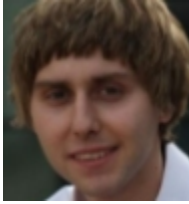
-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-03-29 18:49:15](#)
(no subject)

I can buy a bedroll. And some winter things.

And let me know if there's anything else left while we're on hols and I can get it.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-03-29 20:17:31](#)
(no subject)

Pansy,


I say, good show!

I wonder. Muggles outside, you know, they have these well brilliant blankets that reflect heat in the summer and keep it in during the cold months. I don't know if wizards have anything similar but that might be well useful, what? As we don't know what time of year it shall be when Terry makes his escape, if you follow me.

I'm also going to put in several pairs of socks. I say, I'd put in a stout pair of shoes but I've no idea Terry's size, what?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-03-30 16:13:38](#)
(no subject)

I can put in a Sneak-o-Scope, and a Finder we learned to charm in CCF. It's the one I use, but I can always make another one. The S-o-S isn't a ~~very exp~~ the best, but it works, which is what matters, yeah?

I wrote up some surveying instructions, too. Simple stuff, but it could help, maybe, if Terry gets somewhere and thinks he's going in circles instead of forwards, you know.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-03-31 15:33:10](#)
(no subject)

I finished knitting some socks. I'll try to get them to you this morning, Justin.

I had another idea but I'm less sure it'll work. Ron or Nev, I'll try to find you on the train.

2012-03-30 08:47:00

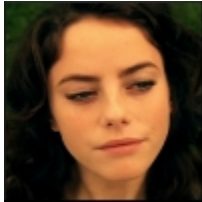
DAPHS

Sorry you know but you should of caught it.

It wasnt on purpose.



 [alt_millicent](#)



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-03-30 14:52:14](#)

(no subject)

Millie, when one asks for a book, one typically doesn't expect it to be *thrown* at their head.

I know it wasn't on purpose but it wasn't particularly sensible, either. And now I think I feel my cheek beginning to swell.



 [alt_millicent](#) at [2012-03-30 14:53:33](#)

(no subject)

I do to have sense and anyway it was your idea.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-03-30 14:56:53](#)

(no subject)

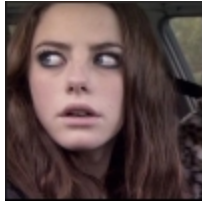
My idea to ask you for a book? Yes, I suppose that it was. Next time I'll fetch it myself or summon it over.



 [alt_millicent](#) at [2012-03-30 15:16:02](#)

(no subject)

so we can do something fun together over hols now, yeah?



 **alt_daphne** at **2012-03-30 15:18:29**

(no subject)

Of course, Millie. I don't know why we wouldn't.

Now - oh, I really must rush off to lessons. See you at lunch, then! Let's hope I won't be puffed up like an aubergine, ha-ha!



 **alt_blaize** at **2012-03-30 17:41:52**

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Really?

Does it hurt badly? You look as if you've a rotten headache.

I could get something for you from Matron. Or go up there with you?

Only, the glamour you're using is fading or doesn't cover the colours you're turning. Mother says glamours ought to use a tinge of opposite colour for best concealment. Possibly you need to re-apply it.

Or did you mean it to show a bit?



 **alt_daphne** at **2012-03-30 19:25:36**

Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

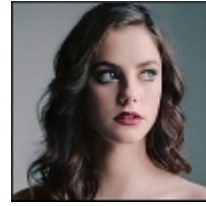
It shows? Well, I don't think there's a thing wrong with a little visual reminder for Millie, of how she has, yet again, failed to comport herself in a respectable fashion.

It's just a bruise. I'd rather not trouble Matron and have to endure whatever her lecture of the week is. Thank you for the offer, though.

2012-03-30 13:27:00

Private message to Astoria Greengrass

You really don't know a thing about it, so please, be sisterly for once and leave the matter be. I don't want you upsetting Queenie when we get home, and Holda knows she'll be upset enough, what with Mother and I barely speaking.



 **alt_daphne**

Anyway, you're really still too young to understand.

Be sweet about it and I'll make it up to you. That baroque cloisonne bracelet you admire so much? I'll let you borrow it for the rest of term, how does that sound?

2012-03-30 14:31:00

Private Message to Campanella Wright

First week with A6. Hasn't sacked me yet. I know you said it would be all right, but I did worry a little.



I'd like to take you up on the offer you made in my exit interview. To discuss balancing the personal with the professional. Now that we're no longer constrained by the formalities of training.

 [alt_lana](#)

Ned and my father have agreed we should set 4 August as the date. It's a Saturday. And the day I turn 20. If I'm going to change ~~my~~ anything, it would have to be soon. Before the announcements are engraved.

I don't have any very good reason not to go through with it. He's a solid match for me. Really. And he seems to accept what I'll have to do for my work. At least, I think he does. We both want to serve Our Lord as fully as we can: we're both ambitious in that regard. We've talked about how we hope to be placed in five years and ten and beyond.

Only, I wonder if he'll change his mind about what *I* ought to do. Once we've bound ourselves. Because I really can't think of starting a family just now, and I don't know whether he's really honest with me about being willing to wait. In order to accomplish other things first, you see.

Did you see things clearly from the start? And did you agree everything in advance? I suppose I simply have to have it out with him. Maybe draw up a formal parchment of commitments. Do you know anyone who's done that? Or does that seem- And, of course, I don't know what he would expect *me* to agree to if we were to do that.

2012-03-30 15:06:00

Order Only

Hermione: Merlin, I just realized I never asked about last Thursday. Are you all right? Did Harry satisfy Malfoy?



 [alt_sirius](#)

Sorry, I should have asked before now.

By contrast, what I was going to say is that Bea's 10 months old today (see, Dora, I can keep track!).

I think she'll be on to words any day now, though Remus says he reckons she's still a ways off from really knowing what they mean. I dunno: Whenever any of the three of us have been away and come back within line-of-sight, she bounces on her toes, reaches out, smiles and says 'Ma!' or 'Da!' - indiscriminately, to be sure, but she doesn't say it when Kreacher's about, or to any of the patrons.

Beth came by the shop yesterday, as well, ostensibly to have a chat with Dora but really I think to find out if we'd followed her suggestion and applied for a muggleborn servant. Moony talked to her (I was Padfoot, of course) and we think she was pleased. She mentioned bringing some people round this weekend. To check out the operation, was the unmentioned implication.

Speaking of that, we put down that the cellar would be where we'll quarter the person (when, if it all works out as we hope, she'll actually sleep in a room upstairs). I've spent a little time this morning making it look a bit less like the scene of a monthly dog fight - though not anything beyond a meagre pallet, washbasin and an old orange crate for a dressing table.

All of which puts me in mind of Terry. Hermione, what do you hear from him, anything? We've not forgotten him, Merlin knows.

Justin's written to say he's travelling or else he'd be able to accept an invitation from your Ron, Molly and Arthur, to play Quidditch at yours. ~~He's still seeing~~ He's also said they're taking them to a camp but he doesn't believe it'll be the real thing (nor do I). Arthur, Bill, have you heard anything about this?

Well, at any rate, it sounds as if you lot at Hogwarts should have a

relaxing holiday, with everyone out of the castle. Might be a good time to do some scouting along the coast?

Oh. And I heard from Terrie Taylor, too. She's had a boy and found another job. Sounds like it's in a private sector farm, still using muggle labourers but at least they're relatively decent to the poor buggers. It's in Bedford but she can bring the little fellow with her. Apparently there's provision for that sort of thing. Anyway, she wanted me to know that she's still interested in helping, if she can. She thought perhaps she might be able to traffic people through, if we needed it.

2012-03-30 21:22:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley



 [alt_neville](#)

Like I said, I'll look through our camping stuff when I get home and see if I can figure out more stuff for the knapsack for Terry. But I had another idea, so I'm making this message private so Terry won't see it.

The twins and Lee and I were talking about it, late at night in the Common Room after everyone else was in bed. All of us think that it's gonna take a miracle for him to get out of there and have a chance of going for that knapsack. Lee said that the only way he could picture it was if Amycus Carrow is dead.

And then George said, real grim-like, that if Carrow's dead it'll be because Terry killed him, because the git's too evil to be considerate enough to die on his own. If Carrow isn't dead, you'd better believe that he'll be turning over every rock in Lincoln to get Terry back so he can kill him himself. And if he is dead, his sister will do the same thing.

Which means if Terry gets away, he's probably gonna be in more trouble than any of us can imagine. I don't know what the penalties are for a muggleborn servant who's trying to escape from his master, but I'll bet they're awful. From some things Hermione's said, I'd guess he may bolt somewhere that he figures none of us can find him, because he won't want to get any of us in trouble. He'll be scared out of his mind.

So I thought it might be a good thing if we put notes in the knapsack for him. At least some of us. Not signing our names or anything, but maybe just our initials. So we can tell him...well, I don't know quite how to put it. That no matter what he had to do to get there, it'll be all right. And to be sure to send word that he's managed to escape, and we'll do everything we can to help him.

I'll talk to the guys here in Gryffindor about it, and maybe you can mention to the others, too. Then we can give you notes, and you can stuff them in a pocket of the knapsack or something. Sound good?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-03-31 03:07:35](#)**
(no subject)

What ho, Neville,

I've just been packing a little bit, myself, and thinking through my things for anything that might help him more than me.

I well agree, what, that if he escapes, no matter what the circumstances, he'll be in frightfully terrible trouble if he's caught. That's why I think the best outcome we could hope is that he makes contact with the Wand Smugglers or Sirius's group or whatever they call the bally old organisation, what?

But certainly, letters of encouragement would never go amiss, I shouldn't think.

-Justin

2012-03-30 21:39:00

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Aurora,

Lucius happened to mention that you'll be in New London for the beginning of holidays. He also - you'll pardon me - commented that you seem considerably frazzled when he last saw you.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

It so happens my usual spa appointment is Wednesday. I'd be most pleased if you'd allow me to adjust the reservation for two? Massage, sauna - whatever you like, dear.

Also, might I venture a guess that Amara has you and Razzer on the guest list for at least part of her festivities? I should think that the opportunity to relax and let others see to you would likely do wonders for your tolerance of the event, being seen and so on. And I'm sure, knowing you even a little, that it's business that brings you to New London but please do remember to give yourself time for shopping if you need to pick up anything for spring.

If you let me know by the end of the weekend, I can contact Madam Ardenia to expect you on Wednesday.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-03-31 02:36:34**
(no subject)

Narcissa -

You're most generous to think of me.

I'd hoped that it did not show quite so clearly, but yes, far more frazzled than I'd prefer. This last minute matter of the holiday trips did complicate things.

As to our plans, Raz and I intend to come down to New London tomorrow once the students are gone, and stay through the two weeks.

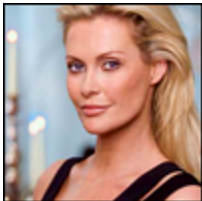
I do have two full days of YPL meetings on the Monday and Tuesday, and I expect them to be rather tedious. By Wednesday, I may not be fit company for anyone, I fear. And of course, there's always the

chance of some new urgent need cropping up.

If it would not be too difficult for you, or for Madame Ardenia to accomodate, should something come up, I would be very glad to join you. It's only that I'd hate to upset a plan.

As to the wedding, yes, we're on the list (or rather, Raz was), though we've the Newcastle trip on the Saturday, so certainly don't intend to stay late.

I had thought ahead about something to wear - I've a few things to pick up on Monday, after my meeting, and I believe one of them should suit. (Avoiding the current trend for pastels, as I'm not fond of them, even.) I'm certainly looking forward to seeing what others wear for the occasion.

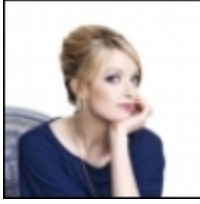


 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-03-31 02:52:40](#)
(no subject)

Oh, believe me, when one is unfit company is the best time for the spa. And it sounds as if you'll need it even more by the time you have suffered two days of meetings! Honestly, between you and me I sometimes regret agreeing to advise the Sisters in Witchcraft. Though they do try their hardest, poor things.

Well, it's no trouble at all. I shall inform Ardenia that you'll be there as my guest and you may have the full run of the place.

May one ask ... is everything all right? Apart from too long between Christmas and Easter, that is? It does seem that there's a higher amount of, let us say, angst, than one usually expects, particularly for a year with no imminent threat looming over the children. Now, don't think I'm prying, but if you care to get another witch's perspective, particularly on - well, let us say on the family with which you've found yourself embroiled - you can be sure of my discretion, dear.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-03-31 03:02:00](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, then. I'm most appreciative, and I'm sure it will be a lovely and restorative day.

Meetings are not my favourite hobby, no. (And these are all the detailed summer planning, so it's rather more complex schedules and arrangements, too.) And there's having to deal with Healer Stint in person for the first time since the St. Mungo's Gala. I've been assured he'll be appropriate, but I'm scarcely looking forward to it.

As to your last - this matter with the YPL investigation did complicate things for me. I'm sure Lucius told you he was quite clear he thought it a waste of time, and I'm very grateful there as well. I know I've been something of a trial to Raz on a number of counts, but I'm sure time and a little rest will help immensely.

If there is something you can help with, though, I will certainly ask.

2012-03-30 21:59:00

Private message to Mr Stephen Rosier

I actually had a spot of bare wood on my desk this morning. For about thirty seconds, before the Taunton folder landed on top of it. I entertain fond if perhaps futile hopes of finding it again sometime next week.



 [alt_bill](#)

I've gutted at least seven of the regular monthly reports that were piling up in your predecessor's in-box. I've sent you a memo explaining why I personally think they're a waste of time, but if you choose to not to streamline those out now, we can re-examine the work flow a couple months from now. I dunno, maybe you like seeing a regular report on the ongoing quest to requisition alternatives to standard bog rolls. I'll hazard a wild guess, however, that your tastes don't quite run to such a deep concern with the scatological. Let me know if I guessed incorrectly.

Didn't have a chance to tell you because I didn't see the paper until tonight, but that was quite a brilliant job with the Skeeter interview. I have heard from Ms Mortynson that Selwyn was quite impressed with it, which is a very good sign. He always handles the press well, and so if he's pleased, you know you were spot on.

Maybe Skeeter will leave us alone for the next three weeks at least. We can only hope.

(Oh, and remember, the Hogwarts Express is expected in to the station at about 5:00 pm tomorrow. I've made reservations for you and Seamus at 6:00 pm at Gillicuddy's. Tell him he might like to try the Chiddingly hotpot. The servings are generous, big enough to satisfy even a growing and therefore starving teenage boy.)

2012-03-30 23:20:00

Remember, Students

If you are staying in the castle over the holidays, you must continue to observe school rules.

If you are leaving on the Hogwarts Express tomorrow, please be sure that any luggage you are taking with you is marked *clearly* with your name. The last thing anyone needs is one's valises to get lost.



The train leaves promptly at 9:00 AM. Please finish your packing accordingly.

Those YPL and CCF students who are joining the Beauxbatons and Durmstrang delegations over the holidays, we will see you at the rendez-vous point in New London for each trip. Remember to bring pocket money for your incidentals.



 **alt_penelope at 2012-03-31 03:31:55**

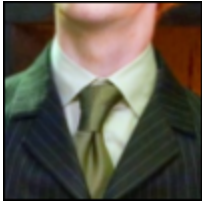
Private Message to Percy Weasley

Hey!

I'm really sorry. They suddenly added all these CCF and YPL trips various places with chaperones and everything. It's going to interfere with some of our hunting, I'm afraid. I don't know if you have any appointments lined up, but I sent you an owl with the dates I'm going to be helping. It's an utter bore but like you said, it's important that Siz give me a good recommendation.

I haven't told Dad anything yet. About our plans. Have you? I mean, has your mother settled down about it?

Well. I guess I'll see you tomorrow! I've told Dad I'm staying with Laverty overnight but of course that's bunk. Really I'm booked in at the *Duck and Drake*. It's probably horrid but it had the best rate I could find.



 **alt_percy** at **2012-03-31 19:47:01**

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

It is not ideal that we can't spend much time together for the holiday, but I certainly understand and agree with your reasoning. Good recommendations can be so crucial.

I'll meet you when the train arrives. I've told my mum that I'm going out with you for dinner, and we're meeting up with a group of friends from my year and yours, and I'm staying the night with Atticus Ito.

I'll have to be back at the Burrow early tomorrow, though, sorry. It's Fred and George's coming of age birthday, and Mum wants us all there.



 **alt_penelope** at **2012-03-31 20:00:43**

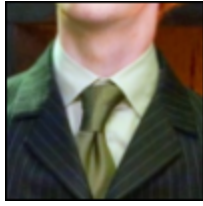
Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

Oh. Well, is your mother going to do her nut, then, about you staying in New London overnight?

I guess it's just as well I'm going along with the group to the Tower tomorrow, since you've got a family gathering.

And I mean, from your last owl before the break, it sounded like Mr Malfoy's got far too much for you to take any time away during the week. Though I hope we can at least look at a few places. I've been talking to Kelly Chau, because her parents are real estate agents, and she said even a flat can sometimes take over a month to become move-in-ready, especially if it needs to be made suitable for wizards. Although for renting it's not often quite so bad. But it's not so much about finding a place now, as it is agreeing on what sort of place we like and the neighbourhood and all that.

I'm sorry, I don't mean to sound ungrateful that we'll have any time together at all. It's brilliant that you thought to meet the train, and that we'll get to spend tonight, all night, together. Now I wish the train would go even faster!



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-03-31 21:20:10](#)

Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley

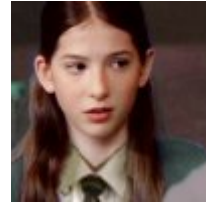
Mum hasn't given me a hard time about it. She just gave me A Look, but didn't ask any questions. Perhaps she thinks it best if she doesn't know.

We'll be able to talk about the sorts of places we want to look at, at least. Perhaps my time will open up more this week than expected. Let's hope so.

2012-03-31 10:23:00

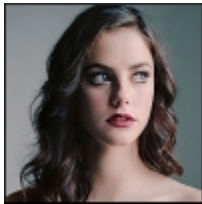
Private message to Daphne

I know a charm for fixing bruises if you'd like. Or I could show you how to do it. It still looked like it hurt, when you were washing up this morning.



 **alt_sally_anne**

Rotten luck, to get a book to the head from Milli when she wasn't even cross with you. (Of course, if she'd actually been TRYING to hit you I'm sure she'd have missed.)



 **alt_daphne at 2012-03-31 15:56:34**

(no subject)

Oh, it doesn't hurt at all. I've been left in much worse pain after an intense day of CCF training, to be honest! It's just astonishing that we're almost at the end of 4th year and Millie can still be so oafish,

though.

2012-03-31 10:34:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Ron Weasley and Fred Weasley



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I was thinking about what would help Terry the most, and it occurred to me that encouragement might help more than anything.

I put a charm on a sickle -- Fred, if you and George want to take a look at this, you might be able to do a better version. When you get it, tap it with your wand and then hold it and say your message out loud. If I did it right, when Terry holds it he'll hear each of us talking. It won't hold long messages. I think Neville wants to send notes? I think that's a good idea and the notes will for sure still be there when he gets to the pack (my 'permanent' charms aren't always as permanent as I'd meant for them to be) but I think hearing our voices would help him too.

I didn't want to put this in the open because if the charm DOES quit working it might be a big disappointment. I want it to be a nice surprise if it does work, not a horrible let down if it doesn't, you know?

Anyway I did my message and I'll see if Pansy has one and we'll get it to you on the train.

No names, of course, or clues that would tip people off about who left it.

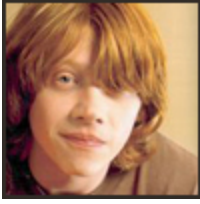



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2012-03-31 19:49:53**

(no subject)

We'll take a look. Sounds like a good idea, Perks, and he'll love it if it works.

It should be wrapped in a note, so he'll know how to activate it--and not spend it!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-03-31 22:25:08](#)**
(no subject)

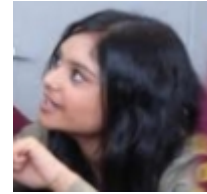
That's brilliant, really.

Not sure what I'll say, but I'll think of sommat.

2012-03-31 17:44:00

Private Message to Lavender

Okay, I think we've spoken to everyone about Friday:




Belinda, Hermes and Lares Tamblyn, the Bobolis brothers, Robins, Karo and Lines Moon, Su Li, Seamus of course, cousin Darshana, Edgecombe, Chang, Daphs, Zabini, Zach, Thompson, Sandoval, Bradley, Desai, Forney, Mullet and Vane. With you, me and Pav, that's 26. Mum said we could have up to 30. Can you think of anyone else - I mean, who wouldn't already be going? I bet Marvolo, Malfoy and Parkinson will all get to go Officially, anyways, but I suppose we ought to invite them as a courtesy?

 [alt_padma](#)

Do you think we should have told Daphs to bring Barney? I mean, she probably won't come without him but I dunno. What if they have a row in the middle of everything? He can say such beastly things to her. And she never seems too happy about missing things to spend time with him. Not like Parkinson, larking about with Malfoy and acting like she's got some big secret. Did you see those earrings she's been wearing *every day*? I mean, sure, they're pretty, but it's well ostentatious, don't you?

Oh, ask your mother about Monday, coming shopping with the others. And don't forget - we'll see you Wednesday too, for Cousin Nindira's birthday party!



 [alt_lavender](#) at **2012-04-03 15:32:59**
(no subject)

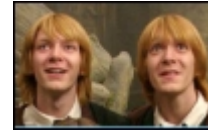
Ugh, Padma!

You won't believe what Mum just told me over breakfast--we've got to take Lovegood along!

Why she wants to lumber us with her I don't know; I doubt if she'd even *want* to come. She'd probably rather stay home and look for Nargles or something.

2012-03-31 20:35:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Farewell to the Lock



 [alt_gredforge](#)

We think it's absolutely spiffing of Hogwarts to celebrate our coming of age natal day by giving everyone in the entire school a two week's holiday.

That being said....


This is our last post on this Lock. Professor, like we said, don't give up hope, because we'll still be around. You'll continue to get letters from us, and Lee will continue to keep an eye on this Lock for us and if need be he'll write and read us entries, at least until HE turns 17.

But remember, we planned it this way, right from the start. The attributes of the Lock that will keep us from participating starting tomorrow are there for very good reasons. We therefore turn this Lock over officially to the rest of you. Use it wisely and well, and continue to watch out for each other. Make sure that you all agree before adding anybody else.

As for us, we definitely have new plans in mind. We won't be able to share them openly with you, but trust us. We're looking out for all our interests.

-- Fred and George Weasley



 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-04-01 01:51:13**
(no subject)

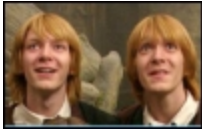
I can never thank you enough
for being my friends

for getting me Sorted

for finding a way that I could write the truth that the git would never see

for making me believe I really am a wizard

I owe you two everything. And I'll never forget it.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-01 02:46:23](#)**
(no subject)

Keep your chin up, Professor. We'll be in frequent contact. Promise.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-01 01:52:38](#)**
(no subject)

You have plans, eh? Huh.


Your plans are usually amazing. Watch out, world!



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-01 02:49:27](#)**
(no subject)

Why, thank you, Neville.



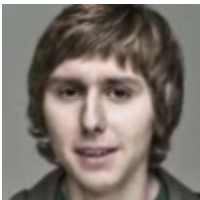
 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-01 01:53:28](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you for the Lock. It is really quite an amazing invention.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-01 02:48:43](#)**
(no subject)

We're rather proud of it, we'll admit.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-01 02:16:08](#)**
(no subject)

Fred and George,

Thank you both for your ingenuity, what. And as Terry says, for giving us a place to tell the truth. And a place where we may be assured of some safety with our secrets.

I say, jolly good show, you two! We shall have to make sure you and Lee after you remain informed of things that will surely interest you.

It seems well odd, what, to sound so serious over something that was

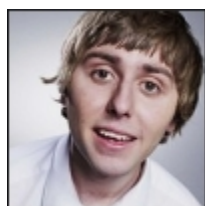
conceived by a pair of such tricksters. But it *is* a marvellous thing you've done and quite frightfully solemn, as well. I shudder to think what you may have up your robe sleeves next, what!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-01 02:45:03](#)

(no subject)

We are definitely going to be taking some people by surprise.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-01 02:49:51](#)

(no subject)

I say, that's well disquieting, coming from you two!

I'm sure we all quite anticipate the results.

Oh, I say, shall someone put up your anniversary post, in your honour, tomorrow?

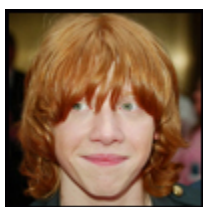
-Justin



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-01 02:54:40](#)

(no subject)

We'll leave that you to decide. But we expect that there will be general rejoicing throughout the wizarding world tomorrow. FRED AND GEORGE WEASLEY COME OF AGE! (And the Lord Protector is still a poncey git.)



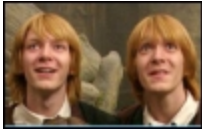
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-01 02:17:37](#)

(no subject)

Shame about how old you'll be. Failing eyesight and all. Have you checked for grey hair?

Reckon you'll still be able to walk all the steps up here to the tower? Or remember the password when you get here?

Good thing we've got hols: you'll need the rest.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-01 02:42:16](#)
(no subject)

around.

Yeah, well, fortunately, we have a young spry thing like you to wait on us hand and foot as we totter



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-01 02:39:11](#)
(no subject)

Thanks for the Lock, you two.

And for helping me curse Letchley.

Happy birthday.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-01 02:43:59](#)
(no subject)

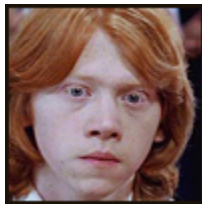
Ah yes, Letchley. One of our proudest moments.


Cheers, Perks. Do your best to keep Ron in line, yeah? We know it's practically a full-time job, but somebody's gotta do it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-01 02:51:24](#)
(no subject)


If you insist.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-02 00:50:18](#)
(no subject)

Nice.



 **alt_lee** at [2012-04-01 02:48:01](#)
(no subject)

Well, it'll sure be different without you joking around on the pages here. But I'll keep you in the loop. Until I'm kicked out myself that is.



 **alt_gredforge** at [2012-04-01 02:51:34](#)
(no subject)

We'll have to be real careful, mind. Don't put anything written here under just a private message lock. That's not secure enough. If you tell it to us, we'll have to make dead certain we're not overheard. But we've been working on a sound muffling spell for that.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-01 17:49:57](#)
(no subject)

I'm going to miss you. Talking to you. On here.

Thank you for not messing with my brain.

You know.

Letting me be a part of this.

2012-03-31 22:19:00

*Private Message to Auror Trainee
Sandoval and Rodolphus Lestrangle*



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

S. Received report on your Occlumency assessment. Lamentable. Sixty-third percentile? You weren't menstruating, were you? Or ill?

Blast.


Rod. Need something to amplify the protection of standard-issue shielding kit. Have you got anything--Dark or otherwise--that would allow her to withstand a powerful Legilimens? She'll be under polyjuice if that influences your calculations.

S. Understand that if there's no remedy, I'll have to change your deployment. Wait for instructions. Will need to retest you with both available pseudos. No shortcuts. No alternatives.

2:16a

10:19p



 [alt_lana](#) at **2012-04-01 03:51:19**

(no subject)

I'm sorry, sir. I'd no idea I'd test so low.

Are you going to drop me? Surely there are other duties I could carry on with. Only, I know it's disappointing.

There must be something I could use that would deflect or mask or jigger it, isn't there? I know it has to be undetectable, though. And not make it seem that I'm simply daft. There has to be something, though.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-04-01 04:58:12](#)**
(no subject)

I have a few options that might suit. Something with a dispersive confundus charm should weaken the focus of the legilimens. There are other artefacts that tamp down the rush of emotions that hinder occlumency, though they also have the downside of making one rather less quick on the uptake.

I could advise better if I knew how powerful the legilimens is, and if any interrogative techniques are involved - and, if so, to what extent.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2012-04-01 12:28:02](#)**
(no subject)

If she's to be allowed an active role here, she'll have to be proof against Procyon. Extremely accomplished. A natural legilimens, it seems, but has honed the ability.

Interaction would be incidental (not interrogation): Procyon does not give himself away even within Dogstar, but I feel certain I've been probed more than once myself, by one trained to look for signs alternatively of commitment or deceit.

Sandoval needs to persuade that she is the pseud she impersonates and that s/he is duly committed to Dogstar's purposes.

May be impossible.